Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1885

"MY BOYS!"

A few weeks ago Punch had a spirited cartoon of a huge lion in the foreground wearing a self-satisfied look on his face in the act of reviewing batallions of young lions, marching past in military order on their hind legs and bearing in their fore-paws rifles. The huge lion represented Great Britain and the cubs represented the colonies of Canada and Australia which had just offered to send several regiments of volunteers to the Soudan or Afghanistan. Beneath the cartoon were the words, "*My Boys!*" supposed to be uttered by the old lion in proud appreciation of the chief of his offspring. After reading the dispatches from the Northwest which describe the achievements of the Canadian volunteers in the recent engagements one cannot refrain from expressing admiration at the gallant conduct of "My Boys," who have made exhausting marches through a country covered with snow and ice or traversed by swollen streams, and met the enemy on ground of his own choosing and driven him back with severe loss. Regular soldiers could not have done more—perhaps not so much in such a country—as these young men, who less than a month ago were pursuing peaceful avocations in the eastern towns and cities, and who sprang to arms at the first intimation that their country was in danger and have faced hardship and exposure and death, with the coolness and pluck of veterans. No circumstance could have more clearly demonstrated the value of a volunteer corps than this Northwest trouble. With a standing "army" of less than 800 men Canada has been enabled in two weeks' time to place in the field a well officered and equipped force of 6000 young men burning with ardor and willing to lay down their lives to preserve the unity of the nation. General Middleton would appear to be as wise as he is brave and dashing. He has struck the enemy at three points. The corps under his immediate command have encountered the force of rebels that is commanded by Riel in person, and in two engagements have compelled them to retreat. Not satisfied with the achievements of his little army another force of 900 men has left Qu'Appelle for Batouche to reinforce Gen. Middleton's corps. The general has expressed the highest satisfaction and the appreciation of the "Boys" under his direction, and well he may. They have shown themselves prompt, intelligent and courageous, and have reflected the highest credit upon the nation which they are proud to serve, and the grand old land from which they sprang. Punch's next cartoon should be entitled—

"*My Boys—God Bless 'em.!*"

RAILWAY OVERCHARGES.

A statement appears in an evening paper which, if true, renders the railway contractor open to a heavy penalty; and if untrue will probably form the basis of a libel suit. It is boldly stated that two wagons were shipped from this city for Spence's Bridge. The weight of each was 880 pounds; but the railway official estimated them at 2,500 pounds, upon which weight freight was collected. This is a serious state of affairs indeed and, if true, calls for the interposition of the strong arm of the law. It is within Mr. Onderdonk's province to fix the scale of charges; but he cannot declare an article weighs two pounds when in reality it weighs but one pound, and collect freight for two pounds when he has carried but one pound. If the matter is as stated in the evening paper there ought to be an immediate stop put to the extortion—for it is nothing short of an extortion—and criminal at that; but if the charge is untrue then Mr. Onderdonk (who is now in Victoria) should take the earliest opportunity of clearing his skirts. We can imagine nothing that is calculated to retard the progress of the country so seriously as a scale of railway charges that are precisely prohibitive, except it be a system of extortionate overcharges such as our contemporary refers to. We hope that this accusation will be thoroughly investigated and the blame placed on the right shoulders.

THE WAR CLOUD DISAPPEARS.

England and Russia have shaken hands over the Afghanistan difficulty, and however ill advised the arrangement may be regarded by many all good citizens are bound to abide by it. There is reason to believe that Russia has gained a tremendous advantage and that her road to India has been cleared of many of the obstructions that before beset it. The chief aim of the Gladstone government would appear to be to preserve the peace, no matter at what sacrifice of the national honor. War is a great calamity truly; but an ignominous peace is a greater misfortune. Of course, until all the papers of this remarkable embroglio are in the hands of the public it would be unfair to judge Mr. Gladstone's government too harshly; but if it should be shown in the result that he has consented to surrender startegic points in Afghanistan of great value without having secured a corresponding advantage the country will defeat the ministry at the general election.

Prince of Wales and Ireland.

DUBLIN, April 30.—The tour of the Prince of Wales having been brought to a successful termination, there is a good deal of press speculation as to its probable effect on the Irish people. With the exception of a few papers of the United Ireland type, the general opinion is that the result of the visit will be beneficial. A large landed proprietor from the south, whom I met at the Kildare street club, said: The visit of the Prince will do good; but it would have done more good if it had taken place five years ago, and to be permanent in its effects it must be followed by another visit next year and closer relations between the Royal family and the Irish people. Already it shows that Irish hatred of England is not as deep as Messrs. O'Brien, Harrington, and Healy would make out, and that the majority would prefer the mild excitement of the Royal presence to the shriekings of revolution. It also shows that the dislike exhibited to Earl Spencer and the Castle officials is more personal than political. A change of lord-lieutenants and a weeding out of the castle *personnel* would do much to produce a better feeling.

Prince and the Pope.

ROME, April 30.—If the Prince of Wales makes his visit to this city it will be with two important objects in view. One will be to have a conference with King Humbert on the question of an Anglo Italian alliance and the other to obtain an interview with the Pope in regard to the relation that should exist between Irish bishops and political questions. Signor Mancini has assured Sir J. Saville Lumley, the English ambassador, that the king will be delighted to grant the prince an interview, but a difficulty exists in regard to the Pope. A secret agent, representing England, has had several conferences with prelates at the Vatican, but, although warmly recommended by Cardinal Manning and other English ecclesiastical dignitaries, it is doubtful if he will succeed. It is a custom, almost amounting to a rule, that the Pope will not give audience to foreign princes who visit the king. This rule was departed from in 1883 in favor of the Crown Prince of Germany; but it is doubtful if the precedent will be followed. It is understood that in the event of satisfactory arrangements not being arrived at with the Vatican the prince will not visit Italy at present.

Morphia's Doings.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11.—Dr. Charles Pierce, a young and well known physician of this city, who on Saturday last was found in a pitiable condition, the result of morphine injections, died last night. His wife, who was formerly one of the leading belles of Boston, is lying in a dying condition from the same cause. It is now known that for several months they have denied themselves the commonest necessities of life to indulge their cravings for the drug.

THE NORTHWEST WAR.

A Bloody Fight on the 10th.

Effective Work of the Gatlings.

The Rebels Mowed Down.

The Battle a Draw.

BATOUCHE CROSSING, VIA CLARKE'S CROSSING, May 10.—We left camp at six this morning, leaving all the tents and supplies behind. All marched seven miles without seeing or hearing anything of the enemy. The morning was bright and warm. Suddenly there came the sound of the steamer's whistle, blowing continuously. As we drew near we heard the sound of heavy firing in the direction of the river. Our line of march was as follows: First, Boulton's scouts, accompanied by gatling guns; the Grenadiers formed the advance guard, with a battery of the Ninetieth Battalion supporting them, with the Winnipeg and Midland battalion in reserve. Scouts and gatling guns were then pushed rapidly ahead, and soon came upon two houses near the bank of the river, which here is very precipitous, where an advance party of the rebels were met, and who fired and retired behind the house towards the hollow.

THE GATLING GUN

was brought to bear on them, when they ran into the house near the church of St. Laurent, which was also fired on by the gatling gun when they ran out into the bush. A battery by this time came up with a rush and got into position, sending several shells after the rebels. The Grenadiers now advanced, marching steadily into action and developed into line continuing to advance in skirmishing order till the church was reached, when a priest came out of the house waving a white flag. General Middleton and staff advanced and shook hands, when three other priests and five Sisters of Charity came out. A number of half-breed children were also inside in charge of the sisters. Father Moulin informed them that the steamer arrived at a point a little above Batouche at 5:30 a.m. The rebels immediately commenced firing on it from both banks. It shortly after

STRUCK ON A MUD BANK,

but swung clear again, and just before our arrival passed the crossing. He also said the rebels had six killed and twelve wounded at Fish Creek. We just got a glimpse of the steamer down the river. She must have had a hard time; the fire and smoke stack is gone. The Grenadiers advanced, skirmishing through the bush on the right of the trail, the gatling being pushed forward down the declivity towards Batouche, now plainly visible in the valley below. Here the battery unlimbered on top of a ridge, sending shells into them, and whilst doing so were almost surprised by a number of rebels, who crept up through the bush, not being discovered until twenty yards distant. They made a rush for the guns, firing and yelling as they ran. Captain Howard, who operated the gatling gun, saw the danger. He ran the gun a couple of yards in front of the battery, and, opening fire, literally mowed the rebels down. Those remaining turned and ran from it, reaching the shelter of the bush. These opened fire again, and Howard's escape from injury was something marvelous,

BULLETS FLYING ALL ROUND HIM.

He gallantly maintained his position, and the rebels, unable to withstand the terrible fire, returned to the pits constructed in the ravine running from the river. Our line was now as follows: 41st and 16th companies, of Midland, with Winnipeg A battery, supported by E and C companies of Ninetieth in centre, and extending across to right to where the Grenadiers were, supported on the left by B and C of Ninetieth, on right centre by F and G companies. The A battery occupied the left centre, afterwards returning to right arm.

CAPT. FRENCH AND HIS SCOUTS.

11 a. m.—As I write, Capt. French, with his scouts and part of the dismounted men of A battery, are down in a ravine, firing now continuously on left and centre, but scattered on right. After a gallant but vain effort to drive the rebels from the rifle pits the French scouts and battery men retired. The wounded are now coming in. At noon the list of

KILLED AND WOUNDED

on our side is as follows: A battery, Gunner Phillips, shot through the stomach while in the ravine, died while being brought in. Thomas J. Stout, run over by carriage, not fatal. Chappatier shot through both legs, one fractured. Gunner Fairbanks, Capt. Mason, No. 2 company, slight wound in thigh. French's scouts, R. Cook, slightly wounded in leg, Curly Allen in shoulder.

THE REBELS CEASE FIRING.

2 p m.—The rebels fire has gradually ceased. The troops, however, are still keeping up a scattered fire along the line, gradually slackened until 5 o'clock, when only a few dropping shots were heard. No more of our troops are hurt. Wm. Bruce, lately a prisoner of Riel's, but who escaped on Tuesday, was brought in by scouts. He says that Riel's force is little over four hundred, half of whom were on the other side of the river when he left. He also says that when the ammunition was served to the rebels only one keg of powder remained; bullets were also scarce. Women and children had been sent to the other side of the river.

PRISONERS ARE SAFE,

so far as we know. Beardy is not with Riel, but has been sent for. Riel, Dumont, Garneau and other leaders are in Riel's camp.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

6 p. m.—Bolton's horses have gone back to our corral to bring up all the wagons and supplies. We camp here tonight, Gen. Middleton being determined to take the position. Capt. Young has just climbed to the roof of the church, and descried a body of Indians on the level, near the river bank about a mile away. The Winnipeg battery was ordered out and sent several well directed shells, scattering them immediately. Firing has now entirely ceased, but may be resumed at any moment. No news has been received from the steamer, but she keeps blowing her whistle, hence it is concluded that she is safe. The sound apparently comes from two or three miles down the river. Early in the morning crowds of women, children and mounted men were seen hurrying into the bush on the other side of the river. The weather was warm and bright all day.

THE FIRING RESUMED.

6.30 p. m.—A body of rebels has just opened fire from the bluff near the ravine on our left front, evidently on our skirmishers. They have first three volleys, but are shooting too high to reach us. The Winnipeg battery, resuming,

ARE SHELLING HOUSES

in the distance, where a large number of rebels are gathered. A second shell crashed through the first house, and the rebels rushed out; another shell blew the roof off the house beyond. As dispatches leave, scattered firing is going on. Expect to clean out the rebels to-morrow, and communicate with boat later.

Liberty's Friends.

NEW YORK, May 8.—The World on the subject of pedestal fund, says: "While the servant girls, the long-shoremen, the newsboys, the clerks, the car-drivers, the hard-worked and poorly-paid employes, laborers and toilers are siding day by day out of their scanty means to the Bartholdi pedestal fund, we do not hear that the bank presidents, the railroad stock-holders, the hotel proprietors, the speculators, the retired millionaires, the plumbers, the society swells, the office holders, the politicians and the independent well-to-do men and women of society, have, as a class, turned their hands over on the cause."

Skobeloff's Plan for the Invasion of India.

Until the arrival of the Stolietoff embassy at Cabul, the idea of a Russian attack upon India was generally scouted in this country; and even those who urged the stemming of the Russian advance did not treat an expedition against us as a matter of the immediate present, but as belonging to the future. In Russia, military opinion was more advanced. While war was still undeclared against Turkey in 1876 and England was hoping that the conflict might be averted by peaceful diplomatic means, Gen. Skobeloff, then Governor of Ferghana, the Turkistan district nearest India, forwarded to Kaufmann an elaborate plan for a Central Asian campaign. Even when summoned to Europe to take part in the operations there, he used his utmost influences at court to put the Turkistan forces in motion, and finally achieved his object in sight of Constantinople, when after several councils of war, it was decided that if the Congress at Berlin failed, an attack should be made upon India.

Accordingly, Cols. Stolietoff and Grodeoff left the camp for Central Asia, the former charged with a mission to Shere Ali, and the latter, Skobeloff's oldest and most trusted friend, carrying Skobeloff's secret plans, and for himself the special appointment as chief of Kaufmann's staff. One other agent was also sent from the camp—Pashino, an ex-diplomat who had served as interpreter at Samarcand to the present Ameer, Abdurrahan Khan, and possessed a knowledge of India from a journey he had undertaken through the peninsula a few years earlier. His mission was to proceed to India and secretly ascertain the condition of military and tribal affairs on the frontier, and afterwards push his way through the Khyber and join the Russian mission at Cabul.

The outcome of the enterprise is well known. Kaufmann marched with the invading force to Djam, on the Bokharan frontier, and marched back again when the treaty of Berlin became known. Stolietoff penetrated Cabul, and occasioned the Afghan War. Grodekoff returned to Europe by a famous ride through Herat, and is now acting Governor of Turkistan. Finally, Pashino was arrested at Peshawur, and spite of outcry, was sent back to Russia.

Most of these facts are known to the public, but Skobeloff's proposed plan of operations has never received due attention, even at the hands of those commonly supposed to be interested in Central Asian affairs. Briefly, the plan was this: Kaufmann was to have led an army to Cabul, almost denuding Turkistan of its garrison, and was to have there organized the Afghan forces for an attack upon India, while Russian emissaries stirred up the natives to mutiny. If the people failed to respond to the Russian appeal, Kaufmann was to tie the English army to India by threatening it from Cabul, and, in the event of a rising, he was to push on to the frontier, and attack the English on one side while the mutineers advanced and harried them on the other. Supposing the attempt failed, Kaufmann was to retreat, not upon Turkistan, in case the sight of his shattered forces should cause Bokhara to rise, but upon Herat and the Caspian; being met on the ways by a succoring army advancing via Askabad and Meshed.

Such was Skobeloff's daring scheme, the revelation of which, since his death, has exercised a remarkable effect upon the imagination of Russian Generals, and caused a longing to lead or participate in a campaign offering so many chances of distinction and glory. Had the Congress of Berlin failed, the impression is generally among Russian military men that Skobeloff's plan would have been crowned with success. Their belief in the certainty of a mutiny in India is one that Englishmen will not generrlly share, and hence the probability of an actual irruption into India will be contested, but there is one matter upon which not much difference can prevail. The Afghans would have doubtless fallen in with the Russian plans, and by their co-operation tied the English troops to the frontier, thereby preventing re-enforcements being sent to Europe. This alone would have been a success of no mean order, for it is no secret that Russia was greatly disturbed by the idea of Sepoys being dispatched to Turkey to assist in the defense of Constantinople.—From Marvin's "At the Gates of Herat."

The Latest Train Robbery.

CINCINNATI, April 30.—At 11:30 o'clock last night, as train No. 3, leaving Louisville at at 7:40 p. m., was coming up Smithville hill, 85 miles from this city, a man entered the baggage and express car, in which Geo. Davis of Louisville was on duty as express messenger, and Peter Webber as baggage master. The man upon entering struck both men on the head, knocking them to the floor. Davis attempted to get up, but was shot in the head and fell insensible. Webber was commanded and got up at the muzzle of a revolver and was compelled to get the key from the wounded man's pocket, enter the safe and hand out the cash. He begged the robber not to shoot him, but as he lifted the last package the robber emptied the revolver into his head. The man then made his escape. The trainmen are now lying unconscious, and will not recover. There is no clue to the thief. A large amount of money was taken.

LATER—Webber died at 1 p. m. The amount of booty was $13,000.

A BURSTED BOILER.

A Galveston Hotel Badly Damaged.

GALVESTON, May 3.—A terrible catastrophe occurred in this city at half-past 7 o'clock this morning. One of the boilers at the Tremont hotel exploded, instantly killing a number of persons, and wounding several others, and doing great damage to the hotel and neighboring property. The killed are: Several children; Lawrence Carr, the fireman, who leaves a family; Clara Miller, a white woman; Anderson and Jones, colored; and A. S. Crubber. Following are the wounded: Jossa Quilla, pastry cook, badly bruised, injured internally; John Axman, bell-boy, shoulder broken and otherwise injured; Maurice Sullivan, collar bone broken, badly cut about the head; R. Walker, a colored waiter, arm broken and badly bruised; Mrs. Burns, linen woman, slightly bruised about the head. The concussion from the explosion was appalling. The Tremont House is a large five-story brick structure, 130 feet frontage on Tremont street, and about the same depth on Church street. The boiler house was situated at the northwest corner of the building, and was a small one-story brick building attached to the main structure. The explosion shook the great building with such terrible force that the guests thought a tremendous earthquake had occurred, and ran panic-stricken about the hall.

THE Puget Sound country is far ahead of the island with ripe strawberries. Messrs. Brewster & Son, Yates street, received a large invoice of British queen and other varieties in excellent order yesterday.

FOUR GREAT GENERALS.

Why Sherman and Sheridan Acknowledged Grant's Leadership—McPherson's Abilities.

The four garetest Generals produced by the great Civil War on the National side were Grant, McPherson, Sherman and Sheridan. One of the most pleasant memories of American history is, and will forever be, the fact that between these four great commanders there was never the shadow of jealousy or envy. It is the highest honor that Grant ever received from men's judgment or admiration that these three able captains allwillingly and always looked up to him as their superior. McPherson fell in battle before the splendor of his abilities could attract the world's attention, but in his death Grant, as he declared, lost one of the greatest—perhaps, the very greatest—of his Lieutenants. Sheridan, as in right of his Irish blood, had the fiercest spirit in battle; Sherman the greatest inqention in council, while McPherson could fight with the one and plan with the other, but they all admitted, because they knew and felt, that "the silent gray-eyed man" was greater than they. "Why," I asked Gen. Sherman once, "did you and Sheridan always acknowledge Grant to be your leader?" "Because," he responded, in his quick, idiomatic manner, "while I could map out a dozen plans for a campaign, every one of which Sheridan would swear he could fight out to victory, neither he nor I could tell which of the plans was the best one; but Grant, who simply sat and listened and smoked while we had been talking over the maps, would at the end of our talking tell us which was the best plan, and in a dozen or two words the reason of his decision, and then it would all be so clear to us that he was right, that Sheridan and I would look at each other and wonder why we hadn't seen the advantage of it ourselves." "I tell you," he continued, after a moment's pause, "Grant is not appreciated yet. The military critics of Europe are too ignorant of American geography to appreciate the conditions of his campaigns. What is it to march an army from Berlin to Paris? Look at the shortness of the distance. Look at the multitude of roads. Look at the facilities of transportation. Consider how many times the same ground has been fought over by successive commanders. Is not every point of vantage known? What commander can blunder when all the conditions lie open to his eye? But I have seen Grant plan campaigns for half a million of troops alone a front line of 2500 miles in length, and send them to marching to their objective points, through sections where the surveyor's chain was never drawn, and where the commissariat necessities alone would have broken down any transportation system of Europe, and three months later I have seen those armies standing where he said they should be and what he planned accomplished; and I give it as my military opinion that Gen Grant is the greatest commander of modern times, and with him only three others can stand—Napoleon, Wellington and Moltke."—Montreal Gazette.

CLEVELAND'S MINISTER TO CHILI.

He Appoints "Gen." Roberts, the Ex-President of the Irish Republic.

"So the Hon. William R. Roberts has been appointed by President Cleveland minister to Chili," was the exclamation of a Montreal gentleman who knew him well. "I remember him," he added, "when he was president of the Irish Republic and was the leading spirit of the Fenian movement in 1866. I had occasion at that period to have frequent interviews, and knowing I was from Canada he several times expressed his disapprobation of the movement on Canada. He was moderate in his views and his Fenianism partook more of the nature of a desire for Home Rule. At the time he was elected president of the Irish Republic he had a large dry goods store on the Bowery, and did a flourishing business, but politics and public life seemed to be incompatible with commercial success, and after retiring from the firm he plunged into politics and served two terms in congress. He is called Colonel Roberts from holding that rank in the militia. I remember well when the headquarters of the Irish Republic was at the Mott Mansion on Union Square. The Fenian organization hired this old aristocratic residence and on it raised a running flag staff from which a green flag of enormous size was thrown to the breeze. The interior of the mansion was divided into departments and the roaring farce of playing at government was here carried on for some months, until the treasury was exhausted and the mercenary landlord, oblivious of the nobility of the cause, wanted his rent. The door of each department bore its respective title in imposing letters, such as "Department of State," "Secretary of the Navy," "Secretary of State," "Secretary of War," etc. The latter official was a broad-shouldered, big-fisted, good-natured Irishman, known as General Gleason. It was the habit of the reporters to call daily on the general, not so much with the object of obtaining news as to have a pleasant chat, a cigar, and a glass with the huge warrior. There was a general air of farcical mystery about the establishment, and the romantic soul-stirring accounts the scribes gave of the movements of the Irish Republic used to make even Colonel Roberts stare. On one occasion he said, smilingly to a *Herald* reporter: "It takes a power of drink to see and hear such things." One day the Secretary of War had a slight difficulty with the Under Secretary of State in the passage, and the "big girl," as his admirers called him, threatened to clean out the entire government. In after years Colonel Roberts had many a side-splitting story to tell about the members of his government when he was "President of the Provisional Republic of Ireland."

Rebellion Notes.

CALGARY, May 2.—Col. Ouimet, while *en route* north, was suddenly taken sick. Dr. Henderson was called, and pronounced it impossible for Col. Ouimet to go on. He has contracted a severe cold, and is now lying in the hospital. Capt. Bristols is with him

WINNIPEG, May 3.—The Times' announcement that Gen. Middleton sustained a defeat at Fish Creek has created most intense excitement in camp. The correspondents repudiate it, and assure Gen. Middleton that no such despatch was sent by them. The paper will likely be boycotted so far as war news is concerned.

THE BATTLEFORD WIRE.

The telegraph repairer sent out to examine the line between here and Battleford this morning has just returned, with intelligence that the line is down twenty miles west of here, and that a band of Indians are encamped in the vicinity.

POLICE COURT.—A half-breed, for selling liquor to Indians, was fined $50 or three months' imprisonment with hard labor. Two Indians and two whites were each fined $5 or one week. The little boy Madden, charged with stealing the watch, on security being given by his father for his future good conduct, was allowed his liberty.

THE *Weekly Colonist*, now enlarged to 64 columns; reduced to $2 50 per year. Send for sample copy. 2t

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

A MEMORABLE WEEK.—THE FIGHT ON THE FRANCHISE BILL.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, May 2nd.

This has been a great week for the country; one that will ever be remembered in history of Canada. From 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon until after 10 o'clock on Tuesday evening the house sat continuously—a period of 31 hours. This is the longest parliamentary session recorded since confederation, probably the longest ever known in any country where free parliamentary institutions exist. And now, as to the cause of it. The announcement was made last week that owing to the opposition which the franchise bill had evoked, and appeared likely to evoke, the government would press on its consideration from day to day until all the clauses were finally disposed of. Accordingly on Monday, after routine business had been transacted, the house resolved itself into committee on the franchise bill. The question of woman suffrage came up immediately, and when the interpretation clause was moved Mr. Townshend, one of the maritime province members, moved in amendment that the words giving suffrage to unmarried females or widows holding property be struck out. He did not make any remarks, having expressed his dissent to women's suffrage some days ago. When he sat down the premier rose and delivered his views on the subject. He said he was convinced of the

JUSTICE OF GIVING WOMEN,

duly qualified, the right to exercise the franchise. Such a feeling was steadily growing; it was only a question of time when women all over the civilized world would have the right conferred upon them, and he would like to see Canada the first country to place women in her true position. Personally he would go as far as giving the voting power to married women as well as unmarried; but he was bound to confess that both did not stand on the same footing. The woman who had no husband and owned property took upon herself the responsibilities of a man and therefore should vote. The conferring of the franchise to her would be a step in the right direction, and as an experiment he would be content with that for the present. The debate was carried on vigorously for some hours. Royal, of Manitoba, urged with great seriousness that if the clause became law the next step necessary would be to secure the emancipation of men. Your representative, Mr. Shakespeare, came out flat-footed in favor of the franchise to women. He was listened to attentively and the reasons he urged so lucidly on the attention of the house seemed to meet with the favor of a large number of members. His main point was that if women were allowed to vote there would be fewer disgraceful scenes witnessed in political elections and less cases of bribery. The refining influence of woman was being recognized on every hand; the fair sex were occupying some of the most important positions in the world to-day. In Washington Territory women were allowed to sit on juries, and it was patent there that their decisions gave generally more satisfaction than those of male juries. He was in favor of giving the franchise to all classes of women holding property. Members spoke pro and con until 2 o'clock on Tuesday morning, when Mulock moved the adjournment of the debate. If Sir John had acceded to this it would have meant that the whole of one day had been spent fruitlessly. The premier refused to permit the adjournment, and an hour was spent in discussing the motion before the majority could vote it down. Then the policy of obstruction commenced and continued all through the morning and afternoon of Tuesday. One or two speeches would be made on the clause, and then a diversion created by a motion to adjourn. The house was a perfect pandemonium until these motions were disposed of, but as soon as Townshend's amendment came up again the speeches were listened to attentively. Several of the members seeing that they were in for a night of it proceeded to make themselves comfortable as possible. The galleries were clear by two o'clock, and accordingly members repaired to them to snatch a little rest. Others filled up the cushions in the spaces behind the seats and the recumbent forms of legislators could be seen dotted all over the floor. Hour after hour

THE TALKING WENT ON,

four members of the opposition supplying the stream. By and bye day broke, a flood of sunlight streamed into the chamber and the gas jets were put out. At 9 o'clock Tuesday morning the relief guard of the ministerialists came on duty, and those who had held the fort all night left to get breakfast and more sleep. Sir John came in looking as fresh as a daisy, and was greeted with the old refrain, revived at many of the public dinners in the capital,

"For he's great and grand when he takes command
Of the boys on St. Patrick's day,
But now the cry is everywhere,
Mulock has gone away."

The newly-arrived members evidently were in fighting form. McMullen, a gritty Ontario member who has a voice which rasps like a buck saw, was charming the opposition with his mellifluous tones, and soon he had to submit to a kazoo accompaniment, and the thrilling tones of a comb covered with paper and blown by a strong-lunged member. Speech and song alternated all day, and it was not until ten o'clock on Tuesday night that the opposition ceased their obstruction, and the vote could be taken on Townshend's amendment which was carried by a majority of 25. We have been discussing the franchise bill all the week, and as I write the scenes of Monday and Tuesday are being re-enacted. The house met at three o'clock on Thursday, and at ten o'clock this (Saturday) morning. The opposition contend if the franchise bill passes in its present shape that it means political annihilation for them.

TRADE RELATIONS.

According to the statement of the premier made this week some communications have passed between the Dominion government and the government of the United States on the subject of freer trade relations between the two countries, but it would not be in the public interest to make known the exact position of affairs. Sir Ambrose Shea, premier of Newfoundland, has just arrived here from Washington, where it was supposed he had gone at the request of the Newfoundland government, but it appears he was acting simply on behalf of the St. John's board of trade. While in Washington Sir Ambrose had informal conversations with Mr. Bayard, secretary of state, and Mr. West, the British minister, on the reciprocity question. His present visit to Ottawa is supposed to have reference to the present position of trade relations between Canada and Newfoundland. By the tariff resolutions introduced into the house this session, consequent on the expiring of the fishery clauses of the Washington treaty, heavy import duties are placed on the fish products of the United States and also of Newfoundland. Our sister colony has been stirred to the greatest anger by the proposed change, and already she threatens reprisals which, if carried out, will have the effect of cutting off all trade between Canada and Newfoundland. It is said that Sir Ambrose is here with a view to securing a modification of the resolutions as far as Newfoundland is concerned, so that the present friendly relations between the two colonies may not be impaired, as undoubtedly they will be if the import duty is not maintained as at present.

THE STRUGGLE IN THE NORTHWEST.

The anxiety is depicted on the countenance of every person one meets respecting the position of affairs in the Northwest. The battle of Fish Creek, as it will be known in history, has shown what stuff the rebels are made of. Every one is an experienced marksman and the wonder is that more blood has not watered the plains of the Northwest. One battalion with Middleton, the Royal Grenadiers of Toronto, were not in the fight at the creek, being on the other side of the river and they did not get up in time to take a hand in before the rebels withdrew their forces. If they had participated, it is not too much to say that the lives of of many of them would be over ere this. Along with Todd's sharpshooters from Ottawa theirs is the only battalion clothed in red, a splendid target for the enemy, while all the other regiments are clothed in black or green. The ladies of Toronto, it is said, were almost overwhelmed with grief when some newspaper man called attention to the matter, and they are setting to work to make dark blouses to wear over the tunics. Gen. Middleton's position is acknowledged on all hands to be a critical one. As yet there has been little discussion in the house respecting the cause of the outbreak and on whom the responsibility rests, but it will assuredly come before the adjournment. In the meantime the following paragraph appearing in the Toronto Mail from its Ottawa correspondent is being pretty well talked about and will be used by the opposition to the discredit of the government when the debate takes place. The government had for some months received intimation of the dangerous attitude assumed by Riel and of the influence he exerted over the half-breeds and Indians in and around Beardy's reserve. The grit press in view of this are asking "Why were not the government prepared for the rising?" The half-breed commission is prosecuting its labors in the Qu'Appelle valley and meeting with various success. A return respecting claims for land in the Prince Albert district was presented to the house this week and from it I gather that in all some 320 claims have been disposed of. Every settler complying with the regulations was given a homestead of 160 acres free, and a pre-emption right of 160 acres additional at $1 and $2 an acre. The rejected claims were few. Eighty per cent of the claimants in the Duck Lake region are half-breeds who obtained their land scrip in Manitoba in 1870, and who afterwards removed west. For the claims they have since been pressing upon the government they do not appear to have a shadow of foundation in right. The supplementary half-breed claims in Manitoba have been assented to by the government. These claims emanated from Manitoba half-breeds, who do not participate in the settlement of 1870, although resident in the province at that time, and these will now receive their scrip of $240, which may be exchanged for land at a dollar an acre.

"A Roland for an Oliver."

This term is so generally understood that any comment upon it is almost superfluous. It is, however, no slang phrase, but one of the oldest of proverbial expressions. We are told that the Emperor Charlomange, in his expedition against the Saracens in 778, was accompanied by two pages named Roland and Oliver, who were so excellent and so equally matched, that the equality became proverbial.—"I'll give you a Roland for your Oliver" being the same as the vulgar saying, "Tit for tat"—that is, "I'll give you the same as you gave me." Here are a few illustrations:—

The Emperor Alexander of Russia, during the occupation of Paris, was present at the anniversary of one of the hospitals. Plates for contributions were passed round, and they were borne by some of the patrons' wives and daughters. The plate presented to the Emperor was held by an extremely pretty girl. As he liberally gave his louis-d'ors he whispered, "Mademoiselle this is for your beautiful bright eyes." The damsel politely courtesied, and immediately presented the plate again. "What!" said the Emperor, in amazement; "more! "Yes, sir," said she; "I now want something for the poor."

On one occasion an English gentleman, who possessed a keen wit, was at a brilliant assembly in Vienna, where a distinguished lady of that city frequently amused herself and her friends by saying smart and rather uncourteous things, for the purpose of annoyance. "By the way," enquired the lady, "how is it your countrymen speak French so very imperfectly? We Austrians use it with the same freedom as if it were our native tongue." "Madame," retorted the Englishman, in the blandest manner, "I really cannot say, unless it be that the French army have not been twice in our capital to teach it, as they have been in yours."

One of our most distinguished incidents of Zimmerman's life was the summons which he received to attend Frederick the Great in his last illness in 1786. One day the King said to him, "You have, I persume, sir, helped many a man into another world?" Zimmerman's reply was a judicious mixture of truth and flattery: "Not so many as your Majesty, nor with so much honor to myself."

Some time ago a seafaring man was called upon as a witness. "Well, sir," said the lawyer, "do you know the plaintiff and defendant?" After a moment's consideration Jack declared his inability to comprehend the meaning of plaintiff and defendant. "What! not know the meaning of those words," cried the lawyer. "An intelligent fellow you must be to come here as a witness. Can you tell me where on board the vessel it was that that man struck the other one?" "Certainly I can," replied the sailor, "it was abaft the binnacle." "And, pray," asked the lawyer, "what do you mean by that?" "Well, that's good," responded the witness, "you must be a pretty fellow to come here as a lawyer and don't know what abaft the binnacle means."

Another time a lawyer, in cross examining a witness, asked him, among other questions, where he was on a particular day, to which he replied that he had been in the company of two friends. "Friends!" exclaimed his tormentor; "two thieves, I suppose you mean." "They may be so," replied the witness, drily, "for they are both lawyers."

During an election contest, some years ago, a young man suddenly shouted out "Hurrah for Jackson," at which an elderly man exclaimed, angrily, "Hurrah for a jackass!" "All right, old man," said the youth; "we won't quarrel over such trifles. You can hurrah for your favorite candidate, and I'll do the same for mine."

Not Versed in Cows' Pedigree.

A young lady from the country and an Englishman were engaged in conversation, the latter leading, and boasting more or less of his distinguished ancestry.

"You see," he went on, "the better classes among the English people are proud of their blood, you know. The blood of six generations of Guernseys flows through my veins."

"Indeed?" the young lady replied. "Father has bought Guernseys at different times, but he said recently that he thought hereafter he would stick to Jerseys or Aldneys, as the latter give the richer milk and do not cost so much to feed."

A DREADFUL TIME IN STORE.—Of the conjuction of Mars and Saturn on the 9th of August, Zadkiel says: "At Ottawa the conjunction takes place at 4:51 P.M. * * * The conjoined planets are just setting; this presignifies sedition, bitter disputes, troubles both for the Government and people of Canada, a reign of violence, corruption of fruit, overflowing of the sea, epidemic sickness, and a high rate of mortality."—Montreal Gazette.

SPOKANE.—Messrs. Sproat and Farwell arrived at Spokane Falls on the 8th inst. and left the next morning for Little Dalles. Steamer Kootenay is running, making two trips a week.

THE GREER FORGERY CASE.—R. J. Rickman gave evidence in this case yesterday afternoon, and the prisoner was again remanded until two o'clock to-day.

WOMEN WHO PLAY POKER.

A Story from Washington which May Make the Hair Stand on End.

The craze for playing poker has broken out among fashionable ladies in Washington. The doings of the Army Poker Club, where the lives and reputation of so many officers have been blasted, are a matter of general knowledge and gossip, but during Lent, when it was so wicked to dance, the fair dames have consoled themselves with the clatter of the chips and the excitement of "the draw." It is stated that one young society belle recently lost over $200 at five sittings. This is quite a large sum in a game where betting above 25 cents was prohibited. The favorite game among the young ladies, however, is the "penny ante 5 cent limit." This is almost exclusively confined to ladies who have only a limited and moderate amount of pin money each week, but there is said to be heap of fun for the spectators. Very few gentlemen are admitted to this game. A much more refined and respectable form of amusement has been established for their enjoyment. The poker parties, where both sexes play, do not use vulgar chips or still more vulgar money; that would be carrying the thing too far. Elaborate and costly favors are provided—paid for, of course, by the gentlemen—and then the entire entire party sits down to the game of "freeze out." This is a very popular and entertaining style of amusement, and is played quite extensively. Some of the lady players have become adepts at the game. One of the most demure-looking young misses in town recently defeated an old stager at a party given at a certain fashionable residence, and when, a few evenings later, he came back for his revenge, she won enough kid gloves to last her a year.—*Washington Letter in Boston Traveller.*

Farm Gleanings.

A good, large, thrifty yearling is worth more in spring than a poor, stunted two year old, and one cow that has been properly wintered than two that are thin in flesh and hide-bound.

Make the change of cows from dry feed to pasture very gradual. Give salt to prevent injury from over heating of succulent grass. Bring up early, and feed hay with roots, and give hay in the morning, before they go to pasture.

Feed the hen well with all she will eat of corn or dough before giving the chickens their first meal of crumbs and boiled eggs, otherwise the hen, who will be very hungry, will leave but little for the chickens. Keep the hen as quiet as possible for a day or two, until the chickens get a little stronger.

A merchant who should draw out half his bank account once a quarter and throw the money into the gutter would be looked upon as a lunatic. But is the farmer any wiser who suffers his manure heap to be exposed to all weathers, and its most important elements to evaporate or leach away? He is simply throwing away his capital.—*Ft. Watchman.*

Grass lands should be put in order for the mower by rolling; pick up fallen branches and whatever rubbish will obstruct the machine. No sensible farmer will pasture his meadow in spring. A hundred pounds of nitrate of soda to the acre will be a profitable application, as will be a bushel or two of plaster to clover.

After a winter's rest, if horses have been idle most of the winter, it requires care in beginning to work them. An excellent farmer once remarked that the first day or two of Spring work he only wanted his men to do half a day's work per day, but to be all the day doing it. Frequent rests and pulling back the collar to admit air to the spine will often save much loss from galled shoulders.

No such failure of winter wheat over so extensive a territory has ever been known, embracing, as it does, twenty States. Every circumstance seemed to favor it up to the 1st of January, with the exception of heavy snows in the month of February, since which time everything has gone against it, and the almost certain outcome will be, compared with 1879 and 1880, not more than half the acreage, and three fourths of that half wiped out of existence by dry, cold, frosty and windy weather.—*Illinois Correspondent of Country Gentleman.*

When the hens become broody, they may, with care, be moved after dark to secluded nests provided for them, where they will be in a room from the sound of other fowls and be in partial darkness. Make the nests of fine hay, cut stra