Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

W. T. COX, Editor and Proprietor.] "The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE} GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, NOV. 17, 1864. {VOL. XVII.—NO 42.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH. C. W., NOV. 11, 1864.

THE FENIAN AFFAIR IN TORONTO.

BY VERY great good fortune the capital of Upper Canada has escaped a scene of riot and bloodshed similar to that which disgraced the city of Belfast not long since. The developments of the past few days go to prove that the peaceable citizens of the city have been, as it were, sleeping over a volcano of religious fanaticism which might have burst out in defiance of law and order, and utterly regardless of the horrible retribution which would, undoubtedly, have been visited upon the perpetrators. The circumstances are easily related: On Saturday evening last, the 5th of November, the Orangemen of Toronto, according to usage, determined to celebrate the anniversary of the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot, as well as the birthday of the Prince "of glorious memory," by giving a ball and supper at their Lodge room. In all this there was nothing contrary to the laws of the land. Indeed, similar demonstrations have hitherto passed over without creating more than a passing degree of interest. But on this occasion, it appears that a rumor got afloat to the effect that in the course of the Anniversary night the Orangemen intended to burn in effigy Guy Fawkes, Dan. O'Connell, if not, also, the late Duke of Newcastle. There is nothing to show that any such programme was proposed, certainly no attempt was made to carry it out *if* proposed; but, at all events, it was made the pretext for the appearance upon the streets of the city at dead of night of some three hundred armed Fenians, whose movements indicated that they had been carefully trained to act in concert. The alarming fact of such a turn out when respectable people were locked in the arms of repose, very naturally led to an investigation by the authorities, when it was discovered that the Fenians had in readiness a number of deadly arms, and that revolvers for their use had been brought into the place from Buffalo. The excitement caused by these discoveries was not decreased by the anonymous letter received by, Mayor Medcalf threatening his life. That these Fenians belong to the brotherhood spread over the neighboring States, and that they are actuated by a malignant hatred of everything British is beyond dispute, and however their Canadian organ, the *Irish Canadian*, may attempt to palliate their conduct, we think, in common with most of our contemporaries, that they should be looked upon with suspicion by all lovers of law and good government. Although they are all Catholics, we cannot think that either the Roman Catholic clergy or the more intelligent and respectable portion of our Catholic population will countenance their lawless proceedings, or encourage them to persevere in their suicidal plot to plunge this peaceful, free and happy country into religious strife and useless bloodshed.

HEAR! HEAR!

The *Globe*, in answer to a tissue of sweeping assertions by the New York *Herald*, announces *our* right to a corner of the continent as follows: "Who gave the whole continent in fee simple to the people of the United States? They assume, all too commonly, that no other people have a right to be here but they. We make no such pretension, but we do believe that being here we are as fully justified in maintaining our separate autonomy as they would be against the combined powers of Europe, were their existence threatened. To this end it is that England gives her aid to us, and looks upon our efforts with favour. We being desirous of perpetuating our connexion with the mother country, preferring allegiance to her to a limited partnership with the United States, she would be false to her trust, to her character, to her fame, were she not to stand by us—the Monroe doctrine or any other emanation of American imagination to the contrary notwithstanding."

KINCARDINE.

Two Vessels Ashore!

(From our Special Correspondent.)

[KINCARDINE, Nov. 10, 12., noon.

Two vessels have just went ashore behind the north pier, viz: the *Forwarder*, of Port Hope, Captain Sims, Michigan, and the *A. J. Rich*, with 17,000 bushels of wheat. The captain and mate is still on board the A. J. Rich. Two attempts have been made to get them off, but failed. The yawl upset the first attempt with five men in—Thos. Culbert, of Kincardine, was nearly drowned. Both boats are lying broadside to the beach—the sea making a complete breach over them. The men of the A. J. Rich came ashore in the yawl. Men in both vessels will be saved. The A. J. Rich sprung a leak in Lake Michigan.

☞ The Merrimac Mills at Dracut lost $300,000 by being burned down. What is the meaning of all these mill burnings in the New England States?

RE-ELECTION OF Mr. LINCOLN.

Although the returns from the several States are not all in, it is now certain that "for good or for evil," Mr. Abraham Lincoln has been re-elected President of the United States by a very large majority. We did think, at the close of the Chicago Convention, that McClellan's chances were splendid, but his famous letter, by disgusting the Peace Democrats, settled the business completely, and from that moment every sane man, who knew the immense influence wielded by Mr. Lincoln through the Government, saw that the case was hopeless for "little Mac." When both candidates mounted the same war platform, it could make very little difference which was elected, as the result of the war in either case would be about the same. Mr. Lincoln is re-elected and shoddy kicks up its heels rejoicingly,—Government officials breathe freely, and gold goes *up, up, up!* If the precious metal touches 300 before the end of this month, will *that* indicate a confident belief on the part of the people that their chosen autocrat will be able to crush the South?

THOSE PIKES.

The reporter of the *Leader*, in his account of the investigation of the recent disturbance, says:

The box of pikes which were found by the police were produced in Court, to the consternation of some of the more timid spectators, and to the amusement of some of those who appeared to be less fearful of such weapons. *The blades, when screwed into the handles, measured seven or eight feet*, and presented a very ugly-looking appearance. The word "Govan" or "Gowan" is inserted in capital letters on the blade.

Particular attention is directed to the italicised words. We cannot wonder that the good people of Toronto are exercised by the discovery of such horrible implements. The broadsword of Wallace was a mere play-thing compared with pike blades *eight feet long*. Fancy the disagreeable sensation one of them would create, if thrust into the pit of one's stomach after breakfast.

THE CENTRAL SCHOOL LIBRARY.

It gives us sincere pleasure to speak of a Library in town which is being made good use of by the persons for whom it was intended. We mean that mentioned above. It was instituted in 1861 and has been in successful operation ever since. The number of volumes when first opened was only 496, and singular to say, although the books are read in over 250 families in town, from week to week, only *ten* volumes out of the whole number have been lost during the four years.—This speaks well for the readers and particularly for those having charge of the library. These books have been the means of diffusing a vast amount of really useful knowledge, and when our town readers learn that an effort is to be made to increase the number of books, they will be glad to contribute a trifle towards such a good object. The Board of Trustees have granted a small sum which it is desired to supplement by voluntary contribution, and as this is the proper season for such an enterprise and the terms upon which books may be procured extremely favorable, it is hoped a very nice addition may be made to the school library. It is a free public library, every ratepayer having the privilege of using it, and we sincerely trust that those bearing the subscription lists will be met in a spirit of liberality commensurate with the importance of the object in view.

THE GALE.

We have had another severe gale on Lake Huron, which has unquestionably done much damage to shipping. It commenced on Wednesday afternoon and blew furiously from the S. W. and W. for nearly forty-eight hours, lashing the lake into immense billows. Our special correspondent reports two vessels ashore at Kincardine. A large schooner has been lying at anchor off Goderich harbor since yesterday (Thursday) morning, evidently in a state of distress, her flag flying half-mast high. Capt. Dancey, we believe, is organizing a crew to go to her relief. If he undertakes the task, all will be done that is within the bounds of possibility. It would be shameful to allow a crew to suffer so near at hand, if by any means they could be assisted. The lake does not appear to be too rough to-day for a trial.

CAPTURE OF ANOTHER RAIDER.—The St. Alban's *Messenger* learns that another of the bank thieves was arrested at Waterloo, C. E., on Monday. He was just getting into a wagon at a livery stable, when, seeing an officer approaching, he made for the barn, threatening to shoot any one coming near him. The officer, undaunted, made for him, the rascal making good his words by shooting the officer through the shoulder, though not dangerously. The ostler, seeing how matters stood, picked up a brick and knocked down the "Confederate gentleman," who was then immediately secured. Two thousand dollars in bills on the Franklin County Bank were found in his possession.

GOLD ON THE NORTH SHORE OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.—A correspondent of the *Journal de Quebec* sends an account of the discovery of gold in the County of Portneuf, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. If the discovery is authentic, it is possessed of much interest, the presence of the precious metal on the north shore of the St. Lawrence never having been observed before.

☞ The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser* says that a colored man, from Canada, named James Lewis, was examined before U. S. Commissioner Gorham, on Friday morning, on the charge of endeavoring to induce a recruit (also colored) whom he had previously enlisted to skedaddle to the Queen's dominions. He was committed for trial.

THE FRIGHT AT OGDENSBURG.—A few days since the people of Ogdensburg, on the American side of the St. Lawrence river, were highly excited in consequence of a report that a raid was to be made into the place from Canada, and that armed men were gathering on the islands above the town. It now appears from the Prescott Messenger, that the whole sensation arose from the presence on the islands of a party of sportsmen in quest of ducks. They were seen by the captain of a passing propeller, who, taking them for Confederate "raiders," alarmed the town and threw the people into a panic, from which, it is to be presumed, they have now nearly recovered.—[Leader.

NARROW ESCAPE.—We learn from a reliable source that a Provincial Deputy G. W. C. Templar from Hamilton, started in company with a young citizen, to advocate the temperance cause—at a hamlet a short distance from this city. It appears he either never had learned to ride, or had forgotten how. When at a short distance from the city the horse started a little to the right, the rider to the left, and in a second fell with some violence to the ground. It is providential he did not dislocate his neck, which perhaps would have been the case if he had not fallen on his back.—[London Advertiser.

MCHENRY AT DUNNVILLE.—The notorious McHenry, alias Townsend, has been in Dunnville since Saturday, and is reported to have left for Port Colborne with some rowdies in Yankee uniform.—The authorities have their eye on him.

Mails by the America.

The news by the America is three days later than the report by the Persia. A Russian frigate has arrived at Villafranca. It is asserted she is on her way to Civita Vecchia to fetch the Czarovitch to France. The National Assembly of Greece revoked the degree whereby members of the Miaorrli Ministry, during the reign of King Otho, were deprived of civic rights for ten years. On October 22 the vessels for London could not leave the Frith of Forth. Five vessels, chiefly foreign, were cast ashore at Granton. The crews were saved, except one man. A Danish vessel was wrecked near Dunbar: four lives were lost. Much damage was done ashore off the Frith. The Prince and Princess of Wales left Copenhagen, October 22. They were accompanied on board by the King, the Royal family, the Ministers and members of the diplomatic body, &c. They were attended by a guard of honor, and salutes were fired. Large crowds of people were present at the embarkation. The *China Mail*, of September 15, alluding to the naval preparations of England, Holland and France for an attack on the forces of the Tycoon, of Japan, in order to force an opening of the Inland Sea, says the American representative, though unable to send a man of war, had gone so far as to charter a sailing vessel in order that the United States flag should be duly displayed in the coming fight. The vessels of war reported as composing the expedition, are the Conquerer, Euryalus, Barosse, Leopard, Tartar, Coquette, Cormorant, and Bouncer, all under the English flag: the Semiramis, Duplex and Tancrede, [French]: the Medusa, Metzlen, Kins, Djamba, and Amsterdam, [Dutch] and the [illegible] chartered by the United States Minister in order to show the American flag when the forts are engaged. The city of Hoochow, China, fell into the hands of the Imperialists on the 28th August. The rebels were rapidly sinking in the state of misery which heralded the approach of the fall of Nanking. Rice was scarce, but actual starvation had not as yet set in. The most serious want was that of firewood, of which there was not a particle to be found. Deserted houses had been pulled down and coffins burned, and a general impression prevailed that the city could not hold out much longer, as supplies of every kind were cut off. At length the garrison retired, without beat of drum, through a pass in the Deh hills into the Province of Kian si. Prince de Joinville, the Duke d'Aumale, and the Prince de Conde have just arrived at Venice from Constantinople, in which city are also the Duke de Montpensier and the Count de Paris.

Garibaldi's yacht was lying off Cowes, waiting a favorable wind before leaving for Caprera.

Secrecy of the Conference.

Our contemporary *La Minerve* complains, with some show of reason, that revelations which at Quebec and Montreal were considered indiscreet were proffered by the Hon Mr Macdonald at Ottawa, and were made by the Hon Mr Brown at Toronto.

The fact is, that from first to last there has been a blunder committed in this matter of secresy. What individuals either proposed or said in conference ought to have been kept secret for reasons we have already explained, but what the conference agreed upon, day by day, ought to have been given to the public. The result has demonstrated that the suggestion made by some of the representatives of the press was a wise and proper one; but the majority of the conference obstinately refused to see it. When at last they find that secresy is breeding distrust and leading to irritation among the people, they deign to lift the veil and make the public aware of the destiny prepared for them. That conviction seems to have been forced on them after Mr. Cartier's speech, but while they were in Montreal.—The scheme must have public approval, or it must fail. It cannot secure public approval until it is known. It is true that etiquette may forbid the publication of any official document of this sort until it has been submitted to the Imperial authorities and Colonial Parliaments; but it is also true that when parts of a scheme like this have been made public, the whole in some unofficial, yet reliable, form must go forth to prevent all sorts of misinterpretations and misconceptions. We are glad that Ministers have at length become convinced of this, and have spoken out freely and frankly. It is thus we understand the partial silence here, and the fuller explanations in the west, and not either by any intended lack of courtesy to us in the east, or by any overstepping prescribed limits of Mr. Brown at Toronto. Ministers have been tardily converted to the opinion that publicity is best.

La Minerve is puzzled to know how the Leader and Montreal Gazette managed to get so much information, and hints at Mr Brown as a leaky vessel. Assuredly the two journals named could got nothing out of Mr. Brown. They were the last to expect or receive such favors from him. The facts are simple. One man can keep a secret, seldom two or three; but when thirty are added to the three, the thing is impossible. The delegates refused to talk except in the vaguest and most general terms with the men who met them at Quebec, but they were not always so specially cautious with others, and a few stray scraps of information sometimes revised and corrected by comparison of notes three or four times *per diem* were always procurable by persons making diligent quest. The process was very fully described in a letter from the Editorial Correspondent of this journal published in these columns on the 19th ult. La Minerve speaks of Mr Bernard, the secretary, and even of messengers, as sources of information. They gave no scrap, we know, either the representative of the Leader or of the Montreal Gazette, who hunted for news on joint account.—[Montreal Gazette.

Clippings from 'Latchkey.'

QUEBEC, 2th Nov., 1864.

To de Hon. Mr. Le Brun, Presidents of de Councels—SARE:—

Ven de confederation is a *fait accompli*—finish up to de very handies, vill you be so great—so big as you vas now, vid so little to kill vid de *Globes* and de politic? Dare is von question vich makes your sleep not come so early as before morning sometimes. Ah, sare, dis ambition makes de age in de hearts too soon, and hunts all de childe avay. De gods only know ven it sall cease in your brains vich makes so much business as can never be fix by von man's life. Sare you may rise sorrow in de hearts a cause of de humanity

I have de honors, &c.,

PIERRE LAFONTAINE.

E[illegible] [illegible]RD STREET, 4th Nov. 1864.

SAH:

De Souf will ab[illegible] or dis chile am no both de Norf, by golly, dese 300,000 niggers, &. Look you heah, gwine to free wid fifty acres ole Jeff. am continent, will come down, as Jan on dis de book, " like de wolf on de fol" says in bring on de general resurekshun & and earlier den usual. Dere's no use in talkin dese childrun will do it, and show de Norf what freedom is when she gets a chance to walk into antiquitee and see what Julius Cezar did under de influence ob de times; and see what Pompey did diametrical opposite. Dat's sufficient to secure de sentiment and sho de result from de fac dat dere are, sah! whole regiments ob Pompeys and Julus Cezars dat can be drawn into de fiel by emulashun ob—ob—ob—by emulashun!—by emulashun! Freedom is de word!—300,000 is de army dat will pronounce it till de bald eagle shall—shall—sah!—by golly! git balder!

Your service,

JUMBO BULLETHEAD.

Interesting Items.

☞ It is proposed to erect a monument to the late Capt Speke.

☞ Nearly six hundred thousand dollars in specie were shipped from San Francisco for China during the two days of last week.

☞ Grant's army is said to have gone into winter quarters.

☞ We see it stated that Victor Emmanuel is addicted to drunkenness.

☞ The Confederate Congress was to have met on the 7th of November.

☞ It is said that 900 women have been sent from England to India for telegraph operator work.

☞ A murderer, who committed the crime on one Parker, in Manchester, N. H., some twenty years ago, has been discovered by the death bed confession of a woman, and has been arrested.

☞ Alexander Dumas, the celebrated author, is going to the States and intends writing his adventures and impressions of the country.

☞ Gen Sheridan was nearly poisoned the other day by eating some cheese impregnated with corrosive sublimate.

☞ Professor Agassiz, in the Atlantic Monthly, has come to the conclusion that the continent of North America was at one time covered with ice a mile in thickness.

What safe skating it would have been!

☞ The Davenport Brothers are in England. The Queen patronises them. The Lord of the Backstairs-in-waiting reports that the Queen asked them why such clever knot tyers and untyers didn't stay in America, to help it out of its present snarl.

☞ Winnegarden, the man accused of murdering his son in May last, on the Sarnia railway, has been acquitted.

☞ For seducing a young lady a New York music teacher has been compelled by a jury to pay $10,000. Served him right.

☞ Recently, at one time, three prepossessing little girls of from twelve to fifteen years of age, were arrested in Toronto while in a state of intoxication, and conveyed to the police station.

☞ Conrad Wetlaufer, of Easthope, accidentally shot his son in the stomach a few days since while out hunting; he was likely to die.

☞ It was fully expected that no further postponement of the trial of Muller would take place, and that it would commence on the 27th of October.

☞ It is said that nearly 1,000 British troops have deserted to the United States during the past year for the big bounties.

☞ In the *crim con.* case Franck vs Carson, tried lately at Toronto, a verdict of $2,000 damages was rendered for plaintiff.

☞ Wm Lebeau was found guilty, at the Assizes in Woodstock last week, of robbing the Express Company's office there, and sentenced to seven years in the Penetentiary.

☞ "Mr. Cornish, present Mayor of London, is a candidate for the Mayoralty for 1865. If he succeeds it will be the fifth year he has held the office." But what if he don't?

☞ The freeing of slaves under the new constitution of Maryland was commenced in Baltimore on the 1st instant.

☞ Big Potatoes appear to be very abundant in Canada this year. In addition to those mentioned by us a few weeks since, a larger one was brought in by Mr. I. Smith, but we have seen a notice of one in the Free Press weighing four pounds! Is that so?

☞ Hons J S. Macdonald, A. A. Dorion and L H Holton would not accept invitations to the recent dinner to the members of the Colonial Conference at Montreal, urging as a reason that "to accept would be to assent to the political programme of the present ministry." This bespeaks opposition to the scheme at the ensuing session of Parliament, but we hardly think the opposition will seriously militate against the proposed Confederation.

☞ Very oppressive orders have been issued against the Danes by General Gablenz, the German commander. Imprisonment and bread and water fare are proposed for the mayors of the towns who do not aid the Prussian soldiers in carrying out their tyrannical proceedings against the Danes. No Dane is to occupy, with his family, more than one room in his house, the rest to be given up to the soldiers, who are cursed and loathed by all the Schleswig Holsteiners, who foolishly once sought their aid.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

The *Herald's* Army of the Potomac dispatch reports that the rebels attacked our extreme left on Sunday forenoon, but were quickly sent whirling within their own lines.

The *Herald's* dispatch from Sheridan's army, 8th, states that Sheridan has received information that the rebels immediately intend to assume the offensive. Ewell has superseded Early. Fitz Hugh Lee's division of cavalry was, on Monday, at Wardensville on the Cachon river. Imboden was also reported there, and the rebel force was over 5,000 strong. Mosby has been reinforced by a regiment of Virginia cavalry, and on Monday was at Berryville. A raid is expected on Winchester, or on Sheridan's line of communication. Rebel movements have been counteracted. Cavalry moved this morning.

To-day Gen. Kelly's command successfully attacked a rebel force moving towards Moorefield. A general engagement is expected in a day or two. There is much indication that the rebels will attempt to flank Sheridan's position at Cedar Creek. Early has gone to Richmond.

New York, Nov. 9th.

The steamar Arago, from Hilton Head on the 6th, has arrived. She reports that, on Monday morning 6th inst., being in company with the U. S. steamer Huntsville, sighted a suspicious steamer, when both gave chase. The stranger crowded steam and sail. The Huntsville commenced firing, which was replied to, the firing being kept up for two hours. The gunboat Banshee joined in the chase, thus hemming in the pirate. Both pursued and pursuing vessels nearing land very fast to the eastward of Cape Lookout. At 3.30 p. m., land being in full view, and the pirate evidently hemmed in by the fast vessels after her, the Arago kept on her course for New York. Purser Ely, of the Arago, has no doubt it was a pirate. She had guns of or strange, and was unquestionably captured than ten before the sun set, they being less [illegible] from land.

The military situation [illegible]sville, Ky., Nov. 8, mains unchanged. [illegible] at Chatanooga re[illegible]

Yesterday's Indianapolis [illegible] Nov. 9. Officers from Chattanooga report all says: man returned to Atlanta. Early last Sherman with five corps of his army, leaving two cok in Tennessee, under Thomas, to watch Hood. He destroyed the railroad Chattanooga to Atlanta, and is sending the iron to the former place. Atlanta is burned, and Sherman is marching directly for Charlestown, S. C.—[Note to Editors.—The above is discredited, by government officials.

Terrible Railroad Accident.

TWENTY-SEVEN PERSONS KILLED.

A frightful accident occurred on Monday afternoon, October 31st, on the Lafayette and Indianapolis road, the regular Cincinnati express colliding with a cattle train on a curve one and a half miles this side of Calvey's station, about seven miles from Lafayette. The passenger train was twenty minutes behind, but waiting the requisite time at Stockwell obtained the undoubted right to the road, and was moving at rapid speed when, on turning the curve beyond Calvey's station, the cattle train was observed, but too late to avert. Both trains were heavily laden—one with seven coaches and five hundred and eight souls, and the other with nine freight cars filled with Government cattle.—The engineer, George Lamb, of the cattle train, had observed the smoke of the passenger engine just beyond the curve, and, reversing his engine, had partially checked the speed of the train before the dread collision. He stood at his post, pale as a marble, until the trains were but a few rods apart; when he jumped for his life, and with the fireman and brakesman escaped unhurt. John Whitten, engineer of the express, having, as he thought, an undoubted right to the road, was unsuspicious of danger on the curve, and did not see the other train until too late to materially check the speed of his own train, much less avert the disaster. He had barely time to reverse his engine and jump for his life, when the massive locomotives and all their precious freight of human life collided with a loud crash and a power which shook the earth.—Head lights, cow catchers, and all the lighter works were crushed like tinder, and the massive iron boilers received the full force of the collision. All was over in the twinkling of an eye, and in less time than it takes to read this paragraph twenty seven souls were swept into eternity. Next to the engine, as usual, was the baggage car belonging to the Lafayette and Indianapolis railroad, next was a first class coach belonging to the Michigan Central road, and this was the fatal car in which death held high carnival. The baggage car was about fourteen inches narrower than the passenger coach, and a little higher on the truck; and the force of the concussion drove it, like the smaller section of a spy-glass, into and through the passenger coach immediately behind. The baggage car remained intact, and narrower as we have said, came rushing through the coach, sweeping off the top, but leaving the sides of the car unbroken. Like a monster battering ram it swept everything before it, and scarce a single passenger in the forward part escaped instantaneous death.—As it entered the coach it jumped the forward trucks upon which it rested, and the end dropping about twelve inches, for want of support, gave the baggage car an angle of about thirty degrees. And to this simple fact the escaped passengers of the ill-fated coach owe their lives. Had the baggage car gone through on the same line upon which it entered, not a soul could have escaped. Thus it was that the forward passengers were instantly crushed to death. A little farther back, and the elevation of the death-dealing car brought in line with the tops of the seats, and here it was that heads were crushed like egg-shells. A little further, and those only who were standing were struck down, while but a step beyond, passengers escaped with but a scratch save from the splinters of the wreck. A number of the dead were so tightly wedged between the bottom of the baggage car and the passenger coach that the baggage car had to be raised by jack-screws, before they could be taken out. The car dripped with blood like a slaughter-pen. No ladies were injured. The twenty seven persons killed were mostly soldiers. Among the wounded was Mr. John N. V. McIntyre, St. Catherines, Canada West, son of Mr. Thos. McIntyre, cabinet maker, of that town. His injuries were a wound in the forehead, and the crushing of both legs. The reason, it is supposed, he has escaped death was the fact of two dead soldiers and the stove having fallen on top of him. He was engaged in driving government teams at the time. He will return home in a few days.

☞ There was a singular encounter in Jersey City on Friday night, between a torch-light procession and a railway train. The locomotive on the evening train for Washington struck and overset a chariot containing thirty six young ladies, which was a feature of a McClellan demonstration. The men in the procession were very naturally enraged, and attacked the engine and drove it back into the station. Limbs were broken but no lives lost.

Victoria and Great Britain.

The breach between the colonists of Victoria and the Imperial government, relative to transportation to Western Australia, widens daily, and the recent despatch which the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Cardwell, has forwarded in reply to the remonstrances addressed to him on the subject has caused much anger and bad feeling towards the mother country. The Premier of Victoria, Mr. McCulloch, has taken a very determined step to frustrate, as far as possible, the action of the Home government; he has given notice to the Peninsula and Oriental steam packet company, which carries the mails, to terminate the colonial contract at the expiration of six months, unless the vessels of the company cease to call at Western Australia on their way to the Eastern Colonies; and, as the Victoria portion of the mail subsidy is £32,000 a year, this step shows the depth of the popular sentiment in a way which cannot be mistaken. It is believed that the Colonies of South Australia and New South Wales will co operate in this movement, and it is expected that the pressure thus brought to bear on the company will force it to yield, unless, indeed, the Home Government should determine to bear all the expense of the mail transit itself, which, if it were to do so, would only have the effect of placing it in a more hostile and undignified attitude towards the colonists. The language which Lord Grey used in the House of Lords, towards the close of the last session, relative to transportation to Western Australia, has given great offence to the Antipodeans, and it struck us at the time that its tone and bitterness were out of all proportion to the necessities of the case. Lord Grey is not a member of the government, and, therefore, undue importance has been attached to what fell from him; but this is no excuse for the needless irritation he has produced. As he once filled the office of Colonial Secretary, the prestige of his old position still clings to him in the eyes of the colonists on the other side of the Globe, and this alone ought to have influenced the expressions of a private Peer who aspires to the character of a statesman.

War with Japan.

From Japan we hear of nothing but war and rumors of war. It is not easy to gather our exact position there from the news which come home, although we learn sufficient to fear that it is anything but satisfactory. A short time ago affairs were going on having, through, the action at Kagosima more respect, the Daimios to treat us with refractory Daimio moreover induced the most demanded by the [illegible] to pay over the claim indemnification for the [illegible] government as soon. Now all is changed. Mr Richardson almost before we know that [illegible] told, wrong, that 16 English, 2 French, [illegible] Dutch ships of war, were about to force a strongly defended Straits of Shimonosaki. A battalion of marines were also taken on board the fleet, and if be true that the Straits in question are strongly fortified, much more than a battalion of marines scattered through 16 ships will be needed. Some go so far as to say that before we can put matters with Japan on a proper footing a force of 15,000 or 20,000 will be necessary. It would be a great satisfaction to people at home to know what has gone wrong at Japan, that 16 English war ships were about to force a passage into the inland sea through Shimonosaki; but if any reliance is to be placed on recent news, we are likely to hear of war having actually broken out long before we know the cause of it.

CAPTURE OF THE FLORIDA.—The following is a brief account of the circumstances of the capture of the *Florida*:—She arrived at Bahia Bay, San Salvador, on the night of the 7th ult. Captain Collins having held a consultation with his officers, determined to sink the *Florida* in port. Accordingly at about three o'clock the cables were shipped and the *Wachusett* steered for the *Florida*, hitting her on the quarterdeck without doing great injury. Captain Collins now called out to those on board the pirate to surrender or he would sink her. This demand was replied to by the first lieutenant, who said that under the circumstances he would surrender. A hawser was now made fast, the chain shipped and the *Florida* towed to sea. In the *melee* several pistol shots were fired, and accidentally two guns from the *Wachusett*. Captain Morris and half of the *Florida's* crew were ashore at liberty. No lives were lost. The *Florida* was taken completely by surprise. Seventy of her men it was known were on shore, and the others just returned were asleep and intoxicated. The blow given the *Florida* by the *Wachusett* carried away the mizzen mast and main yard, which fell on the awning, preventing any one from getting up from below. So unconscious was the officer of the deck of the intention of the *Wachusett's* captain that he sang out, "you will run into us if you don't take care," at the same time calling for a light. Twelve officers and fifty eight of the crew of the *Florida* were captured. The *Wachusett* and *Florida* were to leave St. Thomas on the 2nd inst. for New York.

☞ The Rev Dr Guthrie says: I have heard a man with a bottle of whiskey before him have the impudence and assurance to say: "Every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanksgiving," and he would persuade me that what was made in the still pot was a creature of God. In one sense it is so; but in the same sense so is arsenic, so is oil of vitrol, so is prussic acid. Think of a fellow tossing off a glass of vitrol, and excusing himself by saying that it is a creature of God. He would not use many such creatures, that's all I'll say. Whisky is good in its own place. There is nothing like whisky in this world for preserving a man when he is dead. But is is one of the worst things in the world for preserving a man when he is living. If you want to keep a dead man, put him in whisky; is you want to kill a living man, put whisky into him. It was a capital thing for preserving the dead admiral, when they put him in a rum puncheon; but it was a bad thing for the sailors when they tapped the cask, and drank the liquor till they left the admiral as he never left his ship—high and dry.

COOKING WITHOUT FIRE.—The ingenious M. Babinet, of the French Institute, has discovered the means of cooking without fire. He has just laid before the academy the result of his experiments. His recipe is to place your food in a black pot, covered with sundry panes of glass, and stand it in the sun. The water soon boils, and the food is said to be of better flavour than if cooked in the ordinary way. But we are in a season (says an English writer in Paris) when, in London at least, it will hardly do to trust to the sun as a substitute for a kitchen fire, and the probability is, that this new invention will be about as useful as that attempted in the land where the inhabitants occupied themselves in endeavouring to extract sunbeams from cucumbers.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—An inquest was held on Saturday, by Coroner Muter, at the dwelling of Andrew Altzel, North Easthope, on the body of a man named Justus Yerier, who had come to his death by the falling of a tree the day previous. The unfortunate man had gone into the bush to chop down a tree, and had carelessly not allowed himself sufficient time to get out of the way before it fell and crushed him to the earth, killing him instantaneously. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

An Affecting Scene.

At a recent trial at the Old Bailey, in London, Geo. Hammond, a portrait painter, was placed at the bar for trial, on an indictment found against himself by the Grand Jury, for the wilful murder, with malice aforethought, of George Baldwin, a rope-dancer and mountebank. The prisoner was a man of medium height, but slender form. His eyes were blue and mild. His whole bearing gave evidence of subdued sadness and melancholy resignation. He was 41 years of age, had a soft voice; and his appearance and manner bore evidence of his being a man of distinction, in spite of the poverty of his address.

On being called to plead, the prisoner admitted that he did kill Baldwin, and he deplored the act, adding, however, that on his soul and conscience, he did not believe himself guilty. Thereupon a jury was impannelled to try the prisoner. The indictment was then read to the jury, and the act of killing being admitted, the Government rested their case, and the prisoner was called upon for his defence.

The prisoner thus addressed himself to the Court and Jury:—

'My lord,' said he, 'my justification is to be found in a recital of the facts. Three years ago I lost a daughter, then four years of age, the sole memorial of a beloved wife, whom it had pleased God to recall to Himself. I had lost her but I did not see her die. She disappeared—she was stolen from me. She was a charming child, and but her I had no body in the world to love me. Gentlemen, what I have suffered cannot be described; you cannot comprehend it. I have expended in advertising and fruitless searches everything I possessed—furniture, pictures, even to my clothes. All have been sold. For three years on foot I had been seeking for my child in all the cities and all the villages in the three kingdoms. As soon as by painting portraits I had succeeded in gaining a little money, I returned to London to commence my advertisements in the newspapers. At length, on Friday, the 14th of April last, I crossed the Smithfield cattle market. In the centre of the market a group of mountebanks were performing their feats. Among them a child was turning on its head supported by a halbert. A ray from the soul of its mother must have penetrated my own, for me to have recognized my child in that condition. It was my poor child. Her mother would perhaps have precipitated herself towards her, and locked herself in her arms. As for me, a vail passed over my eyes. I know not how it was—I habitually gentle, even to weakness, seized him by the clothes—I raised him [illegible] air, then dashed him to the ground—[illegible] he was dead. Afterwards I regretted what I had done. At that moment I was able to kill but one.'

Lord Ch[illegible] not Christian [illegible] Tisdale.—'These are [illegible]pect the Court and [illegible] How can you expect your defence, or God to look with favor on [illegible] cannot forgive.'

Prisoner.—'I know, my lord, [illegible] your judgment, and that of the [illegible] God has pardoned me; I feel it in my [illegible]. You know not, I knew not then, the whole extent of the evil that man had done. When some compassionate people brought me my daughter in prison she was no longer my child; she was no longer pure and angelic as formerly; she was corrupt body and soul—her manner, her language, infamous, like those with whom she had been living. I did not recognize her myself. Do you comprehend now? That man had robbed me of the love and soul of my child. And I—I have killed him but once.'

Foreman.—'My lord, we have agreed upon our verdict.'

Chief Justice.—'I understand you, gentlemen, but the law must take its course. I must sum up the case, and then you will retire to deliberate.'

The Chief Justice having summed up the case, the jury retired, and in an instant after returned into Court with a verdict of 'Not Guilty.'

On the discharge of Hammond, the Sheriff was obliged to surround him with an escort. The women were determined to carry him off in triumph. The crowd followed him all the way to his house with deafening shouts and huzzas.

Sad Suicide of a Merchant.

From the London Times, Oct. 14.

A coroner's inquest took place on Saturday at No. 1 Richmond terrace, Hackney, before M. Humphreys, on the body of Mr. W. James Groves, aged 42 years. He was a merchant in the city, and his transactions were principally on the Corn Exchange and with New York. The evidence showed that he had sustained very severe losses in connection with America, and his partner being at present in New York, while alone here the trouble had preyed upon his mind in a most distressing manner. On Thursday last he came to his farther's house earlier in the day than the hour at which his father and brother were usually there. He asked the servant if they were at home, and ascertaining that they were not, he went into the dining room, ordering that a glass and some water should be brought. He then closed the door, and the room was not entered till later, when his father returned. He was then discovered lying on the couch as though asleep, but dead. On the table stood a bottle containing a quantity of cyanide of potassium, and the tumbler in which he had mixed a supply of the poison, and from which he had drank as much as he was able, before the poison took effect. On the table beside the glass were two letters, in which he stated:—"My mind is going. I cannot bear these troubles any longer; they are great and helpless, and I cannot pass another day like this" as well as a kind and anxious reference to his wife. The troubles of which he spoke has been undiscovered till his death, up to which, he had been considered a prosperous man, and were solely pecuniary business difficulties. The medical evidence established that the deceased had been poisoned with cyanide of potassium. The jury found "that the deceased committed suicide by poisoning with cyanide of potassium while in a state of unsound mind, and the jury desire to draw attention to the danger of permitting the indiscriminate sale of cyanide of potassium to unknown persons, and to suggest that in all cases the purpose to which so deadly a drug is to be applied should be carefully ascertained."

BOY LOVE.

One of the queerest and funniest things to think of in after-life, is boy love. No sooner does a boy acquire a tolerable stature, than he begins to imagine himself a man, and to ape mannish ways. He casts side glances at all the tall girls he may meet, becomes a regular attendant at church or meeting, carries a cane, holds his head erect, and struts a little in his walk. Presently, and very soon, he falls in love; yes, 'falls is the proper word, because it best indicates his happy, delirious self-abasement. He perfumes his hair with fragrant oils, scatters essences over his handkerchief and desperately shaves for a beard. He feeds upon the looks of his beloved, and is raised to the seventh heavens if she speaks a pleasant word; is betrayed into the most astonishing ecstacies by a smile, and is plunged into the gloomiest regions of misanthrophy by a frown. He dotes upon a flower she casts away. He cherishes her glove—a little worn in the fingers—next to his heart. He sighs like a locomotive letting off steam. He scrawls her dear name over quires of foolscap. He scornfully deprecates the attention of other boys of his age; cuts Peter Tibbets dead because he said that the adorable Angeline had carroty hair; and passes Harry Bell contemptously for daring to compare 'that gawky Mary Jane' with his incomparable Angeline. Happy! happy! foolish boy love! with its joys, and its hopes, and its fears, its sorrows, its jealousies, and its delights, its rapture and its tortures, its estatic fervors and terrible heart burning, its solemn ludicrousness and intensely prosiatic termination.

Canadian Iron Mines.

The Lake Superior Mining Journal, of a recent date, says:—

"We learn from a person who has recently returned from a short visit to the north shore of Lake Superior, that there is a very fine show of iron ore near the head of Batchawaung Bay, about forty five miles up the shore from the Sault St. Marie. The ore crops out in several places for a distance of nearly three miles, in a west south west direction, and it is easily by railroad from the bay—only four and a half miles distant—which is not excelled for safety anywhere on the lake, and into which vessels can run and cast anchor in any kind of weather. We also learn that a large tract of land has been purchased by parties from Detroit and Boston, who intend to begin building the railroad and opening the mines early next spring."

EFFECT OF TOBACCO ON PULSATION.—Dr. A. Smith, of Manchester, states that tobacco-smoking increases the rate of pulsation in some persons and decreases it in others, hence there is a diversity in the action of tobacco upon different constitutions. He experimented with tobacco upon Dr. Dale, at Scarborough, and found that the effect of tobacco upon him was as follows:—During the first six minutes of smoking there was only an increase in the beat of his pulse of four beats per second, but after that there was a steady increase, and after smoking twenty-one minutes the beat increased to 37½ per minute. After smoking had ceased, the pulsations rapidly decreased. Dr. Smith states that tobacco-smoking acts as a stimulant like alcohol, upon those persons whose pulse is excited. When the body is of full of habit, the use of tobacco, he believes, leads to disturbed sleep, and in some cases may end in apoplexy.

BEAR KILLED IN TILSONBURG.—For some time past it has been known that a bear had been committing depredations in this neighborhood, such as tearing down fences and harvesting the corn. On Tuesday night, Thomas Harrison, Robert Walmsley, and F. Burn, armed with shot guns, and accompanied by two dogs, went in search of the corn thief. The bear was finally treed in a small bush on the farm of Mr. E. D. Tilson, in this village, and only a few rods from the inhabited part of Cranberry-street. A fire was built under the tree, which not being to his bearship's [illegible], he began to descend from his perch, [illegible] his footing, and fell into the fire. Mr. Walmsley shot him behind the right fore [illegible], and he [illegible] him by the throat, and [illegible] shot him twice with [illegible] the animal [illegible] dimensions:—Height [illegible] feet; height on all fours, [illegible] from snout to tail, 6¼ inches [illegible] inches in circumference; weight, 2[illegible] was certainly a daring act to attack so dangerous an animal with such insufficient arms as a shot gun and a knife.—[Tilsonburg Observer.

EXTRAORDINARY TRAGEDY.—"A Carlsruhe letter, says the *Debats*, relates an extraordinary tragedy said to have just taken place in that city, but which we give under every reserve. A Polish count named E——, after seducing a Madlle. de La B——, one of the most charming ladies at Carlsruhe, abandoned her in order to marry the Marquise de L——. Madlle de La B—— tried every means to win back her faithless lover, but finding her efforts useless, determined to be avenged. A grand ball was given a few days back at the residence of the Marquise to celebrate her betrothal with the Count. The *fete* was at its height when Madlle de La B—— approached the Marquise with a smile on her lips as if about to salute her, and then dashed the contents of a phial of sulphuric acid into her face. A short time before a servant in livery handed a letter to the Count. After reading it the latter turned pale, and immediately went out. The next day his body was discovered stabbed with a poniard in three places, while that of Mdlle de La B—— was found in the river which runs at a short distance from the town. The Marquise is disfigured for life."

FEARFUL DROUGHT IN CALIFORNIA.—A private letter from Sacramento, California, of Oct. 2, published in the Lowell *Courier*, says the drought has done an immense injury to farmers, especially in the Southern section of the State. One man who owned 10,000 cattle, had lost all but 60 by starvation, and others had not raised any eatable thing.—The emigration had been large, and there must, of course, be a great deal of suffering amongst the imigrants before the crops come off another year. They are making a great effort in San Francisco to aid the sufferers; have had several public meetings and appointed committees to canvass the city. The wealthy business men went around with drays to houses begging clothing and provisions to send the destitute.

SAFE GROUND.—The *Canadien*, one of the ablest of the French Canadian papers of Lower Canada, thus states its position in reference to the question of a union of the Provinces. The correctness of this position, its the interests of Ministers themselves, is absolutely unimpeachable. "For ourselves," says our contemporary, "we have not hesitated to give to the Government our full confidence in supporting them loyally in the great political work which they have undertaken.—But we are now about to enter upon a new phase. The negotiations completed, the work prepared at the sitting of the Conference will be submitted to the country, and we must judge of it on its own merits, without any indulgence towards the men, without respect to their intention, but solely from the point of view of the public interests. If the constitutional project is faulty, it will be necessary in the interests of the confederation itself, to amend or reject it; if on the contrary, it is conceived in a liberal and strong basis, Lower Canada should be the first to accept it."

IMPORTANT CABINET MEETINGS TO BE HELD.—The Montreal *Gazette* of Tuesday says:—"Ministers are returning to Quebec, and we understand important Cabinet Councils are to be held this week, beginning to-day or to-morrow. Attorney General Macdonald, though still unwell, we regret to hear, is better, and will join his colleagues at the capital immediately. It is generally understood that some members of the Ministry will shortly proceed to England on public business."