A Sailor's Speech.

At the banquet given to the sailors of the Channel Fleet at Liverpool, on Tuesday, a seaman of the *Royal Oak*, named Grant, delivered a speech, so genuinely sailor-like and amusing as to provoke hearty and incessant laughter. He said, "before I got up I had an idea of what I was going to say, but that 'ere gentleman (the chairman) has taken all the stiffening out of my shirt collar.—(Laughter). I'm not much of a chap to spin a long header, and so I hope you will excuse me if I lose the steerage of my tongue, and that you will send a helping hand to assist a stranded vessel in getting off the shoals'—(Cheers). They say we live in the iron age. No doubt of it. Many of us present live in iron-clad ships: but we are not the only ones, for I believe the fair sex can boast of that as well as we. (Great laughter.) I read in the paper here when I arrived in this place that the fleet raised a good deal of excitement on shore, and that only on one occasion was there a greater one, and that was on the arrival of her most gracious Majesty the Queen. Now, there is not the slightest doubt about it, it might have raised a great excitement on shore, but it raised a greater one on board the fleet. Only fancy the blue jackets here surrounded by females! (Cheers and laughter). Why it is enough to make a blue jacket's heart jump like a dolphin, and all our heads to go round like capstans, and make us all feel as if we were going before a gale of pleasure into a haven of joy, instead of sailing up the Mersey. (Renewed cheers) The public at large has shown how the Channel Fleet and those who man them are held in estimation here. They are held, I conceive, as high as the main truck is over the cockpit. I hope, blue jackets, my fellow shipmates, seamen, and marines of the fleet, you will fill your glasses, while I return my heartfelt thanks for the toast. Let me tell you there is not a day will pass over Jack's head when he hears the solemn 'one' bell, that he will not toss up his tot, and say 'Here goes success to Liverpool.' (Loud cheers) Now, my lads, I want you to drink 'Success to every female in Liverpool.' (Immense cheering). I know my fellow shipmates will join me in returning them heartfelt thanks; so up you go, and give three cheers for the Lady Mayoress and all the females of Liverpool." It is needless to say that the toast was most chivalrously received by the whole assembly.

Words for Poor Boys.

When I was a boy of twelve years, says Gen. Mitchell, I was working for twenty-five cents a week with an old lady, and I will tell you how I made my hands full: but I did my work faithfully. I used to cut wood, fetch water, make fires, and scrub and scour mornings for the old lady, before the real work of the day commenced; my clothes were bad, and I had no means of buying clothes, so was often barefooted. One morning I got through my work early, and the old lady, who thought I had not done it, or was specially ill humored then, was displeased, scolded me, and said I was idle and had not worked. I said I had, she called me a "liar." I felt my spirits rise indignantly at this, and standing erect told her she should never have the chance to call me that again. I walked out of the house to re-enter it no more. I had a cent in my pocket when I stepped out into the world.—What do you think I did then, boys? I met a countryman with a team. I addressed him boldly and earnestly, and offered to drive the leader if he would only take me in. He looked at me in surprise, but said he didn't think I'd be of any use. "Oh, yes, I will," I said.—"I can rub down and watch your horses, and do many things for you if you will only let me try." He no longer objected. I got on the horses' back. It was hard travelling, for the roads were deep, and we could only get on at the rate of 12 miles a day. This was, however, my starting point. I went ahead after this. An independent spirit and a steady, honest conduct, with what capacity God has given me, as he has given you, have carried me successfully through the world.—Don't be down-hearted at being poor and having no friends. Try and try again.

AN INTERVIEW WITH BURNS.—He wore a broad Lowland bonnet, and his plain, homely suit of russet seemed to bespeak him a peasant of the poorer class; but as he emerged from the gloom, and the red light fell full on his countenance, I saw an indescribable something in the expression that in an instant awakened my curiosity. He was rather above the middle size, of a frame the most muscular and compact I have almost ever seen; and there was a blended mixture of elasticity and firmness in his tread, that to one accustomed as I have been to estimate the physical capabilities of men, gave evidence of a union of immense personal strength, with great activity. My first idea regarding the stranger, and I know not how it should have struck me, was that of a very powerful frame, animated by a double portion of vitality. The red light shone full on his face, and gave a ruddy tinge to the complexion which I afterwards found it wanted, for he was naturally of a darker hue than common; but there was no mistaking the expression of the large flashing eyes, the features, that seemed so thoroughly cast in the mould of thought, and the broad, full perpendicular forehead.—*Hugh Miller's Tale's and Sketches.*

Origin of a Town.

In case of country towns, where a Highland laird or speculating society has not interfered, it is a matter of analysis for the fashionable science of political economy to discover how one of them has grown, or by what current it is united. There is a church; that is the ordinary foundation. When there is a church there must be a parson, a clerk, a midwife; thus we account for four houses. An inn is required on the road. This produces a smith, a saddler, a butcher, and a brewer; they require a baker, a tailor, a shoemaker, and a carpenter. They soon learn to eat plum puddings, and a grocer follows. The grocer's wife and parson's wife contend for superiority in dress, and from this cause flows a milliner and a mantua-maker. A barber is introduced to curl the parson's wig and to shave the smith on Saturday night, and a stationer to furnish the ladies with paper for their sentimental correspondences. An excise man is sent to gauge the casks, and a schoolmaster discovers that the ladies cannot spell. A hatter, a hosier, a linen-draper, all follow by degrees; and as children come into the world, they begin to cry for rattles and ginger-bread.

The parson becomes idle and gouty, and gets a curate, and the curate gets a wife and twenty children, and thus it becomes necessary to have more shoemakers, tailors and grocers. Alas! too happy people! for in the meantime a neighboring apothecary, bearing with indignation, that there is a community living without physic, places three blue bottles in the window, when, on a sudden, the butcher, the inn-keeper, the parson's wife, the grocer's wife, become billious, and find out that they have nerves, and their children teeth, water in the head, convulsions. They are bled and blistered, till a physician finds it convenient to settle; the inhabitants become worse and worse every day, and an undertaker is established. The butcher having insulted the tailor over a bottle of ale, he, to prove his manhood, knocks him down with the goose. Upon this plea an action of assault is brought before the next sessions.—An attorney sends his clerk over to take depositions and collect evidence; the clerk, finding a good opening, gets all the people by the ears, becomes pettifogging attorney, and—peace flies the village forever.

Then the village becomes a town, acquiring a bank, a mechanics' institute, a circulating librarary, a coterie of old maids; and, should it have existed in happier days, might have gained a corporation, a mayor, a mace and a quarter sessions of its own, a county assembly, assizes, and the gallows.

☞ The widow of the Confederate General Helm, who was killed at Chickamauga, is a sister of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln.

Buffalo and Lake Huron Railroad

TIME TABLE.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

GOING EAST.

		Day Express.
GODERICH,	DEP	8.40 A. M.
CLINTON	"	9.24 "
HARPURHEY	"	9.48 "
SEAFORTH	"	9.54 "
CARRONBROOK	"	10.15 "
MITCHELL	"	10.36 "
STRATFORD	ARR.	11.20 "
"	DEP.	12.30 P. M.

GOING WEST.

STRATFORD	ARR.	3.58 P. M.
"	DEP.	4.20 "
MITCHELL	"	5.03 "
CARRON BROOK	"	5.23 "
SEAFORTH	"	5.46 "
HARPURHEY	"	5.53 "
CLINTON	"	6.14 "
GODERICH	ARR.	7.00 "

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., NOV. 24, 1863.

PERSONAL.—Hon. J. S. McDonald, who was in Toronto most of last week, started for the East on Friday night. The Hon. gentleman seems to enjoy excellent health and spirits. If there are, in his case, coming events of great importance, as the opposition press is careful to inform us, they certainly *cast no shadow before!*

GOVERNMENTAL JOBBERY.

The Quebec *Mercury*, which has been assailed for its supposed jobbery, challenges a strict and impartial comparison of the sums paid for Governmental printing by the old and new Governments. Nothing could be fairer, and although the oppositionists may still carp and quibble, the Foote gentlemen never felt themselves in a position to issue such a demand.

STEEL PENS.

UNDER the old *regime* there must have been an awful amount of writing done in the various departments, judging from the quantities of steel pens used up. During the last year of the existence of the Cartier McDonald Ministry, the following nice little items were run up, not to mention many others in the same line:

"STEEL PENS."

Governor Genl's Secretary's Office	..	$41.00
Provincial Secretary's	"	272.00
Provincial Registrar's	"	27.00
Executive Council	"	40.25
Finance Minister's	"	120.50
Auditor's	"	17.25
Receiver General's	"	220.00
Public Works	"	101.50
" Engineering Branch	..	58.50
Crown Law Department	..	67.00
Crown Lands "	..	369.00
Bureau of Agriculture	..	48.25
		$1382 25

There must have been ink enough consumed to float a good sized steamer. Some of the opposition papers assert that jobs just as bad are now going on. If so, let the perpetrators be pointed out by all means.

MEETING OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA.

In these days of Association, when lawyers, divines, doctors, teachers, and in short men of almost every profession meet for the interchange of thought it is but reasonable to suppose that editors, who are believed to possess at least a share of the finer feelings of humanity, should wish to come together once a year. This desirable flocking together of the "Press Gang" has at length become an established institution under the name of the Press Association of Upper Canada. The Meeting in Toronto on Friday last, the *Leader* to the contrary notwithstanding, was the most successful that has taken place since the organization of the Association. There were more members present, the spirit of good-fellowship was more complete, and the results more marked than ever before. The public may be inclined to ask what we can hope to effect by such meetings.—At first sight it would appear that our business is not of a very heavy nature, but every person who has tried it can testify that "it was good to be there." We learn, for example, that men with whom we have had many a political bout, are not, after all, bad fellows: To read the tearing articles in the Hamilton *Spectator* one would think the writer a dangerous customer to meet. Not so, however, friend Gillespy is one of the jolliest, best-natured members of the profession. The same is the case in numerous other instances, and it is evident that the meeting together for interchange of thought, for fraternal greeting and for the expression of mutual well-wishes has a tendency to rub off the asperities so frequently engendered by political strife.

One of the principal objects of the Association is the elevation of the Press throughout the country in tone and character, and to this end, at the late meeting, it set its face most resolutely against the gross personality which has become so common of late. If an editor now wishes to secure the contempt of his brethren in the ranks he has only to descend to the use of the weapons wielded by the fish-wife and the termagant. He may thereby win applause, but it will be led by bar-room rowdies; he may become famous, in the eyes of—gutterlings. If the Press Association succeeds in impressing upon the minds of the Public a feeling of disgust at the mean, low-lived, and sometimes *brutal* language indulged in by too many of our country newspapers, as well as the more pretentious dailies, it will have earned the thanks of the whole community.

On Saturday morning, the Association, through a committee, presented W. Gillespy, Esq, of the *Spectator*, with a very handsome silver tea-service, as a mark of their appreciation of his services in instituting and maintaining the institution.—The following is a report of the proceedings at the Meeting, extracted from the daily *Globe* of Friday morning:

Yesterday afternoon the annual meeting of the Press Association of Canada, was held in the Lecture Room of the Mechanics' Institute—Mr. D. McDougall of the Berlin *Telegraph*, President of the Association, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were present, viz: Messrs. W. Gillespy, Hamilton *Spectator*; Geo. McMullen, Newburgh *North American*; Thos. White, junr., Peterboro *Review*; G. W. Verrall, Strathroy *Home Guard*; J. A. Campbell, Milton *Champion*; W. T. Cox, Goderich *Signal*; W. R. Cromie, Bowmanville *Statesman*; E. Miles, Belleville *Chronicle*; W. H. Floyd, Cobourg *Star*; H. C. Kennedy, Morrisburgh *Courier*; E. W. Dewhurst, Wetland *Telegraph*; R. Thorgood, Simcoe *Reformer*; D. Wylie, Brockville *Recorder*; John McLean, Hamilton *Illustrated News*; H. Cameron, Port Hope *Canadian*; A. McLachlan, St. Thomas *Home Journal*; James Seymour, St. Catharines *Constitutional*; Thomas Sellers, Montreal *Echo*; Mackenzie Bowell, Belleville *Intelligencer*; W. S. Johnson, Port Hope *Guide*; William Wallace, Simcoe *British American*; A. G. Belch, St. Mary's *Argus*; S. L. Roberts, Stratford *Examiner*; G. H. Wood, Sarnia *British Canadian*; J. W. Cameron, Kingston *British Canadian*.

Letters of apology were read from the Editors of the Hamilton *Times*, London *Free Press*, Ayr *Observer*, and London *Advertiser*.

A letter was read from Messrs. J. & S. Blackburn, suggesting the advisability of the publishing of a trade journal by the Association. After some discussion, it was moved by Mr. W. Gillespy, seconded by Mr. M. Boswell, that the Messrs. Blackburn's recommendation to publish a trade journal in the interests of the Association be referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Wylie, McLachlan and Cox—Carried.

The Chairman delivered a very carefully prepared address to the members present, in support of the practice of holding meetings of Editors, as they had a tendency to bring literary men in closer contact with each other, and do away with a great deal of ill-feeling which springs up occasionally in the heat of election and other times. He spoke for about half an hour, and his remarks were received with hearty applause.

On motion of Mr. Wylie, second d by Mr. Verrall, a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. McDougall for his valuable address.

The following gentlemen were elected office bearers:—

President—D. Wylie, Esq., *Recorder*, Brockville.

1st Vice President—McKenzie Bowell, Esq., *Intelligencer*, Belleville.

Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. Thomas Sellers, *Echo* Montreal.

Honorary Secretary—Mr. J. A. Campbell, Georgetown.

Executive Committee—Messrs. McLachlan, Seymour, Wallace, McMullen, and Johnston.

Moved by Mr. Bowell, and seconded by Mr. Verrall, "That whereas it appears by recent decisions in the courts of justice, that publishers of newspapers cannot collect accounts which may have been incurred by persons seeking seats in the Legislature of this Province, and others on their behalf, be it therefore resolved that the President, on behalf of the Association, petition the Legislature for such amendment in the Election Laws as will enable the collection of such debts."

Moved by Mr. Bowell, and seconded by Mr. Cox, "That the President prepare a petition to the three branches of the Legislature, asking for the abolition of postage on newspapers, and send them to the different publishers of newspapers, asking them to obtain signatures to such petitions, and to forward them to members of Parliament for presentation."

Votes of thanks were passed to the Grand Trunk, Great Western, and Buffalo and Lake Huron Railways, for extending to the members of the Press free passes on their respective lines; to Mr. Dwight, manager of the Telegraph Company, for services rendered to the Association, and to Captain Dick, of the Queen's Hotel, for his liberality to members residing there attending the annual meeting in this city.

A discussion arose in regard to personal remarks indulged in by certain newspapers, when the following motion was passed:—Moved by Mr. Wallace, and seconded by Mr. Topping, "That in the opinion of this meeting the discussions carried on by journals in Canada, in reference to the personal matters of the proprietors of these journals, are injurious to the character of the press of Canada, and are therefore deserving of the censure of this Association."

It was decided that the next annual meeting of the Association shall be held at Belleville.

THE SUPPER.

About twenty-five gentlemen of the press sat down at eight o'clock to an excellent supper prepared for them at the Queen's Hotel. Mr. D. McDougall, of the Berlin *Telegraph*, occupied the chair; Mr. Wylie, of Brockville, the vice-chair. After supper the chairman proposed the standard loyal toasts, all of which were responded to in a proper manner. The National Anthem was sang by the company, and Mr. White, of Peterborough, sang—"A Fine Old Irish Gentleman," after the health of the Governor General was disposed of. Mr. Wylie, of Brockville, responded to the toast of the "Army and Navy." Mr. Kennedy gave "Rule Britannia." The chairman expressed himself highly pleased with the present gathering, and complimented Mr. Gillespy, of the Hamilton *Spectator*, the originator of the Association, on the result of his efforts. He thought these annual gatherings would have the effect of softening down the feelings of harshness which occasionally arose between editors of different politics, and he felt confident that we had got past the crisis. He was pleased to say that the Association was in a healthy state, and he believed that it not only would live, but would benefit its members. After some further remarks, he gave—"Success to the Canadian Press Association." Mr. Verrall, of Strathroy, sang "Ben Franklin." Mr. Wylie gave "Canada our Home." In proposing this toast he said we had no reason to feel anything but proud of Canada as a country. It had risen within the last half-century from a wilderness to a place of eminence, being now considered the highest gem in the diadem of the Crown of England. He alluded to the conduct of the press, and stated that it could do much toward still increasing the *status* of Canada amongst the nations.—Mr. White, of Peterborough, responded in eloquent terms. The chairman congratulated Mr. White on his able speech, and gave the toast—"The Press." Mr. Sellers, of the *Echo*, responded in fitting terms, and gave some interesting historical sketches of Canada, which were received with applause. The Vice-chairman gave—"The manufacturing, agricultural, and commercial interests of Canada, which being duly disposed of, he gave the toast—"The Ladies." Mr. Kennedy sang—"Kitty Terrill." Mr. Gillespy proposed the health of the retiring officers, which was drank with all the honors. Mr. McDougall, the retiring President, responded. Mr. Wylie sang—"My ain Country," with great pathos. Mr. Bowell, in giving the toast—"The Railway Interests," made some remarks on the great kindness of these corporations to the press. The chairman gave the health of "Captain Dick, proprietor of the Queen's." It is needless to remark that this was drank with all the honours. "Auld Lang Syne" next followed, and the happy party broke up about 11 o'clock, all thoroughly satisfied with the unanimity and good feeling which had existed during the meeting.

Ploughing.

Frost-freezing and thawing of a soil, exerts a very important influence in securing the complete pulverization of all soils. But when a soil has been ploughed several months before the time of frost, it becomes consolidated, and the frost will not exert half the influence in its more thorough pulverization, that it would were it but recently ploughed. For this reason ploughing early in autumn—where thorough pulverization is the chief object—will not be as effectual as late ploughing, or even ploughing in the winter. If the rains and frosts of winter can be in operation, when a soil is running together after it has been ploughed, the pulverization will be more thorough and complete than it would be under any other circumstances. And more than this, the more complete the pulverization is, the longer that soil will remain mellow and porous; and consequently the greater will be the available amount of fertilising matter in that soil, which will promote the growth of crops.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.

The *Post's* Washington letter says the War Department has advices from Burnside to-day, and it is stated in official circles that they are encouraging, and no fears for his safety need be entertained.

The army of the Potomac is still moving southward. It occupies Madison Court House to-day, which looks very much like a flank movement.

Pontoons went down last night.

Our cavalry has already, it is said, got in the rear of Gen. Lee's forces.

No doubts are felt in the minds of intelligent men as to the result of an engagement between Meade and Lee.

There was anxiety respecting Burnside at the War Department, but it is no longer felt.

Commander Hansell has been detached from the command of the *Martanza*, and ordered to the command of the *Chicopee*.

New York, Nov. 21.

The *Post's* New Orleans correspondent says:—General Banks entered Brownsville on the 5th with a small force. The rebels had burned the old United States barracks there and a large amount of property, part of the town, plundered all they could, and fled on the 6th.

The Mexican General Cabas, who was a refugee in Brownsville, on the 6th was called upon by the civil authorities to organize the citizens to arrest the plundering of the rebels and put out the conflagration.

After the entrance of Gen. Banks, he with his force advanced to Matamoras and drove out Ruiz, who who was favorable to us, and sought refuge in Brownsville; Cabas then hoisted the French flag. The following day Cabas was attacked by the Ruiz party and shot. Ruiz was again reinstated, but was again forced to fly by Cortemas, who has seized Matamoras and issued a pronounciamento re-establishing the Mexican constitution of 1857.

Washington, Nov. 22.

Yesterday afternoon about 90 of Mosby's men approached within three miles of Bealton, with the intention of making a raid on the railroad. Being dressed in Federal uniforms a detachment of the 1st Pennsylvania and 6th Ohio cavalry, who were in the immediate neighborhood at the time, mistook them for friends, but soon discovered their error when the rebels fired into them, by which several were wounded. The rebels were instantly pursued and driven into Snicker's Gap. 6 of the gang were captured.

New York, Nov. 22.

The junction of Sherman with Thomas enables Grant to reinforce Burnside.

A Knoxville letter to the *Herald* of the 7th mentions the fight between the Union and rebel North Carolinians on French Broad River, in which the former whipped the latter. During the fight many of the rebel regiments skedaddled to the Union ranks, and poured in their fire into their former comrades.

A Memphis letter of the 10th to the *Times* states that the Memphis and Charleston Railroad is being abandoned by our forces, as the expense of guarding it is too great.

The *Herald's* special states that advices from the Fortress Monroe sanitary commission agent says that the principal part of the supplies for the prisoners in Richmond have been forwarded.

Burlington, Vt., Nov. 22.

Considerable excitement was caused yesterday in the villages of Rouse's Point and St. Albans by reports that a body of secessionists in Montreal had planned to seize Fort Montgomery, destroy the drawbridge at Rouse's Point, and plunder Plattsville and Burlington. Information of such a plot reached Gov. Smith and and Collector Clapp, of this port, on Friday. The immediately took steps to communicate with the officer in charge of the fort, who soon had its guns manned and ready to give the renegades a warm reception.

Political Murder in New York.

The porter house of Joseph King, No. 48, Madison Street, was the scene of a lively affray yesterday morning, between the friends of Alderman Walsh on the one side and the admirers of Councilman Morgan Jones on the other. The Jones crowd, consisting of James White, Thos. Brown, and one or two others, were enjoying themselves over the counter, when the Walsh party, headed by James Cusick, entered the saloon. The factions were well disposed at first, and actually drank together, but as the bottle passed round, their evil passions were gradually developed, and without any apparent provocation the Jones crowd challenged Cusick to fight. The latter was not disposed to risk the chances of an encounter at first, but, being bantered a great deal, expressed his willingness to accomodate the party. White thereupon produced a pair of revolvers, and handing one of the weapons to Brown, retained the other himself. Cusick was shoved into a back room by the bar-keeper, but White followed him thither and deliberately shot him through the heart. The wounded man had only time to exclaim, "Oh, Jimmey, you have shot me!" and then falling on the floor, expired.

Sergeant Delaney and several members of the Fourth precinct police were promptly on the ground, and effected the arrest of the entire party. Alderman Walsh, who occupies lodgings over the saloon where the affray took place, was promptly in attendance upon his friend Cusick; but the vital spark had fled before the Alderman got down stairs The affair created intense excitement in Democratic circles.—*N. Y. Herald.*

A SUBSTITUTE FOR COAL.—There is in Trinidad, only a mile from the coast, a basin of 99 acres filled with asphalt, yielding 70 gallons of crude oil per ton. There are also springs of asphaltic oil in the neighborhood, and large pitch banks off the shore. It is estimated that the lake is capable of producing 300,000,000 gallons of oil. A Trinidad paper publishes a *memoire* by Mr. Stellmeyer of Port of Spain, proposing the use of this liquid fuel for oceanic steam navigation, and he states that he has been at various times for the past three years suggesting this employment of a distillate from the pitch lake of Trinidad. To oil a ship would not take a tenth of the time it does to coal her, if pipes were employed, and the oil would not take over a fourth of the space occupied by coals. He recommends that it be applied at once as auxiliary to coal, by throwing jets over the burning mass, but he contemplates eventually upright tubular boilers, the liquid fuel to be supplied as fast as it can be converted into flame. Of course the North American Oil Springs are another source of supply.

THIRTY YEARS YOUNGER.—Rev. B. Bruce, D. D., Newmarket, Gallatin county, Illinois, writes—"I have tried Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum.—They acted like a charm. My hair is as it was thirty years ago. If you wish a reference from me, I will give it willingly." Sold by Druggists everywhere. Depot, 196 Greenwich st., New-York.

PARAGRAPHIC'S BUDGET.

☞ New Mexico abounds in gold, silver, copper and cinnabar.

☞ Mr. Cubitt, late Lord Mayor of London, is now dead.

☞ Rum is used in the West Indies instead of turpentine, in the preparation of paint.

☞ The Confederates are reduced to making brandy out of persimmons.

☞ The siege of Charleston has now lasted for one hundred and twenty-eight days.

☞ Castle Thunder, Richmond, now contains seven Northern newspaper correspondents.

☞ The telegraph states that Lee's soldiers are well fed, however hungry Richmond may be.

☞ The Maryland farmers are importing German agriculturists—no negro labor procurable.

☞ The army of the Potomac will not march into the bowels of the land much before May next.

☞ The local taxes of the City of New York have increased 33 per cent. during the past year.

☞ A cable, weighing upwards of seven thousand pounds, has just been completed in Philadelphia.

☞ One of the "short" operators in Wall street has bagged half a million of dollars by the recent panic.

☞ Coal was $11.20 per ton of 2,240 pounds at Philadelphia on Saturday, a figure never known there before.

☞ Walter Savage Landor, at the age of 90 years is about to publish a volume of poems entitled "Heroic Idyls."

☞ A Chicago editor has been sued for $10,000 libel, in announcing the elopement of a young white girl with a negro.

☞ The two Tacony pirates who escaped from Fort Warren, have arrived at St. John. They stole the sloop Una, of Salem, to make the passage.

☞ The New York Herald says the devil is speaking through Beecher. A Cincinnati paper thinks that is rather rough—on the devil.

☞ The streets of St. Louis must be in a pleasant condition. A paper of that city says a woman was smothered to death in a mud-hole a few days since.

☞ We greatly regret to announce the death of W. J. Stewart, Esq., editor of the Illustrated London News, which occurred at his residence on Saturday, the 17th inst.

☞ The Prince of Wales is a very expert tennis player, and it is believed that his royal highness will extend his patronage to the London tennis courts, of which there are three.

☞ It is stated that Dr. Cullen, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, resolutely condemns the Fenian Brotherhood, which finds so much favor in the United States, and which includes in its programme the invasion of Ireland, and her liberation from "Saxon oppression."

☞ The cotton crop in Kansas this year has been a complete success. The green-seed cotton, the kind raised in Maryland and Kentucky, has been uniformly successful in Kansas, while the varieties sent from Washington and Mississippi have invariably failed.

☞ While making a speech in Maryland recently, a Union General was hit with a rotten egg. The audience turned upon the fellow in the crowd who was suspected of throwing the egg, and gave him a severe punishment. It turned out afterwards that the wrong man had been whipped, but the performance had an excellent moral effect.

☞ It is a singular fact that, while not a single accident has occurred to the guns on board the Ironsides and Monitors, five of Gen. Gilmore's guns, of the same calibre as those used by the navy, have exploded or become damaged since the siege of Charleston began. Experienced naval officers explain this by the fact that the projectiles used by the Monitors were 'slushed,' or greased, before being rammed home.

☞ It is related that a short time since some two hundred mules, packed near Gen. Hooker's lines, broke loose and charged furiously across the field where a Georgia regiment was stationed. Thinking it was cavalry, or something else, the regiment broke in confusion and ran, leaving one thousand Enfield rifles of the best description behind them, which General Hooker has to show in proof of the incident.

☞ Austria will borrow this year 100,000,000, namely, 33,539,846 to cover the deficit of the budget; 30,000,000 in aid of Hungary, now suffering from famine; 12,000,000 to withdraw from circulation the ten kreutzer notes, which are not comprised in the 52,000,000 of redeemable bank notes; and the remainder for the diminution of the floating debt of 100,000,000, for which amount the salt mines have been mortgaged.

☞ The population of Richmond, says the *Inquirer*, is increasing to an extent that is becoming alarming. On Tuesday, about 300 Yankee prisoners were brought here to receive the hospitality of the authorities, and another batch also reached here yesterday. There are now in this city about 13,000 prisoners to feed, who cost a pretty good sum, which could be put to better use, if the Lincoln Government could agree to an exchange. It is rumored that five thousand of them will be sent Danville and Lynchburg as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

☞ The strikes for higher wages on the part of the laboring classes in New York and other cities in the United States, still continue, and nearly all the machine works and foundries, as well as other large manufacturing establishments, are closed in consequence of the inability of employers and employees to come to terms. This strike is not confined to the city, but extends to all parts of the country, and threaten a complete stoppage of government work unless some arrangement is made with the workmen. In Boston, as in New York, nothing has been done to the monitors or engines for the war vessels getting ready for sea, for some time past.

☞ The *Water Wich*, a propeller owned by E. B. Ward, of Detroit, and running from Chicago to Sarnia in connection with the Grand Trunk, has been wrecked in Saginaw Bay, and all hands are supposed to be lost. The Detroit *Advertiser* says that the *Water Wich* was built at Newport and came out in 1861, and ran last year in the Cleveland, Detroit and Lake Superior line. She was probably the swiftest propeller on the lakes, and was of remarkably staunch build, but her machinery was an experiment, consisting of a cog-wheel engine and walking-beam working athwart-ships. It is possible that she became unmanageable by the disarrangement of some part of her machinery, but the disaster may have been caused by her being too heavily laden to weather the gale.

AMERICAN EXTREMES.

We do not often happen to agree with Mr. Beecher; but when he said the other day at Exeter Hall, that he viewed this Russo-American alliance with more than common aversion, he said what his countrymen might listen to with profit. It is the most humiliating picture the world has witnessed since the days when constitutional liberty first dawned on Europe—to find a people so advanced in all that pertains to civil freedom rushing prone to the earth in the presence of a semi-barbaric power, merely because, for the nonce, it suits the humor of that power to pander to the prevailing passions of the hour What are the superior merits of Russia as a "neutral" over those of the Western Powers? Has not Russia recognized the South as belligerents? Has not Russia pointed out the futility which marks the predictions of the State office at Washington? Dare this Russian Admiral—so well dined and *fêted* as he has been—venture to overhaul the *Florida* and *Alabama* on the high seas, or treat either in the capacity of pirate? The latter is the simplest test that can be applied in this matter of friendship between the two peoples. The *Florida* and *Alabama* are pirates according to Federal interpretation. Are these vessels pirates according to the doctrines of Prince Gortchakoff? If they are, it would not only be an act of comity in the Prince to direct the naval officers of Russia to pursue them wherever they might be found on ocean ground, but it would be his imperative duty, according to the usages of the world, to destroy them without reference to their direct mission as warlike instruments of the Confederate States. Piracy is a crime against the civilized world—to be put down everywhere and at all hazards; and although we do not mean to class Russia in the category of those nations who represent the civilization of Western Europe—we are justified in assuming that she would, if she dared appeal to the common ban which the world has placed on piracy, to aid her friends of the Northern States, and help Mr. Welles to chase the "flying Dutchmen" from the sea. Every one knows that the Czar and his naval emissaries here do no such thing, and every one knows that the *Alabama* and *Florida* are as much regarded in the light of the regularly commissioned ships of a belligerent power by Russia, as by France or Great Britain; and neither of the so-called "pirates" would run any more risk in meeting at sea with these brave Russians than with the vessels of any Western European power.

So much for one view of the friendly attitude of Russia in this contest. Take another. It is true, soft words butter no parsnips; but still, soft words are appreciated in adversity by even the most calious. Yet we challenge the Federal press to produce a single speech of Prince Gortschakoff's, that in friendly and genial temper, in a large and liberal appreciation of Federal troubles, and in stern and unflinching adherence to the eternal principles of truth, equity and right—can compare with Earl Russell's speech at Blairgowrie. It is needless to reply that Prince Gortschakoff is not in the habit of making popular speeches, and that St. Petersburg is not the region in which to harangue crowds. This is all true enough. But we know, nevertheless, that Prince Gortschakoff not only makes frequent speeches on this civil war, but that he finds careful and sedulous reporters in the persons of Mr. Cassius M. Clay and Mr. Bayard Taylor. These worthies have told us in repeated despatches, that "as the bee upon the flower," they hung upon the honey of the Prince's eloquent tongue. And yet when we examine the honey, what is it? It is hardly possible to conceive any more sarcastic than his last reported conversation on the subject of the Federal promised successes. We have before printed this report, as given by Mr. Bayard Taylor, and it is not worth while repeating it here. But we beg our readers to remember that the Prince not only tells Mr. Taylor that he fails to find any realization of Mr. Seward's promises respecting the termination of the war, but in a moment of Muscovite candor, he confesses that he sees no brighter prospect in the future. No more bitter sneer was ever uttered by the madcap, Roebuck, than that of the Prince. The same from the lips of an English Foreign Minister would have been the signal for every sort of threat against the perfidious aristocracy of Great Britain.

Thus, it seems, that the rule of extremes meeting, is to have a new and powerful illustration in spite of every opposing circumstance. Russia, however, will have the best of the bargain. A power that from her Continental position has no such immediate interest in keeping on good terms with mankind as the insular or peninsular powers of Western Europe, Russia can afford to be as insolent and exacting in dealing with America as in dealing with those nearer neighbors who have been repeatedly compelled to chastise her.—Russia is the bully of Europe; and she finds it not inconvenient, in the heart of America's trouble, to patronize a power which, in the better days of the republic, would have scorned her bearish embrace, and held its head too high to seek communion with the semi-savage hordes who have placed their hee's on the neck of human liberty in Eastern Europe for a hundred and fifty years. The alliance in this case is painful to contemplate from a purely "Union" stand-point It is glory for Mr. Jefferson Davis—glory greater than could be achieved by any recognized diplomacy the Confederacy could ever employ in Europe.—*Scottish American Journal, November 12.*

☞ A New York firm ordered their female employees to leave their hoops at home, a the touching of the skirts injured the work.—The girls preferred to leave.

CANADIAN ITEMS.

☞ It is understood that the Postmaster General has been engaged at Montreal in perfecting the arrangements connected with the new postal contract.

☞ Canadian Government Securities are steadily advancing. The 'Times' of the 31st ult. states that business was done in 6 per cents at 105, and in 5 per cents at 93½, with an upward tendency.

☞ The Credit Foncier Bank has been partially organized. A meeting was held, and Messrs. DeBoucherville, Turcotte and Langevin, authorized to procure stock holders.

☞ Some of the Lake Boats have already gone into winter quarters. The *Banshee* has laid up. The *Kingston* made her last trip on Tuesday, and the *Champion* on Wednesday.

☞ Native singers have so entirely failed in the Russian Opera-house in Moscow that it has been found necessary to call in the aid of German artists.

☞ The brother of Mr. Bonner, of the New York Ledger, is reported to have made a large fortune in stock speculations during the two years past.

☞ A gentleman arrived at Santa Fe' New Mexico, on the 17th ult., from the Arizona gold mines, having in his possession fourteen pounds of virgin gold, the least piece of which weighed one ounce, which he had gathered without the aid of mining implements or water.

☞ The pneumatic engine in London carries 120 mail bags daily through its tube, in 55 seconds, a distance which would occupy ten minutes time of the mail carts.

☞ On Desolation Island, south east of the Cape of Good Hope, fossil shell fish and whales have been discovered on a mountain 2000 feet above the level of the sea.

☞ The accounts of the Hamburg gambling company for the first six months of this year shows a clear profit of 1,052,000 florins (about £90,000), expenses paid.

Town & Counties.

THE SCIOTA SAVE.—We are glad to learn that the rumors of the loss of the prop. Sciota have proved false. After being knocked about on the trip from Saginaw to Chicago for two weeks, she arrived at the latter place yesterday in safety.

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION.—The Brigade Major inspected the *corps* of the town on Friday and Saturday evenings last. The artillery company went through the evolutions with their usual precision, and received a well-merited encomium.—The Major congratulated the Rifles upon the rapid progress they had made, and told them it only required steadiness and attention to render the company one of the best in the District.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION, SECTION 2, GODERICH TOWNSHIP.—We had the pleasure of attending the examination of the above school, which took place yesterday. Seldom, indeed, have we seen a more general proficiency than was exhibited by the children who have been taught for several years back by Miss H. L. Whitecombe, formerly of Goderich. In reading, writing, cyphering, geography, &c., the pupils were carefully examined, and evinced a thorough knowledge of the elements of a sound English education.—Miss W., who, we believe, is about to retire from the school, deserves much praise for the manner in which she has discharged her onerous and responsible duties. At the close of the exercises, the children were briefly addressed by Rev. N. F. English and Mr. W. T. Cox, of the *Signal*.

Crime in Howick.

One of the most atrocious crimes known to the calendar was committed on Sunday, the 28th September, by a young savage about 18 or 19 years of age, named Ekins, who lived near Wroxeter, upon a little girl named McTavish, about eleven or twelve years old, who lives upon the next lot to Ekins. The girl was going home from Ekins' house about eight o'clock in the morning, when the brute, John Ekins, seized her on the boundary between Howick and Turnberry, and almost within hearing distance of some houses, threw her down and held his hand over her mouth until he nearly choked her, and used every attempt to commit a rape, ill-using her so that it was with great difficulty that she could walk home. I think the fact of his being at large as yet is discreditable to the magistrates of the neighborhood, for, although the act was committed so early in the day, and a J. P. received the information within about two hours afterwards, there was no constable on the spot until Ekins had just left at about six in the evening, and he had been about home all day.

TOWN COUNCIL.

The Council met on Friday evening last for the transaction of general business. Present—The Mayor, presiding, the Reeve, Deputy Reeve, Councillors, Runciman, Seymour, Cox, Rumball, Crabb, Horton, Stewart and Smith.

Communication from J. Denisan, Esq., P. L. S., giving further particulars with reference to plan of covered drain at the foot of Britannia Road.

Petition of Maria Brown, praying for remittance of her husband's income tax, he having left her.

The Council as notified professionally on behalf of Mr. A. McKay, assessor and collector, that if his demand was not paid forthwith and in full, legal step would be taken for the collection of the amount.

After a lengthened discussion, in which nearly all the members participated, it was

Moved by Mr. Crabb, seconded by Mr. Horton, That the Council defend the case.—Carried.

Mr. Longworth's petition for $25 or $30 for damages done by water-course to his fencewas referred to Road and Bridge Committee.

Account of Mr. Smaill, road work, &c., as also Cemet