Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., SEP. 27, 1864.

Hon. Mr. M. Blair, Postmaster General of the Federal States has resigned his seat in the Lincoln Cabinet, having been called upon by Mr. Lincoln to do so. Mr. Blair will now be able to throw the whole weight of his influence against Old Abe in the coming election.

THE GREAT "PIRACY" CASE.

The recent case of alleged piracy on Lake Erie by persons said to have been Confederates harbored in Canada intercepts us only in so far as it might affect the relations subsisting between the two countries were the allegations true as first stated. That two small vessels were captured by a handful of desperate "rebels" is true, and it seems beyond question that the capture of the war vessel Michigan and the ultimate release of the Confederate prisoners confined on Johnson's Island were the main objects in view, but the facts that have been elicited by the Press on each side of the boundary, go to prove that the "pirates" every one hailed from the American side. The *Leader* of Monday says:—"Apart from "the accounts which have appeared in "Northern journals with regard to the "recent excitement on Lake Erie, we have "made personal enquiries into the matter, "and have failed to discover that any of "the persons who were concerned in the "capture of the Philo Parsons and the "Island Queen either went on board the "former vessel from the Canada shore or "obtained their armament—such as it was "—there. A Cleveland paper published "the names of several parties who were "connected with the raid, and none of "them are what is commonly known by "the name of refugee. They are all "Northern "copperheads," residents of "Sandusky and Cleveland. Of course "this puts a very different complexion on "the "raid."

FALL ASSIZES.

The Court was formally opened before his Lordship, Mr. Justice Hagarty, on Monday evening, on the arrival of the Express train, after which the Court adjourned without going into further business.

This (Tuesday) morning Court was opened at 9 o'clock, M. C. Cameron, Esq, of Goderich, appearing as Crown Counsel, by appointment. Around the bar we noticed R. A. Harrison, Esq., Albert Prince, Esq., Thos Moss, Esq, C. Robinson, Esq., besides the local members of the bar, nearly all of whom were present.

The following gentlemen of the Grand Jury answered to their names:

Joseph Alten,	Patrick Carrol,
C. R. Commander,	C. Crabb,
David Gardiner,	H. Brace,
Thos. Govenlock,	John Inglis,
Richard Manning,	Angus McKay,
Allen McLean,	Alex. Wilson,
Thos. Wilson,	John Treleaven.

Mr. Treleaven was selected as foreman.

Charging the Grand Jury, His Lordship said the Calendar presented to him was not, considering the great extent of the Counties, a very formidable one, many cases of minor importance having been disposed of by the Quarter Sessions.—There was one case wherein a person was charged with having attempted to hire British subjects to serve in a foreign country. He was sorry to say that this charge was very prevalent throughout the country. There were some twenty persons awaiting trial for the offence in Toronto gaol, and cases were continually occurring all along the Western frontier. The offence was very plainly defined by the Act of Parliament passed to meet such cases, and the object of that Act was to prevent native born subjects of the Queen from going into private war, or war on their own account. Nothing could be more galling to a nation than that the subjects of a friendly country should take sides in a struggle against them. His Lordship, and he was sure many others present, had bitter recollections of the manner in which this mode of enlistment was used against us during the serious disturbance of 1837-8-9. The ill-blood thus created between the countries had taken years to allay. Since the commencement of the present war, many of our young men had been taken away from the peaceful pursuits of Agriculture, and enlisted in the military service of a foreign nation, frequently under most extraordinary circumstances. Not only were men purchased at most fabulous rates, but in some cases they had been drugged, or brought under the influence of intoxicating liquors, and on awakening found themselves attested soldiers of a foreign state. These were very improper things to be going on while we were at peace with both the contending parties. His Lordship then recited the words of the Act of Parliament, and explained the law upon the subject. His Lordship said he was in the habit of making known to the Grand Jurics any recent changes of importance in the laws of the country. He would read to them an abstract of a very sweeping change made by an enactment passed at the last session of the Legislature, known as the Intemperance Act. [This very important Bill so lucidly epitomised by the learned Judge, having been published *in extenso* in our columns, we do not think it necessary to give his Lordship's abstract in full.]

He remarked that looking back over a number of years of legal experience he was satisfied that the bulk of the crime that had come under his notice originated in the low groggeries, to prevent the evil doings of which the new law had been framed. The law, in effect, amounted to this, that if a man drank liquor in a man's house and then went and committed suicide, or was found next morning frozen to death, the tavern keeper was as much liable as a railway company for an accident arising from the carelessness of his employees. His Lordship then directed the Jury to enter upon the discharge of its duties.

The Queen vs. Jas. Hutton, larceny.—The prisoner, who is well known to most of our Brant and Carrick readers, was arraigned on a charge of having stolen 70 pounds of wool from Mr. Platt, of this town, on the 21st inst., and pleaded guilty. After making some enquires of gentlemen who had known Hutton in Bruce, his Lordship said that in consideration of the good character he had hitherto borne, and in the hope that he would strive to outrive the effects of this transgression, his punishment would be limited to two weeks' imprisonment in the common gaol.

THE HARPURHEY SHOW.

This Exhibition, in which two or three of the best townships in the County are joined, came off on Friday last, 23rd inst., and was a complete success. The day was all that could be desired, notwithstanding the lowering appearance of the morning. The attendance of people was very large indeed, thousands of visitors being present from all parts of the surrounding country. Canny old farmers came to compare notes, and see the progress made by their neighbors in stock-raising, their pretty daughters came along, of course, to see and—shall we say it, to be seen. Mrs. *Signal* will not be jealous if we note the fact that Tuckersmith, McKillop, &c., can turn out as fine a lot of buxom, bouncing, dashing, pretty and loveable lasses as any section in the Province. Is it surprising, then, that such attractions should bring out shoals of young men? It *is* surprising, however, that such a considerable number of these latter should, under the circumstances, pay so much attention to the tavern-counters and whiskey-booths generally. Older, if not wiser persons, *inclined* in the same direction, and the consumption of *forty-rod* and other *ambrosial* liquids during the day was something awful to behold. Surely the temperance lecturers of the neighborhood have a vast field for the exercise of their varied talents. Whiskey, as an agricultural implement, is not very highly spoken of, and it is deplorable to think that so many of our Canadian farmers visit Agricultural Shows, not so much to improve their stock of ideas, as to have a spree which shall disqualify them for the sober duties of life for a week to come.

Passing the various catch-pennies spread around, we seek an entrance to the show ground, but the way is thronged by a crowd around a seedy-looking fellow standing on a wagon. What is it? Not an auctioneer, for we miss the "third and last call, going-going-gone." We listen a moment: "Magical So-o-o-pe, gentlemen, only 10 cents a cake! Take one, my Christian friend?" "Na, fath, I dinna wantit!" We contrive to pass the seedy one, deciding inwardly, 1st, that the directors should hoist him out of the passage way, and 2nd, that an application of the wonderful so-o-ope to the person of Mr. Seedy himself would not be amiss. Once inside, we come first to the implements. The show in this branch was not large. The elegant Separator of Messrs. Glasgow, McPherson & Co., of Clinton—the only one shown—was much admired. Mr. John Grey's Iron Plough was also the centre of an interested crowd of ploughmen. The article is really a splendid one, and richly deserves all the commendation it has received. Our friends, Runciman & Co., of Goderich, showed Iron harrows, their celebrated Mahaffy plough, &c., all of which were duly appreciated. In Wagons Messrs. Grassie and Taylor excelled, as did also Watson & Bawtinheimer.

The show of stock was very large, the cattle generally being fine, healthy animals, and in excellent condition. The turn-out of horses was larger than we have seen before, and the quality of the animals shown betokens a marked improvement.—Splendid spans were exhibited by William Bailey, Wm. Elder and James Dickson, M. P. P.

In sheep, the show was very large, and quality, generally, first-rate. It is gratifying to notice the rapid progress being made in sheep-raising throughout the country, farmers manifesting a great desire to possess themselves of the best breeds. Mr. H. Snell and other enterprising breeders are doing much good, not only in procuring good animals for themselves, but in selling their surplus stock to whoever may require it. Several fine Cotswold and Leicester lambs have changed hands during the past week, and the effect will no doubt be visible at future exhibitions.

The inside show was not so good as we have seen, but in some branches the display was creditable. Quite a number of excellent samples of butter and cheese was shown. Mr. Chesney's butter and Mr. Sproat's cheese were particularly fine.—The flannels, &c., were good, and the ladies, as usual, were on hand with beautiful specimens of fancy-work. Mr. F. A. Myer showed some splendid setts of harness. Very little fruit was displayed, but the apples of Mr. Landsborough and Mr. David Derance's plums would have done no disgrace to the County Show. There were only two bags of Fall Wheat on exhibition, and the quality of the grain was anything but first rate. Vegetables, generally, owing to the dry season, were very indifferent.

The following is a carefully corrected list of prizes awarded:

FIRST CLASS.

Best Brood Mare, Peter McTavish, 2nd Wm Walker.
Best Foal, Wm Walker, 2nd John Hugill.
Best 2 yrs old Filly, Alex Broadfoot, 2nd Jas Martin sen.
Best 2 yrs old Gelding, Thos McMichael, 2nd Thomas McMichael.
Best yearling Filly, Thomas McMichael, 2nd Thos McMichael.
Best yearling Gelding, James Sutherland.
Best Span of Farm Horses, Wm Baily, 2nd Wm Elder.

SECOND CLASS.

Best Milch Cow, Appleton Elecoate, 2nd Robt H Carnochan.
Best 2 years old Heifer, David Walker, 2nd George Sproat jr.
Best yearling Heifer, James Dickson M P P, 2nd Andrew McCaa.
Best yoke of Working Oxen, Ebenezer McKay, 2nd August VanEsmond.
Best yoke of 4 years old Steers, Jas Ireland.
Best yoke of 3 years old Steers, David Walker.
Best fatted Ox, James Dickson M P P, 2nd Alex Broadfoot.
Best Fatted Cow, George Walker, 2nd Jas Dickson M P P.

THIRD CLASS.

Best Leicester Ram aged, Humphry Snell, 2nd Christopher Dale.
Best Shearling Ram, John Elliott, 2nd Edwin Cresswell.
Best Ram Lamb do, Christopher Dale, 2nd Walter Cowan.
Best pair of Ewes, H Snell. 2nd H Snell.
Best pair shearling Ewes, H Snell, 2nd do
Best pair of Ewe Lambs, H Snell, 2nd Wm Stoneman, 3rd Walter Cowan.
Best pair of fat Sheep, H Snell, 2nd David Campbell.
Best Boar over one year old, Jas Martin jr.
Best Boar under one year old, James Sutherland, 2nd August VanEsmond.
Best Sow having had pigs in 1864, Samuel Carnochan.
Best Sow under one year old, James Dickson M P P, 2nd do
Judges of Stock—J W Elliott, Goderich, G Anty, Mitchell, Jas Hislop, Grey.
Best 2 bushels of Fall Wheat, Samuel Fitzsimons, 2nd Alex Taylor.
Best three named varieties of Apples, Robt Landsborough.
Best two varieties of Plums, David Dorance.
Best half bushel of Onions, Dr Chalk.
Best collection of Vegetables, Richd Thompson, 2nd Francis Fowler
Best 25 lbs salt Butter, Henry Chesney, 2nd R H Carnochan, 3rd David Campbell, 4th Robert Scott B S.
Best five lbs fresh Butter, Robt Scott B S, 2nd David Campbell, 3rd Dr Chalk, 4th Samuel Carnochan.
Best 25 lbs Cheese, George Sproat jr, 2nd John McMillian, 3rd James McMichael.
Best collection of Home-Made articles from one House, Henry Chesney, 2nd Robert Scott B S.
Best 10 yrds fulled Cloth, Thomas Hills, 2nd Gilbert McMichael.
Best Cotton-warp Flannel, Dr Chalk, 2nd George Habkirk.
Best pair of Woolin Stockings, R Scott B S.
Best pair of Gloves, James Sutherland.
Best pair of Blankets mill dressed, Robert McLean.
Best pair of Blankets undressed, Alex Broadfoot, 2nd Thos McMichael.
Best Home made Quilt, Thomas Carter.
Best pair common Boots, George Fowler.
Best sett double team Harness, Franz A Myer.
Best variety of Tinware, John Kidd.
Judges—Thos Fair, Clinton, Donald Scott, Morrisdale, George Jackson Egmondville.
Best Iron axle Wagon, Alex Taylor.
Best Wooden axle Wagon, Wm Grassie.
Best Iron Plough, John Gray.
Best Wooden Plough, John Gray.
Best pair of Harrows, Robt Runciman.
Best sett of Horse Shoes, Robert Dalton.
Best Cultivator, Watson & Bawtinhamer.
Judges—Archibald Bishop, Usborne, Mr ——ton, and Michael Hays, Tuckersmith.

EXTRA PRIZES RECOMMENDED.

Thrashing Machine by Glascow, McPherson & Co. Clinton, highly recommended.
Sett of Buggy Harness, by Franz A Myer, Harpurhey.
Sett of Horse Shoes by Thomas Hills, Egmondville.
Ducks and Geese, by Christopher Dale, Tuckersmith.
Fancy Work, by Richd Thompson, Mitchell. Also do Donald McTavish, Clinton.
Francis Fowler, Esq., Special Prizes for the best Foal got by his Horse the Royal Exibition, viz:—1st Wm Walker, 2nd John Hugill, 3rd Francis Fowler.

GEO. SPROAT, President.

LONDON QUARTERLY.—The July number of this popular British Review is to hand, containing ably-written articles upon topics of current interest. The contents are:—Words and Places, Ludwig Uhland, Freethinking—its History and Tendencies, The Circassian Exodus, Lacordaire, Christian Art, Public Schools, Travelling in England, The House of Commons. Republished by L. Scott & Co. N. Y. For sale at this Office.

THE LATE CAPTURE OF CATTLE BY THE CONFEDERATES.—Deserters say the Confederates troops in Lee's army are receiving rations of fresh beef from the drove captured from Grant last week. They state it was Hampton's cavalry which accomplished the feat. That they have 250 prisoners and 2,500 head of cattle, besides trains, horses, guns, &c. Some of the rebel pickets offered to trade fresh beef for coffee and other articles.

ANOTHER CONFEDERATE CRUISER ON THE ENGLISH COAST.—An agent of Lloyd's reports that a large steamer is stated to have put into Medup with signals for a pilot. She changed colors at Bremerhaven and hoisted the Confederate flag. The pilot who took her to Bremerhaven believes she still remains there. She steams ten knots at half speed. She is reported to be commanded by Capt. Semmes, has three hundred men on board, and is pierced for forty guns. She is stated to have been built at Bordaine.

The St. John *News* says that a man named Forrest, completed the great feat of walking sixty miles a day for six consecutive days, on Saturday night last, between 10 and 11 o'clock, in this city. The last heat of 20 miles was completed with apparently as much ease and as briskly as any of the previous ones. The *News* adds "The successful accomplishment of this feat by and untrained man, is an evidence of remarkable powers of endurance, and eclipses any walking feat ever attempted here."

The telegraph cable, which lies submerged in the bed of the St Lawrence, between Prescott and Ogdensburg, having been found to be leaky, has been raised to receive repairs. It has been doing service at the bottom of the river for seven or eight years.

ATTEMPT TO THROW A YOUNG WOMAN OUT OF A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.—On Sunday night, the 14th ult., when the 8 o'clock train from Gargrave had just left the station, a man named Edward Kneeshaw, from Low Moor, after using insulting language to a young woman named Mary Watson, of Skipton, attempted to throw her out of the carriage.—He opened the carriage door, and, but for the prompt assistance of another passenger, would have accomplished his threat. At Skipton Kneeshaw was given into charge, and was on Monday examined before Mr. J. J. Lonsdale, and remanded till Wednesday.—[Leeds Mercury.

The moral condition of London, C. W, is not to be envied. The *Prototype* says the yearly contribution of that city to the jail and penitentiary is 532 criminals.—Add to this 12,00 persons, yearly charged with rowdyism, drunkenness, vagabondism, robbery and cheating, and we have a total yearly crop of crime in this city of over 1,700 criminals—or a little more than a sixth part of the whole population. It adds, "The crops are short—money is tight—the troops are withdrawn, and our principal streets are partly in ruins by incendiarism. The prospect is not the brightest, and calls loudly for reform."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—One day last week a little boy of Mr. James Norris, of the town ship of Usborne, while playing in the pasture fields, was kicked by a vicious horse and felled senseless to the ground. Dr. Cowan, of Exeter, was immediately called, and under his treatment the little fellow is doing well.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

FURTHER ABOUT SHERIDAN'S VICTORY.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, Sept. 24, 10 a m.—Major General Dix—The following official despatch has just been received from Gen Sheridan, detailing some of the particulars of the battle and victory at Fisher's Hill:

"Headquarters, Middle Division, Woodstock, Va., Sept 23rd, 8 a. m.—Lieut Gen Grant, City Point—I cannot as yet give any definite account of the results of the battle of yesterday. Our loss will be light. General Crook struck the left flank of the enemy, doubled it up and advanced down their line. Rickett's division of the 6th army corps swung in, and joining Crook's Getty's and Wheaton's divisions, took up the same movement, followed by the whole line, and attacking beautifully carried the works of the enemy. The Confederates threw down their arms and fled in the greatest confusion, abandoning most of the greatest confusion, abandoning most of their artillery. It was dark before the battle ended. I pursued on after the enemy during the night to this point with the 6th and 19th corps, and have stopped here to rest the men and issue rations. If Gen Corbet has pushed down the Suersey valley according to my directions, he will achieve great results. I do not think that there ever was an army so badly routed. The valley soldiers are hiding away and going to their homes. I cannot at present give you any estimate of prisoners.—I pushed on regardless of everything. The number of pieces of artillery reported captured is 16. (Signed)

"P. H SHERIDAN, Maj-Gen."

You are directed to cause a national salute of 100 great guns for the Victory. Gen Stevenson reports that 3,000 prisoners, from the field, had reached Winchester last night.—Reinforcements and supplies have been forwarded to Gen Sheridan.

(S'd) E M. STANTON. Sec'y of War.

Washington, Sept 24, 12 30 p. m.—The *Republican* extra makes the following announcement:—"The government received despatches from Gen Stevenson this morning, dated Harper's Ferry, announcing that 2,000 prisoners from Strasburg, reached Winchester last night. He also says that 1,600 of the prisoners captured the 19th inst. near Winchester arrived at Harper's Ferry this morning, and that 1,600 more are yet to come.—A later despatch received from Gen Sheridan this a. m. announces that 1,600 more prisoners were captured at Strasburg on the 22nd, and reached Winchester this morning. When last heard from Gen Early's army was flying down the valley, panic stricken; Sheridan is in hot pursuit and near Woodstock."

The Acadia Fitting Out for Charleston.

A gentleman, who arrived in town by the Lady Head on Saturday, informs us that the splendid steamer Acadia, which was in this harbor a few weeks ago, had safely reached Halifax and at last accounts was taking in a cargo of provisions and engaging a crew for a voyage to Charleston and back. Painters were busily at work in painting her thoroughly over in black, while others were at work in preparing a new process to prevent sparks of fire and as little smoke as necessary ascending from her stacks, while passing the blockade fleet near Charleston during the night. The hands who took her down were offered large sums of money in gold to accompany them on the voyage, but they all declined with the exception of three young men belonging to the West. She will sail by the end of September, and among those intending to leave in her are the seventeen Confederate officers who left by the Lady Head to day.—*Quebec Mercury, 20th.*

CONFEDERATE OFFICERS.—Some seventeen Confederate officers, chiefly from South western commands, were among the passengers for the Lower Provinces by the steamer Lady Head on Wednesday afternoon from Quebec.

ARRIVAL OF THE "NORTH AMERICA."

FATHER POINT, Sept 24.

The steamship *North America*, from Liverpool on the 12th inst., has passed this point en *route* to Quebec. She took the place of the steamship *Damascus*, disabled at Queenston on the 11th inst. The steamship *Peruvian*, from Quebec, arrived at Liverpool on the 22th inst. The rebel loan in London declined 3 per cent. on the reception of American advices per steamship *Asia*. The London *Times* and other papers discuss the American news received by the *Asia*. The *Times* says never has there been such vigor displayed since the war began. It comments on the Chicago Convention, and thinks President Lincoln's policy has received a heavy check by the nomination of McClellan. The London *Post* thinks as McClellan has been distinguished by moderation if he is installed President free of pledges, he would assent to any arrangement for peace.

Firing of the 600-Pounder.

(From the London Times.)

The 600 pounder 13 3 inch Armstrong muzzle-loader was fired on Tuesday at Shoeburyness, in the presence of the members of the ex-royal family of France and suite, at a floating Warrior target, brought over from the Sheerness dockyard for the purpose.—Originally it was intended that the target should be fired at from 2,000 yards, the distance between the new Spithead forts, but the Ordnance Select Committee, in their desire to avoid the disabling of the target by a foul shot at so great a distance, moored the target at 500 yards, and reduced the charge of powder from 70lb. to 51½lb. to represent the effect at 2,000 yards. It is, at the same time, to be regretted that the risk of long range firing was not incurred, because if British soldiers stand in need of anything it is of additional practices at great distances. No doubt it would have been disappointing to the illustrious visitors to have witnessed the foul ing of the target at the onset, but, after all, visitors at Shoeburyness may always lay their account with disapointments, because there is hardly ever a day's firing that is not marred by something or other. Cutter after cutter, and barge after barge drops into the line of fire; and there is no help for it but to take a seat on the bank, and exercise all the patience one can command. The floating Warrior target of Tuesday was composed of 4½ inch armour plates, with a backing of 18 inches of teak in two layers, laid across each other. The dimensions of the section were, length 12 feet, by breath 10 feet; and the target was in the centre of a wood framework, 30 feet by 20 feet, mounted on a dummy. In front of the target, on the bank, stood the great gun, the only one yet possessed by the country, and the programme of the day was as follows:—1. The iron target to be moored at 500 yards from the battery, where the 13.3-inch gun is mounted.—2. A common wood target to be moored at the same distance, but just clear of the iron one.—3. Fire one or more of the cast-iron shell (same shape and size, and brought up to the same weight, 612lb., as the steel shells) at the wooden target as pilots to ascertain the correct elevation.—4. With the elevation thus obtained fire steel shell with 24lb. bursting charge until one good hit has been obtained; charge 51½lb.—The first shell missed the target, but penetrated the wood framework, making two inconsiderable holes. The second shell grazed the head of the upper armor-plate, bursting in the wood frame work, a large portion of which went into the air in a shower. The third shell, too low for the target, struck the sea in front, and, ricochetting, struck the upper armor plate, passing through it and the backing, practically demolishing the target. Boats immediately proceeded from the beach, and on the dummy being reached it was apparent that all that had been said hitherto of the superiority of the guns over armor plates was confirmed. The upper armor plate had dropped from the target with every bolt broken, the backing was penetrated one of the rear supports injured, and that portion of the dummy which would represent the deck was more or less covered with bolts heads and splinters. In a word, the third shell would have arrested the progress of any iron-clad afloat, assuming such iron-clad to have been forcing the Spithead or Needles passage at 2,000 yards. Not a man would have survived at the guns, and a very ugly hole for stopping would have presented itself in an iron-clad's side. What the effect of the shot would have been had there been no previous ricochet before striking the target, it is impossible to say. Probably the whole wood backing of the target would have been destroyed, and no doubt the third as well as the second armor would have been started. After the firing of the third shell, it was impossible to strike the target fairly, the low charge at which the gun was fired rendering the shooting of the gun somewhat wild. Capt. Alderson, confessedly one of the best shots at Shoeburyness, laid the gun to accuracy, but the fourth shell missed the target, and passed to the left through the framework. The fifth shell fared no better, passing above the target, and through the ruins of the previously demolished framework. And with the fifth shell the firing at the target ended, all present being once more satisfied that the guns have it, on the ground, it was stated, that the Admiralty have at length laid their account with the absolute vulnerability of any target that they can produce. In the presence of such guns as the 600-pounder, armor-plating is of no avail, and the latest change of Mr. E. J. Reed is said to be in the direction of a mere belt of armor round the water line. This is the reason why the Lord Warden target has been withdrawn, it being found impossible to devise any combination of wood and iron that will resist shot from large guns. Eventually, no doubt, armor-plating, now restricted to the water line, will be discarded altogether, and the future problem will be the means of letting shot and shell pass through and through a ship's side with the minimum of effect to the ship and those on board.

PAPER SHIPS AND PAPER GUNS.

The *Observer* describes a new preparation of paper of a remarkable character. The uses to which this kind of paper may be applied were explained on the 13th ult., at the Phœnix Works, Battersea:—

There were tubes made of paper which had been tested in the most satisfactory manner as rocket tubes. Being made of paper, they are, of course, very much lighter than the ordinary iron tubes, and they stand the test of rocket firing equally as well as those of metal. Not less remarkable were the thick slabs and boards made of paper. These boards, of one inch in thickness, had been tested by bullet and ball, and the result showed that their power of resistance was equal to ten inches of solid oak. The bullet, which had passed so far through the paper board as to cause a projecting surface at the rear, would have gone clean through the oak, fracturing and tearing it in all directions, while in the paper board the perforation made was a small, clean round hole. These paper boards are admirably adapted for the sides of ships; their specific gravity is somewhat less than that of oak, and they are easily fixed to the framework of vessels. They have, however, this advantage over timber, they do not require copper sheating to prevent fouling, they are non-absorbent, and neither animal nor vegetable life flourishes upon their surface, as is the case of timber or iron. They have also this further advantage, that they are incombustible. No amount of heat will set them in a blaze. The application of great heat will produce combustion in the immediate neighbourhood of the flame, but anything like ordinary burning is quite out of the question.

In addition, however, to all these good qualities, paper has positively the advantage over timber and iron in the matter of cost. M. Szerdemy, the inventor, well known for the successful manner in which he has arrested the decay of certain portions of the exterior of the Houses of Parliament, has discovered a fibre which grows in the southern portions of Germany, and which may be converted into a rough kind of paper at a cost so trifling as to enable him to compete with the builder of timber and iron ships.

Not content, however, with forming the sides of his ships of paper, the inventor is now engaged in the construction of light field pieces, specially adapted for mountain warfare, and these, judging from results already obtained by experiments with paper tubes, will be found to answer the purpose admirably. Tubes have already been formed of this prepared paper, and they have stood the test against iron in the most satisfactory manner.

So far as we were enabled to ascertain the process of manufacture, it consists in lapping sheets or rolls of paper moistened with a solution of which zopissa is the principal ingredient, one over the other, until the requisite degree of thickness of strength is attained, and exposing the material for a short time until it becomes thoroughly hardened. The zopissa is of the nature of a gum, and is found in considerable quantities in Egypt, has the peculiarity of giving extraordinary hardness to any surface upon which it is placed, and it was very extensively used in the preparation employed for preserving the stone in the exterior of the House of Commons. It has also been used for the exterior of the Bank of England, the interior of the dome of St. Pauls' on which Mr. Penrose has painted his frescoes, it has just been applied with extraordinary success to the arches of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway, at the Elephant and Castle Station, which have lately suffered considerably from damp, and the infiltration of water from the roadway.

There appears to be no limit to the application of this useful material. In addition to the preservation of paper, linen, stone, brick, plaster and other material, another most useful application of the advantage was shown in the perfection of a material resembling flock paper, and suitable for carpets, which can be prepared of any color and with endless variety of pattern. A slight alteration in the mode of treatment converts canvas into a description of oil cloth which will stand any amount of wear, as may be seen from some pieces which have been for several months laid down in the workshop at Battersea. The materials of a house are now in construction, for the purpose of showing the adaptability of the paper boards to the construction of emigrants houses, tempory churches, and barracks. Already large quantities of a material known as "Banonia," or leather cloth, is manufactured by the use of this extraordinary substance, and made up into boots and shoes, which rival in their durable qualities the best kind of leather, and it is equally valuable for preserving stone, brick, works in plaster, or any similar substance.

LOWER CANADA LAW OF WILLS—IMPORTANT DECISION.—In the Superior Court of Quebec, on Monday last, Judge Taschereau decided in the case of Dame Emilie Malvina Evanturel and others against the Hon. Francois Evanturel, that the will of the late Madame Evanturel was null, owing to its not having been dictated and written, as well as read in the presence of two notaries. The circumstances are these:—The testatrix, Madame Evanturel, sent for her notary on the 16th of May, 1861, and gave him instructions for her will, which he made and brought it to her. Madame Evanturel submitted it to her lawyer on the 18th of May, and went to the notary's office, where a second notary was called. In the presence of the two notaries she repeated all her testamentary dispositions, made a couple of corrections, and the will was read and re-read by one of the notaries in the presence of the other, and was, after the usual questions and answers, closed and signed. The Judge held that the dictation, according to the 289th article of the Custom of Paris, included the writing, and that, in consequence, the will of Madame Evanturel, not having been written in presence of the testatrix and of the second notary, had not been dictated as required by law and was null.

☞ A Quebec contemporary says:—On Wednesday a grand row between the crew of the ship *Desdemona* and the natives, took place at Levis, on the wharf adjoining the Ferry. The sailors had been offensive of late, entering the houses without leave and asking for liquor and drinking what they could get. One of the sailors figured a perfect medley, wearing only a waist belt, from which hung a clasp-knife in a sheath. The seamen got the worst of the encounter, and the chief offender was at once put in irons on board.

News Summary.

Think of $25 for a watermelon! That's what they pay in Dixie.

Eight millions of dollars are invested in whiskey speculations in Chicago.

In Connecticut last Wednesday night, a frost did much damage to tobacco and other crops.

The commander of the rebel pirate Tallahassee, John Taylor Wood, is a grandson of President Taylor.

The new Grand Trunk ferry boat at Sarnia was launched on the 14th; she was named the "G. W. Spicer."

Wm. Gouin, of Chatham, C. W., was killed on board the Kearsarge, at the battle off Cherbourg.

Mr. James A. Campbell, formerly of the *Champion*, Milton, is now publishing the Halton *Gazette*, at Whitby.

The residence of W. W. Sutherland, East Nissouri, was robbed on the 14th inst., of notes and money worth about $500.

There are in England and Wales, at large 5,995 known thieves under sixteen years of age, and 28,261 above that age

Mr. Wm. Logan, of Mitchell, was killed recently, by the horse on which he was riding stumbling and falling on him.

The leading men of Troy, Albany, and other places at a recent meeting, decided to make a reduction of ten dollars a ton in the price of iron.

A locomotive on a trial trip passed on the 15th ult. from Spain into France across the mountain. More than sixteen miles of tunnel had to be traversed.

A hog nine feet long, and 1,162 pounds in weight, died at Palmyra, Wisconsin, the other day. His owner was just making preparations to exhibit him.

THE HON. WM. MACDOUGALL, it is said will seek election for the County of South Lanark, Mr. Bell, the present member, having, as it is alleged, consented to accept an office under the Crown. It is likely the Provincial Secretary will be elected.

QUEBEC CUSTOM HOUSE.—There is to be a full and thorough enquiry made as to the origin of the burning of this edifice. We be lieve it will commence on Monday or the following day. This enquiry is much required as there are several contradictory statements as to the cause of the fire.

Some journals have represented that in consequence of the probable lateness of the meeting of the next session of Parliament, the legislature would be enabled to meet at Ottawa. It is now scarcely likely that the session will be any later than usual. As soon as the termination of the Quebec conference is arrived at, ministers can prepare for the meeting of Parliament, and it will, no doubt be called together as soon thereafter as is practicable with the work of the different departments.—*Kingston News.*

Miss Katherine Southey, the third and only unmarried daughter of the poet, died on the 6th of August of congestion of the brain, at Lartlwite Cottage, Keswick, aged fifty-four. By her death a civil list pension of £100 per annum reverts to the Crown. She was buried on Tuesday in Crostwaite church yard under the shade of Skiddaw, where already repose her father and mother, and brother Herbert, the eldest born, and her sisters Emma and Isabel.

A TOAD BROUGHT TO LIGHT.—In a colliery at St. Helens, (Eng.,) a miner struck off a fine piece of cannel, nine inches square.—What followed is thus told:—"He states that he turned round to make a remark about a piece of coal to a comrade who was working near him, and at the same time struck a lump with his pick, which, to his surprise, entered freely into the coal as if it was hollow. Thinking this very strange, he states that he took the cannel with him when he ascended out of the pit, and on examining it he found firmly embedded in a hole just large enough for it to move in, but not sufficiently large to turn round, a live toad, which seemed quite lively and healthy. The hole, which is about four inches deep, is exceedingly narrow at the mouth, so much so that it would be impossible to get the toad out. Crowds of people have flocked round Elliott's house to see this strange sight, and a gentleman of St. Helens has offered ten guineas for the toad."

PAINFUL EVENT.—A painful discovery was made in Montreal on Saturday last. A merchant doing business in a town east of Toronto, whose credit was excellent, and whose respectability was never questioned, while making a purchase in one of the wholesale houses, was caught in the act of pocketing a few dozen pairs of kid gloves. A search through his luggage at the hotel revealed unmistakeable indications that other houses had suffered in a like manner. It is now said that suspicions were aroused last season by the length of time consumed and the number of visits made by this merchant to complete small purchase in various houses. No proceedings were taken, the disgrace attending upon such a discovery being deemed sufficient punishment.—*Globe.*

A WATER SPOUT.—On the 25th ult. a great water-spout was seen near Swanage, in England. The account reads as follows:—"Its first appearance was like a cloud of smoke, bright at the top where it mingled with the clouds, and dark downwards. In shape it was somewhat singular and irregular, large and funnel shaped at the top, and gradually narrowing until it came within fifty feet of the sea, from which point it gradually increased in size until it reached the water.—Its height seemed to be one hundred and fifty feet, and its base an apparent diameter of thirty feet. The surface of the sea at the spot whence it ascended was in a perfect foam, the whiteness of which strangely contrasted with the dark column rising upward. It lasted about ten minutes, when it suddenly broke."

GAOL BREAKING AND RECAPTURE.—On Monday evening last, whilst the prisoners were allowed a little recreation in the gaol yard, about supper time, a prisoner named William Fox, who was committed to take his trial on a charge of arson, made his escape over the now notorious wall of the unsafe gaol-yard. Mr. Campbell, the turn-key, luckily perceived him "topping the wall," and after securing the other prisoners, started in pursuit of Fox, whom he succeeded, after a smart race, in arresting. The prisoner stoutly resisted the turnkey, but was at length overcome and taken back to the gaol. Surely the County Council will do something towards making the yard more secure.—*Owen Sound Advertiser.*

AN ERUDITE JURY.—The Stratford *Examiner*, in its report of the late Quarter Sessions at that town, says that the Grand Jury made the following Presentment, which we give *verbatim et literatim:*

"The Joill is verrey uncefecant to hold prisoners and that Imediat Staps should be taken to secure and make things strong: and the Jurors all agree that the Joill is kept very Clene.

JAMES DUNBAR, Foreman."

A copy of this document was ordered by the Court to be sent to the Provincial Secretary!

TERRIBLE AND FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday evening last, as the mail train over the Grand Trunk line was within four miles of London, it ran over a man whose supposed name was Carling, from Nissouri, crushing the body horribly; the head was cut completely off, whilst other parts were mashed into a jelly. The sight of the body was truly appalling. Yesterday morning Dr. C. G. Moore held an inquest on the remains, which, of course, were not recognizable, and a verdict of "accidental death" was returned. Circumstances would tend to establish the fact that the unfortunate deceased had been stretched across the track when run over.—*Free Press.*

END OF THE NEW ZEALAND WAR.—San Francisco, Sept. 20.—Advices from New Zealand, up to July 3, state that the war was virtually ended. The British troops gained a signal victory a few days before the 3rd of July, and the leaders of the insurgents were yielding unconditionally.

Remarkable Instances of Memory.

The memory of Grotius was so retentive that he remembered almost everything he read. Scaliger could repeat a hundred verses from once reading them. Lord Granville knew the Greek Testament from the beginning of Matthew to the end of the Revelation.

Boeri, of Milan, was considered a prodigy for his retentive and comprehensive memory. When the works of Labineus were burned by the common executioner, Cassius Severus was present and cried out that they must burn him also, for he possessed the contents of all the books in his memory.

An Englishman, at a certain time, came to Frederick the Great of Prussia, for the express purpose of giving him an exhibition of his power of recollection. Frederick went to Voltaire, who read to the King a very long poem which he had just finished. The Englishman was present, and was in such a position that he could hear every word of the poem, but was concealed from Voltaire's notice.

After the reading of the poem was finished, Frederick observed to the author that the production could not be an original one, as there was a foreign gentleman present who could recite every word of it. Voltaire listened with perfect amazement to the stranger as he repeated, word for word, the poem he had so much pains in composing, and, giving way to a momentary freak of passion, he tore the manuscript in pieces. A statement was then made to him of the circumstances under which the Englishman became acquainted with his poem, which had the effect to mitigate his anger, and he was very willing to do penance for the suddenness of his passion by copying down the work from a second repetition of it from the stranger, who was able to go through it as before.

A remarkable fact is related by Macklin, of a man who waited on the Greffier Fagel, to display his wonderful memory, offering to give him any proof of it that might be required. A newspaper was lying on the table, and he was requested to read it through and then repeat it verbatim. He accordingly did so without omitting a single word, from the title to the imprint at the end. The Greffier expressed his astonishment. 'Oh,' said the man, 'this is nothing; shall I now repeat the same backwards?' 'It is impossible,' replied Greffier. 'By no means,' said the other, 'if you have patience to hear it.' He then, without the least hesitation, repeated every article, beginning at the imprint and ending at the title.

"I Will be Home Soon."

The insignificant word-couplet—"All aboard"—uttered thousands of times every day is depots and on docks—is always the prelude to a psalm of sorrow. Of itself, it is a mere business behest, in its bearing, it involves regret, suffering, and oft-times despair. Not an hour glides into the great sea of the past—not a moment leaps to the surface, and then is lost forever—but some ear listens to knell for the last time!

If your heart has become dissatisfied with its treasures, and you are disposed to grope amid the shadows of despondency, go where friends are parting. We do not know of a surer recipe for re kindling the flames of sympathy than this. No one, with even a fragment of a heart in his bosom, can see the warm embraces of those who are to go and those who are to stay, or hear the earnest but tremulous "good bye" and "God bless you," uttered by lips that tremble with the freight-age, without a blessing of his own.

A few weeks ago we were the witness of a parting which touched us nearly. It