The Weekly Mail.

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SOCIETY.

THE LATE COLONEL KINGSMILL.

Colonel William Kingsmill died on Saturday morning at the residence of his son, Mr. Nicol Kingsmill, No. 123 Wellington street. His death was somewhat sudden and unexpected, although he had not been very well for a few days previous. He was in his eighty-third year. He was in full possession of his faculties up to the evening before his death, and evidently passed away in his sleep.

Colonel Kingsmill was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1794. He was the son of Major Kingsmill, of the 1st (Royals) Regiment, who served in the American war and was present at the battle of Bunker's Hill. He was educated at the Kilkenny College, and joined the 66th Regiment when very young. With his regiment he served in Spain during the Peninsular war and was present at Bassco, Terres Vedras, the siege of Badajoz, the battle of the Pyrenees, &c. After a career had crowned the British arms, and Napoleon had been taken prisoner, the 66th regiment was ordered to St. Helena, to guard him during his captivity at St. Helena. Col. Kingsmill was then lieutenant in the regiment. The 66th shortly thereafter came to Canada, when Col. Kingsmill retired from the service as senior captain. On the breaking out of the rebellion in 1837, he was again in arms, and raised two regiments of volunteers. He afterwards commanded the Incorporated Militia, but retired on his appointment to the office of Sheriff of the District of Niagara. He held the position of sheriff for a period of twenty years, and resigned it in consequence of failing health, brought on by the laborious nature of his duties. He was subsequently appointed postmaster of Guelph, and held that office till the time of his death, performing its duties by deputy. Col. Kingsmill was a very much respected citizen of Toronto. He was always ready to assist in any good work, for the Church, or in the interest of society. He was a steadfast adherent of the Church of England, and it was seldom that he was not a representative of some congregation at the Synod. In the interests of temperance he laboured assiduously, and, although his name seldom came before the public in that connection, his work, which was carried on in a quiet and unostentatious manner, was none the less effective. A true soldier, he retained his love for everything pertaining to military matters to the last. His reminiscences of Napoleon were exceedingly interesting, and everybody was pleased when he would tell anecdotes or give personal recollections of the great Emperor. It is understood that for some time Col. Kingsmill was engaged in preparing a book on the history of Napoleon during his captivity. Had he lived to complete it, it would, no doubt, have been a valuable contribution to the history of that period. He has also written largely during his lifetime on educational and military topics. His letters to the public press, under the *nom de plume* of "Veteran," several of which appeared in the columns of *The Mail*, have always commanded great attention. As a lecturer he has appeared very often, and his kindly advice to the young men whom he visited in the gold, and the cabmen, in whom he took an especial interest, will long be remembered by them. He had four sons and two daughters. Two of his sons who joined the army died long before their father. His other sons are Judge Kingsmill, of the County of Bruce, and Mr. Nicol Kingsmill, of the firm of Crooks, Hoskin, Hoyles, and Cattanach, at whose residence he died.

Tragedy in England.

The cable has already reported the sudden and mysterious death of a lady at Chelsea, in London. The English papers now supply details of the drama. The London *Standard* of April 18th, has the following:—"Dying to the hurried manner in which the information concerning the death was collected it was almost impossible to glean accurate particulars, but public feeling in the locality has long now seemed to have subsided a statement approaching at least toward the truth can be put forward. It appears that the age of the deceased is about thirty-six or thirty-eight, instead of twenty-six, and her child is a boy about four years of age. The husband, Mr. Porter, had resided in the neighbourhood for some years past, and was always known as a quiet, amiable lady who was a professor of jewellery, and whose husband was travelling on the continent, as two letters found in her room addressed to him testified to the fact, prove. About a twelvemonth ago she took the house, No. 20 Maid Gwyn, for fifteen years, her landlord being Mr. Cliff, who resides next door, and whose family were on the most intimate terms with Mrs. Porter. For the last four months there lived with the deceased a man and woman who gave the names of Wallace. Mrs. Porter's little boy was in the habit of calling them 'uncle' and 'aunt.' The woman was described as a weak, feeble woman. On Thursday morning last she was taken suddenly ill, and the female left went for Dr. Whitefield, who, on being told his presence was urgently needed, at once repaired to the house in question. On his arrival he found Mrs. Porter suffering from what he considered a bilious attack, and prescribed accordingly. Later in the day he paid another visit, and saw one of the two servants, who told him that Mrs. Wallace had said that 'Mrs. Porter had got over her fit and was quiet now.' In the evening the latter of Mrs. Porter called, and knowing that Mrs. Porter was unwell, her husband being out of town, sent with her for some time. In the course of conversation he advised her to remove her earrings, which were set with diamonds and were of great value. She accordingly did so, placing them in a handkerchief, with her gold watch and jewellery, putting them under her pillow. Mr. Cliff having retired, the deceased was left alone with the two lodgers and her little boy, who sat beside her on the bed, and who began to cry. On one of the servants ascending the stairs Mrs. Wallace called out, 'You need not come, she is better now,' meaning Mrs. Porter, which the girl thought, she had had a fit. Afterward, as he already been refused, after a short time she left, and taken the lodgers to Charing-cross railway Station, with their luggage, one of the servants entered the room and was startled to observe her mistress almost insensible, but attempting to speak. In a few minutes afterwards assistance arrived, but Dr. Whitefield also came, but his efforts were of no avail, as the poor woman had breathed her last. It was at first thought that she had died in a fit, from the statements made, but on a more examination it appeared probable that chloroform had been administered. One of the servants stated that on entering the room the first time she smelt a peculiar odor which she should never forget. On examination of the place it was found that the drawers had been turned over, the parcel of jewellery had been abstracted from beneath the pillow, every ring, of which there were four or five, including her wedding ring, had been taken from her fingers, and a splendid Indian shawl was missing. An account was given by the little boy, who is a most intelligent little fellow, regarding the conduct which he witnessed. He says:—'I saw uncle (meaning Wallace) throw mamma down and take her rings from off her fingers. When I cried, aunty gave me an apple and took me down stairs, and said that it was a good boy she would buy me a bun.'"

A Murder at Blackburn.

The London *Daily News* of April 18, prints, under date of the previous day, the following intelligence:—Great excitement prevailed in Blackburn to-night, it having become known that the police have taken into custody William Fish, barber, of No. 3 Moss street, on the charge of murdering Mary Holland, aged seven years, on the 28th March, and that they have found portions of the child and hair of a child. Great suspicion has always attached to the barber, who keeps a lock-up shop, and resides at No. 102 Moss street with his wife and two children. The discovery of the skull was made in more extraordinary manner. Chief Constable Potts arranged with a man named Preston, of No. 72 Nelson street, to bring over to-day two of his dogs, one half-bloodhound and spaniel and the other a Clumber spaniel. Police Detective Holden, Livesey were sent out with the dogs and their owner to the place where the human remains had been found at Bastwell, to see if any scent of the remaining portion of the body could be found. The dogs did not succeed in scenting anything. They were taken to Royahaw Wood, close to the place where had been seen to go backwards and forwards the house, No. 20 Maid Gwyn, for fifteen years, her landlord being Mr. Cliff, who resides next door, and whose family were on the most intimate terms with Mrs. Porter. For the last four months there lived with the deceased a man and woman who gave the names of Wallace. Mrs. Porter's little boy was in the habit of calling them 'uncle' and 'aunt.' The woman was described as a weak, feeble woman. On Thursday morning last she was taken suddenly ill, and the female left went for Dr. Whitefield, who, on being told his presence was urgently needed, at once repaired to the house in question. On his arrival he found Mrs. Porter suffering from what he considered a bilious attack, and prescribed accordingly. Later in the day he paid another visit, and saw one of the two servants, who told him that Mrs. Wallace had said that 'Mrs. Porter had got over her fit and was quiet now.' In the evening the latter of Mrs. Porter called, and knowing that Mrs. Porter was unwell, her husband being out of town, sent with her for some time. In the course of conversation he advised her to remove her earrings, which were set with diamonds and were of great value. She accordingly did so, placing them in a handkerchief, with her gold watch and jewellery, putting them under her pillow. Mr. Cliff having retired, the deceased was left alone with the two lodgers and her little boy, who sat beside her on the bed, and who began to cry. On one of the servants ascending the stairs Mrs. Wallace called out, 'You need not come, she is better now,' meaning Mrs. Porter, which the girl thought, she had had a fit. Afterward, as he already been refused, after a short time she left, and taken the lodgers to Charing-cross railway Station, with their luggage, one of the servants entered the room and was startled to observe her mistress almost insensible, but attempting to speak. In a few minutes afterwards assistance arrived, but Dr. Whitefield also came, but his efforts were of no avail, as the poor woman had breathed her last. It was at first thought that she had died in a fit, from the statements made, but on a more examination it appeared probable that chloroform had been administered. One of the servants stated that on entering the room the first time she smelt a peculiar odor which she should never forget. On examination of the place it was found that the drawers had been turned over, the parcel of jewellery had been abstracted from beneath the pillow, every ring, of which there were four or five, including her wedding ring, had been taken from her fingers, and a splendid Indian shawl was missing. An account was given by the little boy, who is a most intelligent little fellow, regarding the conduct which he witnessed. He says:—'I saw uncle (meaning Wallace) throw mamma down and take her rings from off her fingers. When I cried, aunty gave me an apple and took me down stairs, and said I was a good boy she would buy me a bun.'"

Half-breed Lands in Manitoba.

SCRIP AND PATENTED.

It is likely, according to announcement of the Dominion Parliament, that, during the early summer of 1876, the half-breed reserves in Manitoba, some fifty-four Townships (1,400,000 acres) will be patented to the grantees.

These plots, of 190 acres each, lying near Red and Assiniboine rivers to Poplar Point westward; beyond Selkirk on the north, and nearly as far as Emmerson towards the south—making in all the most valuable tract of land in the North-West. The allotment of scrip, 160 acres of each (about 200,000 acres), to the heads of families and old settlers, localeable anywhere in Government land, will also, it is promised, be distributed to them on the close of the present session of Parliament. The greater part of this immense acreage, both scrip and patent, will then be thrown upon a market unable, from its limited capacity, to absorb it, and consequently be sold at absurdly low prices. It is almost certain that these lands may then be purchased at from twenty-five to fifty cents per acre, or at all events, less than one dollar.

A. W. Burrows, Winnipeg, Manitoba, will undertake, for intending investors, the purchase of these lands, after Patents and Scrips issue, and guarantee satisfaction. He possesses unusual advantages for this commission, in his universal acquaintance with the settlers and half-breeds, through his former connection with the Dominion Land Office, at a time when the original census of the inhabitants was revised, by personal attendance of the claimants, for the basis of these grants. He is also fully aware of the value and quality of all the lands referred to.

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References—Messrs. Murphy, Murphy, & Monkman, Barristers, Toronto.
Messrs. Walker, Cassels, & Pennock, Barristers, Toronto.
Mr. J. H. Flock, Barrister, Toronto.
Messrs. Gilman & Holton, Advocates, Montreal. 2 1 4 2 6

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INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869.

Canada, Province of Ontario, County of York. } *In the County Court of the County of York*

In the matter of JOHN ALFRED BLACKWELL, Insolvent.

On TUESDAY, the sixteenth day of May next, the undersigned will apply to the Judge of the said County for a discharge under the said Act.

JOHN ALFRED BLACKWELL,
By MURRAY, BARWICK & LYON, His Attorneys *ad litem*.

Toronto, 23rd day of March, 1876. 211-4

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THE WEEKLY MAIL—Printed and Published for the MAIL PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, at their Office, corner of Front and Yonge streets, Toronto. E. G. PARTIS, Manager.

Mr. William McLean, of Goderich, has purchased for $10,000 the residence of Judge Sinclair, now removed to Hamilton.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1876.

NORTH MIDDLESEX.

At last we have the announcement that the writ for this riding has left Ottawa; and it is further stated that the Returning Officer has been instructed to hold the nomination on the 31st inst. The Grit candidate, we suppose, will be nominated to-day, and the Opposition candidate on Wednesday; after which a short and sharp struggle may be expected to take place.

AN APPOINTMENT IN PROSPECT.

The Guelph *Mercury*, doubtless on sufficient authority, advocates the claims of Mr. David Stirton, M.P., to the Postmastership of that town. We hope the *Mercury* is a true prophet, and that Mr. Stirton will get the appointment. Then the farmers of South Wellington will not be any longer misrepresented by a man who, to please Mr. Brown, talks in the smoking-room and votes in the House of Commons that they want no duties put upon American produce, though their own produce went to the other side years twenty per cent. toll. We feel very certain that our "House Divvy" of South Wellington most emphatically does not rightly represent the views of his brother farmers in this matter, whether Reform or Conservative. We think Mr. Stirton among those things that are sure to come to pass, that Bothwell, South Waterloo, South Wentworth, and North Wentworth, will ere long call Messrs. Mills, Young, Rymal, and Bain to account for their outrageous misrepresentation of the agricultural interests for which they profess to speak in the House of Commons. Ere the next general election comes round the farmers of Ontario will be fully awake to the folly of allowing American produce to come in here free, while our market fees for agricultural constituencies will have a "hard time" explaining to their constituents why they have so stupidly set themselves against Canadian interests. We venture the assertion that, were the opinion taken any day of one hundred farmers then and there present in any market town in Ontario, at least ninety-five out of the hundred would say that we ought to put on American produce duties exactly equal to what the Americans put upon ours. This is unquestionably the farmers' view of the matter, and we feel safe in believing that the gross misrepresentation of it by Grit members for agricultural constituencies is one of those wrongs that the next general election will set right.

NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY.

Those who have taken an interest in the question of the shortest route to Europe will not have forgotten the scheme mapped out some years ago by Mr. Sandford Fleming, whose connection with the Intercolonial railway at that time, we believe, ceased. We look forward to the time when a railway would be run across the island of Newfoundland, and British America and England brought within five or six days of each other. Letters from the island bring information in regard to the project our fellow-colonists who live well out in the Atlantic as hopeful for a project which, as we have supposed, excites their curiosity a good deal.

The Government of the island have received a proposal from Lord Carnarvon submitting an application from the representative of some English capitalists, for a concession for the island. The person is a Mr. Nicholas Stubbs. He asks for no subsidy, no guarantee of interest upon cost of the railway, but a grant of land. This is the Government's proposal. Both contracting parties are sanguine and will be willing to give liberally to secure the railway. "The thing he asks for," says a correspondent, "is exactly that of which we have most to give, and the gift will not improverish the country, as lands cannot be occupied or mines worked without paying "wealth into the country." The general public do not seem as yet to have some knowledge of the proposition made by Mr. Stubbs; nor indeed, judging from what is known, does Mr. Stubbs himself appear to have a very definite idea of the geography of the country or of the railway which he proposes to build. He is assumed, however—and the assumption is a fair and reasonable one—that the Colonial Secretary would not submit his offer to the Government of Newfoundland if he were not a man of substance, capable of carrying out whatever he may undertake to do.

We hope to hear more of the offer. It has an interest for every Canadian. Not only will the construction of the road bring us several days nearer to Europe, but it will also hasten the day which will make Newfoundland a part of the Dominion—the key of the Atlantic, as British Columbia is of the Pacific.

RETRIBUTION.

"The whirligig of Time brings about its revenges." To give to this general reflection, as truly prosaic as it is poetical, a particular point, we invite attention to the case of Montreal. Montreal, still the commercial metropolis of the Dominion, though not as much so now as she was twenty years ago, in a general time went all wrong, fatally wrong, on an important political issue. On a certain summer day in 1872 the people of that city decided that they did not want Sir George Cartier for their representative; Mr. John Young and Mr. Jetty were chosen men whom they delighted to honour. The afternoon of that election day Montreal was in a blaze of enthusiasm. The successful candidates, enthroned on *impromptu* chairs of State, were drawn through the principal streets, and the "intelligent foreigner," had there happened to have been such an evening, might have imagined that the community were celebrating their emancipation from some terrible oppression of long duration, and the dawning of a new and better day. In this light, we doubt not, it appeared to many quiet, respectable, semi-political Montreal men, who thought they did not swell the crowd on Notre Dame street, went home that evening with the proud consciousness that the country was safe, and that they had done their part towards saving it. The old George was defeated; that was a blow not only to him but to Sir John Macdonald; and the prospect of pure government, administered by men of "Reform" principles, loomed nearer and larger.

But the average Montrealer—we are speaking here of the English-speaking population only—it appeared is if the bringing of Messrs. Brown and Mackenzie into power would be the inauguration of a millennium, both political and religious. "Christian" statesmen, it was argued, would be the ministers of our Dominion. This the Government in power could not