graciously conceded to us by Her Majesty the Queen, in the two appointments which they have made, viz., Keeper of Plans, and Treasurer, being occupied by gentlemen not holding seats in the Legislature; and when I look to the Address passed in February last, by the Assembly in answer to His Excellency's Speech, and compare their deeds with their words,—I mean those of the Government—I find a wide diversity, (here his Honor read from the Journals, the following paragraph and commented upon at great length, viz:

"We concur with Your Excellency, in the belief, that the people of this Island are well entitled to the enjoyment of the privilege of Self Government, and that they fully appreciate the advantages which that system confers upon them, when carried out in its true spirit and integrity; and, it is the earnest desire of the House of Assembly, to give effect to such measures as shall extend, rather than diminish the principle of Responsible Government, as introduced by Your Excellency. We, however, in the performance of the duty we owe to our Constituents, cannot abstain from expressing to Your Excellency, our conviction that Your Excellency's Advisers have failed to carry out that system, either in accordance with its principles, as they professed to entertain them, when called to your Excellency's Government, or in that form and spirit, which it would appear to the House of Assembly, are still better calculated to secure the liberties and independence of the people, for whose benefit the system was intended; and Your Excellency's Advisers have thereby forfeited the confidence of the House of Assembly."

I will call upon their Honors, upon Mr. Holl, whom I am proud to call my friend, and Col. Gray, I call upon them in their capacity, as Members of the Government, to shew, by any act of legislation, either in Great Britain, or the Colonies, a want of confidence in a Government, without assigning the reasons why they did so. Sir, they could not give the reasons, and therefore it is, that we find them not. No, they could not bring even a single charge against the late Government! How gladly would they have trumpeted forth in the columns of those government organs the *Islander* and *Haszard's Gazette*, and branded with ignominy the conduct of the late Officials, if such, could have afforded them even the slightest handle, to gratify their malice; but not a single charge has been preferred, nor can they substantiate one. I have been told by their Honors in the Government, that it is not necessary to select Officers of the Legislature, and they say, shew us a Statute which compels it. I look again to the Address, and I find there, that the present majority has expressed "an earnest desire to extend, rather than diminish the principle of Responsible Government, as introduced by His Excellency." I take that as my first position. The Assembly having recognized the form of Government, as introduced by His Excellency—all the Officials holding seats in the Legislature. On turning to the Civil List Bill, I find in the Preamble, (his Honor reads it, shewing that the Responsible Government granted, was to be similar to that as practised in Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia,) and when I couple this with the acts of the House of Assembly, I have some ground on which to stand, as to what Responsible Government means. It is the Departmental System, as prevails in Nova Scotia, Canada, and New Brunswick, and as it was introduced by His Excellency, and in those places it is well defined. It was introduced here in 1851. But I think there were enough of obstructives in 1851, to tell His Excellency,—"You have not introduced Responsible Government in its purity, when you have selected various gentlemen from out of the Legislature, to fill these Offices, which that System does not require." Was there then any complaint, when all the Officials in the Government had seats in the Legislature? The first appointment was the Colonial Secretary,—the next, the Treasurer,—both were Members of the House of Assembly, as were also, the Collector of Excise, and the Queen's Printer, the Attorney General being in the Legislative Council: and when the change of Government took place, the members of the Gov't. did not ask His Excellency for an adjournment of the Legislature for four weeks, but they appealed at once to their constituents and the Legislative business of the country went on smoothly as a marriage bell. Mark the contrast, I say,—the late Government was formed in two days—I may possibly forget, it may have been in one day; but although we have now been so long in Session it is only within the last few days that the appointments have been filled up, and still there are some vacancies. And why so? I cannot tell, though, no doubt, the womb of futurity will divulge the cause. There are strange rumours out of doors, as regards the Excise, with these, however, we have nothing to do. But there is another thing, and it is this, the party now in power, with a modesty that is unequalled, arrogate to themselves all the wealth—all the respectability—all the talent—all the influence and all the education in the country; and if such be the case, one would naturally look to the construction of the Executive Council, to see whether all the talents, all the wealth, respectabiliiy, influence, and education of the country are really represented in the Government. Sir, I do not pretend to be a better judge in matters of this kind, or a closer observer of human nature than my neighbours, but I confess I look in vain for such transcendant qualifications to the present Executive Government, either as a body or to the individual members of which it is composed. [The Hon. Mr. Holl, "will you give your authority of such pretensions?"] Yes, if his Honor wants my authority I will give it. The Islander and Haszard's Gazette are my authorities, and in the columns of these papers he will find, the data on which I rest my assertion. I will not name particular individuals in the present Government, but they are not the mighty characters that they are trumpeted to be, notwithstanding their very high and lofty pretensions. I consider that if the present Government had gone straightforward to work, they might have formed a better Government than they now exhibit, and it requires no prophetic eye to discover, that they are connected together as by a rope of sand. They might have had, and there can be no shadow of doubt they ought to have had, his Honor Mr. M'Donald in the Government. Justice to that gentleman constrains me to state, that he has been consistent at all times in his political course, more especially on all matters connected with land, or which, in any way affected interests between the Landlords and the tenantry: and I think, moreover, both from his standing in the community, and the long experience he has had in the Legislature, he was well entitled to have had a Seat at the Executive Board. There was also the Honorable Mr. Hensley—he likewise ought undoubtedly to have had a seat at the same Board.—And when I call to remembrance the able Speeches which that Hon. gentleman has delivered in this Chamber on momentous subjects, I cannot suppress my astonishment nor help saying, that they were blinded in not taking him to their Counsels. But, unfortunately, for them, they formed an erroneous estimate of the character of that gentleman, and were weak enough to imagine that for the sake of a paltry office, they could so extinguish in him the feelings of a father, as to induce him to prevail upon his son to leave the Legislative Council, in order to make room for some adherent of their own. Who ever heard of such an application, or of a proposal so thoroughly dishonoring to the parties from whom it emanated? And there were certain members of the House of Assembly, who might have been taken to the Councils of the country, in place of those who have been appointed, and who would have brought to it more influence and more stability than those who have been selected, and thus they might have formed their structure on a stronger foundation, and instead of the weak and flimsy Government they now have, they might have had one staunch and stable, and which might have defied the assaults of every enemy. There is another thing in that Address, to which I wish to call your Honors' attention, and it is that part of it which states, that a portion of this country is not represented in the popular branch of the Legislature. From all that I have heard, I believe, that if there were to be another general Election, and that class of voters, to exercise the privilege to which they are now entitled by the new Franchise Bill, a result very different from the last would ensue, and it is manifest, that unless the new Franchise Bill be put into operation, that large class of inhabitants to which I have alluded, will be disfranchised for a series of years. His Excellency the Lieut. Governor is perfectly justified in not dissolving the Legislature until the Supply Bill be passed, and I hope he will see fit to grant the prayer of this Address at an early day. It does not ask his Excellency to take any particular course with a view to avert the impending evils, and which, allow me to observe, all arise out of the violation of our Responsible Constitution. I must again allude to the Public Press of this country which has become so deteriorated. I assert, that it does not, by pursuing a course of such personal abuse, express the opinions of the people of this Island, either on the one side or the other: and it is a question which I have often put to myself, how has such a state of things arisen? Has it originated from, or is it to be chargeable to the Liberal Party? No, Sir, I deny the fact, but I point out the source, when I mention the name of the famous Collard, who acquired an unenviable notriety by the personal abuse and malicious vituperation he indulged in—for I never will extenuate a departure from what is fair and honorable in the discussion of Politics—it has been in self defence that the liberal papers have continued in the same path—("hear!!" from the Hon. Mr. McDonald.) The acts of a man in public life may be fairly discussed and commented on in the public journals of the country, but let his private character be held sacred and inviolable, for when this is invaded, public opinion, becomes demoralized, and therefore, the sooner that all personal scurrility and improper interference with private character are suppresst, it will be the better for all parties. I reiterate, there is a stain upon the public press in this Island. I have now done with that subject for the present. I call your attention to another. The party at present in power, take undue credit to themselves and speak as if Charlottetown represented the whole people of Prince Edward Island, and then lay the flattering unction to their souls, that the Government of the country commands the confidence of the country, because it is supported by Charlottetown!! A train of reasoning so sound and logical, and so very modest with all, ought surely to command our respect and "awful admiration!" If I were writing down the names of the Streets of Charlottetown, I would say with all propriety, this one might be named "Tory" Street, — that Square "Conservative Square," and that Row "Snarler Row;" and if I were asked to designate the majority of Inhabitants of Charlottetown, I would unhesitatingly term them the "Inhabitants of the City of Stagnation." It is absurd in the highest degree, to suppose that Charlottetown is so powerful and mighty as it is fancied to be, no, no, Charlottetown does not represent, and it would be a pity if it did, the views and wishes of Prince Edward Island. It has been said by his Honor Mr. Holl, that no opportunity or time has been given to the present Government to carry out the terms of the requisition of the 15 members. [The Hon. Mr. Holl. I beg your pardon; I said that it was not necessary that the objects mentioned in that document should be effected at any particular time, and that their party had the power of redeeming their pledge during their parliamentary career.] Well, Sir, the present party in power petitioned his Excellency to call the Legislature at an unusual time of the year, for the express purpose of shutting out members holding Departmental offices, and accomplishing certain other equally useful measures! These, I think, are the words (His Honor reads them from his Excellency's Speech.) If these 14 or 15 gentlemen thought it so necessary to call a meeting of the Legisiature at an earlier period than is customary, to abolish the Departmental system, why I again ask, has not one of them introduced such a measure into the Legislature? (Here the hon. Mr. Swabey put his Honor the President right as to what the hon. Mr. Holl did say with respect to the intended change in the way of conducting Responsible Government.) Well, during their parliamentary term; but if they thought that no time was to be lost, how comes it then that although they have now been more than two months in Session, yet I have not heard of any Resolution, nor seen any notice in the Order Book, with regard to the threatened change? All that I have seen is, that the deeds of the present Government are contrary to their words, and that two gentlemen of that Government in the Assembly have taken office. Sir, I consider this is a violation of our constitution, because if they thought a change was necessary, why did they not act up to their convictions and their deliberately expressed opinions? Such being my views, I repeat I would not have departed from the line of strict neutrality I had marked out for myself, if the present Government had carried out in honesty what they professed, and if they had, they would not have found me in opposition: but when I see an executive government violating the principles of our constitution, then Sir, I say, that it is high time to be up and be doing, and that we should strive to prevent a still further violation. I think the longer that the present Government is in power, the more will they trample upon the rights conceded to the people. I shall therefore support the Address.

The Hon. Mr. Swabey.—There has fallen nothing from Hon. gentlemen who have opposed the address which calls upon me to further trouble the Committee in the way of reply, but in order to show that Responsible Government is defined, I must take the liberty of reading two or three paragraphs from a certain Dispatch from Lord Gray. [The hon. gentleman then read the extracts he referred to.]

Here a desultory conversation ensued amongst the members and an honorable gentleman having made an allusion to the House of Lords and compared the Legislative Council here to it in respect to its powers.

The Hon. Mr. Gray replied, that the House of Lords is differently constituted from the Legislative Council of this Colony. Her Majesty has no power to dismiss any Member of the House of Lords, but with one stroke of Her Majesty's pen every Member of this Legislative Council can be dismissed and deprived of his seat.

The Hon. Mr. M'Donald.—I think your Honors had better take a little time to consider how the Address should be disposed of, and as I belong to neither party, I can speak dispassionately, I recommend you to think about it to night and settle it to-morrow. But, Sir, I consider that the party who is most guilty as respects the infraction of the Constitution and who has made a departure from the Departmental system is His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of this Colony, for there can be no manner of doubt that the appointments of the present Government must necessarily have all been sanctioned by His Excellency. I do not, however, admit the propriety of the address under our consideration, yet it is quite plain, from the numerical strength of hon. members favorable to it in this House, that it will be carried, and all that I shall obtain by the delay I ask, is merely a little better understanding of what the addres really is.

After a little desultory conversation their Honors acted on the advice given by the Hon. Mr. M'Donald, and postponed the further consideration of the address to the following day, by moving that the President take the Chair and that the Chairman be directed to report progress and to ask leave to sit again to-morrow.

SUMMARY.

House of Assembly, Saturday, April 22.

Mr. Fraser presented to the House the Report of the Special Committee apointed to examine and report on the the Public Accounts:—to be taken into consideration—in Committee of the whole—on Monday next.

Mr. Beer presented to the House the draught of a Bill to amend the Act to Incorporate the the Royal Agricultural Society, and the same was read the first time. Second reading on Monday next.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary laid the usual Custom House Returns before the House, for the past year. Laid on the Table.

PROMISSORY NOTES.

Mr. H. Haviland moved that the Bill to repeal the Act to prevent the issuing of certain Promissory Notes, be read a second time.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary moved, that the said Bill be read a second time "this day three months."

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

Yeas—Hon. Messrs. Colonial Secretary, Conroy, Montgomery, T. H. Haviland, Lord, Warburton, Messrs. Macgowan, Goff, Macgill, Fraser, Davies—11.

Nays—Hons. Messrs. Attorney General, McAulay, Messrs. H. Haviland, Beer, McLeod, Mooney, Clark—7. So the Bill was lost.

Mr. H. Haviland's Bill to exempt certain Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Contracts and Agreements from the operation of the Law relating to Usury, was read a second time, committed to a Committee of the whole House, and reported without amendment. To be engrossed.

The Hon. the Attorney General submitted to the House the draught of a Bill to prohibit the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquors, and the same was read the first time. Second reading on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Montgomery submitted the following Report:—

"The Committee to whom were referred two Petitons from the Inhabitants of Princetown and Royalty,—one Petition praying that an Act may be passed to prohibit the running at large of Swine within the said Town and Royalty—the other Petition praying that no such Law may be put into operation—beg to report, that in their opinion, a Law to the effect prayed for by the first named Petitioners, would be productive of advantage to the interests of the inhabitants of the said Town and Royalty; but as it appears from the signatures attached to the last named Petition, that a majority of the inhabitants are unfavorable to the enactment of such a Law, they recommend that no action be taken during the present Session.—Agreed to.

Mr. Lord from the Committee, to whom was referred the Report, Plan, &c., of Joseph Ball, Esquire, respecting the opening of a new Line of Road through Townships Nos. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 65—presented to the House the report of the said Committee.

Mr. Mooney presented the following Report, which was also agreed to by the House:—

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the Petition of the Inhabitants of Lots 65 and 30, praying that a Bridge might be constructed across the Elliot River, having taken the matter into consideration, would recommend that, owing to a desire supposed to exist on the part of many members of this House to grant a Charter to any man or body of men who may be desirous of placing a Steam Boat on the said River, to run from Charlottetown to Bonshaw Bridge, the construction of Wharfs at the most eligible sites along the aforesaid route would be the most expedient plan to adopt, in order to carry out a permanent benefit to Petitioners."

Monday, April 24.

The Bill to exempt certain Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Contracts and Agreements from the operation of the Law relating to Usury, was read a third time and passed.

A Message was received from the Council, intimating that their Honors had passed the Bill "to make provision for the service of Non-bailable Process in certain cases," without any amendment.

The Bill to establish a Police Force, and to prevent Desertion from Her Majesty's Troops stationed at Charlottetown, was read a 3d time.

Hon. Mr. Whelan, moved, that the Bill do pass "this day three months"—which was negatived on the following division:—

Yeas—Hon. Mr. Whelan, Messrs. Clark and Fraser—3.

Nays—Hon. Messrs. Attorney General, Colonial Secretary, Haviland, Conroy, McAulay, Montgomery, Messrs. H. Haviland, Goff, McGowan, Beer, and McLeod—11.

The Bill was then passed and sent to the Council.

Tuesday, April 25

The Bill to amend the Act to Incorporate the above Society, was read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House—Mr. Clark in the Chair.

After some time spent in committee, the said Bill was reported without amendment, and the question being put, shall the Report of the committee be agreed to, the House divided:

Yeas:—Messrs. Beer, Mooney, Fraser, Clark, McLeod, Davies, Goff, McGowan; Honbles. Messrs. Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Montgomery, Conroy, and McAulay—13.

Nay—Hon. Mr. Warburton.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

WAYS AND MEANS.

The House went into Committee of the whole, to consider further of Ways and Means—Hon. Mr. Montgomery in the Chair.

After some time spent therein, progress was reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

In the afternoon the Committee again went into Committee of Ways and Means, and after some time, the following Resolutions were reported and agreed to, viz:

1. *Resolved*, That the several Rates and Duties imposed and levied under the Act, 16 Vict. cap. 5, be continued and amended for One Year, from and after the First day of May next ensuing.

2. *Resolved*, That the undermentioned Rates and Duties be imposed and levied on the importation of the following Wines, viz.:

Hock, Constantia, Malmsey, Tokey, Champagne, Burgundy, Hermitage, Claret, called Lafitte, Latour, Margeaux, Hantuan, the gallon,	£0	4	0
Port, the gallon,	0	2	6
Maderia, do.,	0	3	6
Sherry Wine, of which the first cost is £20 0 0 Sterling, per pipe or upwards, the gallon,	0	3	0
All other Sherry Wine. Teneriffe Marsella, Sicilian, Malaga, Fayal, and all other Wines, the gallon,	0	2	6

Committee to prepare a Bill in conformity with the foregoing Resolutions. Honbles. Messrs. Montgomery, and Colonial Secretary; Mr. Macgowan.

The hon. Mr. Lord reported from the Special Committee to whom was referred all matters relating to the Post Office service, and the said Report was thereupon committed to a committee of the whole House—Mr. Macgowan in the Chair.

After some time spent therein, the House resumed, and the Chairman reported as follows:—

Your Committee to whom were referred sundry Petitions from the inhabitants of different sections of the Island, praying for the establishment of Post Offices for their convenience, beg to recommend:

That a post-office be established at the most central place near the school house, in Freetown, Lot 26, and that the carrier taking the mails to Freetown, the distance being, via George Wright's Mills, from four to five miles, and the expenses to be incurred about four shillings per week.

Your Committee would also recommend that a Maile rout be established (weekly) from Georgetown, via Grand River to Souris, a distance of about twenty-five miles, and that a post-office be established at a certain place in Grand River; also, that the Post Master General be instructed to forward a mail for each place, which would meet the wishes and wants of the inhabitants of that section of the country, and also to establish a semi-weekly mail to Souris, and form a correspondence weekly between that place and Georgetown direct.

Your Committee would further recommend, that a post-office be established at Cascumpeque village, Lot 6, and that a mail be made up in Charlottetown for that office, to be left weekly by the carrier, as he passes through on his way to Lot 4; which arrangement would save the inhabitants the inconvenience of travelling upwards of eight miles to the post-office at Lot 4, for their letters and papers.

In reference to a letter put into the hands of your Committee by the hon. Emanuel McEachen, from Heman MacDonald, setting forth, that the inhabitants of Lots 44, 45, and 46, are put to much inconvenience for the want of a post-office in a central part of their settlements, they being at present obliged to travel a long distance to a post-office for their letters and papers, your Committee recommend, that the application of the said inhabitants be conceded.

Your Committee would further recommend, that the mail from Charlottetown to Belfast do pass through Uigg, and Newton, on Lots 50, and 57, and that the Post-office be removed from Orwell Head, to the Murray Harbour Road, for the convenience of those settlements, after the termination of the engagement of the present Mail Contractor.

Your Committee would further recommend, that the Georgetown Packet be bound to carry the mails to Pictou, when so ordered by the Post Master General, after the steamer shall have ceased running from Charlottetown to Pictou.

Also, that the mails be sent twice, per week, to Cape Tormentine, during the winter season; it is estimated that the expense incurred thereby will be about Sixty Pounds.

Your committee also recommend, that the mails be forwarded twice a week, during the year, to Princetown, and Park Corner, and that the present arrangements be altered so as to meet this new one; and also that the post-office at Park Corner be kept at or near Charles Bernard's.

Your Committee further recommend, that the mails be carried twice a week throughout the year, as far as Tignish.——

Your Committee also recommend that the mails be forwarded to the Head of St. Peter's Bay, twice a week.

Your Committee having taking into their consideration the arduous and laborious duties of the Post Master General, which have so very materially increased within the last, few years, and which are likely to continue so to do, are of opinion, that the present salary is a very inadequate remuneration for the laborious and responsible duties of his office; they would therefore recommend that a sum sufficient to pay his principal clerk, of One Hundred and Twenty Pounds (£120) be added to the salary of this very efficient officer.

Mr. Mooney moved to amend the said Report, by striking out the last paragraph thereof, which was negatived on the following division:

Yeas—Mr. Mooney and Fraser—2.

Nays—Hons. Messrs. Conroy, Montgomery, Lord, Haviland, M'Aulay, Warburton, Whelan, Attorney General, Colonial Secretary; Messrs. Douse, Yeo, Macgowan, H. Haviland, Goff, Beer, McLeod, Clark, Davies, M'Gill—19.

Hon. Mr. Lord moved to amend the last paragraph thereof, by striking out the words "One hundred and twenty" and inserting "One hundred" in lieu thereof—also negatived on the following division:

Yeas—Hons. Messrs. Lord, Whelan, Warburton, Messrs. M'Gill, Davies, Fraser Clark—7.

Nays—Hons. Messrs. Montgomery, Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, M'Aulay, Conroy, Haviland; and Messrs. Douse, Yeo, Mooney, Macgowan, H. Haviland. Goff, Beer, McLeod—14.

The said Report was then agreed to by the House, and the following Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Lieutenant Governor, in conformity therewith:—

Hon. Mr. Lord; Messrs. Yeo and Goff.

The hon. the Colonial Secretary, by command of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, presented to the House the following Message:

A. Bannerman, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor lays before the House of Assembly, a communication received by the last Mail, from His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, accompanied with a Copy of a Resolution of the House of Assembly of that province, granting the sum of £300 towards the expense of employing a good and sufficient Steamboat, to run between Shediac and Prince Edward Island.

Wednesday, April 26.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The Bill to secure the Independence of the Legislative Council and Assembly, introduced yesterday by the Hon. Attorney General, was read; and a motion being made, that the said Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House, a very lengthy debate, on the principles of the Bill, of which a want of both time and space precludes the possibility of our giving even an outline in our present issue, further than to say that this Bill, if it go into operation, will, in future, exclude all Office-holders from both Branches of the Legislature, except the Attorney General and Colonial Secretary.

On Mr. Whelan's motion, that the House go into Committee on the Bill "this day three months," the House divided as follows:—

Yeas—Hons. Messrs. Whelan, Warburton, Lord, Messrs. Clark, Mooney, Davies and McGill—7.

Nays—Hons Messrs. Attorney General, Colonial Secretary, McEachen, McAulay, Haviland, Conroy, Montgomery, Messrs. Fraser, McLeod, Goff, Beer, Douse, H. Haviland, Yeo, McGowan—15.

The House then affirms the principle of the Bill by an overwhelming majority.

The House then went into Committee, *pro forma*—Mr. McGowan in the Chair. Progress was shortly after reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The whole of the afternoon sitting was occupied by the House in Committee of the whole on the Public Accounts—Mr. Goff in the Chair.

Considerable discussion arose on the subject of an overcharge for Poll Clerks at the last General Election; and certain alleged surcharges, and the absence of the necessary Vouchers of the late Commissioner of Roads for the Royalty of Charlottetown. The practice pursued by the late Road Correspondent of paying the Salaries of the Road Commissioners half-yearly and without the necessary Affidavits and Certificates, was also severely commented upon by hon. members at present in the majority: At a late hour, progress was reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Ogdensburg, March 29.—The dwelling-house of Mr. Cooper Tyler at North Lawrence was destroyed by fire at about 9 o'clock last night, together with all its contents. Seven small children, the oldest being only nine years of age, were burned to death in the house. Their parents had, after seeing the children safely in bed, gone to a neighbour's house to pass the evening. The fire broke out soon after they left their house, but they unfortunately returned too late to save any of the children or any portion of the furniture.

It is stated by a Paris letter writer, that bricks and porous stones, by being dipped in coal tar for a few hours, acquire a great degree of hardness, and are thereby rendered much more useful for laying foundations and the construction of vaults.

Women as Telegraph Operators.—Young women are now engaged in working the electric telegraphs at Liverpool, Manchester, and London stations.

Dreadful Shipwreck. The American ship Anna Kimball, Pike, from London to Cadiz, came in contact with bark Bonetta, from Pernambuco to Hamburg, on the 24th. The Bonetta went down head foremost at once. Only four persons were saved, and eleven were drowned. The Anna Kimball returned to Portsmouth for repair.

Tremendous Conflagration.—A destructive conflagation occurred at Jacksonville, Florida, on Wednesday afternoon. Seventy buildings were destroyed, including twenty three stores.—The total loss is estimated at $300,000, about one-half of which is insured.

High Prices.—A good many of our citizens complain of the high prices of every article offered in our market; but they are not as high however, as in some parts of the country. The Ottawa *Times*, alluding to the matter, says at the Mattawan, above Pembroke, hay is £15 a ton; oats 6s. 3d. per bushel and 5s. by the quantity. In