Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

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

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Huron Signal.

GODERICH. C. W., OCT. 28, 1864

OUR "MOCK LIBERALITY."

THE Irish *Canadian* enters a protest against the charge that its utterances in reference to Ireland are *treasonable*, and asks if it has ever vilified anything Canadian. We did not accuse it of having done that, but merely stated that its articles, which generally treat upon the wrongs of Ireland, are habitually treasonable, it being taken for granted that Canada is a portion of British soil. He asks us for proof that we are telling the truth. How can that be necessary when, in the very next sentence, he says: "If, when "we speak of Ireland, we speak the *truth*, "we cannot well help speaking treason."? Granting that our contemporary *does* always speak the truth in that connection, it then follows that he speaks *treasonably*. Why, then, be frightened at the sound of the word when he so readily admits the fact? and why accuse us of "mock liberality" because we cannot go so far as he does in demanding reforms? We agree with him that Ireland has suffered wrongs at the hands of England—we heartily endorse the statement that the system of land tenure imposed upon Ireland is not what it should be, and that it is quite proper to give her peasantry back the Tenant Right, but we stop there. If the reforms demanded cannot be secured in a day, we should hesitate before advising Irishmen to take up arms—rebel against Britain, because we love England, with all her faults, and because we think such an act would be in itself suicidal.—The editor of the *Canadian* has read history and knows very well that the greatest reforms ever effected in England were brought about by the self-sacrificing efforts of great men, who, having seized upon a correct principle, devoted the best energies of their lives to its elucidation and enforcement; nay, we might go farther and assert that the several steps in the amelioration of the condition of Ireland were secured, not by means of rebellions, and petty uprisings, and secret societies, but by the eloquent pleadings of such men as O'Connell. We say, then, to the Irish press, Encourage your very best and most eloquent men to enter Parliament and fight the battles of your island home upon the broad platform of public opinion, back up their utterances by the powerful influence of the press, but do not counsel unavailing violence—do not encourage secret societies—do not countenance underhand measures, and above all, do not urge Irishmen to rivet chains upon portions of other nations under the delusion that *their* destruction will result in *your* salvation! The *Canadian* accuses us of "mock liberality," of being under "metallic influence," because our professed liberalism does not admit of a violent solution of the Irish question. Does he demand of us greater liberality than is displayed by the most liberal of British statesmen—more ultra radicalism than issues from the most radical press of the mother country, barring, of course, a certain section of the Irish press, which, we are sorry to say, is too nearly allied to Jacobinism to render it worthy of being held up as an example of true liberality?

But in penning the former article it was not our wish to hear the Irish *Canadian's* reasons for its own disloyalty, nor its estimation of our liberality because we cannot think as he does. What we felt curious about was as to how he could possibly reconcile the urging of Irishmen to engage in the present war on the side of the North—on the side of the *strong* against the weak—with the theory of Irish rebellion. The people of Ireland, he argues, would be justified in rebelling,—should do so at the first opportunity, and yet he tells us what Irishmen have done against the South and what they are now doing! Let us not be misunderstood as hinting that they have not accomplished most of what is claimed for them; on the contrary, we believe that if the South is *ever* crushed, Irishmen will be entitled to a large share of the *glory* accruing to the conquerors. But look at the consequences. The South is infinitely more unanimous than Ireland ever can be in demanding a distinct autonomy,—her people are making sacrifices to secure their freedom, almost unparalleled in history, and if she fails at last, her high spirited leaders must fly into *exile*, and for ages to come her populations, deprived by confiscation of the patrimony of their fathers,—to retain which they have shed seas of blood and oceans of tears,—will be ground under the heel of the oppressor and held in constant awe by the overhanging sword. We know the old argument that Irishmen fight for the North not because the people of the South have done them any irreparable injury, but under an infatuated belief that by so doing they are, in some mysterious way, striking a blow at England. The inconsistency is glaring, and no amount of verbiage can smother it up.

We are as far from desiring controversy as our friend of the Irish *Canadian*, but we expected to hear from him something in the way of an excuse for conduct, which, if used *against Irishmen*, in a struggle for liberty, he would be one of the first to execrate as unjustifiable and inhumane to the last degree.

LATEST FROM QUEBEC.

QUEBEC, Tuesday, Oct. 25.

The Convention, it is understood, has been engaged to-day discussing what powers shall be delegated to the local governments. The question of the Judiciary likewise engaged their attention. Although difficulties have appeared in connection with the arrangement of the finances, a satisfactory solution is confidently expected. It is not doubted that the labors of the Convention will be closed in time to enable the delegates to reach Montreal on Thursday night.

The Railway Commissioners met to-day at half-past four p. m. Present—Messrs. Swinyard and Reid for the Great Western; Mr Brydges for the Grand Trunk, and Mr. Dalton for the city of Toronto. Communications were read from the Northern Railway Company, the Great Western Company, and the city of Toronto, accepting the resolutions recently passed by the Commissioners in respect to the new tracks and crossings along the Esplanade, the only objecting parties being the Grand Trunk, who raised all sorts of objections to the other companies having independent access along the Esplanade. To effect this they proposed to agree to convey the cars of the Great Western and Northern companies along their present line, on those companies paying toll or compensation for the same. But as this would put the other companies completely under the control of the Grand Trunk, and would in effect monopolize railway access to all places along the Esplanade, neither of the other railways nor the city would consent to such a proposition. The Board ordered that the grant made by the Corporation of the twenty-five feet north of the Grand Trunk forty feet shall be sanctioned, but they think that the better arrangement is to take the tracks as far east as the Union station on the Grand Trunk forty feet. If the Grand Trunk chooses that arrangement the tracks west of the Union station are to be so placed, and the Grand Trunk are to receive in compensation 25 feet of Esplanade street as an equivalent. Should the city not be able to perfect a title of the 25 feet to be given to the Grand Trunk, as the law is, or by an Act which shall be passed, then the Grand Trunk is to have again the space they had given up on the 40 feet. The Grand Trunk is to announce in a short time, not yet named, whether they wish the tracks to go on the 40 feet, and whether or not the work is to go on at once without waiting for the decision of the legal questions as to the right of the city to grant the equivalent 25 feet to the Grand Trunk. To-morrow the Board will appoint an engineer to point out where the sidings for loading and discharging are to be placed.

It is rumored here that the Hon. William McDougall is to have opposition, although it is not credited that it will prove of a serious description.

The R. C. Archbishop of Quebec is in a precarious state of health, his life being despaired of.—[Globe.

QUEBEC, Oct. 26.

The Intercolonial railroad is to be an incident of Confederation. The Picton branch of the Nova Scotia system, though no part of the main line is to be embraced in it. The Halifax and Truro section is to be part of the main line, with its proposed continuation to the intersecting Shediac line.

Mr. Levsy is pressing the Nova Scotia delegates strongly to give him the contract for the section from Truro to the New Brunswick boundaries. New Brunswick having agreed to give him the contract from the frontier to the intersection of the Shediac line, on condition that Nova Scotia will give him the other part.

The conference will to-night or to-morrow be asked to resolve that, as the Intercolonial Road will be the property of the Confederation, there ought, meantime, to be no seperate section constructed by any Province. Mr. Levsy represents parties who own the Acadian Mines and want the Intercolonial Road run through them, though the surveyors may show that the line ought to be located elsewhere.

The financial difficulties have nearly disappeared, though the details are not all arranged. The name of the Confederation presents considerable difficulties, and is not yet decided on.

All the shipyards here are closed; there is not a ship building.

In the Esplanade matter the Railway Board, after all, has really not decided anything, having merely made suggestions which may or may not be carried out. The question of the mode in which the Great Western is to reach Esplanade street is not touched, the Board declining to interfere. The Great Western declines to run into the Union Station, so that there will of necessity be three separate stations established in Toronto. The Law Officers of the Crown have not given any opinion on the proposed transfer of the right of way along Esplanade street. The Railway board has announced that, if the transfer cannot be effected as the Grand Trunk Company contend, the grant made by the city to the other Companies must be absolutely and forever void. The matter is now, therefore, referred to the Courts of Law, and may, perhaps, be decided in two or three years. In the meantime, the Great Western Company will not be allowed to run east of the present station. All that is wanted can, however, be obtained in twenty-four hours without litigation, if the city accept the offer made by the Grand Trunk Company, which presents a perfectly easy and reasonable solution of the whole question; it gives the trade of Toronto all it has asked for.

TOWNSHIP OF COLBORNE.

The ploughing match in connection with the Agricultural Association of this Township came off on Wednesday, the 26th instant., on the farm of Mr John Campbell, near Smith's Hill. The day was fine, and the attendance of competitors and spectators very good. The field selected was a good tough sod, but one end of it was very rough, so much so that ploughmen who drew the unlucky numbers could not make anything like the show their skill would have accomplished under more favorable circumstances. The following is a list of the competitors, together with the kind of plough used by each:—

MEN.

Alex. Robertson, McTavish, Clinton.
Wm. McDougall, " "
Andrew Curwan, Mahaffy, Runciman & Co., Goderich.
John Salkeld, Barriman, "
Andrew Green, Mahaffy, "
Thos. Sallows, " "
Hugh McGratten, R. Thompson's plough, Goderich.
Arch. Sands, McIntyre's plough.
Robert Young, Barriman, Runciman & Co.

BOYS.

John Boyd, Barriman, Runciman & Co.
Hugh Girvin, Mahaffy, "
Stewart McDougall, Barriman, "
Robt Buchanan, Ferguson plough.
Hugh Henly, Mahaffy, C. Shaw.

The ploughing commenced at 10 o'clock a. m., and the progress of the work was closely watched during the day. Although the work of a few of the competitors was deficient, owing to ploughs being out of gear, bad ground, &c., it was on the whole very good, some of it excellent. The ploughing of Mr. Curwan was very much admired, his quiet manner and easy position while at work contrasting strongly with the frantic motions and excruciating exertions of others. Andrew Green and William McDougall, also, amongst the men, made capital work. Arch. Sands, a crack ploughman, after looking over his rough 'land' for a few minutes in disgust, slashed away, finished, and drove off, neither expecting nor receiving any prize for his trouble. Amongst the boys Henly, Boyd and McDougall did very well indeed. The latter has, we are glad to see, lost the constrained position spoken of last year, and bids fair to become a first-rate workman. The ploughing was finished about 4 o'clock, and, soon after, the judges, two gentlemen from Hullett and one from Ashfield, announced the result of their labors as follows:

MEN.—1st, Henry Curwan, 2nd, Andrew Green, jr., 3rd, Wm. McDougall, 4th, John Salkeld, 5th, Alex. Robertson.

BOYS.—1st, Hugh Henly, 2nd, John Boyd, 3rd, Stewart McDougall, 4th, Hugh Girvin, 5th Robt. Buchanan.

The ploughmen and a few invited guests then adjourned to Ross's Hotel, Smith's Hill, and partook of a first-rate, substantial dinner, with the gusto of men who have worked hard and eaten nothing from breakfast time till night. Thanks to the exertions of the committee, everything went off well. We trust the Association will, in the time to come, have many better matches and none worse.

BLACKWOOD for October is before us. The number is fully up to the standard of excellence established by the promoters of this sterling British Magazine. Contents: "Cornelius O'Dowd on Men and Women and other Things in General," par IX; Max Muller's second series; The Life of Jesus; Tony Butler, part XIII; In the Garden; Symbols; Public Schools; Memoir of Richard Whately; Our Trade; The Death of Speake. Republished by L. Scott & Co., N. Y., and sold by T. J. Moorhouse, Goderich.

Destruction of the Propeller Kenosha.

SARNIA, October 26.—About 6.15 p. m. to-day, the Propeller Kenosha, of the Grand Trunk Line, plying between Chicago and Sarnia, was discovered to be on fire while lying alongside the elevator. To save the elevator and other buildings, the lines were severed and the propeller sent adrift; she is now passing down the river in full blaze.—Nothing of any value was saved. This is the second propeller of the Grand Trunk line lost during the season.

The St. Albans' Outrage.

(*From the Globe.*)

MONTREAL, October 26, 1864.

Two depositions were taken to-day; slow work. Messrs. Abbott and Kerr appear for the prisoners. All of them were identified, although others were mixed with the prisoners at the time. One witness made the mistake of identifying a Montreal policeman as a raider. The depositions will occupy to-morrow and perhaps Friday. If committed, efforts will be made to have a public trial here. The charges are murder, robbery, attempted arson, &c. The prisoners are in good spirits and are well treated. I heard them singing.—There is no danger of their escaping the military guard and the police at St John.—Quite few strangers but those engaged in the case. The Confederate Sanders and Mr. Day, of the London *Herald*, were present.

A man with $10,000 was arrested in Montreal last night. The money he got from raiders in St. Albans. He will be sent out to St. John.

There is great excitement on the frontier. It is reported that the people of Plattsburg, last night, expecting trains with raiders, tore up the rails over five acres.

The following telegram was published in the Burlington *Times*:

"To George N. Sanders, Ottawa Hotel, Montreal:

"We are captured. Do what you can for us.

(Signed) C. C. WALLACE."

Shooting and Stabbing Affray in Kingston.

Early yesterday evening a desperate row occurred at the house kept by Kate McChesney, in Williamsville, compelling the attendance of the police. By the time these upholders of law and order arrived, however, the row was over and the rowdies had disappeared. The first reports were that two men were missing, supposed to have been killed, and that two others had been shot, one slightly in the forehead, the other through the mouth, the ball coming out behind the ear. The facts at length resolved themselves into a milder phase, but bad enough at that. The two men who were missing were found at home uninjured, and of the other two, one (Belanger) was grazed in the forehead by a ball, and the other (Donaldson) had been stabbed with a knife in the face, and struck behind the ear with the butt end of a pistol. The four men were from Portsmouth, and the rowdies are all young men about town, well known to the police. The police waited in the vicinity of Kate's house until late in the evening, when the rowdies returned, and on the police attempting to arrest them they presented pistols at them and kept them at bay. One of them, Duncan McKenzie, escaped into Kate's house, from whence he was taken into custody, but not until he had fires

European News.

The steamship Hibernian, from Quebec, arrived at Liverpool on the 11th inst. Commercial affairs continued to be the principal topic of discussion. The depression in commercial circles shows no diminution, and business, especially in cotton, is almost at a dead lock, and prices continue to fall. The additional failures which have taken place include Louis Stetliz, a large cotton dealer in Liverpool, with liabilities amounting to £520,000 sterling. Messrs. Hoge, Milner & Co., cotton brokers, Liverpool, with considerable liabilities, and Messrs. Bendin & Co., merchants in London, whose liabilities are small. The demand for discount at the Bank of England on the 12th instant, showed great subsidence, and there was consequently more steadiness in the funds. The minium rate of the bank was 9 per cent. The half monthly settlement in Confederate loan exhibits a strange anomaly, the price in London being 55, in Manchester 50, while at Liverpool, owing to the extent of adverse speculations it has rebounded to 6s. The London *Times* has an editorial on the address with 300,000 signatures recently sent to Governor Seymour from England, entreating the North to make peace with the South. The *Times* says the address signed by these 300,000 gentlemen can effect just nothing, and thinks the only possible solution of the question is continued war. America has commenced the fiery ordeal of war which settled Europe on its present basis, and terrible as is the process, the *Times* cannot doubt that America will be the better for it in the end. The *Patrie* says that Russia has given its adhesion to the French policy on the Roman question. *La France* says the insurrection in Algeria is spreading, and that the natives there appear to be obeying a summons to a holy war.

THE DANISH QUESTION—At the peace conference a compromise is said to have been effected on the financial question. Minor questions were also arranged, and there now only remains the drawing up of the treaty of peace. The Paris correspondent of the London *Times* says:—There are good grounds for believing that representations have been made at Vienna and Berlin by England and France with respect to the unwarrantable pretensions of the Austrian and Prussian Plenipotentiaries on account of the blockade during the war, and a Paris paper professes to know that concessions have been made to the Danes in the conference, and that a larger portion of North Schleswig than was expected will be incorporated with Jutland. A meeting between the Kings of Prussia and the Emperor of Russia was about to take place at Darmstadt. A financial crisis is reported at Constantinople. Interest had been raised to 14 per cent, and money was not obtained at that. It is officially announced that the New Zealanders have unconditionally submitted to the Queen's authority, and placed their lands at the government's disposal. They were permitted to return to their lands, a small portion of which only will be forfeited.

Liverpool, October 13.—Captain Semmes accompanied by 8 officers of the Alabama and 100 men, have left this city to be transferred with guns, &c., to the steamer Ranger, recently lying at Madeira. Cotton—sales for four days 14,000 bales, including 5,500 to speculators and exporters. The market is very dull, with a decline of ¼ to 1d per lb.—The Manchester market is dull with a declining tendency, and quotations of goods and yarns are nominal. Breadstuffs—the market is generally dull.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—The following address of Gen. Beauregard, on assuming the command of the army of the West, has been received at the War Department:—

"Head quarters, Military Division of the West, Oct. 17.—In assuming command at this critical juncture of the military division of the West, I appeal to my countrymen of all classes and sections for their general support and confidence. In assigning me to this responsible position the President of the Confederate States has extended to me the assurance of his earnest support. The Executives of your States meet me with similar expressions of their devotion to our cause. The noble army in the field, composed of brave men and gallant officers are strangers to me, and I know that they will do all that promises can achieve. The history of the past written in the blood of their comrades, but foreshadows the glorious future which lies before them. Inspired by these bright promises of success, I make this appeal to the men and women of my country to lend me the aid of their earnest and cordial co-operation. Unable to join in the bloody conflict of the field, they can do much to strengthen our cause, fill up our ranks, encourage our soldiers, inspire confidence, dispel gloom, and thus hasten on the day of our final success and deliverance. The army of Sherman still defiantly holds Atlanta; he can and must be driven from it. It is only for the good people of Georgia and the surrounding States to speak the word and the work is done. We have abundant provisions. There are men enough in the country liable to, and able for service to accomplish this result. To all such I earnestly appeal to report promptly to their respective commands; and let those who cannot go see to it that none remain who are able to strike a blow in this critical and decisive hour. To those soldiers, if any, who are absent from their commands without leave, I appeal in the name of their brave comrades, with whom they have in the past so often shared in the privations of the camp and the dangers of the battle field, to return at once to their respective commands in response to this appeal, within the next 30 days, an amnesty is hereby granted. My appeal is to every one, of all classes and conditions, to come forward freely, cheerfully, and with good heart to the work that lies before us.

"My countrymen,—Respond to this call as you have done in days that have passed; for with the blessing of a kind and overruling Providence the enemy shall be driven from our soil. The security of your wives and daughters from the insults and outrages of a brutal foe shall be established soon, and be followed by a permanent and honorable peace. The claims of home and country, wife and children, uniting with the demands of honor and patriotism, summon us to the field. We cannot, dare not, will not, fail to respond, full of hope and confidence. I come to join in your struggles, sharing your privations, and with your brave and true men to strike the blow that shall bring success to our arms, triumph to our cause, and peace to our country.

"(Signed) P. T. BEAUREGARD,
"General."

NEW YORK, Oct 26.—A special despatch from Washington to the *Post* states that it is rumored that Moseby's guerrillas made a raid upon Martinsburg, Va., last night capturing Gen. Pafne and his staff.

Advices received here indicate that the Canadian authorities will promptly respond to all fair demands made by our government in reference to the Confederate robbers who committed the outrages at St Alban's.

A special despatch from Washington to the *Commercial* says it is stated here on what is understood as good authority that there is no immediate prospect of a resumption of hostilities in the Shenandoah unless the Confederates should reorganize their, at present, demoralized forces, and make another desperate attempt to regain possession of the key to the valley.

Important movements are in progress in the middle department which it would be highly improper to mention at this time.

With Gen. Grant's army the situation is daily assuming importance. Admiral Porter has all his arrangements nearly completed for the attack upon the fortifications at the mouth of the Cape Feer river; and it is stated by persons who have recently arrived from the James river, that he will proceed to the place of rendezvous in a few days.

Particulars of the Roanoke Capture.

HALIFAX, Oct. 25.

The steamer Mavero Cordator arrived here last night, seven days from Bermuda, with the passengers of the captured steamer Roanoke. We are indebted to Mr. D. P. Burdin, a passenger, for the following additional particulars:—After the Roanoke left Havana her engines were stopped to receive passengers approaching in boats, who afterwards proved to be Confederates under Capt. Braine and Lieut. Paine, of Chesapeake notoriety. After the capture, Braine proposed to Capt. Drew to bond the vessel for $30,000 in gold, payable at Bermuda—Braine to keep the cargo. Capt. Drew of course refused to accede to this. The Roanoke arrived off Bermuda on Thursday quite out of coals. She received a little from a vessel. Nothing special happened until Friday, when her passengers were taken off by the Mathilde. The Roanoke had a valuable cargo of bale tobacco, segars and sugar. Braine and his associates were all on board. Captain Drew and his crew left for New York in the schr. Hound on the 17th.

The Hardships of the Draft.

An instance occurred yesterday, illustrating the terrible severity with which the present enforced conscription of poor men for the military service occasionally strikes its victims. A poor German residing in this city, who was among the number drafted far his ward, reported himself for examination on Wednesday last, and was pronounced fit for duty. For some cause which we are unable to ascertain, he was detained at the Provost Marshal's office and not allowed to go home. In the course of the ensuing night one of his children died, and yesterday word came to him of the death of his wife during the morning. He was of course allowed to visit his afflicted home, and attend the last sad preparations for the burial of his wife and child, and to make the best provisions possible for the remaining three little children, who by the alike remorseless operation of death and the draft had been so terribly orphaned and deprived of their natural support and protection.—*Quincy Herald.*

☞ The Cairo correspondent of the St Louis Republican tells the story: At one point of the Tennessee River there is a place that has become a terror to steamboat men, and in passing it, they always find some place to secure themselves until the boat passes. At this point an old man, sixty odd years of age, has made his head quarters for a long time, and the peculiar "crack of his gun" is familiar to the river men, and sends a thrill of terror whenever it is heard. He has a long, heavy barreled gun originally a squirrel rifle, which has been bored out three different times, until now the largest thumb can be easily turned in the muzzle, and the aim of the old man is one of deadly certainty. The murderous scatter it spreads is fearfully upon his watch, and his retreat has so far baffled all attempts to catch him, from the fact that he is so surrounded with dense swamps and deep ravines. Well informed river men estimate that this old man has murdered in this way not less than sixty persons; and yet he performed his murderous work with as much earnestness and vigor as when he first commenced.

Hermetical Barrel.

Protection has developed new necessities, and with it new inventions; none of which, however, can compare in importance with the hermetical barrel of Mr. Louis S. Robbins of this city. It is well known that pretroleum, from its great permeability, will readily pass through the best made wooden barrels, so that the loss by leakage, evaporation, and absorption, in this article alone amounts to millions of dollars annually. Mr Robbins's process treats chemically, and at trifling cost not only the surfaces of the wood of the barrel, but the entire texture of the interior of the wood so that it becomes absolutely hermetical and tight, so that not only is the barrel incapable of leaking, but it is impossible for the oil to evaporate or to become distilled through it. The advantages to the commercial world of a hermetical package can scarcely be over estimated.—Many millions are lost annually through the best made packages used in commerce, by leakage, evaporation, absorption, and taint. All of the long catalogue of spirits, brandies wines, &c., all of the fluids semi fluids even butter and lard fail to gauge the same quantity on the arrival at as on their departure from port. Their quality too, is often impaired in time and transit, and all through the imperfect packet containing them. Mr Robbins' hermetical package corrects all of these losses, both in quality and quantity; it imrures the original freshness of character of the article placed in them, and absolutely secures them against leakage. To subject this new invention to a through commercial test a number of these barrels were filled with petroleum at the oil wells of Pennsylvania. After three transhipments and a delay of three weeks on their passage, they arrived at the Erie Railroad freight depot, Jersey City. They have not lost a drop of oil on their passage. The barrels are dry, clean odorless as so many barrels of flour. Oil dealers and shippers generally are daily visiting novel shipment of oil, and universally speak of it as one of the greatest commercial discoveries of the day. The barrels have not been cooped nor will they need to be.—[N. Y. Tribune.

THE stagnation in freight, says the St. Catharines *Journal*, is shown by the fact that the schooner 'Two Brothers' has been lying at Port Dalhousie for the past week, waiting to receive orders to proceed some place for a load, and has not yet obtained one. Yesterday she had her sails "hung out to dry," probably with the intention of stripping and going into winter quarters. We understand that the Messrs. Muirs, as well as several other heavy vessel owners, are considering the propriety of ordering at least a portion of their vessels into winter quarters, as it don't pay to run them at the present rates of freight.

A SACCHARINE PRIZE.—A correspondent of the New York *Observer* states that a short time ago an old African, in one of the negro meetings held in this city, rose and said:—"Bredd'ren, I does want to see peace flow down our streets like a ribber; yes, bredd'ren, just like a ribber; and bredd'ren, I does want to see sugar eight cents a pound!"

Late Fall Plowing.

There are many solid and substantial reasons favoring the practice of late fall plowing. I know no crop, or soils, excepting sandy soils, but is improved and benefitted by fall plowing; which we would recommenced to be performed as late in the fall as the season will allow, in order to prevent vegetation starting anew. As thus a larger amount of vegetable matter is turned under to be incorporated in the soil, than when the operation is delayed until spring. And vast numbers of insects are turned up to perish by the cold; and seeds of useless and troublesome plants or weeds, that have germinated in early autumn are also disturbed and destroyed. But there are other advantages to be derived from plowing in the fall. The work is usually performed at a time when the farmer or his workmen have most opportunity for it, when the "hurry" of the season is over, and that teams are in good condition And in the spring does not the farmer feel happy over the reflection that by timely forecast and industry he has a very necessary work performed in advance of the season? He is ready to avail himself of the earliest favorable weather for putting in his crops, and is thus enabled to keep up, in the unvarying routine of farming operations, with the forwardness of the season. He is certainly much better circumstanced in this respect than could possibly have been the case had his plowing been deferred until spring, when the uncertainty of the weather adds greatly to the pressure of the work on hand. In the former case the farmer "drives his work," but in the latter it frequently occurs that his "work drives him." As an able writer well remarks, "how often has the farmer, on a clay farm wished, just as his land has become dry enough, in the spring, to begin plowing, that he could set ten plows in motion, instead of one, that he might finish his work before the next storm—which was now warning him of its approach, should delay his stirring the soil for two weeks longer." And, as every farmer knows, planting on a foulsward, turned over for the first time in the spring, makes the work of cultivation much more difficult and laborious; and the surface yields no nutriment for the young plant, until it pushes its roots to reach the decomposing vegetable matter turned under by the plow. But where this vegetable matter is buried in the soil in the fall, decomposition takes place in most instances before spring, and thus furnishes necessary pabulum to the roots of the growing plant, as it is required. And the crop is greatly benefitted, merely by the circumstance of the field being plowed in the previous autumn.

And if we admit (what every observing agriculturist knows to be the truth) that the weather has a mellowing effect upon plowed ground, fall plowing is especially desirable. The exposure of the soil to the action and decomposing effects of winter frosts, and the changes of the atmosphere—the action that the elements have upon the earthy and mineral ingredients of the soil—assists very materially in its pulverization, and prepares it for more thorough and effective tillage.

The subsoil, rendered more loose and pulverulent, will absorb the ammonia of snow, which chemistry proves to contain a greater per cent, than the same amount of rain water. Perhaps it will not be out of place here to remark, that most soils are improved by plowing a little deeper than was previously done, in order to bring up a new strata for the disintegrating and decomposing influences of winter and the elements.

I have thus hastily glanced at some of the advantages that necessarily result from fall, or late fall plowing; the subject is far from being exhausted, and much yet remains to be added in favor of this practice. The subject is one of importance and will abundantly repay every farmer who will give it the consideration it merits. For blowy and sandy soils fall plowing cannot be recommended, unless the subsoil that such rests on be of a heavy or clayey character. In such instances, my judgment is, that fall plowing will prove beneficial, rather than otherwise, as the changes of the weather in winter will promote a more thorough mingling of the different soils—a portion of the subsoil being turned up with the surface—and hence the labour required in the spring to prepare it for sowing or planting will be considerably lessened. But otherwise the treatment recommended for light drifting soils is the very opposite of that for clayey or heavy lands.—The former requires to be compacted, the latter to be mellowed.—[Rural American.

Colonial Union vs. Annexation.

Among the journals of New Brunswick it seems there is but one silly and reckless enough to enunciate sentiments favorable to annexation with the United States. It is plain, however that the public have no sympathy with any such movement. They seem fully to understand that the Provinces have arrived at that stage when a change in their political condition is needed. But they entertain not an idea that change will involve a union with the States. The present altered condition of the Republic has reduced that project two removes further from realization than it ever was before. What the people of British North America want—what they look to as the grand remedy for present difficulties is a confederation of their respective Provinces, preserving for some years at least a connection with Great Britain. This would afford them opportunities not now possessed for increasing their trade and commerce, enlarging their manufacturing operations, and providing efficient means for their mutual defence. It would give them advantages that they could secure by no other means In all that has been said on the subject by journals factiously disposed we have not seen a word to induce any thoughtful person to entertain a contrary opinion. As to the Provinces being an independant nation, we believe that they are neither prepared nor desirous for such a change at present. They wish still to preserve their connection with the Parent Country, and to enjoy the advantages which such connection gives, while signifying a willingness to accept the responsibilities of the position. They wish to have selected as head of the Government, not a scion of royalty, but a statesman whose term of service would, as now, expire every four or five years. So consolidated protected and governed there need be no fear of conquest, and while the sentiment of attachment to the Sovereign of the British dominions and British laws pervades the masses, no thoughtful person will assert that any amount of persuasion can induce them to demand annexation to the American Union. It would have been an egregious exhibition of folly in our statesmen to think of annexation when the States were comparatively prosperous and free from debt, but it would be the height of madness to do so now when their commerce is prescribed and they are loaded with a ruinous debt and suffering from heavy taxation. It would be well were the very few who entertain and promulgate annexation sentiments to consider these things when they favor the public with their lucubrations.—[St. John, N. B., *News.*

HORRIBLE MATRICIDE.

A MAN CUTS HIS MOTHER'S THROAT FROM EAR TO EAR.

An "extra" of the London *Free Press* brings the following particulars of a horrible tragedy which was committed at Clarke's coffee house, Market Square, London, on Saturday night last:—A man named Charles Heybourn, while in a state of insanity, murdered his mother by cutting her throat with a razor. It seems, from the evidence adduced at the inquest, that the unhappy man had previously been afflicted with insanity, and had, some time since, attempted the life of his wife. The old lady, who was 76 years of age, was quietly sleeping in her bed, when her son stole in, without a light, felt for her throat, and, with a razor, inflicted a frightful wound thereon, so large, indeed, that a person's hand could be placed in the gash. The wretched son then slunk to his bed, his hands covered with blood, and, when arrested, at once admitted, and in some sense, justified the act. The deed caused an intense excitement in the neighborhood, and indeed throughout the city. The murderer has borne a good character, was kind to his mother and other relatives, and but for the failing of his brain would never, in all probability, have committed so horrible a crime. On Saturday morning Dr. Moore, the coroner, held an inquest at Mr. Clarke's house, where the murder was committed.

The son of the deceased, Charles Heybourn, being present, was asked his name, when he replied, "I am what I am"; on being asked if he had anything he wished to say, it being explained to him that he was accused of murdering Mrs. Ann Maria Heybourn, he replied, "I wish to make no plea; if you find that I have done anything wrong, if I am worthy of death I am ready to die; I am willing to say how I caused the death of deceased, it was with a razor. I acknowledge that I caused her death. I was not in bed. I was undressed. I had no light. It was my intention to destroy deceased; I entertained the idea about two days since. I had only a reason on my mind that I promised I would fulfil: I promised it unto a far Greater than we. I had no quarrel with my mother; she was very kind indeed to me. I had no further intention of doing harm to myself, or any other person. I have been in a lunatic asylum; I left it in December last. I was put there because I had very great heaviness of mind concerning my wife. I intended killing her, but God kept me from it. I did not speak to my mother when I went into the room. She called 'Charles!' I then used the razor on her; I cut her throat; I cannot say what the position of the bedclothes was on her. I heard her cry after that. I stood still in the room, and gave myself up to Mr. Clarke. I now regret having done it. I feel my mind different this morning to what it was yesterday. I had drank three glasses of whiskey yesterday. Liquor does not affect me generally; I seldom take any. I wish to say that I am free of this blood guilt. I know nothing of it whatever."

After a brief consultation the jury, on hearing the evidence, returned the following verdict:—"That the prisoner, Charles Heybourn, destroyed his mother, Mrs. Ann Maria Heybourn, by cutting her throat with a razor on the night of Saturday, 22nd of October, 1864, he being at the time in a state of insanity."

It is probable, says the *Free Press*, that the prisoner will be formally tried for the murder at the approaching assizes and committed to the Provincial Lunatic asylum during his life.

Commerce of Jerusalem.

"Jerusalem," says the British Consul, in his year's report to the Foreign office, "is the least commercial or industrial city I know." British trade is represented by one English tradesman, who keeps a store for English upholstery, drapery and fancy goods. The population of this city is computed at 15,000 rather more than half of them Jews, the rest Moslems and Christians. The chief native industry is the manufacture of soap, "Jerusalem ware," this latter consisting of chaplets, crucifixes, beads, crosses and the like, made for the most part at Bethlehem, and sold to the pilgrims who annually flock to the holy city to the number of 6,000. The population of the entire Sandjack, or province, is estimated at 20,000, of whom 16,000 are Mahommedans. Owing to the absence of good roads, and the insecurity arising from the predatory tribes of Bedouins inhabiting the outskirts of the district, but who could easily be kept in check, vast and fertile plains lie waste, or are but partially and poorly cultivated; factories are not to be met with, and no mines are worked, though it is believed that sulphur, bitumen, and rock salt abound on the shores of the Dead Sea. The principal, if not the only imports from England, are cotton goods and some colonials, but the former have greatly diminished since the cotton crisis; it is calculated that 300 bales of these goods of the value of £16,000, annually find their way here. The exports are olive oil and grain. Very little is done in cotton culture, what is raised being of inferior quality, and consumed on the spot; but it is believed that in many parts of the country, cotton, to a large extent, might be successfully cultivated, with good seed, proper instruction, and implements, given to the peasantry. The vegetable produce is barely sufficient for local requirements. Jaffa is the port through which Jerusalem deals with foreign countries. The trade of Jaffa experienced a considerable increase in 1863; the quantity of cotton exported rose from 55,000 lbs. in 1862 to nearly ten times the amount in 1863, with a prospect of this again being trebled or quadrupled in 1864. This was owing to the interest exercised. The merchants who operated in cotton made a profit of 25 per cent. There are regular lines of French, Austrian and Russian steamers, all doing well, and very often large quantities of goods have to be left behind for want of room; but only one English steamer visited Jaffa in 1863. The exports exceeded £200,000; of the imports no statistics are kept. The Consul reports a telegraph line in course of formation by the Government, between Beyrout and Jaffa, thence to be carried on to Alexandria.

The Montreal Earthquake.

The Montreal *Telegraph* of Saturday evening says:—

"Canada seems disposed to excel Quito or Peru in the frequency of its earthquakes. At ten minutes past four o'clock yesterday four distinct shocks were felt in the vicinity of the Mountain. The first was slight and of brief duration; the second heavy, causing the houses to tremble and stovepipes to rattle as if about to fall down. The third shock was the faintest of all, and all they lasted about ten seconds. Men at work in the fields felt the vibration very strongly and were somewhat alarmed, thinking that the ground was about to open. The wind at the time was a light westerly breeze.

"The above is the narrative of a gentleman who resides at the back of the mountain. We may say that two shocks were distinctly heard at about the same time by a person in this office, who thought at the moment that it was the noise of a moving barrel, but it is now certain from the peculiar rumbling noise that it must have been an earthquake."

The Sioux at Red River.

The Red River Settlement has again been invaded by Sioux Indians—men, women, and children—and all in a famishing condition. There are four chiefs with them. Governor McTavish met them at Portage Lapraire, and endeavored to dissuade them from coming to Fort Garry. One of the chiefs was in favor of the chief with a few followers only going down, but his advice was not followed. The object of their visit was to endeavor to induce the Hudson Bay Company to open a trade with them in exchange for their furs. The trade they have hitherto carried on with Americans. Their visit, however desirable the object, is not at all relished by the Red River people, who are suddenly called upon supply the wants of three thousand famishing savages. It is feared that another party of from four to five thousand Sioux would visit the settlement before long. The former had met with United States troops on the Missoeri, and had to fight their way through.—They state that they do not wish to be hostile to the Americans, as they are unable to cope with them. The treatment the poor Indians have met with in the United States is not to the credit of the Government. Were the true facts of the case known to the people, we believe justice would be done to these sons of the soil.

It seems probable to us, that if communication ever opens with the North West, or British Territory, the trade of Red River will be very largely increased. The Indians in the North-Western territories of the United States are friendly disposed toward England, and appear desirous of transfering their trade from Americans to British subjects.—*Montreal Witness.*

INDIAN CURIOSITIES.—Some interest has been excited by the discovery of a number of Indian curiosities in the lands of the English Land Company, township of Dysart, in the rear of Peterborough. The men at work in the company's road accidentally found an Indian Grave, and on opening it found buried therein a number of silver trinkets of excellent workmanship and in capital preservation. There are said to be numbers of these graves throughout the English Company's lands, they having been in former years the neutral ground between the Chippewas and the Mohawks. The company's officers have taken steps to have those graves respected.

CONFEDERATE RIFLES.—A correspondent with General Sherman's army writes:—"The Whitworth rifle in use by the rebel skirmishers and sharpshooters is a weapon greatly to be feared, as persons nearly a mile and a half from the rebel skirmish line have been wounded when they thought themselves safe from anything except solid shot and shell. One soldier was standing upon a log crossing a creek, about one mile and a quarter from the line of nearest line of rebel rifle-pits, and a comrade was talking with him, when one of these fatal messengers came crashing through both thighs, and with this mortal wound he sank into the water. An officer speaking of it says: 'They break the bone of a man's limb like a solid shot from a cannon.' Rebel deserters say that each division of the rebel front is furnished with about fifty of these rifles, which are used in their skirmish line."

O TEMPORA! O MORES!—Under this head a contemporary publishes the following extracts from the *Times*, anent the American contest: