

The cry all over the land is "hard times." The wheels of commerce seem to be clogged by some invisible power...

What is all this sound that echoes back from every counting house and workshop about? When we look around us for any evidences of real distress...

The Halifax correspondent of the North Sydney Herald informs that paper that the Local Government has made arrangements with the Eastern Railway Company...

We are in receipt of No. 4 of "Vick's Floral Guide" for 1875, published by James Vick, the celebrated floriculturist and gardener, Rochester, New York.

OUR LEISURE HOURS.

How do we employ them? Every moment of time is a moment of mercy. What an awful responsibility rests upon us all!

The following gentlemen have been appointed Justices of the Peace in this county: Neil McLean, Bridge End; Angus McMillan-Judique; John McMaster, River Inhabitants; Walter Laurence, Cheticamp; Daniel Hennessy, Port Hawkesbury; Murdoch McKinnon and A. C. McDougall, Whytecove; Allan McIntosh, Port Hastings; Hector McLean and Hector McKenzie, North Lake Ainslie.

The Eastern Dramatic Company terminated their season here on the evening of Thursday last, and sailed for Arichat in the George Straiton on Saturday day, from whence they will travel towards the western part of the province.

A terrible story has been raised in the Halifax papers in reference to two girls, daughters of David Sutherland of Clyde River, Shelburne, who were reported to have been drowned in the cabin of the brig, "Mary E. Jones," on the occasion of that vessel being wrecked in 1873 while on the passage from Clyde River to Boston.

Editorial Items.

A whale was seen passing north through the Strait on Saturday. Geo. B. Hathey has been appointed Port Warden for the port of Port Margrave.

Mr. Crosskill, proprietor of the Halifax Reporter, has drawn a painting worth £180 stg. in the Royal Art Association of Scotland.

There are thirteen vessel building within a distance of eleven miles in Hants Co., namely, eight at Maitland and five at Selma.

A young man named Charles Fox, apprentice with Mr. S. Embree, shoemaker, had his arm broken on Monday evening of last week, by falling off one of Archibald's coaches.

The steamer "M. A. Starr" ran aground on the Gulf Shores between here and Antigonish on Wednesday last, and was towed to Pictou harbor. We have no reliable particulars.

We had exceedingly heavy rains on Friday and Saturday in this vicinity, which interfered with having operations, a considerable quantity of cut hay having been fine, warm and windy, haymakers were making good use of their time yesterday.

Plain Directions for Accidents, Emergencies and Poisons, and Plain Directions for the Care of the Sick, are the respective titles of two neat little works, the former of £26 and the latter of 72 pages, sent us by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

The Eastern Dramatic Company terminated their season here on the evening of Thursday last, and sailed for Arichat in the George Straiton on Saturday day, from whence they will travel towards the western part of the province.

Late Telegraphic News.

Thousands of acres of grain in Ontario were badly damaged by heavy rains last week. At Gaitaneau, Canada, a few days ago, three children, who were picking berries were devoured by a bear.

There was a riot in the neighborhood of the Montreal City Council on Monday, on the occasion of the passage of a health by-law. Sticks and stones were flying freely and several Councilors were wounded.

Twelve commercial firms in Montreal, perfectly sound so far as assets and liabilities go, have had to make special arrangements with their creditors for extension of time.

A gentleman and a lady were drowned at Niagara Falls recently while bathing near the Cave of the Winds.

The steamer "Algeria," having on board about 300 passengers, struck on Split Rock off Wednesday. All were safely landed.

There was a serious riot in Glasgow, on the 7th, between Orangemen and Home Rulers, during the O'Connell celebration. Five policemen were injured and fifty arrests were made.

The Dunelm Relief Committee has given assistance to over seven thousand strikers. Both masters and workmen continue firm, and all attempts at compromise have failed.

The mercantile shipping bill, drawn up by Sir Charles Adair, after Pilm-soll's demonstration, and passed by the Commons, has finally passed the House of Lords.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LARDISE, RICHMOND COUNTY, August 6th, 1875. To the Editor of the News of the Week.

Sir,—Some time ago a correspondent writing from Fouchie called attention to the fact that at the sitting of the county sessions in Arichat last January, a resolution was passed to have the county accounts—receipts and disbursements—published in the "News of the Week."

Nearly six months have elapsed since the passing of said resolution, but so far the taxing people of this county got no explanation of how their hard-earned money is being spent and must be satisfied to know that it is in safe hands in Arichat or elsewhere.

Other counties have taken the trouble to publish a full statement of their business. Why cannot the same be done in this county? It is because the matter is in the hands of a select few who appear to treat the voice of the people with perfect indifference.

The collection of taxes last winter according to the Clerk of the Peace's Circular was in arrears the large sum of \$1400. This shows carelessness on the part of the officers and their subordinates and should not be allowed to continue.

The French Government has prohibited the sale in France of Gladstone's writings against the Papacy. The Alfonsists claim continued success against Carlism.

The Herzegovinian revolution continues. The insurgents defeated the Turks in several encounters and wounded Sultan Pasha.

Fourteen cases of sunstroke were reported in Paris on Thursday. The British Parliament was prorogued on Friday until the 29th of October.

USE OF THE PEOPLE.

RUSS KEROSENE THE RIGHT WAY.—A correspondent of the New York Sun calls attention to all consumers of kerosene oil to the pernicious and unhealthy practice of using lamps filled with that article with the wicks turned down.

The tax-payers of this county want a statement of the business of the county, not as a privilege from the Alford officials but as a right and they will get it sooner or later.

ALPHABETICAL.—Gov. Van Zandt, of Rhode Island, while presiding at a spelling match at Newport, thus ingeniously marshalled the letters of the alphabet in regular order: A man was B ere to C if he can not D efeat with the greatest E s some stupid F eller who is no G ood letter than an F G.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The cargo of the British vessel Laura Price, which was pursued into Haytian waters by a Spanish gunboat, has been embargoed by the Consul General of Spain in Hayti as contraband.

The Abyssinians are making preparations to invade the Egyptian frontier, which is not sufficiently guarded. The Kedive has sent a reserve of troops to guard the coast.

Mr. Vidal, American Consul at Tripoli, and his wife, have been insulted by Tripolian sailors, and the United States steamer "Hartford" has been ordered thither to demand that the offenders be punished.

A telegraphic cable is being laid between Peru and Chili. The Government forces of the State of Magdalena defeated 600 revolutionists and their leader.

The ecclesiastical wars in Central and South America are maintained apparently without much abatement of fury. General Gado, commander of the Colombian forces, declines to be guided by the recent treaty of peace.

A Distinguished Visitor.—Bayard Taylor, one of the best poets and newspaper correspondents in America, and probably the greatest traveller on this side of the Atlantic, was in St. John on Wednesday evening and was to leave on Thursday morning for Nova Scotia.