

nada enjoys such a right—that Australia enjoys such a right—but that the States of America, which never for a moment relinquished the title of sovereignty that belongs to them individually, ought to be debarred from the enjoyment of a similar right.

There remains, therefore, no other policy by which these territories can be governed except that which was formally adopted by England toward Ireland, and which is now practiced in Poland by Mowat and Berg, under the sanction of the tyrant Alexander. This is the policy of conquest, devastation and extermination which will resemble the plantations of Ulster and the cruelties of Cromwell, is extremely natural; but it is a spectacle painful and humiliating to all lovers of freedom to find one of the representative men of the Irish race—himself an exile and a Catholic—vindictive at a court of policy similar to that which expelled the natives of Ireland from their possession of their homes.

I have spent much time in analyzing the letter of Gen. Meagher, because although it is addressed to a private friend it was evidently written as an appeal to the public opinion of this country. Though it is overlaid with eulogistic epithets of declamatory invective. It is a production which has evidently been prepared with care and deserves a deliberate response. In this respect it contrasts favorably with an election speech recently addressed by Mr. Meagher to the electors of Ohio in opposition to the claims of Vallandigham, in whose person all the rights which belong to a free citizen have been violated. Said indeed it is to me to find that our countryman who was once the champion of human liberty, has enlisted himself as the defender of every sort of tyrannical usurpation.—T. F. Meagher, the young Champion once the champion of his country's freedom has become the advocate of a system of government which carries in effect its policy.

By suspending the right of habeas corpus, and thereby subjecting the personal liberty of every citizen in the United States to the caprice of a single ruler or of his minions.

By coercing into the ranks of the Federal army, through the instrumentality of conscription, all who cannot afford to purchase their deliverance by an enormous ransom; and by driving under the execution, unwilling conscripts into field of battle where they perish for a cause which is not sanctioned by the approval of their conscience.

By suspending the rights which, under the constitution of the United States, were guaranteed to each individual State.

Lastly by fraternizing with the tyrant of Russia, who at this moment engaged in carrying into effect such a system of conscription against the noble Polish nation, as has won for him and all who abet him, the execration of mankind.

Alas! that we ever should have witnessed such backsliding on the part of an Irish patriot! If such be the result of American freedom (so called) in America, what soon learn to be reconciled to the worst form of European despotism.

Possessing the confidence of several millions of Americans, natives as well as Irish born, he might have applied a persuasive decision to the restoration of Peace, instead of trying three millions to throw their sons into the fire which now burns before the altar of Moloch. He might have taught the Canadians to look to America for a model of political institutions and for a identification of interests instead of repelling them by the taxation, by the conscription, by the monopolizing tariff, and by the loss of personal liberty, which have followed as consequences, from this civil war. He might have gladdened the heart of all who belong to the oppressed nationalities of the world by boldly vindicating the cause of human freedom on behalf of those who suffer in every clime, instead of standing foremost among those who welcome to America the emissaries of the cruel despot who now tortures a brave and noble race.

The enemies of England will rejoice that he has made such a choice between these alternatives; but though he may find defenders and apologists among a few attached friends, our heads droop with shame when we find one of our chosen chiefs thus lending the support of his great abilities to the cause of the oppressor rather than to the protection of the oppressed. To no one has the language employed in America upon many occasions by Gen. Meagher since the commencement of this war given more pain than to myself, and since he has invited an expression of the opinion of his countrymen, no longer find myself at liberty to preserve silence. Earnestly, therefore, do I warn all those who are about to emigrate from Ireland against taking any part in the disastrous contention which is now going on in America, even though they are tempted by the rhetoric of one of Ireland's most gifted sons to fling themselves into the abyss in which so many who have gone before them have perished. Believe me my dear friend, very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN
P. J. SMITH, Esq.

NEW POSTAL RATE.
The following circular has just been issued from the Post Office Department at Quebec:

Quebec, 24th Nov., 1863.
POSTAGE ON CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS PASSING WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF CANADA, OR TO AND FROM THE UNITED STATES.

1. Packages of seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots and scions, or grates, may be posted in Canada for delivery within the Province, or to an address within the United States, on prepayment by postage stamp of a rate of one cent per ounce; and when received from the United States addressed to any place in Canada, such packages may be delivered on payment by the person addressed of a like rate.

2. The limit of weight of such packages will be one pound. No communication, whether written or printed, must be enclosed in them; and they must be so put up as to be easy of examination, for the purpose of verifying the alleged contents. If put up in bags, the bags must be simply tied at the neck, so as to admit of inspection; and, in the case of such packages mailed in Canada, the nature of the goods, such as "seeds," &c., as the case may be, must be marked by the sender, as a statement of the contents, and the reduced rate hereby made applicable to such matter.

3. Book manuscript, and printer's proofs, sheets (whether corrected or not), maps, prints, drawings, engravings, photographs when not on glass or in cases containing glass, and sheet music, whether printed or written—may pass in covers, open at the ends or sides, and provided that no letter, or other communication intended to serve the purpose of a letter, be enclosed therein, on prepayment, when posted in Canada, by postage stamp of the ordinary printed matter rate of one cent per ounce; and on payment of that rate on delivery of such matter when received in the mails from the United States.

TRANSMISSION OF BOOKS, PATTERNS OF MERCHANDISE, AND SAMPLES, BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.
4. On and from the 1st of January next, patterns of merchandise, and samples, may be forwarded between Canada and the United States, at the rate of one cent per ounce, at book post rates, and subject to the following conditions:

A. The patterns or samples must not be of any intrinsic value; and this rule excludes all articles of a saleable nature, and whatever may have a value of its own, apart from its mere use as a pattern; nor must the quantity of any material or article sent as a pattern or sample be so great that it could have on this ground an intrinsic value.

B. The patterns, &c., must be sent in covers, open at the ends, so as to be easy of examination. Samples, however, of seeds, drugs, and like articles, may be sent in open covers, may be enclosed in bags of linen or other material, simply tied at the neck; but bags closed against inspection, although transparent, must not be used for that purpose.

C. There must be no writing or printing other than the address of the person for whom the pattern is intended, the manufacturer's or trader mark and number, and price of the article.

D. Any infringement of the above regulations will render the packet liable to be treated as charged as a letter, and not 1 lb. E. The rule which forbids the transmission through the Post of any article likely to injure the contents of the mail bags, will apply to patterns and samples; and any package transgressing this rule is to be sent to the Postmaster General.

5. The book post rate between Canada and the United Kingdom remains unaltered at 7 cents for a packet not weighing more than 4 ounces.

For a packet exceeding 4 oz. and not exceeding 1 lb., 12 cents; for a packet exceeding 1 lb. and not exceeding 1 lb., 25 cents; for a packet exceeding 1 lb. and not exceeding 2 lb., 37 cents; and so on, adding 12 cents for each additional 1 lb. or fraction of 1 lb. weight.

6. No printed or printed matter will be allowed to pass by book post between the United Kingdom and Canada, unless printed on paper, parchment or vellum.

7. As regards packets posted unpaid or only partially prepaid, the following rules are laid down by the Imperial Post Office:

When a book packet is posted in the United Kingdom for Canada, or in Canada for the United Kingdom, either wholly unpaid or prepaid less than a single rate of book postage, it is to be forwarded to destination charged with double the amount of book postage set on the packet; deducting, however, the amount of postage actually prepaid, if any has been prepaid. But if the partial prepayment of a book packet amounts to a single rate, then the book is to be forwarded charged with additional postage equal to the deficiency, and another single rate as a fine.

O. MOWAT,
Postmaster Gen.

Trial of the Six Hundred Pounder.

A preliminary trial of Sir William Armstrong's monster gun, lately manufactured at Elswick for the War Department, was made yesterday at Shoeburyness, with the most satisfactory results. The day was all that could be desired. A slight mist out at sea lifted just before the experiments commenced, and the sun shone out as clear and as warm as on a spring day. The wind, too, which in the early morning was somewhat cold and biting, moderated into a gentle breeze setting across the range, just sufficient to waft away the smoke from the mouth of the gun.

Sir William Armstrong's gun weighs over 22 tons, and is mounted on an ordinary gun carriage of great size and strength. Its length over all is 15 feet, that of the bore being 12 feet. Its internal diameter is 13 inches, and its rifled on the "shunting" principle. The grooves are 10 in number, and turn once in 65 calibres. In its construction it differs little from the other large muzzle-loading guns manufactured under Sir William Armstrong's direction, consisting of a number of coiled tubes of enormous strength shrunk one upon the other. The thickness of the gun at the breech is 22 1/2 inches; the total diameter at the trunnions being 55 inches. It carries a conical cast-iron hollow-headed shot, weighing 510 lbs., or a shell of ordinary make weighing 600 lb., and capable of containing a bursting charge of no less than 40 lbs. of powder. The charge used yesterday with shot was 70 lb. with shell 60 lb.

Although the experiments were to commence at half-past 10, the first shot was not fired until 12. By the time every thing was ready the interest of the spectators had reached the highest pitch, it was an exclamatory surprise and wonder from every veteran artilleryman that the men serving the gun put into it and rammed home first the powder, looking like a tolerable bolster, and next the conical cast-iron hollow-headed shot, measuring nearly 30 inches in length, by 12 1/2 inches in diameter, and weighing as much as a small family. The shot is first placed in a cradle and lifted to the mouth of the gun by means of a movable shear provided with blocks and pulleys. The cradle hinges on to a couple of hooks at the mouth of the piece, and holds the ponderous shot in the proper position for being rammed home. Though the gun looked strong enough to have borne loading to the muzzle, the spectators naturally exclaimed themselves behind the traverse and breast-works about the place, taking care to choose a position commanding a full view of the target running out to sea across the well known wastes of sand. The gun was given one degree of elevation, and the word passed that all was ready. The last bugle call was sounded, and the great gun was fired for the first time. The ponderous shot burst from the mouth of the piece with a terrific rush and roar, striking the sand at about 700 yards from the shore, leaping and dashing onward, ricocheting five or six times, and finally burying itself near the 4,000-yard target. A rush and a cheer immediately made to the gun to see its condition. An attentive examination, however, soon proved that not the slightest injury had been sustained by it in any part; in fact, that it was what every one knew it would turn out to be—a perfect piece of workmanship. Two more shots were then fired at the same elevation, the second and third reports being apparently less loud than the first. It was a matter of frequent observations during the day that the report of the gigantic piece of artillery was much less loud than its size would have led one to predict.

The next three rounds were fired at an elevation of 2 deg. Three dead shells weighing 600 lbs. each were then fired with charges of 60 lbs., an 800 lb. round shot with a charge of 70 lb. completing the day's experiments. Up to the sixth round the initial velocity was taken by Captain Noble with the very ingenious electric-battery apparatus invented by Major Navas, of the Belgian army. The mean initial velocity as determined by this delicate instrument was 1,260 ft. in a second, as nearly as possible. The last round was not fired until nearly dark. This ended one of the most important series of experiments ever performed at Shoeburyness. Before the party left the ground the gun was again most attentively examined, but the slightest defect could be detected in the most critical artificialities present. A target of larger size is being built to test the smashing capabilities of the great gun, and will be completed in three weeks. There were present during the day General Tul-

loch, General Daines, Colonel Leffroy, Colonel Davies, Colonel Bingham, Colonel Anderson, Major Hay, Major Millman, Captain Heath, Sir William Armstrong, Mr. William Fairbairn, and many other nobilities in the military and engineering world. The gun was easily served by a party of 20 men. At first, not being accustomed to such a monster, the men worked rather slowly, but as they became used to their work they at last succeeded in abridging the space of time between the rounds to ten minutes. The destructive power of "Big Will" (as the monster might be christened) will be enormous. A shell with a bursting charge of 40 lb. may be readily fired at it, the largest charge yet used in a shell being, we believe, no more than 30 lb.—London Times.

COAL.—We observe that the directors of the Oswego and Syracuse railroad have voted an appropriation of \$400,000, to extend their railway and effect a connection with the roads from the Pennsylvania coal mines. When the railway is completed the Pennsylvania coal will be sent down direct in the harbor of Oswego. The event will be a matter of importance to the dwellers in the cities and towns on this side of Lake Ontario. The transport of coal from Oswego to Kingston will be a cheap and easy matter, and when the coal monopoly is broken up and the panic prices subside, anthracite coal may fairly compete in Kingston market with wood as an article of fuel. Were it supplied at a cheaper rate, coal would come into more general use as fuel, and an enlarged trade would spring up, benefiting the Oswego as well as the people of Oswego.—News.

The police of Warsaw have recently invented a new expedient for levying contributions on the inhabitants, by monopolizing the manufacture of the lanterns which all persons are obliged to carry when out in the streets after nightfall. Each lantern is to bear the name and address of the party carrying it, and in order to distinguish persons suspected of disaffection to the government, the glass is to be of different colors white for persons who have never been arrested, yellow for those who are considered doubtful, and red for those who are positively suspected. It is said that this measure is to come into operation immediately.

A short time since a poor woman of this city had her minor son drafted at Rochester into the Federal army. She went to Mr. Consul Giddings and gave him documents proving her son was not of age, to be forwarded to the proper authorities. He told her his son was ten dollars, but that under the circumstances he would take three dollars down, which she paid. Last week she went to the Consul's office and found her papers still lying there, the Consul having taken her money and done nothing to earn it.—Mont. Herald.

The Herald.
CARLETON PLACE.
Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1863.

We call the attention of our readers, and especially the Irish portion of them, to the letter of Mr. Smith O'Brien in reply to Mr. Meagher's address to his countrymen, published some time since, advocating the cause of the Federal Government, and abjuring them to take up arms on its behalf. This letter is not only well written, but comes in the very nick of time. For it is beyond a doubt that thousands of Irishmen have been deceived from their country under the most plausible pretences, to find, when they set their feet on the land said to be enlightened and free, that they were only intended as marks for the target, and food for the powder of the Confederate aggressors, in the place of those who are legitimately bound to maintain and uphold and defend the Union. The letter will not only tell at home, in the old country; but, we trust, it will also do good here. For it cannot be denied that in Canada also, a vast number of our Irish population, excited by the hopes held out to them, or anxious to "go where glory waits," have been tempted and led away by the betrayer; to find, alas! to their everlasting sorrow and regret, how very different indeed, is the real from the ideal. The very fact, which cannot be denied, that already over two hundred thousand bold and brave Irishmen have fallen during this horrible struggle, ought to be sufficient to deter others from filling up the gaps thereby left in the ranks. There might be some excuse for those taking part in this unnatural war, who have been naturalized in the Northern States, and made America the land of their adoption. But even they are beginning to see that they are pushed to the front, while those who are bound by the ties of kindred and country are kept in the rear; and not only that, but when the hour of danger comes, and the deadly attack is made, they are deserted by their supporters, and left to be cut to pieces, or work out their own salvation as best they may. We say, there may be some reason urged on behalf of such men taking part in this struggle—but what have Irishmen in the old country or in Canada to do with it? What has any Canadian, English, Irish, French or Scotch to do with it? Nothing whatever. It is a fight, the merits of which we cannot understand, and from which we should all hold ourselves wholly aloof. Mr. Meagher has not only achieved honor, but has had honors thrust upon him. Who knows but that he may yet wield the sovereign power in the disunited Republic—march at the head of Armies, and crush all his opponents. He already ranks as a Brigadier General in the Federal Army, and could he but get some additional thousands of his countrymen to enlist, in obedience to the decree of the President, he might consider himself the most popular Yankee in the North. We hope and trust, however, they have been taught by experience, and are not such fools. So far as the Irish in Canada are concerned, we believe there is not a man of them would have a hand in the invasion of England, if they had the chance. That General Meagher may have had some such object in view when first he turned warrior, and may hold such an opinion still is possible. If the events which he is daily witnessing, and the turmoil amid which he lives and moves, do not satisfy him as to how futile are his hopes, no words of ours can have that effect. Better for him, so far as England is concerned, to try and pass his soul in peace. Better for him to reflect upon the misery, the desolation and the poverty he has created already—he carried twelve hundred fine young Irishmen into the battle of Fredericksburg, and brought out of that engagement unharmed, only two hundred and fifty—before inciting others of his countrymen in like manner to go and sacrifice themselves. Smith O'Brien, and if Ireland has a living patriot and a wise one, we believe it to be him—may well ask, "Could the worst enemy of Ireland desire that the Irish should be spurred to destruction by infatuation—more insane than that which induces Irishmen to butcher each other in this accursed war?"

TOWNSHIP COUNCILS AND THE LATE EXTENSION OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT.

Below will be found the clauses which have been added to Section 275 of the Municipal Institution Act of Upper Canada. The following extract from the aforesaid section (275) of this Act will, of itself, explain the object of adding to it:—"275. Electoral Townships.—Wherever a Township is not divided into Wards, the Council may from time to time pass By-laws for dividing the Township into two or more convenient Electoral Divisions for establishing Police Places therein, and for appointing Returning Officers therefor, and may from time to time repeal or vary the same." Thus it will be found that the extension of the above section does not in any manner whatever affect the Townships which are divided into wards, but merely those which are separated and classed as Electoral Divisions. By consulting the Municipal Institution Act, incorporated in the Consolidated Statutes, the difference which exists between Townships divided into Electoral Divisions and Townships divided into Wards, will be immediately discovered, and those on whom it is incumbent, by reason of their official position, to be conversant with the ins and outs of this Act, should study it carefully before volunteering any explanation of it:—

An Act to extend the provisions of the two hundred and seventy-fifth Section of the Act "respecting the Municipal Institutions of Upper Canada," and to provide for the Election of Councillors in the several Townships of Upper Canada, when ever the same may be divided into Electoral Divisions under the authority of the said Section.

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

1. Whenever a township in Upper Canada is divided into Electoral Divisions, and Polling places established therein, and Returning Officers appointed therefor, under and by the provisions of the Two hundred and Seventy-fifth Section of Chapter Fifty-one of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada, a meeting of the Electors of such township shall take place on the first Monday but one in the month of December, before the Annual Election as provided by the said Act, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, for the nomination of candidates, for the election of the Township Clerk, and to provide for the Election of Councillors in the several Townships of Upper Canada, when ever the same may be divided into Electoral Divisions under the authority of the said Section.

2. The Township Clerk shall preside at such meeting, or, in the case of his absence through sickness or otherwise, the Council shall appoint a person to preside in his place, and if the Clerk or the person so appointed does not attend, the electors shall choose a chairman, being an elector, to officiate from among themselves.

3. Such clerk, or person so appointed, or chairman, so chosen, shall have all the powers of a Returning Officer.

4. If only five candidates have been withdrawn in one hour proposed by any of the electors present at such meeting, the clerk or person so appointed to preside, or chairman so chosen, as the case may be, shall declare such candidates duly elected Councillors to serve for the following year.

5. If more than five candidates shall be proposed at such meeting, any such candidate proposed after the first five, or any elector on his behalf, shall demand a Poll, the said clerk or person so appointed, or chairman so chosen, shall, on the following day, post up in the office of the clerk the names of the candidates so proposed, and give notice of the names to the returning Officer appointed for each and all the said Electoral Divisions.

6. In case of the nomination of more than five candidates, and no candidate nominated after the first five, or no elector on his behalf then demanded a Poll as aforesaid, the clerk or person so appointed, or chairman so chosen, shall declare such five candidates first nominated duly elected Councillors to serve as aforesaid.

7. In case a demand, by the Returning Officer for each Electoral Division in such Township shall cause a Poll to be opened at the Polling place appointed in such Division, on the first Monday in January following, and shall take place on the same day, the clerk or person so appointed shall, on the day following, open the Poll for the full time required by law for taking the votes in cases where no Electoral Division shall be established.

8. Every Returning Officer shall, on the day after the close of the Poll, return the Poll-book to the township clerk, or to any Justice of the Peace for the county or union of counties in which the said township may lie, as to the due and correct taking of the votes for the said Electoral Division.

9. The Township Clerk or person so appointed, or chairman so chosen as aforesaid, shall add up the number of votes set down for each candidate in the respective Poll-books, and ascertain the aggregate number of votes, and shall, at the Township Hall, or such other place at which the nomination was held, at noon of the day following the return of the Poll-books, publicly declare the same, beginning with the candidate having the greatest number, and so on with the others, and shall thereupon publicly declare elected the five candidates respectively standing the highest on the Poll.

10. In case two or more candidates have an equal number of votes, the said clerk, whether otherwise qualified or not, shall give a vote for one or more such candidates, as he may decide the election; and except in such case the township clerk shall vote as any such elector.

11. This Act shall be taken and read as part of the Act intituled "An Act respecting the Municipal Institutions of Upper Canada."

ENGLAND AND THE CONGRESS.—The English government has declined to take part in the European Congress proposed by the Emperor of the French. This is an important decision and will have its influence with other courts. Austria and Prussia, with a springing of the minor German Dukedoms and principalities, will probably return the same answer and the Congress will become an unrealized project. The event will mark the wane of Napoleon's influence as a leader in the councils of Europe. His position of arbiter will be gone, and the secret influence emanating from the Tuilleries will be shorn of its wonted power. But the event has even a greater significance. The English government has given its reasons for declining the Emperor's proposal. While professing admiration for the object, Her Majesty's government believes the Congress an ineffectual means to gain the end in view. If, then, peace be deemed unattainable by a Congress, the opposite idea that events must run their course, though they culminate in war, would seem to be entertained at least by the British government. War in Europe—war with Russia, since Russia seems to be preparing a war for the liberation of Poland—war between Denmark and the Pretender Holstein prince, backed up as he may be by a German alliance! Great Britain through her Cabinet Ministers evidently believes in the probability of war, and instead of entering into the discussions of a Congress which is deemed inadequate to prevent the bursting of the gathering storm, she holds aloof from such impotent means, and stands prepared to adopt the measures which events may force upon her.

THE GREAT DIVORCE COURT SCANDAL.

We notice that those who are supposed to be "well informed," state that it has now been clearly ascertained that the petition in which Lord Palmerston's name was included as a co-respondent, is a mere matter of the vilest extortion, without any ground whatever of foundation. According to English papers, a rumor is also current to the effect, that an endeavor will be made to obtain for the case an immediate hearing, it being held that such a charge thus allowed to hang over the head of the First Minister of the Crown, is prejudicial to the interests of the State and that a Special Commission should be issued to try the issue at once.

RETIREMENT.—Since May, 1862, when the Reform Administration took office, the departmental expenses have been reduced as follows:

Provincial Secretary's Office.....	\$ 3,811
Provincial Registrar.....	2,390
Receiver General.....	3,744
Crown Lands.....	12,504
Public Works.....	1,600
Attorney General West.....	400
Adjutant General.....	6,689
Customs Department.....	18,072
	\$49,300

Deduct from this \$1,560 increase in the Bureau of Agriculture, and we have a total annual saving in these branches of expenditure alone of \$37,740.

The Postmaster General has issued an order from his department, which establishes a very liberal tariff of postage for the conveyance throughout Canada and between the province and the United Kingdom and the United States, of seeds, cuttings, roots, proof sheets, books, copies of music, printed or written. Patterns of goods and samples of merchandise may be sent from England by the Canadian steamers at book rates. Seeds and roots may be sent throughout Canada at the uniform rate of one cent an ounce.

THE NEW YORK MERCURY'S MANIFESTO.—This charming paper, which for twenty-five years has been increasing in popularity, and now claims to be out of sight of all competition, has put forth a fascinating programme for 1864, which we publish in our advertising columns to-day. It is a prosperous paper, and owes its prosperity to the energy, tact, and skill of its publishers. They make large promises for the coming year, but they have the reputation—and they deserve it, of performing what they promise.

THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.—The Quebec Mercury of Monday says:—"So far as it is possible at present to judge, there are good reasons for believing that the removal of the departments to Ottawa will take place about next October. The approaching session will, then, in all likelihood, be the last appearance of the assembled wisdom in this good city of Quebec."

The Half-yearly Examination of the Carleton Place Union School will take place on Monday and Tuesday, 21 and 22nd inst. The Grammar School Examination on Monday, and that of the Common School on Tuesday, commencing each day at 9 o'clock. The public are respectfully invited to be present.

Persons having nice groves of young Cedar will be interested in the notice which we publish to-day, wanting hop poles. Since the introduction of railroads into the back country, the farmers may be said to have a cash market at their own doors for every article they have to spare off their farms.

We cannot accede to the numerous orders we receive to send the Herald on Credit. Persons who wish to become subscribers, had better comply with our rules and send the dollar in advance. Otherwise they need not expect to receive the paper. We want no names on our list except those of paying subscribers. We hope this hint will be sufficient to prevent persons from sending us their names with a promise to pay at some time in the future, which very often, in such cases, means never.

By order,
JAMES JOHNSON,
Town Clerk.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—A Quebec paper announces semi-officially that Parliament will be summoned to meet in the month of February.

To the Editor of the C. P. Herald.

Sir,—Mr. D. C. McNab, Principal of the Arnprior Public School, delivered a lecture in the Town Hall here for the purpose of raising a fund to procure prizes for the School at the ensuing examination. I send you the peroration.

E. C.
"If we look at the history of nations we find that literature has gone hand in hand with freedom, wherever the mind is untrammelled by legal and despotic checks, it soars aloft into the almost godlike attributes of its origin and becomes spiritualized. It has free scope for the exercise of the most refined pleasures—unrestrained by human enactments it has achieved the most marvellous exploits, dazzling mankind by the boldness of its flights and the majesty of its conceptions. It makes us scarcely credit what it has effected and what it will accomplish. We wonder at its discoveries; we pause to contemplate; we are amazed at the awful sublimity of its grandeur and the splendid effects produced by its unfettered exercise. Look at the British Empire—the freest nation under the sun, and to what a some of glory and of power has literature elevated the people. Who could rise from reading the glowing eloquence of a Curran, a Pitt or a Gladstone without feeling refreshed and elevated by the personal presence of the great men whose words we read? Who could read the sweet warbling of Moore, the tender pathos of Burns, the terse grandeur of Shakespeare, or the lofty flights of Byron—like the Condor of the Andes soaring aloft beyond the reach of mortal eye or human conception—but be astonished and amazed at the vast powers of the human mind? It is to that freedom—to that liberty obtained by our ancestors through many a struggle, defended by their bravery and sealed with their blood, that we are indebted chiefly for such emanations from the mighty intellects of such gifted beings, endowed by one Supreme Creator so much beyond their fellows. But alas! when we turn to countries, where despotism reigns paramount, where tyranny is rampant, where the press is subjected to censorship, and an embargo placed on human thought both in Christendom and Heathendom, we find literature at a low ebb—commerce, trade, manufactures, inventions—all that lifts man from sense and the gratification of sense to the spiritual enjoyment of mental culture in a state of insipid dullness stagnant from the want of energy, and the facilities of the paralyzed subject, servile, cowering, and unmanly fear. Look at the contrast: on one side we have freedom and human illumination; on the other despotism and the ebon darkness of despair. Behold what science has done for us here. Our prospects now are bright and glowing—hope points onward. Never was Arnprior in such an auspicious position. The harbingers of success have opened up the vista of prosperity. The Railroad, so long deferred, before another year closes is in a fair way of being completed. This will open up the fertile lands of the north, and when the smoking of the iron-horse will be heard amid the pine glades of the Madawaska, and the whistle of the engines, as they wind their way to the banks of the Ottawa, will fill many a heart with joy, which had almost given up the expectation of hearing its exhilarating sound. Then our mineral wealth will be developed. The marble quarries, which surround us on every side, will send their beautiful pedestals, and slabs, and blocks, and architectural columns—decorations for many a palatial structure—to continental Europe. Then our agriculture, now so stagnant, will be invigorated by the new and improved machinery, in quiet yet solid beauty, our Parliament buildings at Ottawa, may yet be found in the Old World, ornamenting the palaces of kings, and the mansions of the high and noble.

We have also in its native state, in close proximity, a mine of specular iron, containing 75 per cent of pure metal. This is another source of material wealth. It may not be anticipating too much to say that, if we are alive to see it, foundries and factories, before ten years, will be dotted in no small numbers around us and tell of our progress and prosperity.

Yes, and to conclude, I beg to thank you for your attendance this evening, especially to commend the cause with which it is associated. It is to cherish, cultivate and promote a spirit of emulation in the paths of literature. Education is the basis, literature the superstructure. Education is the mother of every science—the parent of every useful art. And here I do not wish to draw a ridiculous comparison; but to compare the educational statistics of Arnprior with a neighboring village equal in population, but far surpassing us in bragadois—that has a grammar and common school conjoined and the attendance on the Arnprior roll for the same year was 204. These statistics are found in Dr. Ryerson's report laid before the Legislature, and this year I am proud to say there is no decrease. In order to test every thing connected with our seminary I trust that every one here will make it a point to attend the examination on the 23rd inst., and judge for themselves. It would be egotism to say more; and I sincerely trust that this will be an incentive to greater exertions for the future; and that in the midst of our prosperity, for which we should feel truly grateful, we do not forget the deep responsibility incumbent on us all, to see that education, on which literature is based—that gem sparkling brighter than any other in the galaxy of human achievements—that elevating, expanding, ennobling, immortalizing element of human life and human greatness—that majestic approximation to edified bliss and God-like happiness—is properly inculcated. It is the bulwark of our civil and religious liberty. It is the palladium which enshrines our hearts. It is the touchstone of rational faith. It is the grand and binding ligament which, in the bonds of loyalty to the Sovereign, unites a free, a happy, a contented, and enlightened people.

Arnprior, 8th Dec. 1863.

Horton Council.

Minutes of the seventh meeting of the Municipality of the Township of Horton, held in accordance with the provisions of the Town Hall on Monday the 7th day of December 1863. Present, the Reeve, Eady, Airth, Gibson and McNab.

The former Minutes were read and approved of.

All communications read.

Description of a survey between Lots 20 and 21 in the second concession read, and approved of. A By-law having been brought in, and gone through the various readings, was passed and adopted, with a penalty Bond attached thereto from the parties giving the land for the allowance of the road.

The Reeve and Council called upon the Clerk to produce the liabilities of the Corporation, which they discharged in accordance with the agreements entered into at the commencement of the year.

The passing of a few resolutions of minor importance brought the meeting to a close for the present year.

By order,
JAMES JOHNSON,
Town Clerk.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—A Quebec paper announces semi-officially that Parliament will be summoned to meet in the month of February.

To the Editor of the C. P. Herald.

Sir,—The Municipal Council of the Township of Beekwith met, at the Town Hall, on Tuesday the 10th day of Nov., 1863. All the members of the Council were present. The Minutes of the last sitting of the Council were read, approved of and signed by the Reeve.

The Clerk laid before the Council a letter from the County Clerk in reference to the Government Loan Rate of five cents in the dollar on all real property which was read, but no action taken thereon.

The Statute Labor Returns were then examined and filed.

A By-law to levy Assessment to meet the payment of County Rates and the current expenses of the Township for 1863, was then introduced by B. McNab, seconded by James Conn—put through its several stages and passed.

A By-law to provide for the payment of Township officers was also passed by the Council.

It was then moved by Alex. Ferguson, seconded by James Conn, That sixteen Forms or seats be provided for the Town Hall, said Forms to be ten feet long, to be made of good Pine Lumber, the top and feet to be two inches thick and the sides to be not less than 1 of an inch thick and five inches deep, the tops of the seats to be no more than ten inches wide and to be finished in a workmanlike manner before the first day of January, 1864.

The Council then adjourned.

EWEN MCWEN,
Town Clerk.

Diet for working Men.

A social Science meeting has been held in Dublin, at which the philanthropists present counselled the Irish people to use more meat and peace and less potatoes. A meat and peace diet, it was said, enables a man to do much more work than a potato diet, and is much more comfortable besides. The following report of one of the speeches will be read with interest:—

"Capt. Henry, who farms his own land, stated that he had established a mess for his labourers, which has existed since April last with the most satisfactory results. He said his labourers crouched under the hedges eating their miserable meal of dry bread, cold strabour or potatoes, which, perhaps their wives had brought a considerable distance, leaving their children unprotected on the roadside or shut up in the cabin. He employed a good cook, obtained the best meat and vegetables, and now supplies an abundant, well dressed dinner for 3d. each to the men, and for 2d. each to the women and children. The numbers thus fed have risen gradually to 900 in the cabin. The people have improved in appearance wonderfully, they work much better and are contented and grateful. He had supplied altogether 4,390, charging market prices for the provisions, and the result has been a small profit. He proposes to supply the workmen with clothes on the same principle. Mr. Mapother strongly recommended the use of peace and beans. One pound of peace, he said, would form as much muscle as 15 pounds of potatoes."

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Two MEN BURIED IN A WELL.—On Saturday last, a melancholy accident occurred in the Township of Hinchinbrook, upon the premises of Mr. Joseph Watt, involving a loss of life to two estimable residents of that locality. Mr. Watt had commenced the construction of a well and the excavation had reached some twenty feet, when the sides began to give way and the men were buried. Mr. Mapother strongly recommended the use of peace and beans. One pound of peace, he said, would form as much muscle