

to recommend Mr. Archibald's elevation to the seat of justice.

He knew well enough that Riel and the band of followers who surrounded him were accomplices in O'Donoghue's and O'Neill's joint enterprise. He knew that but for the failure of that wicked attempt there might have been civil war in his province. Yet he could go with the meanness and most grovelling forgetfulness of personal dignity and his duty to the law of his country, and with open arms, receive the insolent but confident criminal who came to take his own advantage of Governor Archibald's innocent folly and weakness. Robber, murderer, and traitor—with his crimes unparagoned, unexampled, monstrous—Riel received from the grasp of Governor Archibald's hand a grand act of condonation. It may be possible to dismiss the Governor who stooped to this degradation, but it is no longer possible to punish the man who, with words inciting to insurrection still on his tongue, was welcomed as an ally and an equal. Who is to enforce the outraged laws of the country against him, now that the executive officer of the law has given him absolution? He did not come over alone. He brought with him the head of his troop of followers that they might witness the honors done him, and see how complete was his triumph. He may do what he pleases now; aspire to be a power in the Province, to sit in the Legislature, to represent Manitoba in the Canadian Parliament, to be a member of Executive or even Privy Council, or he may prefer to bide his time for a more independent and less constitutional course of action. He may be to Manitoba within, what General O'Neill is to Manitoba without—ready at any moment to create trouble and difficulty, in the hope of obtaining some fresh concessions for himself or those who will more than ever have cause to regard him as a leader. In that great and sparsely populated region he can harness new settlers, drive them from their lands, keep back the progress of the country, and render its Government a burden where it should be a source of wealth and prosperity. It is certain whatever kind of conduct he and those who influence him mark out, it will be one of deadly hostility to Great Britain and to Canada.

Governor Archibald's head shaking with Louis Riel inaugurated in Manitoba a new era for the struggle for French domination. He gave, so far as any act of his can do it, an open and official invitation to Riel and his colleagues to persevere in their struggle for the mastery. He administered at the same time the foulest insult to men who have suffered both in person and estate, and are striving with all the energy in their power to make the great Northwest what Canada has a right to expect from so noble an acquisition. We have now it would seem, reached the climax of Coalition policy in the North-west—Blundering, gross and stupid almost beyond conception, characterized our first efforts with the territory. Vain and futile—compromise at any sacrifice—and a shameful bargaining with rebellion marked the final admission of Manitoba into our political system. A flagrant violation of good faith towards the whole English-speaking population of Canada has distinguished every act of the administration since Manitoba has become a Province of the Dominion. Now, at the hands of Governor Archibald, the willing instrument of his patron's perfidy, the seal has been put to the unrighteous compact with evil influences and evil men, under circumstances that may well make the blood of every loyal subject of the British Crown boil with indignation.

Governor Archibald with the Queen's commission in his hand, embracing Louis Riel over the mangled body of Thomas Scott, whilst "Sir John" and "Sir George," O'Neill, and O'Donoghue, form an approving group of speculators, would form a cartoon no less telling than just. Each one of them thinks, no doubt, for the moment that he has gained his Riel and his obtained what is worth more than an amnesty; Governor Archibald believes he has carried more than his thirty pieces of silver; Sir John has pledged Sir George by this grand concession; Sir George can exhibit triumphantly to his followers the result of his paramountness in totally ignoring the Dominion Council; O'Neill, O'Donoghue and other miscreants of their class can see no end of opportunities for obtaining notoriety and creating mischief.—Globe.

ELECTRICITY AS A MOTIVE POWER.

AN INGENUOUS INVENTION.

Whether the recent visit of a quaint old genius in the city, who styled himself the "modern Franklin," and professed the requisite knowledge for harnessing the impetuous lightning for rail car propulsion, had the effect of setting our mechanics edgewise to their brains to probe the secret, we are unable to determine; but certain it is that one of the ingenious fellows has now produced a remarkable invention that seems to involve that important and in the most practical form. The employment of electricity as a mechanical power has long been considered by the most learned electricians merely a matter of time, and as commonly the case with great scientific achievements, its adaptation is a very simple matter when once attained—that is, accepting the success of the invention now announced, and which appears to be entirely beyond question. The gentleman who proposes to bring down the electrical fire and supercede the era of steam, is a young mechanic of the city who has prosecuted experiments with this design for several years, and therefore deserves any indebtedness to the vague suggestions of the flimsiest rascal before alluded to. Having properly ascertained himself both in the Dominion and the United States, under the provisions of the patent laws, the author of this new invention of electrical mechanism makes no secret of its principles, and shortly expects to exhibit a working model publicly. We are permitted to explain in detail the understanding of our readers. The invention in its original form is arranged specially for the propulsion of an electric engine on an ordinary railway, the steel or iron track being an important agent in the application of the electric force. The center of power is located in the driving wheels of the engine. Each of these is formed of a combination of enormous magnets, the poles extending to the outer edge, and coming in contact with the rail as the wheels revolve. The connections with the battery about the axle, and are so arranged that the attractive power of each magnet is exerted as it approaches the rail, and is reversed immediately as the contact occurs. Thus there is a continuous attraction between the descending magnetic poles in the wheel and the steel rail, proportioned to the power of the battery on the engine, and the force may be increased indefinitely by the enlargement of magnets and the multiplication of driving wheels of this description. Such is the general principle of the invention, and as explained in the plan the

machinery is simple and less complicated than the steam locomotive. Whether the inventor expects to adapt his plan to stationary power, where not informed; but if he succeeds in propelling cars in the manner described, it is clear that it is an improvement of the utmost importance.—Specialist.

THE ANDES INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Ottawa Citizen of the 8th inst., says: Mink skins are being brought in to the furriers for sale; but as a general thing they were caught before the proper season, and the fur is in bad condition. It was caught after the 1st of this month, however, are splendid, the fur being very dark and thick. The law against killing fur-bearing animals is not half strict enough, and even the existing law is seldom, if ever enforced. Furriers say it is a pity to see such a number of skins brought to them for sale every day, caught in the summer months and kept until the trapping season commences, so as to evade the law. It is easy to detect fur that is caught in the wrong season, and persons who are so reckless as to kill a mink when its skin is worth only 25 cents should be severely punished for it. The prices given below are for prime peltries only:—

Mink, each	..... \$ 3.50	to \$ 4.00
Martin, " "	..... 1.50	" 2.00
Otter, " "	..... 0.00	" 7.00
Beaver, per lb.	..... 1.50	" 1.75
Muskrat, each	..... .08	" .10
Red Fox, " "	..... 1.00	" 1.25
Silver Fox, " "	..... 25.00	" 30.00
Black Fox, " "	..... 40.00	" 50.00
Wolf, " "	..... 1.25	" 1.50
Bear, " "	..... 4.00	" 10.00
Raccoon, " "	..... .15	" .40
Wolverine, " "	..... 1.00	" 1.50

THE ANDES INSURANCE COMPANY.

[Extract from the Cincinnati Daily Times and Chronicle, Oct. 26, 1871.]

"The financial statement of the Andes Insurance Company, which we publish today, and which may be accepted as strictly correct, is a highly satisfactory exhibit of its affairs, under the terrible ordeal of the Chicago fire. Its Chicago losses amount to \$850,000, and when paid will leave a clear capital and surplus of \$1,225,118.46, by far a larger amount than any other London company possesses, and fully equal to the best of those in the East—indeed, far superior to many of them. This is irrespective of the Amazon or Triumph, whose united capital is \$1,000,000, unimpaired by any loss. The great London fire of 1666 gave birth to those three companies, and it is a safe prediction that the Chicago fire, which in every way surpassed that of London, will stimulate the business of strong American companies. Especially will this be the case with companies like the Andes, whose stockholders do not hesitate to subscribe \$500,000 in cash to preserve their capital unimpaired. The capacity and the actual of Mr. Bennett and his backers have been more than equal to the emergency. The volume of business now flowing into these three companies exceeds an average of between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000 per annum. It is a cause of congratulation that a business of this magnitude is attracted to this business center."

In the case of the eclipse which is about to take place on the 11th of next month, the track of the moon's shadow will not be so convenient for observation as it was during that of last December. Then the shadow passed along Spain, Sicily, and Algeria, and the stations of the observing parties were easy of access. This year the shadow will fall first on the open sea near Arabia, will traverse Northern India and then pass across the southern extremity of Ceylon, Southern Java, and after crossing the northern part of Australia it will rest no more on land unless on some of the little desolate islands of Polynesia. It will thus be seen that European and American astronomers will have few opportunities of obtaining observations. Both the English and French Governments, however, are sending out expeditions—Ceylon being the chosen point of the former, and Java of the latter. The chief point on which the minds of astronomers have of late been occupied is the corona which is seen when the sun is totally eclipsed. It is to be hoped that the result of the forthcoming one will be able to throw some light on the subject.

The Herald.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT \$1 A YEAR.

CARLETON PLACE, NOV. 15, '71.

Our advertising friends will please bear in mind that our rates are as low as any paper in consideration of advance payment.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

As our readers are no doubt aware, negotiations have for some time been in progress for the union of the various Presbyterian bodies throughout the Dominion. A joint committee named by the various churches, met in Montreal in September, and with the greatest unanimity adopted a basis on which, to be submitted to the negotiating churches. On doctrinal grounds there was no difficulty, as all Presbyterians hold the same views on these matters, and the main difficulty was felt to be the educational question, a number of the Canada Presbyterians being opposed to the principle of the church having anything to do with higher education, and wishing to do away with the Arts faculties of Queen's and Morris O'Neils, in the event of these institutions being taken under the control of the united body. Even at this point the committee found no difficulty, for having discussed the question in all its bearings, they unanimously resolved to recommend that the different educational institutions of the negotiating churches should be preserved, and hold the same relation to the united church that they did to their own before the union. Forthwith the *Globe*, with that selfishness for which it is so characteristic, and wishing to centre the entire university instruction of the Province in Toronto, commenced an onslaught on Queen's College pronouncing it a failure, not hesitating to state positive untruths in order to make out a case. The would be autocrat has displayed a rare inconsistency in this matter, and branching out into a great variety of side issues, which he always charged against those who successfully refuted his statements, has done his utmost to destroy Queen's College, an institution which has done good work for the thirty years of its

existence, and which, after passing through several crises which imperilled its existence, is now fairly endowed, and has before it a brilliant and prosperous career. We are pleased to think that the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian church, which met in Toronto last week, for the purpose of receiving and taking action upon the report of the Union Committee, have refused to be dictated to by the *Globe*, but have adopted the basis of union. The Synod of the Church of Scotland meets there on the 29th of this month, for the same purpose, and as there is no doubt that they will adopt the report of the committee, the Union of all the leading Presbyterian bodies in Canada may be looked upon as all but accomplished fact. Numerically they will then be the strongest religious body in the Dominion, and they cannot fail to exercise a powerful influence for good, if their energies are directed in the proper channels.

Election campaigns in the United States are usually times of great political excitement but we do not remember having seen an election contest carried on with such extraordinary interest, as the November State elections which have just terminated. No doubt this is partly evoked by the near approach of another Presidential election and is the result of the careful organization which political parties are making in view of the great election of next year. In New York a special interest has been attached to the past election on account of the great municipal frauds which have been perpetrated by the nominees of the Tammany organization. The electors have manifested their strong revulsion of feeling that these frauds have produced by casting much heavier votes against the Tammany candidates than have been cast before, and by defeating a great many of these nominees. There is, however, a glaring exception to the march of retributive justice in the instance of the re-election of Senator Tweed, the "Boss" as he has been styled, of the New York Ring. He has been returned for one of the lowest wards of the city in which a corrupt and venal body of electors, the least intelligent and most perverse of all the citizens of New York, have a majority, which has been commanded by Tweed's great wealth. But the general verdict is a verdict against Tweed and against all the dishonesty in city government to which he has been a party. It indicates a very low state of morality and honesty of purpose in the community, when, in the face of the glaring frauds which have lately been exposed in the New York City Government, Tweed has been able to command a majority of votes, amounting to from fifteen to twenty thousand.

It appears evident that, at no time in the history of the American people has the plague of low politicians been more mischievous than at the present period. It is the effect of the extreme length to which party politics are carried. When religious or political bigotry, prejudice and party feeling and animosities enter into municipal elections, and control every petty little contest in which no vital questions of politics or government are concerned, they become a pest, and the evil results are now manifest in every part of the United States. A candidate for the bench is never taken up there because of the good qualities of which he may be possessed or the amount of legal lore with which he may be endowed. Paramount above all this in the minds of the electors is the candidate's record as a party man. If he is a Republican, he may expect nothing but abuse and slander from the Democrats; if he belongs to the latter party he will get no mercy from the Republicans. This it is that men with no education, position or character in the community, are frequently elevated to the guardianship of the interests of morality and rectitude, and as a consequence have better opportunities of pandering to their corrupt desires. The American newspapers devote their attention mainly to the discussion of local politics and would find their readers believe that the men already in office, or those who are candidates for public honors, as the case may be, are a set of rogues, dishonest and untrustworthy. The President himself has been more calumniated than any other prominent office holder, and if we were to swallow as truth all that is said of his character, no one would be so in a admixture of both knave and fool. All this does not certainly tend to inspire the people with profound respect for their chief ruler, and the high office which he holds.

It would perhaps be well for us in Canada if we could learn a lesson in wisdom from the folly of our neighbors. The time for the election of Aldermen, Revere, Councilors, Trustees and other officials, educational and municipal will soon be at hand; and we would again advise our readers to leave more party politics as much out of the question as possible. If Canada is to be kept free of politicians who make a trade of their party principles, the more that is thought of a man's fitness for municipal honors and the less of his views as a political partisan, the better it will be for the country.

Another heartrending tale of suffering and death comes from sea. The steamer "Moses Taylor," just arrived at San Francisco from Honolulu, reports having boarded the brig "Sketchford" in a waterlogged condition, and found all on board dead, save the Captain. From the same source we also learn that a large number of vessels belonging to the Arctic whaling fleet have been lost in the ice.

The Mechanic and Builder is a monthly which ought to be in the house of every mechanic; it is really a most valuable work. Western & Co., publishers, 37 Pa. St. Row, New York, \$1.50 in advance, \$2.00 after January 1872.

A very interesting contribution to geographical knowledge has just been made by the publication of the results of the German Polar Expedition. This expedition has had the good fortune to penetrate further north than any of the daring voyagers who have preceded it in their explorations towards the North Pole, and it has confirmed to the fullest extent the fact long suspected and theorized upon, which was first made known by the illustrious Dr. Kane—who discovered the existence of an interior open Polar Sea. Surrounded by an almost impenetrable barrier of ice over which Kane crossed on sledges, his progress northward was at length arrested by the vast open sea which expanded before him, and which he could not navigate as he had no boats or appliances with him for making a voyage on its heaving waters. That this was a sea communicating with the greater ocean was sufficiently proved by its obeying the law of the tides. Although within five hundred miles of the pole, its temperature was surprisingly warm, being about thirty six degrees, or eight degrees above the freezing point of salt water. Dr. Petermann, of the German expedition, had the good fortune to sail into it and on its bosom, acting upon the suggestion of those who have endeavored to account for the open Polar Sea discovered by Kane, by attributing it to the vast currents of warm water borne northwards by the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic Ocean, and by the great northern current of the Pacific. As Kane observed, so Dr. Petermann found this Polar Sea swarming with animal life. Great schools of whales abound, and the fishes and fawns of the Arctic regions were in full possession. The warmth of this sea is now fully believed to be due to the agency of warm oceanic currents, it being fully established that there is a complete circulation of water going on between the equatorial and the polar regions. Thus while the Gulf Stream carries in its current the floating vegetation from the coast of the West India Islands, and the timber-wreck and driftwood of the North Atlantic, and deposits them on the polar shores, so the icebergs of the polar regions are carried down towards the equator by the great southern current of the Atlantic. The southern drift of the icebergs is known to every transatlantic voyager, while the influence of the Gulf Stream in moderating the climate of places in northern latitudes within its influence is an accepted fact. It is now established that five hundred miles to the south of sufficient heat to the polar regions to maintain the fluidity of water in a climate in which out of the influence of these warm currents, mercury freezes and the frost never leaves the ground. In Dr. Kane's voyage, the temperature some five hundred miles to the south of the Polar Sea was very much below that of the Polar Ocean, some 40 degrees below zero in fact.

The feasibility of the North-west passage which English daring and devotion has done so much to prove, now stands some strong chance of being established. Sir Leopold McClintock demonstrated the existence of such a passage, but his discovery was regarded as merely accidental while Dr. Petermann had the good fortune to point out more exactly in the channel into the Polar Sea may be effected. There are so many dangers hovering in active voyaging, that this discovery may not lead to the use of the open channel as the highway of commerce between the Atlantic to the Pacific, much as it is projected by earlier kind by earlier English navigators. The only practical benefit that will follow, is most likely that of a fresh field for the whale fishery now prosecuted by the Scotch and Norwegians. But the geographical knowledge which is thus extended is none the less important, and we are glad to hear that there is great scientific gain in knowing that the forces of nature are working on so grand and majestic a scale in maintaining the equilibrium of climate, and that the compensation which is even seen in nature when its aspects are fully understood, operates alike at the pole as at the equator and in the temperate regions. The students of climatology, as well as geographers, will take much interest in this actual confirmation of a scientific theory, as applied to the physical geography of the earth.

MURDER OF CHIEF JUSTICE NORMAN.

The murder of a Chief Justice while ascending the steps to his own High Court, in a great metropolis like Calcutta, is not a common occurrence, and it is no wonder that the event excited much speculation as to the motives which prompted the act. The facts of the murder, as we now have them from the pen of the *Times* Calcutta correspondent, are extremely simple. At eleven o'clock on the morning of the 20th of September, Mr. Norman, officiating Chief Justice of Bengal, left the carriage in which he had driven up to the Town Hall, and proceeded towards the entry to the High Court, where he was to sit to hear appeals. He had just ascended a flight of eight stone steps, and had turned round to give some direction to his servant, when the assassin, who had been concealed behind the doorway, sprang out with a sharp, bright knife in his hand, and stabbed him on the left shoulder, dividing the eighth rib, and passing through the diaphragm. The Chief Justice turned round, when the knife was again plunged into his abdomen. The blows were aimed with the murderer's skill for which Indian assassins were famed, and either stroke would have caused death. On being struck the second time the Chief Justice ran down the steps, pursued by the murderer, who brandished his knife with such ferocity that some of the natives who stood around dared to approach him. The wounded Judge ran on about ten yards, and then picking up a brick flung it in the assassin's face. At this moment, a native workman rushed up to the murderer and struck him with a bamboo. Others then closed with him, and he was thrown to the ground and securely bound. The Chief Justice, in extreme suffering, was removed to a neighboring shop, where he died at one o'clock on the following morning.

This terrible outrage upon an official occupying so exalted a position had a

staggering effect upon the community. It was not supposed at the moment, however, that the act had any political significance. The general impression was that the murderer was a wild fanatic, and that the Chief Justice had been murdered in a fit of madness. The impression was shattered at first by the *Times* correspondent, but in his letter in the *Times* of the 23rd ultimo, he says he has had reason to change his opinion, and that the assassin was undoubtedly one of a band of murderers, and that, having been chosen by lot to kill the Chief Justice, everything was prepared for striking a blow of ferocity to his features. The hypothesis rests, are, however, but surmise. The appearance of the prisoner seems to be the matter most relied upon. He is described as short and strongly built, with a Jewish nose, which gives an appearance of ferocity to his features. His eye is "a most like glass," with a cold, deadly gaze, indicative of fire smoldering in a deep and relentless fanaticism. His behavior in Court was cool and collected, free from either eagerness or apathy. "He was like a cool, careful chess player in a game of life, and playing all in odds." He spoke to the witnesses of the murdered man in tones cold as ice, and utterly passionless. Even the production of the fatal knife, which was almost like a spearing carving knife, failed to excite the slightest trace of emotion on his countenance.

Whether the theory that Chief Justice Norman has fallen a victim to a secret association of fanatical murderers, is well founded or not, it is impossible to say. The assassin was created by the crime in Calcutta. Everybody admits the existence of a certain amount of discontent among the Mussulman population of India, and the condition of Europeans in that country, outnumbered as they are on all sides by natives, is so insecure as to suggest any event of a mysterious character with undue importance. In this instance, it must be observed that there is not a shadow of proof to connect the murder with the machinations of a secret society, and the *Times*, in referring to the letter of its Calcutta correspondent, ventures to hope that this first impression will prove to have been that most in accordance with the truth.

Thursday next as our readers are aware, has been appointed by our government, as a day of general thanksgiving, to Almighty God, for the temporal and Spiritual blessings of the year that is now closing. Whatever difference of opinion may be entertained in reference to the propriety of governmental interference or dictation in religious worship, or in spiritual matters, there can be but one opinion as to the propriety of an acknowledgment of gratitude to the dispenser of the numerous blessings we, as a nation, have enjoyed during the year. And we consider that, if properly carried out, it cannot fail to commend itself to the Christian mind as exceedingly proper, and as having a highly salutary tendency to preserve a sense of religious obligation in the minds of the community; and as furnishing a common bond of sympathy between all classes of professing Christians.

Taking all things into consideration, the present season of the year is the most appropriate that could be selected for that purpose. The genial sunshines, and the fertilizing rains of the summer months having completed the usual cycle of vegetable growth—the farmers having filled their barns with plenty, and their hearts with joy—the wants of both man and beast being supplied until the next returning harvest—and all nature having sunk to repose under the influence of the chill breath of winter, until the opening spring re-awakens her to new vigor and activity—it is meet and right and our bounden duty to review the goodness that has crowned the year, and so offer up our united thanks and heartfelt gratitude for the bounties and blessings we have received.

In addition to the bountifulness of the late harvest, which has been almost beyond precedent, and which will, materially help to grease the wheels of commercial enterprise, manufacturing industry, and general progress and prosperity, we must suggest as another reason for thankfulness, and the past season has been an unusually healthy one. We have not only been saved from the terrible drouth and the blighting mildew, but also from the pestilence that stalked in darkness and the destruction that waited at noon-day.

The usual season of festivities is also fast approaching, and let us not be selfish; but open our hearts to sympathy and benevolence, and our pockets to give unto him that needeth; to the poor, the fatherless and those who have come to help them.

The corn crop of the West, this present season, has proved the best harvested for years. In many portions of Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Minnesota, corn is offered in the crib at from ten to fifteen cents a bushel. In Illinois and Kentucky the yield has been beyond all precedent. The wheat crop has also been very large. In Europe, on the contrary, there appears to have been a heavy deficit in the grain harvests in nearly all countries. In England the general fall of grain has been very seriously estimated at from fifteen to twenty per cent; while in Hungary, the Danubian Principalities, portions of Austria, and in Southern Russia—all countries that have usually reported large quantities of grain—there has been a great decrease from the average production. The ravages of the potato rot and the cattle disease in Great Britain will increase the demand for grain and animal food, and the United States will be able to supply both in any quantity at reasonable prices, as cheap wheat and pork, articles extensively consumed everywhere, are the natural consequences of cheap corn.

The city of the Latter-day Saints is convulsed to its center by the announcement that Brigham "has bid a final adieu" to the place. No doubt he considers discretion the better part of valor, and has wisely taken himself off out of the reach of the authorities while he had liberty to do so. It was unkind of him, however, to go away without saying so much as to bid adieu to his faithful followers before he started.

HOW THE BALLOTS ARE COUNTED.

There is some curious information looking out just now with regard to the efficiency of the ballot, and how it can be manipulated for the benefit of the party which can obtain control. One plan is said to be "jumping" the numbers, which is a very simple process. Suppose that there are thirty names recorded on a page, four pages would be 120, instead of which 220 are carried forward, a hundred being added at every page or two. Then additional papers are stuffed in the box, so that the names as recorded, and the papers appear to tally. Another trick is, for an inspector to have packages of tickets with the names of his own men in his pocket. When the true papers are counted and made true packages, he leans over, slips off the true and substitutes the false package, and this can be done two or three times at each count, every such change making a difference of 200 against the candidate cheated. Still another plan is, when tickets are split—that is, the regular candidates of the party are not all taken—when the names are read over instead of calling the names written, the name of the favored candidate is read. The tricks, however, are said to be infinitely varied.

The wholesale robbery of public funds now goes on in the United States to an extent that makes all former record of the sort appear insignificant in comparison. The New York Tammany "ring" has taken from twenty to thirty millions in less than three years; in South Carolina there has been an over-issue of State bonds to the amount of ten or twenty millions; while in North Carolina funds similar in character but to an unknown amount have been going on. Soon after the great "Hodge" defalcation comes the news that another fraud of \$100,000 has just been unearthed in the Indian Department, while "jobs" of \$50,000, \$30,000, and such like smaller sums hardly attract public attention. In Prussia, lately, there were defalcations to the amount of \$19,000—a figure which would be laughed at as ridiculously small in the United States. But the remarkable fact about the Prussian defalcations is, that every offender implicated in them is now in Prison. In England, we know, even wealth and high social position do not save the offender from a verdict of guilty by the jury and a severe sentence by the judge.

SMALL-POX IN OTTAWA.

It is reported that small-pox is assuming alarming proportions in Ottawa, and the local papers are very properly demanding that active measures shall be taken to meet the danger. Cleanliness, it is urged, should be attended to, and the removal of the filth and dirt, and stagnant ponds, which are to be found so plentifully in the capital. Under any circumstances these are things that should be attended to, but there is in the case of the small-pox a remedial, or rather a preventive, agency which should be attended to at once. The report of the public vaccinators in Montreal shows very clearly the good effects of vaccination. In instances where all the conditions for the spread of the disease existed, precisely in the form complained of in Ottawa, the medical men employed in one of the worst districts reported that by vaccination the disease had been stayed, although up till then it had been raging, and the only successful deaths that occurred were those of two persons in whose case the means of prevention were refused.

GOOD HEALTH FOR NOVEMBER.

The excellent and valuable Magazine presents a varied and interesting table of contents. Having among its contributors some of the most advanced medical and scientific men of the day. Its teachings are always instructive and reliable. Prof. Keeland, Dr. B. Joy Jeffries, Dr. Fisher, Dr. Carl Both, and others, have contributed articles on their several specialties. Notices papers on Asiatic Cholera, its symptoms and treatment;—the Woman Question, Consumption, Home Treatment of Insanity, Prehistoric Man. Means of Preserving the Health, Dinner Time, Notes of a Health Trip to the Pacific, Long Sightlessness, etc., etc. Published Monthly by Alexander Moore, Boston, for \$2 per year. Specimen numbers with clubbing and premium lists on application.

Official intelligence, received at Ottawa, respecting the progress of the Red River expedition, states that when last heard of it was at the Portage Des Rivières, one hundred and twenty miles from Thunder Bay, and that it is now probably at Port Gary. The men displayed great energy and endurance, reaching Shebandowa within five days of their departure from Collingwood. In one locality, they found the snow six inches deep, and on one of the lakes the ice was three quarters of an inch thick. The men must have undergone severe hardships.

The French coal mines, it appears are not to enjoy immunity from the explosion plague which prevails in other countries just now. One of these mines, near St. Etienne, was the scene of a terrible explosion. There were, it seems, fifty-two persons in the mine at the time of the explosion occurred. At latest accounts not one of them had been taken out alive, though twenty-two bodies had been recovered. The thirty remaining in the pit were, doubtless, dead. Cause—fire damp.

We are pleased to learn that the Municipal Council of the Township of Gloucester has appropriated nearly four hundred dollars as extra pay to the Volunteers of that township, for their loss of time and the promptitude with which they turned out for their annual drill. The Council deserves credit for the generosity which prompted them to treat their Volunteers in this manner.

A terrible disaster has occurred in British India. The greater part of the town of Jeonpur has been destroyed by a sudden inundation. Between 2000 and 3000 houses were swept away and about 15,000 persons rendered homeless.

LUNARK, NOV. 9, 1871.

A very unusual and sad occurrence took place in this village yesterday afternoon (Wednesday). A man named James Fleming, a laborer, about 62 years old, and who has been drinking to excess and wandering about like an outcast for the past two months, went yesterday to the house of Mr. George Salmon, where he ate a very hearty dinner, after which he went to the village for the purpose of getting more liquor, but being refused, he again returned to Mr. Salmon's, warmed himself for a few seconds at the stove; then walked upstairs, cut a piece of clothes line from where it was fastened, took one end to a beam, put a running noose on the other, placed it round his neck, and hung himself. He was discovered about half an hour after the rash act was perpetrated, by the wife of Mr. Salmon. He must have been very determined in his rash act, as both his knees were touching the floor.

An inquest was held by Coroner Howden, of Perth, when the following verdict was given:—That the deceased, James Fleming, hanged himself while under a temporary fit of insanity, caused by continued and excessive drinking.

PERTH, NOV. 11.

This morning about two o'clock, the works of the Ontario Tanning Company, located at Christie's Lake, in Bathurst, about ten miles from Perth, caught fire, and were burned to the ground. The works were for the purpose of extracting tanning, a preparation used in tanning leather from hemlock bark and branches. Loss about \$20,000, insured for \$8,000. The principal shareholders were Hon. A. Morris, Messrs. John Starko, John Shaw, John Hargrave, and James Gray, of Perth, and A. S. Kirkpatrick, M. P. of Kingston.

O'Donovan Rossa, although having been liberated from "British dungeons," and taken up his abode in the "land of the free and the home of the brave," is subjected to as much of the "olive treatment" as any man could possibly be in that fertile land, whose plains and valleys give birth and life to "the chosen seed of hard and chief," the green immortal Shamrock, having had his vote challenged on going to the polls of 7th Ward to exercise his rights as an American citizen. It was found that he had never been registered as a naturalized resident of the United States. Consequently he was taken to the Police Station, but was subsequently discharged.

A great scarcity of gold and silver currency exists in London. According to the *Full Mail Gazette*, applicants at some of the banks to keep drawing accounts there are obliged to enter their names in a book kept for the purpose, which entitles them to a portion of the next available supply. The same scarcity is felt between the branches of the large London banks and the head offices of the large banks in the provinces. The applications for gold currency are so frequent, and upon such a scale, that they are with the greatest difficulty satisfied. Considering that the flow of specie to Germany has already compelled the Bank of France to issue small bank currency, it is not impossible that the Bank of England may soon have to do the same.

The natives of Behring and the adjacent islands were freedmen under the rule of Russia, but since the islands were leased to Americans they have been reduced to native status. For years past these honest and industrious people have hunted and killed fur seals, and sold the rewards of their labors to the advantage and to the highest prices. From the proceeds of their toil as hunters they built for themselves comfortable houses and educated their children. They sold their fur seal skins at from 2 to \$3 each to whalers and traders who visited the islands, receiving in return cash, or such goods as their necessities demanded. The American monopoly pays them only thirty-seven cents per skin for the quality. They can only trade at the stores of the agents, and purchase at the prices asked, or starve and go naked. The unfortunate people are about to petition the Czar to liberate them from their oppressors.

The New York dealers in bogus money have at length extended their business to the manufacture of Bank of England notes, and one of the most enterprising of the number has been sending circulars to London, offering to supply perfectly executed counterfeit of the paper of that institution. The matter is in the hands of the police.

The Penans O'Neill and Curley have been discharged a second time from custody, on the ground that the organization of the raiding party in Minnesota was not proved though the offence was established. It is likely that had the former point been demonstrated beyond cavil, the prisoners would have been liberated upon some other ground.

By an extra of the Ontario Gazette, the Ontario Legislature is called together "for the dispatch of business" on the 7th of December, being the same date that it met last year.

We are requested to intimate that Thanksgiving Services will be held in the Baptist Chapel, on Thursday morning, November 16th, at 11 o'clock, conducted by Rev. J. W. Manning.

We are requested to intimate that on Thanksgiving Day—Thursday—Service will be conducted in St. Andrew's Church at 11 o'clock A. M.

Persons who have lost trunks and valises lately, while travelling on the Grand Trunk Railway, are notified to communicate with the detectives in Toronto at once.

It is computed that during the next three years Chicago will require for building purposes alone, 800,000 tons of iron and \$30,000,000 worth of lumber.

On Sunday morning last the Mississippi river was frozen over at this place, a phenomenon rarely witnessed even in the most severe winter weather.

Backstreet cake and coffee sociables are a new style of church entertainments in vogue, designed to supercede the tea meetings.

The Hon. Dr. Blanchet has been unanimously elected Speaker of the Local Legislature of Quebec.

Mr. Lander, the member for South Grey, has been arrested on the ground of bribery by private persons.

Proceedings in the celebrated Tichenborne case resumed in London.

W. H. Hoskins, of Philadelphia, has been arrested for the murder of his wife. The *Equinox* predicted the disaster which has lately befallen the whaling fleet.

The Council General of the Seine has voted in favor of establishing a compulsory system of education.

The London Times approves of the action of President Grant regarding the stand he has taken on the Mormon question.

Brother Thomas Brooke, of True Britons Lodge, Perth, has been appointed a Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of F. A. M. of Canada.

The Ontario Government has made a grant of \$500 towards repairing and improving that part of the main road from Perth to Maberly.

A respectable colored woman of Joel, Jamaica, has been arrested on a charge of cannibalism. It is alleged that she has killed and eaten twenty six children.

Capt. Harrison, master and owner of the schooner "Pandora," was knocked overboard and lost, off Cabo's Head, on Sunday last.

The sum of five thousand dollars has been subscribed in shares of ten dollars each, to test the salt indications in Warkworth. A good strong brine is found at the surface.

Stephen Mickel, of Trenton, who murdered with a pick-axe, whilst under the influence of liquor, Michael St. Pierre, has been found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years in the Kingston Penitentiary.

The Toronto Herald referring to a legal case lately decided in France in which a woman was sentenced to three months imprisonment for trying to corrupt an official says: "If this law were applied in Canada how very soon the two Premier Macdonalds would be locked up."

If the spirit of George Peabody could hover over London, it is believed that the families of 800 steady and industrious men now occupying the houses erected by his munificence.

Application will be made to the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada at its next session for an Act to incorporate a company to construct a railroad from Ottawa City to the River Deser Settlement, to be called the Ottawa and Gatineau Valley railroad.

Elder Evans, the Shaker, now in London, had a ready wit at all times. On being asked the other day, which were the qualities most appreciated in the females at Mount Lebanon, he replied, "The woman who maketh a good pudding is always more valued by us than she who maketh a tall rary."

Application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act granting a Charter for the construction of a railway from Winnipeg or Port Gary, in the Province of Manitoba, to the boundary line between Manitoba and the United States at some point near to Poubina, and asking for a grant of lands or a subsidy to assist in such construction.

POST OFFICE SUNDRIES.—The Post Office Law, in some of its provisions, is as great a wrong as the law of the land. A letter unpaid, or partially paid, is charged double, and, if from the United States, even with partial prepayment the unfortunate receiver is swindled out of ten cents, or if over-weight twenty cents. These severe clauses of the post office law ought to be altered. Why in the name of common sense punish the receiver of a letter for the act of the sender? It is most unjust. Will some of our members direct attention to this matter in order to have the law altered?—*Advertiser*.

IMPORTANT SALE AT FERGUSON'S FALLS.—It will interest many of our readers to know that Mr. Cole, on Tuesday last, sold the whole of his property at Ferguson's Falls, to Mr. Peter McVicar, of that locality, for we understand, \$3,200. The property comprises the water privilege for the power of a saw-mill, and about two hundred acres of choice farming land. Parties interested in the overflow of water caused by the celebrated dam at that place, contributed a share of the purchase money, in accordance with previous arrangements. The sale of this assistance, Mr. McVicar will take down the dam, root and branch, and thus put a stop to the ever-recurring troubles arising from this source. Mr. McVicar, who is a gentleman of capital, intends building on his newly acquired property, a steam and saw-mill, and a flour-mill. This will doubtless, at an end to all the litigation, lawlessness and nuisances arising from this cause.—*Courier*.

The San Francisco Bulletin estimates that the vintage of California for the year 1871 will amount to 8,000,000 gallons of wine, and that it will be added from 180,000 to 200,000 gallons of brandy. Many of the vineyard proprietors will throw away material which could be made to produce large quantities of brandy, owing to the heavy Federal taxation, and the vexatious regulations with which the country is harassed by law. The appliances for producing and handling wine have been greatly improved in California within two years, and it is expected that a marked improvement in the quality of its wines will be the result. Many new vineyards, a large proportion of them of select foreign varieties of vines are coming into bearing this season. Grapes throughout the State, with a few local exceptions, are extraordinarily abundant, fine flavored and sweet, and it is thought will make a finer wine than has yet been produced in that region. Vines are producing more than ten or fifteen per cent more grapes this year than ever before.

THE KINGSTON AND PEMBROKE RAILWAY.—The deputations appointed to wait on the Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, relative to the bonus for the Kingston and Pembroke Railway returned to town this morning. We are glad to be able to state that the mission was entirely successful. The interview took place yesterday afternoon, in Mr. Macdonald's office, and upon the amount of the desired bonus, having been made known that gentleman said he would give the pledge of the government that the required bonus would be granted. The amount asked for was \$2,000 a mile for the first forty miles, and three thousand dollars for the balance of the road, making in all a total of \$400,000. It should be stated that the grant of the bonus may be considered a settled fact, and the necessary profile of the survey, which will be promptly forthcoming, alone prevents its being at once entered. The delegates and all entrusted with the preliminary arrangements connected with the road deserve well at the hands of the community for the promptness and energy which they have invariably given to the business entrusted to their care. The Toronto Telegraph says: "We have no doubt the government will do their full duty in this worthy undertaking."—*Advertiser*.