SAD DEATH OF THE CARS.—A young married lady, travelling a few days since from New York to Syracuse, and suffering from consumption, had been laid carefully on a pillow on the cars by her husband, while her little girl remained by her side. At Little Falls she fell asleep, and the child commenced teasing her, saying, "Mamma is sleeping?" A passenger, however, noticed the peculiar whiteness of her lips, and, looking closely at her, discovered that she was dead.

TRUTH STRANGER THAN FICTION.—Rev. H. V. Degen, Boston, Mass., writes—"That Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum promote the growth of the hair were baldness has commenced, I have the evidence of my own eyes."

Sold by Druggists everywhere. Depot, 198 Greenwich st., New York.

AN ARTIST WITHOUT HANDS.—A beautiful portrait of Madame Victoria Lafontaine, the actress is now on view at Goupil's on the Boulevard Montmartre, Paris. This painting is the work of a M. Charles Feul, a young Belgain artist of great promise. The young artist was born without hands, and is obliged, like the "Miss Biffin, without hands or arms," of Greenwich fair celebrity, to use his feet instead. He is provided with a pair of false arms, which he always wears in the presence of strangers, and as he is tall and well made, few would guess that they are not real ones. Feul is pupil of Keyser of Antwerp, where he has attained high reputation as a painter.

ORIGIN OF BOOTS AND SHOES.—Boots are said to have been invented by the Carians.—They were at first made of leather, afterwards of brass and iron, and were proof against both cut and thrust. It was from this that Homer called the Greeks brazen-footed. Formerly, and the length of the shoe in the fourteenth century was a mark of distinction. The shoes of a prince were two feet and a half long; those of a baron two feet; those of a knight eighteen inches.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., AUG. 30, 1861.

THE DEFENCE OF CANADA.

THE London *Times*, the Great Thunderer, hath thundered in reference to the defence or, rather, we should say, defencelessness of Canada. Taking it for granted that the *Times* gives utterance to the views of the British Government on this, to us, most interesting and important subject, it is necessary that we should listen attentively to what it has to say.—Few of us will object to the proposition which the *Times* wishes to state with so much distinctness, that "it is always good for people to understand each other," and we think it would be well for the interests of this country if the British Government would explain officially what is required of us in such a manner as to remove all lingering doubts either one way or the other. If the intention is to assist us, in case of war, with an adequate land force, it would give the Canadians a degree of confidence which they can hardly be expected to manifest otherwise; and, on the contrary, if it is finally determined that we must make up our minds to defend unaided a coast line of over one thousand miles, the fact should be placed before us so distinctly that every yeoman in the country would know just what was expected of him. It is all very well for the editor of the London *Times* to sit down in his snug office and assume a fatherly tone towards Canada, and coolly talk of the immense benefits to be derived from British connexion, and the onerous obligations the British Government takes upon itself by consenting to its continuance, but did the "thunderer" give due weight to arguments on the *other side of the question?* Canada, as he says, is thoroughly loyal—her people would do and dare as much for the flag and Queen of their country as the inhabitants of the British Isles themselves, and they would deeply deplore any act on the part of the Home Government tending to the severence of the ties which bind them to the throne of Britain; but who will deny that in our attachment to everything British lies our greatest danger. It is conceded by even the *Times* that should the United States rush into a war with England, Canada would be the battle-ground, and why? Because it is looked upon as part and parcel of the Great British Empire.—Surely, it would be un-British to forsake us in the hour of trial while we, many of us the sons of old U. E. loyalists, remained firm in our attachment, and when we read the *Times'* deliverances on this subject we are more than half-inclined to think it fails to echo truthfully the intentions and desires of the Government. What have we done in the past, or what are we doing now, to warrant the assumptions of the London *Times?* When this country was threatened, early in its history, by an invading foe, did Canadians stand idly by and leave all the fighting to British soldiers? *We know they did not!* We know that our fathers turned out manfully, and that they fought bravely when in presence of the enemy. During the *Trent* excitement, did the Canadians fall upon their knees in hopeless despair? No. Rejoicing in the fact that Britain showed a determination to pour her red-coated troops into the country, our people prepared to spring to arms with an alacrity which surprised even some of our most inveterate detractors at home. Since that period the flower of our youth have been training themselves in the use of arms, and to-day we have a very considerable body of men, ready, at a moment's warning, to take their places beside British Regulars. What further is required of us? To raise, equip, and pay a regular standing army? If the statement made by the *Times* be true that if every soldier in the British Islands were employed in garrisoning our frontier, it would be ineffectually held after all, how can a Colony numbering only three millions of souls be expected to accomplish the task? And, besides, if we should raise an army, would not the Americans be just as anxious to swallow up our red-coated regiments as they are to surround and cut off the companies of regulars now being withdrawn to places of security? Those who think with the editor of the *Times* may have settled the matter very satisfactorily to themselves, but the logic used is calculated to bewilder Canadians completely. Not being able to take such a comprehensive view of military necessity, our people are inclined to think that they are being thrown upon their own resources, to sink or swim as best they may, and that considerations of £. s. d. weigh so heavily in the scale against us that the brightest jewel in the British Crown, as Canada has been enthusiastically termed, would be lost forever without a sigh of regret. We do not say that this is the feeling of the Home Government, and we would fain hope and believe not, but the commercial classes are pressing their representatives so closely on the subject of casting adrift the burthensome Colonies—as they are considered—that it is extremely difficult to say what step in that direction may not be taken ere the lapse of many years.—Were we to hint that England cannot *afford* to initiate such a suicidal policy, we should, perhaps, be laughed at for our pains. And yet, it does seem to be necessary that the Colonial possessions of the Empire should be retained. The question of Land Tenure in Britain is such as to throw the soil into the hands of wealthy landed proprietors, who are absorbing the smaller holdings of the middle-class of farmers in a rapidly increasing ratio, * thus creating a class of laborers who are ever anxious to better their condition by emigration, and it is obviously advantageous to the nation that the more important of the colonies should secure as large a proportion of that emigration as possible. Although separated from the parent hive, the swarms of immigrants to the Colonies retain in a very great measure their love for the institutions of the fatherland, and, doubtless, increase the trade of British manufacturers, besides conferring other real benefits upon the people at home.

"The Colonies," said the far-seeing Talleyrand,—"are the vitals of the power of England—break these down and you sound her death-knell—you fill her last moat," and Napoleon himself, while incarcerated on St. Helena, is known to have said that England could never be a continental power, but if she maintained her colonies and through them her dominion on the seas, she might come to the Court of Europe and demand what she might! We do not believe that utilitarianism has yet blotted out entirely the grand old race of English statesmen, and while they direct the councils of the State we need hardly fear that, should the hour of trial come upon us, we will be left to hold British North America, unaided, except by a naval demonstration.

* At the Reformation, Sir Geoffrey Kitcat, who set a couple of sheep on a thousand acres, lived in a house of two rooms, had his children educated by charity, married his daughter to a tradesman, and left her a portion of £5. At the present time, the expenditure of the people of England is for the last 18 months, the estimates the population at twenty millions, and the income at £60,000,000, leaving 40 shillings for the support of 20 million souls, and taxation, 600 millions, or nearly £30 a head, or, in a family of five souls, £150 a year. In 1750, the population of England was 5,500,000, and the expenditure of the people of England for the year was £7,000,000, leaving £1 7s 10½d to the year, or nearly £6 a head, or, in a family of five souls, £30 a year. In 1861, the population is stated at nine millions, and the expenditure at £60,000,000, leaving £6 a head, or £30 a year. In 1750, the rent of land was £16,000,000, and in 1861, £60,000,000, or £6 a head, or £30 a year. In 1750, the income of the people was £7 a head, or £35 a year, and in 1861, £13 a head, or £65 a year. We may add with safety 15,000 from the former classes, or, in all, 175,000 landowners. At the Conquest 1081 the population of England was 2,000,000. At 20 years' purchase, the annual rental of landed proprietors is stated at only £6,000,000.—[Westminster Review, July, 1861.

DINNER TO MR. BRYDGES AT BRANTFORD.

The demonstration in Brantford on the 23rd inst., in honor of C. J. Brydges, Esq., was a very enthusiastic and successful affair. Brantford did her very best on the occasion to impress the great railway man favorably, and, judging from what was said on the occasion, succeeded in her effort to please. The reception of Mr. Brydges was something akin to what *Royalty* itself might look for from a population leal and true. As the train bearing the guest of the evening approached the station, enthusiastic cheers rent the air, a salute was fired by an Artillery Company, and a Levee took place, at which the principal inhabitants of the town were presented to Mr. Brydges. The Dinner was given in the large hall of the Kerby House, and in every respect did credit to the host and committee of management. There were about three hundred gentlemen present, comprising the notables of Brantford, prominent Railway officials, members of both Houses of Parliament, and leading men from the principal towns along the line. The following is a synopsis of Mr. Brydges' speech, in response to the toast of "The Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway," which we copy from the *Spectator*:—

Mr. Brydges rose amid tremendous cheering. He said that he felt the greatest diffidence in complying with the request of those now present, in replying on this occasion to the magnificent compement that had been paid him. He was under the greatest embarrassment in endeavoring to do justice to the feelings which animated him. When he saw the reception accorded him by the Committee going beyond the confines of their town to receive him, and the crowds who thronged the streets on his arrival, he was indeed thankful for the honor done him. He, however, had the satisfaction of knowing that the compliment was not personal, but paid to a great institution, which he in his heart believed would yet be the future prop of Canada. To use a metaphor, the connection of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway with the Grand Trunk was something like an union, and this the marriage feast. He might be considered the bridegroom, who, occasionally flirting with two ladies, one of them had accepted his offers; the consent of the parents in England had been received, and it became his duty to return thanks for himself and the blushing bride, who was represented by Mr. Cayley and Dr. Digby. He came to Canada about twelve years ago; there was then but one small line of railway, the Montreal and Lacolne. It became his duty to make a journey from Niagara to the St. Clair River, which occupied five days, now it took about as many hours. Canada was then a country practically of only half a year, being shut out from the seaboard the other half. The farmers were obliged to raise only what they required for their own use; if they had a surplus they could not dispose of it. Since the introduction of railways the producer and consumer were brought closer together. In 1851 the population of Canada was 1,800,000, now it was 2,500,000, or an increase of forty per cent in ten years. (Cheers.) He would not say this was due entirely to Railways; but they had much to do with it. The Public Accounts showed the important fact that the revenue had increased more than the proportion in the population in ten years. It had increased forty-four per cent. The exports had increased eighty per cent in that time, and were now worth $100,000,000 per annum. We had had a financial crisis, and more than one deficient harvest in that time; so that Canada had achieved increased prosperity under the most adverse state of things. There was another point worth mentioning. The Post Office had increased its annual returns from $275,000 in 1863 to $760,000 in 1863. The number of letters transmitted being, in 1853, 4,000,000 and in 1863, 11,000,000, each person writing double the number of letters since the introduction of railways.—We were only embarked yet on the threshold of national prosperity. (Cheers.) We cannot shut our eyes to the pregnant fact that much had been accomplished by the recent interchange of sentiments with the Lower Provinces. Canada must look for relief from her difficulties to larger views on the part of her statesmen. It was of importance that we should become better acquainted with the Lower Provinces; and the time was not far distant when there would be a Railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast, through British territory. He hoped that the intercourse and good feeling existing between this country and the neighboring Republic would increase in volume; but he also hoped we would have an outlet to the ocean, independent of everybody. (Cheers.) While, however, we were looking for extension to the East, we should look with pleasure to extension towards the Northwest. It had been shown that the cultivatable land in the United States was nearly exhausted, and they could do nothing more; it therefore became this country to look to the North-West, for the desert ceases when going in that direction. There exists a country there capable of cultivation; and at this moment there were materials enough in the country to construct a telegraph line to Fort Garry, which, when completed, would be a certain means of opening up the North-West and settling it. The stream of emigration would then flow in that direction, and people it. He did not think he was over sanguine when he said that some around the table would live to see Canada the centre of a great British system of government. (Cheers.) Amalgamation was held by some to be a thing entirely wrong and detrimental in its nature; he held, however, that interests must be identical, and then all would be benefitted. The opposition was fomented by those not immediately concerned. He did not wish to speak harshly of a neighboring Company, because he did not believe in hawks picking out hawk's eyes.—He was surprised, however, to find intelligent persons coming from England, making remarks in this country, disapproving of amalgamation. When he read their speeches he could not help thinking of the story of the college boys when handling the Dean rather roughly, some one cried out, "for God's sake don't put him under the pump." (Cheers and laughter.) Amalgamation was no new question. The New York Central, one of the largest corporations in America, was amalgamated with six or seven other companies. The effect of amalgamation was to reduce the fixed charges to a minimum and the cost of management, and of course the cost to the public. There was really nothing more in it. He mentioned several English companies which had been amalgamated with other lines. The Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway had never during its existence been able to place itself in a proper position. It starts from Buffalo, a city with 100,000 of a population, passes through Brantford and an extensive country, in fact the garden of the Province, with a thriving population, still in creases; yet the road did not pay. The reason was that there was too much to pay. It depended much upon Buffalo, and must have more than one market, so that the people here could be always buying the cheapest and selling the dearest market. If Buffalo does not suit, there is always choice of markets. Toronto and Montreal can be reached. It was better to have three strings to the bow than only one. The Grand Trunk had been practically open about four years. Its traffic then amounted to about $2,000,000, now it was $5,500,000. (Cheers.) That cause was having a choice of markets. The net profits of the road, in 1860, was $573,000, and this year they weight by $41,000, and there was a certainty that the Buffalo and Lake Huron line would similarly increase. (Cheers.)—The public debt of the province was $3,000,000 in 1853, and $63,000,000 in 1863, of which amount $29,000,000 had been expended in aiding railways, while $[illegible],000,000 and upwards of English capital had been spent in the same way. The cost to this country was small in proportion to the benefit derived from railways. The policy of the Grand Trunk was to develope the present connections, and seek no more alliances until the result of the present amalgamation was fully tested. There was advantages to be derived from unity of action which could not be measured, but which would be found in the pockets of shareholders. The present union would bring about a larger extension of the manufacturing interest. The shops of the Company had lately been burned, but they would be renewed, and on a larger scale.—(Cheers.) It was also intended to increase the rolling stock of the amalgamated lines. For a traffic of $20,000 a week required it, and there must be additions to the rolling stock. It was the interest of the Company that the cars should be built in the cheapest place, and it had been found that Brantford was the place to do it. (Cheers.) There would in future be three important points in the Grand Trunk, Brantford, Toronto and Montreal.—Mr. Brydges spoke at considerable length. He concluded with saying that he desired to leave no better heritage to his children than that they should know their father had done something for his adopted country, and that his efforts had been appreciated. He sat down amid a perfect storm of applause.

AMERICAN WAR.

A severe engagement took place near Reams' Station, on Thursday last, with severe loss on both sides. The Confederates are reported to have been driven off the field, leaving their dead and wounded behind.—The battle was by no means decisive, according to first accounts. Other and later reports, however, are to the effect that by their desperate assault the Confederates recaptured a considerable portion of the Weldon Railway, together with a large number of cannon, horse, prisoners, &c., and that they held their position firmly. The situation on the Upper Potomac is unchanged. The Tallahasse is said to have captured and burned 22 fishing vessels off Prince Edward Island on the 26th.

Another disastrous Fire at London.

LONDON, C. W., Aug. 27.—About 12 o'clock last night a fire broke out in a row of frame tenements on the south side of Dundas street, west of Wellington street, and in a few minutes eight dwelling houses were consumed. The owners are: Mr. Wills, three frame houses, insured for $100 each; Mr. McClary, three frame houses, insured in all for $800; Col. Blanchard, a large frame residence, insured for $1,000; Mrs. Dixon, frame building, insured for $600. The occupants, Mr. Kiely; Mr. Mellown, painter; Mr. Bigon, shoemaker; Mr. Griffiths; Mrs. Mason, and Mr. Belton, soda water manufacturer, succeeded in saving most of their furniture. The stocks are badly damaged. The fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary.—[Leader.

FIRE IN TORONTO.—A great fire occurred in Toronto on Monday morning, by which a Grand Trunk Elevator was totally destroyed. There was a considerable quantity of grain stored in the building at the time, most of which will be lost. The Elevator was partially insured. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

There is one light in which the value and importance of memory has been far too little regarded, namely *as an index to the aptitudes*. If you want to find out what subjects will best repay your studies, you have chiefly to observe what you remember best.

WORDS THAT BURN.—Dr. Robertson observed, that Johnston's jokes were the rebukes of the righteous, described in Scripture as being like excellent oil. "Yes," exclaimed Burke, "*all of vitriol!*"

We understand that the Yellow Fever has broken out with great violence in Bermuda. The troops stationed there have suffered severely; the authorities have, we understand, telegraphed to Canada for medical assistance and twelve surgeons and assistant surgeons have received orders to embark forthwith.

THE SHOOTING MATCH

Between the Stratford and Goderich Volunteers came off yesterday, (Monday,) at Stratford. Great interest was manifested by the people of the place in the Match, which, as will be seen from the following detailed score, resulted in favor of Stratford by 22 points—a victory, certainly, but not a very great one:

GODERICH ARTILLERY.

AT 150 YARDS.					Points.
Capt Ross	2	3	4	3	16
Lieut. Kirk	3	2	4	3	16
Sergt. Walker	2	2	2	2	10
Private Hogg	2	4	2	4	16
Thomson	3	4	4	3	14
O'Connor	2	4	3	2	15
Passmore	2	3	3	2	12
McPherson	3	3	3	2	13
Jordan	2	3	4	3	14
McCloy	2	2	0	2	6
					132
200 YARDS.					
Capt Ross.	3	3	3	2	15
Lieut. Kirk,	4	4	3	3	17
Serg't Walker,	0	2	2	3	7
Private Hogg.	4	3	3	3	16
Thomson,	2	2	3	0	9
O'Connor,	3	2	3	2	12
Passmore,	3	4	2	4	15
McPherson	3	4	3	2	15
Jordan,	4	2	2	3	13
McCloy,	2	0	3	4	11
					130
300 YARDS.					
Capt Ross	3	0	0	0	3
Lieut. Kirk	0	3	0	2	5
Sergt Walker	0	2	0	2	4
Private Hogg	0	0	0	3	3
Thomson	0	2	2	0	4
O'Connor	0	0	3	2	5
Passmore	2	0	0	3	6
McPherson	0	2	2	0	4
Jordan	3	0	3	2	10
McCloy	2	0	0	4	6
					53
Artillery Total, 3 ranges,					315

GODERICH RIFLES.

AT 150 YARDS.					
Lieut. W. T. Hays,	2	3	0	0	5
Ensign Davison,	2	2	0	2	4
Sergt. M. J. Wright,	2	2	3	2	9
Corp. J. McIntosh,	3	3	3	4	16
Privt. E.C. Watson,	3	2	4	4	17
W. Mills,	3	3	3	4	16
J. Mitchell,	3	3	2	3	14
H.P.O'Connor	3	3	4	3	16
L. Trouse,	2	3	0	3	10
J. Pennington,	4	3	2	3	14
					131
200 YARDS.					
Lieut W. T. Hays	2	3	0	2	9
Ensign J Davidson	0	3	0	3	6
Sergt M J Wright	3	3	3	4	15
Corp J McIntosh	3	2	2	3	13
Privt E C Watson	0	2	3	2	10
W Mills	3	2	2	3	11
J Mitchell	0	4	2	3	11
H P O'Conner	0	3	2	2	9
L Trouse	2	2	2	2	10
J Pennington	2	3	2	4	15
					110
Lieut. W. T. Hays,	0	2	3	0	5
Ensign J. Davison,	3	0	4	2	12
Sergt. M.J. Wright,	3	2	3	2	10
Corp. J. McIntosh,	2	2	0	3	7
Private E.C. Watson,	4	0	R	0	6
W. Mills,	2	0	0	2	4
J. Mitchell,	3	0	2	2	9
H.P.O'Connor	0	3	2	0	5
L. Trouse,	2	0	0	0	2
J. Pennington	2	2	3	2	9
					69
Rifles Total, 3 ranges,					310
Artillery do					315
Total Score, Goderich					625

STRATFORD RIFLES.

AT 150 YARDS.					Points.
Capt Service	3	3	3	4	16
Lieut McFarlane	0	3	2	0	7
Sergt Hamilton	0	2	3	3	10
Privt Burns	0	2	2	3	9
Fortune	2	4	4	2	14
Hethrington	4	3	3	4	17
McCulloch	2	2	3	3	12
McPherson	3	4	4	4	19
Morrison	3	3	2	4	12
Riggs	2	3	3	3	14
					131
200 YARDS.					
Capt. Service,	4	4	4	0	12
Lieut. McFarlane,	0	2	0	2	4
Sergt. Hamilton,	3	3	2	3	13
Private Burns,	3	3	3	2	15
Fortune,	2	3	4	2	13
Hethrington,	3	3	2	4	16
McCulloch,	2	0	2	4	10
McPherson,	3	3	4	2	12
Morrison,	0	3	2	2	10
Riggs,	2	0	4	0	9
					119
300 YARDS.					
Capt Service	2	0	0	4	10
Lieut M. Falane	0	0	0	0	0
Sergt Hamilton	2	0	4	3	13
Privt Burns	0	2	3	0	7
Fortune	4	0	R	0	4
Hetherington	2	0	3	3	11
McCulloch	3	4	2	0	11
McPherson	4	3	2	0	9
Morrison	4	0	R	2	7
Riggs	2	0	0	3	5
					83
Total Stratford Rifles					333

STRATFORD INFANTRY.

AT 150 YARDS.					
James,	4	3	3	3	17
Sewell,	3	4	2	4	15
Smithwick,	4	3	2	2	13
Burrett,	2	2	4	3	14
Fuller,	3	2	2	2	9
Imlach,	2	2	2	4	13
Ross,	0	2	2	4	10
Rumsey,	2	3	3	4	15
Small,	2	2	3	4	15
Todd,	3	3	3	3	15
					137
200 YARDS.					
James,	2	4	3	4	17
Sewell	2	3	0	2	R 7
Smithwick	3	3	2	3	4 15
Burrett	3	4	3	2	4 13
Fulier	R	R	4	4	4 12
Imach	2	3	3	2	4 14
Ross	3	0	2	3	2 10
Rumsey	3	0	2	2	0 7
Small	3	2	2	3	0 10
Todd	3	4	0	3	2 12
					116
300 YARDS.					
James,	3	0	3	0	2 8
Sewell,	0	2	0	2	0 4
Smithwick,	2	2	3	3	2 12
Burrett,	0	2	0	0	0 2
Fuller,	0	2	4	2	0 8
Imlach,	3	0	2	0	2 7
Ross,	0	0	3	0	0 3
Rumsey,	0	0	0	3	3 6
Small,	2	R	0	2	3 7
Todd,	R	2	0	2	0 4
					61
Total Stratford Infantry,					314
do do Rifles,					333
Total Score, Stratford,					647
do do Goderich,					625
Stratford winning by					22

In the evening the Goderich Volunteers were entertained by their brethren in arms in a most kindly manner at a sumptuous repast, and the best of feeling was shown throughout.

THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

The gathering of Democratic politicians in Chicago, it is thought, lead to one of the most important consultations of the kind that has ever taken place in the United States.—All feel that an important crisis has been reached in the Nation's history, and hence the interest felt in the discussions of the Convention now in session is of the most absorbing character. Already the busy tongue of Rumor is at work. It is reported that Mr. Lincoln has signified his intention to with draw as a candidate for re-election. There is also a report of a possible split between the two wings—peace and war—of the Democratic party, but the indications are that Geo. B. McClellan will be the candidate chosen.—He is immensely popular, and, we are inclined to think, would be the strongest man available, if the party can be brought to the ballot-box in its undivided strength. The crowd in Chicago is very great, and excitement runs high.

News Summary.

☞ A dog show has just been held for the first time in Glasgow.

☞ Mr. Collin Ross made 22 bull's eyes out of 24 shots which he fired at Wimbledon.

☞ Garibaldi has been elected Grand Master of the Freemasons in Italy.

☞ The Chicago Tribune says there is more than double the amount of wheat and corn in store in that city than there was a year ago.

☞ Civil engineers report that the volume of water which passes over the Falls of Niagara is ninety millions of tons per hour.

To be contemptible is in world's estimation almost worse than to be an offender; and to be mocked at than to be denounced.

Since the present campaign opened, the Union and rebel armies have, both together, built more than three hundred miles of earthworks and rifle pits.

There is scarce any extravagance so singular as that of wanting a precedent; but custom without reason is no better than an ancient error.

☞ The taxes to be levied in Bowmanville the present year have been fixed at the rate of eighteen and nine tenths cents on the dollar—a slight reduction from last year's rate.

☞ The Hon. Messrs. Tilley, Steves Johnson, Chandler and Gray have been appointed by the Government of New Brunswick as delegates to represent that Province at the Union Conference to be held at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on the 1st of September.

☞ Yellow Fever is raging at Bermuda and several medical men connected with the Garrisons at Quebec, Montreal, Kingston and other parts have gone to render their assistance during the prevalence of the fatal disease.

☞ A "wife" advertiser, who desires respondents to enclose their *carte de visiten*, has received a reply from one lady, who writes: "I do not inclose my *carte*, for though there is some authority for putting a cart before a horse, I know of none for putting one before an ass."

☞ Several populous districts of China have, owing to the civil war between the Imperialists and Taepings, been rendered so destitute that the inhabitants are in the habit of eating the bodies of the men slain in battle or dying of disease.

☞ The N. Y. Express says the Printers' Union by their last strike will bring 2,000 women into the trade within a year, and half as many apprentices. Much of the printing labor in the country is now performed by women. The former will make $10 a week or $500 a year. The types on three of the New York city weekly journals are now mainly set up by women.

☞ A private letter from St. Johns, Newfoundland, dated 10th inst., states that a frost in that section a few nights previous to that date is reported to have injured the potato crop. The weather had been unusually cold. There had scarcely been any warm weather. The fisheries had proved almost a total failure and fears were entertained that the poorer classes would suffer greatly the coming winter.

☞ Dennis Murphy, of Newport, Rhode Island, married his second wife six months after the death of his first; the second was killed by a carpet thrown over her head, and in four weeks he married a third, who a month after, was drowned. He waited only two weeks this time, and then married No. 3, whose husband was killed four weeks previous'y in battle. "Memory's halls" must be pleasant for Mr. Murphy to ramble in.

☞ The greatest mystery prevails at the new Alabama's whereabouts, though report gives full particulars of the vessel. She is said to be an iron-clad and a ram, and armed with pivot guns that can fling hollow projectiles of 170 pounds and solid projectiles of 220 pounds. She can steam 18 knots an hour (some say 20), and will have 172 sailors, picked men, including the old crew, who will reserve their pay until wanted, which will be the fete day of Napoleon, the 15th of August. It is just probable that this is one of the iron vessels said to have been bought by Prussia, as it appears they have only one.

☞ From an extra of the *Royal Gazette*, for which we are indebted to Mr. Sheriff Hall, we learn that during the quarter ending 30th June last, the yield of the Gold Mines in Nova Scotia amounted to 5,159 oz. 8 dwt. 8 grs., worth, at $20 per oz., over $103,000. For the six months ending June, 1863, it was only 3,193 oz., or about half the present yield. The number of mines worked were in April, 1864, 111; May, 113; June, 151; during the last month for which the return is made, June we find that 2,101 tons of quartz have been crushed. The number of men employed daily is now about 900. The return being official, is, of course, entirely reliable, and shows a very gratifying state of things.

THE KINGDOM OF ITALY.—The Italian Government has just published the result of a census taken since the annexations which constituted it as it is at present. It contains some curious facts of which the accuracy cannot be doubted. The Kingdom of Italy contains a population of 21,777,334 souls. It is, consequently, the fifth power in Europe as regards its inhabitants; superior to Spain, of which the territory is twice as extensive, and to Prussia, of which the area is likewise greater. Were the unity of Italy accomplished its population would amount to 27,000,000. The average population of a commune in Italy is 2,821 inhabitants, while the average in France is only 978 inhabitants. There are nine communes in 300 square kilometres. In France, on the contrary, there are 18 in a similiar space. The population is most crowded in the south of the island of Sardinia; it is least numerous in the Marches and in the Æmilia. Italy contains on an average 84 inhabitants to the square kilometre—a figure higher than that of France or Prussia, but lower than that of England, Holland, or Belgium. Lombardy and Sicily are the Provinces in which the population has increased most rapidly of late years. Sardinia and the Neapolitan provinces come next. The increase of population has been much slower in Piedmont. The wars of 1848 and 1859 have tended to that consequence.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.—"I may be told," said Lord Stratford de Redcliffe in the House of Lords, on Friday, "that newspaper reports are little better than public rumors; but that I can hardly admit at a time when the public journals are conducted with so much skill and attention to facts, and when persons are employed by them who would do credit to the service of any Government—gentleman of education, gentlemen who are not only capable of reporting what passes before their eyes, but of obtaining the greatest distinction by the exercise of their powers."

The Defence of Canada.

(From the Times, August 13.)

It is always good for people to understand each other, and just at this juncture the establishment of such an intelligence between the Canadians and ourselves may be of great service to both parties together. Nothing more, indeed, seems to be wanting on either side than a clear and definite perception of future policy. The colony is very well affected, and with good reason, towards the mother country. Its population is thoroughly loyal, and its interests are completely identified with its allegiance. The Canadians, as we are assured this morning by one of themselves, are not only without a wish to dissolve the connexion subsisting between their country and Great Britain, but "would fight to the last" to maintain it; nor can we disbelieve these professions when we remember the conditions of dependence now accepted. Canada would necessarily be a loser by any change of political position. Independence would deprive her of a powerful protector; union with America would simply make her a participator in liabilities which no man can measure. We, on the other hand, are content to retain an allegiance yielding little substantial fruit, at the cost of what may be most onerous obligations. It would be hard to say what privilege we derive from our colony of Canada, but at any rate we have no wish that the connexion should be severed. To perpetuate these terms, then, and to avert all chances of disagreement or danger, it can only be necessary that we should explain and the Canadians should understand exactly what we, for our part of the bargain, are prepared to perform.

At present it seems to be assumed, or was, at least, assumed till recently, that in the event of a war involving the colony the fighting would be done by Imperial troops. Of course the colonists would support us as soon and as far as they were able. When they had succeeded in organizing a Militia and collecting a Volunteer force, when they had drilled their men and trained officers to command them, they would fight by the side of the British regiments; but until this result had been attained—perhaps, as happened in the United States, in the second or third year of the war—the defence of the colony would be left to devolve upon us. Now, do the Canadians reflect upon the consequence which would follow? The colonial frontier is a thousand miles long. We could not garrison it effectually if we sent to Canada every regular soldier in these islands. We make believe to garrison it at this moment with a force of 9,000 soldiers, of whom two thirds are divided between Montreal and Quebec, while the rest are distributed by regiments and even companies along the frontier line, in other words, we confront a neighbor, who can dispose of half a million of men with a score or two of staff as idle those of the Irish constabulary. Nor are these pickets supported by any sufficient reserves. "A Canadian Volunteer" tells us the whole truth in this matter, and shows us that even the moderate preparations with which the colony was credited in a late debate have but a partial existence in reality. The fact is this:—that one 9,000 men, while they could do nothing of themselves, suffice to prevent the colonists from doing any more. They look like a demonstration of the power and intentions of England. They stand as the advanced guard of a great army, and the Canadians do but the instincts of human nature in declining to do for themselves what others appear ready and willing to do for them.

There should be an end of this delusion, which is not only deceitful, but dangerous.—We have not the least design of providing the Canadians with an army sufficient for the defence of their frontier. The utmost that was intended in this country was to give them a "nucleus" in the shape of a few regiments of Imperial troops, and even that design is now limited, as was shown by a recent debate, to the protection of the two chief capitals of the colony. In relying, therefore, upon our readiness to fight their battles, the colonists have been deceiving themselves, and the demonstration we make happens to be full of danger in more ways than one. Nothing is so likely to provoke attack as an easy and accessible prize, and every station of British troops along the Canadian frontier offers such a prize to the American army.—To surround and capture a British regiment would be an exploit of which an American commander might reasonably boast; to inflict humiliation on the British arms might be a triumph which an American government would be unwilling to forego. These opportunities, we actually present in the most seductive and alluring form. We post fragments of our army in positions where they may be at any moment surprised, much as King Alfred suspended golden bracelets in lonely woods and challenged anybody to offend justice by appropriating them. But we have not the same grounds for our defiance. We should, indeed, be compelled to pursue the offender, but it is neither our interest nor desire to establish our power by provoking the offence. On the contrary, it would be infinitely wiser to remove the temptation, and thus diminish the chances of conflict.

It seems to have been forgotten in the recent discussions that the exhibition of this handful of British troops on the Canadian frontier is in itself actually an element of danger. When the Americans have a grievance against us they immediately threaten to invade Canada. Why? Not so much because Canada is a dependency of the British Crown as because it contains a few British soldiers, and is thus a vulnerable part of the British empire. If Canada were defended only by Canadians, it would scarcely answer the purpose of the Americans to make a raid into the province at the cost of a war which would bring the British navy on their coasts! A conflict with the chief maritime Power in the world would be a heavy price to pay for penetrating a few leagues into a country which it would be very troublesome to occupy and impossible to annex without conquest.—But a regiment of the British army would be a more enticing bait. By the capture of such a trophy the Americans could not only gratify the national pride, but compel us to a conflict in which the advantages would be all in their favor. If we began to fight them on land, and suffered disasters, we should be forced to go on. Our reputation as well as our pride would be involved, and our enemies would enjoy the singular good fortune of taking us at our weakest from the position most advantageous to themselves.

Now, we say that we cannot do better for Canada than remove this provocative to invasion. Let the Canadians provide for their own defence according to their own estimate of the demand. We see that there is a party in the colony which holds that the best armament is no armament, and if that doctrine prevails we are not inclined to quarrel with it. We are certain, at any rate, that it is sound when applied to an armament of Imperial troops, and if the colonists choose to extend it they may, perhaps, be the best judges. But whether they rely for their protection upon natural difficulties and political repulsion, or whether they resort to the more recognized policy of military organization, let the work be their own. From us they