

FAILURE OF THE ROMAN CONFERENCE.

Whether Fortune is fated with granting further favors to the Emperor of France, and resolutely refuses to listen to his supplications we know not, but it appears as if the star of Napoleon's success were declining, for every attempt that he has lately made to work out one of his stupendous conceptions has resulted in failure. We should perhaps except from the catalogue of miscarriages the Paris Exposition in which there was diplomacy as well as many other ingredients. His latest abortion has been an attempt to convene a conference of the Great Powers of Europe for the settlement of the Roman question. How it was to be settled, why it was inexpedient that the Italian patriots should not be allowed to make Rome—not the mistress of the world as she once was—but the capital of Italy, were not informed. It was an easy matter to propose a conference—the Emperor has a predilection for conferences—but it was more difficult to find acceptance for the proposition. Napoleon's Italian intermeddling was by no means popular except with imbecile Spain, and crippled Austria, and he knew it was not. He discovered that less interference would probably have been rewarded with approbation, whereas the course he pursued subjected him to censure both tacit and pronounced. What then could be the cause for his requesting a conference, first at Munich and next at Paris, unless it were to relieve himself from the perplexities in which his grasping disposition had entangled him, and to make future difficulties with the Roman question a subject for European, and not alone for French consideration, and for future generations' praise or censure? It might not be going too far to assert that the importance of France in the councils of Europe is diminishing. Napoleon is allowed to make his intrigues, and receive his snubbings on his own responsibility; and the man who has made so many wrong ventures will be narrowly watched by those less guilty of perpetrating blunders lest they should become sharers in some of his calamities. The Emperor was pleased to request a conference on the Roman question, but he was not gracious enough to make known which or how many of the subdivisions under that great head he intended to bring forward for consideration. There was no programme. It was like an invitation to a ball, at which it was given out there would be music, but no person knew whether he could agree with his partner or whether he would have a partner at all. The Emperor offered to supply the music, but the Great Powers refused to dance attendance.—Lord Stanley, if we recollect properly, refused—made the want of a programme his chief if not sole objection, and others urged their peculiar objections until there was none left to honor the proposition with their sanction. It is evident that the sympathies of the Protestant Powers are strongly with Italy, and against Rome, for the speech of M. Rouher in the Corps Legislatif from which it was understood, that the Emperor had adopted a policy on the Roman question in accordance with the views and desires of the clerical party, perhaps contributed more than any other cause to break off the proposed conference.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Ever since the formation of the Derby Administration in England, it must be admitted that the question of the Alabama claims has received all the consideration to which, as a problem that might involve a solution by the sword if not cautiously dealt with, it was justly entitled. The negotiations on the subject have given Lord Stanley opportunities of which he has not failed to avail himself, to prove his possession of the qualities essential to a clever, dignified, and at the same time conciliating statesman. Mr Seward's last despatch has been honoured with the same careful consideration which all his former (some of them very impudent) ones received, and Lord Stanley has sent the final reply of Her Majesty's government, which is to the effect that it will listen to no other proposal for a peaceful settlement of the difficulty than a reference to arbitration. The following is the concluding portion of his despatch to Mr Ford, British Minister to Washington (pending the appointment of another), since the death of Sir Frederick Bruce:—
"The language thus used by Mr Seward appears to be open to the construction that it is the desire of the United States government that any tribunal to be agreed upon in dealing either with the so-called Alabama claims or with the general claims might enter into the question whether the act of policy of Her Majesty's government in recognizing the Confederate States as a belligerent power was or was not suitable to the circumstances of the time when the recognition was made; a construction which, after Her Majesty's government has avowed of Her Majesty's government, that they could not consent to a reference to such a question, Her Majesty's government can hardly suppose that it was intended by Mr Seward that the passage in his despatch should bear.
But, to prevent any misapprehension on this subject, Her Majesty's government think it necessary distinctly to say, both as regards the so-called Alabama claims brought forward by citizens of the United States and as regards the general claims, that they cannot depart, directly or indirectly, from their refusal to refer to a foreign power to determine whether the policy of recognizing the Confederate States as a belligerent power was or was not suitable to the circumstances of the time when the recognition was made."
As regards the so-called Alabama

the decision of an arbitrator in the question of the moral responsibility of Her Majesty's government, on the assumption that an actual state of war existed between the Government of the United States and the Confederate States; and on that assumption it would be for the arbitrator to determine whether there had been any such failure on the part of the British government as a neutral in the observance, legally or morally, of any duties or obligations toward the Government of the United States as could be deemed to involve a moral responsibility on the part of the British government to make good losses of American citizens caused by the Alabama and other vessels of the same class.
"As regards the general claims, the question of moral responsibility on the part of Her Majesty's government does not, and cannot, come into dispute at all.
"Mr Seward rightly supposes that Her Majesty's Government contemplated two tribunals for the adjudication of the Alabama claims, the other for the general claims; the one being, in the first instance, at all events, the tribunal of an arbitrator who should be called upon to pronounce on the principles of the moral responsibility of the British Government, and on the nature of whose decision would depend the question of the appointment of a mixed commission for the examination in detail of the several claims of citizens of the United States to which that decision applied—namely, those arising out of the deprivations of the Alabama and similar vessels and the adjudications of the sums payable in each case; the other in its commencement and to its close a purely mixed commission for the examination of the general claims of the subjects and citizens of both countries arising out of the war, and the adjudication of the sums payable by either country in each case.
"The distinction between the two classes of claims is clear; the one may never come before a mixed commission, and therefore may not require the assistance of an arbitrator to decide differences of detail arising between the commissioners; the other, though originally brought before a mixed commission, may possibly require the intervention of an arbitrator in a case of a difference of opinion among the members of the commission which could not be otherwise reconciled, and for which case provision would be made in the ordinary way in the convention for the settlement of the mixed claims, by the insertion of articles in regard to the selection of an arbitrator.
"The function of such an arbitrator, as well as of an arbitrator for a like purpose in the other mixed commission, for which provision would have to be made to meet the contingency of the so-called Alabama claims coming eventually under the cognizance of a mixed commission, would have nothing in common with the functions of the arbitrator, to whom the question of principle involved in the last mentioned class of claims would be referred.
"Her Majesty's Government cannot but apprehend that, if Mr Seward really requires unrestricted arbitration as applicable to both classes of claims, and that the tribunal in both classes of cases should proceed upon the same principles, and be clothed with the same powers, he has not considered the wide and inevitable distinction which exists between the classes; and in directing you to submit to the consideration of Mr Seward the explanations and observations contained in this despatch, I have to instruct you to express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of the United States will, on further reflection, accept without hesitation the proposal made in my despatch to Sir F. Bruce of the 9th of March and of the 24th of May, both of this year—namely, "limited reference to arbitration in regard to the so-called Alabama claims," and "adjudication by means of a mixed commission of general claims."
"You will furnish Mr Seward with a copy of this despatch.
I am &c., STANLEY.

Parliament of Canada.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.
OTTAWA, Dec. 17
The revenue bill was again under consideration. An amendment proposed by Mr. Fisher, looking to the abolition of stamp duties, was rejected by 118 to 12. When the resolutions reported from the Committee of ways and means was under consideration, the Government in reply to Mr. Holton said that no answer could be given as to when permanent Lieutenant-Governors would be appointed, or what their salaries would be. In answer to Mr. McKenzie, the Premier stated that the acting Lieutenant-Governors were not in receipt of any money. Mr. McKenzie made an able speech on the financial policy of the Government. He said the scheme of the Financial Minister would not secure the payment of the floating debt, but merely turn it in a new direction, and leave it to his successor—the usual course of every Finance Minister. A considerable sum could not be raised by a Dominion stock, but mainly at the expense of bank circulation, and stringency was a great evil, not lightly to be inflicted upon the country by the Government. The so-called "Exchequer Bills" proposed to be issued, being for a period of 10 to 20 years ought to be called by their proper names—bonds. The Dominion stock and these bonds, together with a further issue of legal tenders, were to secure funds sufficient to meet the floating debt—paying off one debt by contracting another. Then the Saving Bank schemes would curtail circulation for the benefit of the Government—a thing we could hardly afford—and the proposal to go into the life insurance business was a very questionable proceeding. He then briefly analysed the estimates, pointing out defects in the Finance Minister's calculations. He believed the revenue from Customs next year would be less than during the present, as the stock in hand was heavy, and the Spring demand likely to be light. Mr. Rose thought the Dominion stock would not injuriously interfere with the currency of the country, if introduced gradually. He added that, at the beginning of this month, there were \$3,000,000 at the credit of Government, in the Bank of Montreal, a good portion of which would be applied to the reduction of the floating debt.
On the third reading of the Inland Revenue Bill, Mr. Burton moved that the license fee for brewers be \$100 instead of \$200. Messrs. Jackson, F. Jones, Dr. Parker, Read, McConkey and Ferguson supported the amendment; Messrs. Mc Dougall, Bodwell, Cartier, Rose, Holton and others opposed it in the interest of temperance as well as revenue. Mr. McKenzie moved a second amendment, to the effect that there should be a graduated scale of license imposed on maltsters. The debate was adjourned at the request of the Government in order that the matter might be reconsidered.
The Intercolonial Railway Bill was again under consideration, but no result was reached, and the debate was adjourned.
A new and attractive stock of China,

New Advertisements.
A. O. BUCHAM
TO-MORROW.
LOOK OUT FOR THIS CORNER.

No. 40.)
CLEARING SALE!
FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.
Canada Clothing Store
N. CROFT
WILL POSITIVELY SELL OFF HIS ENTIRE STOCK OF
Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Caps, Underclothing, &c.
At Prime Cost for Cash only.
NO SECOND PRICES. Call early and secure some of the Bargains, as the whole Stock must be sold. THIS IS NO HUMBUG.
Guelph, Dec. 19th, 1867.
Canada Clothing Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

New Advertisements.

Insolvent Act of 1864
In the matter of GEO. ALEXANDER, of Clifford,
AN INSOLVENT.
THE creditors of the Insolvent are notified that he has made an assignment of his estate and effects under the above Act to me, the undersigned, Official Assignee, and they are required to produce before me, within two months from this date, their claims upon the said estate, under oath, specifying the security they hold, if any, and the value of it; and if none, stating the fact, with vouchers in support of such claims.
THOMAS SAUNDERS, Official Assignee.
Guelph, 19th December, 1867. 1d w 2

THE RED MILL.
THE subscriber having put a steam engine in his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grists can rely on having them ground the same day.
Chopping done every day.

FLOUR AND FEED
FOR SALE AT THE MILL.
GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing.
GEORGE BALKWILL.
Guelph 19th December, 1867. dw 2m

NEW SHOP
SMITH & METCALF
BEG to inform their customers and the public that for the present they have opened a shop in the premises
Two doors North of the Post Office,
next door to Mr Coffee's Hotel, where they will be prepared, as usual, to supply all articles in their line. The stock saved from the late fire will be sold at reduced prices.
SMITH & METCALF.
Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw 1

SPEED LODGE No. 180,
A. F. & A. M.
AN Emergency Meeting of the above Lodge will be held in the Masonic Hall,
On FRIDAY EV'G, 20th DECEMBER
at half-past seven. Brethren are particularly requested to attend.
A. B. PETRIE, Secretary
Guelph, 17th December, 1867.

BIRTHS.
TARZELL—At St. Vincent, County of Grey, on the 8th inst., the wife of Mr. James Tarzell, of a son.
GREENHAM—At Ferris, on the 10th inst., the wife of Thomas Gibbs Greenham, Esq., of a daughter. (Still-born.)
VELLO—On the 9th inst., the wife of Peter Vello, Esq., of Guelph, of a son.
HALL—On the 5th inst., the wife of Mr. William Hall, 4th con. Peel, of a son.
JOHNSON—On the 9th inst., the wife of Mr. Robt. Johnson, 7th con. Peel, of a daughter.
ROGERS—In Peel, on the 10th inst., the wife of Mr. Amos Rogers, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.
WARD—Boss—At the residence of the bride's father, Kincardine, by the Rev. Walter Inglis, on the 28th ult., Mr. J. W. Ward, Teacher of Music, to Miss E. Boss.
TUCK—Love—At the residence of the bride's father, Drayton, on the 7th ult., by the Rev. E. Adams, E. E. Tuck, Esq., to Miss Mary Ann Love, all of Drayton.
SMITH—Wilson—At Listowel, on the 11th inst., Charles Smith, Esq., of Howick, to Elizabeth, third daughter of George Wilson, Esq., of Guelph.
MCELLEND—Somerville—At the residence of the bride's father, in the Township of Erin, on the 10th inst., by the Rev. R. Brown, Mr. G. McLelland, Garafaxa, to Margaret, eldest daughter of James Somerville, Erin.
MCLAREN—Hector—On the 11th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Wm. Park, John McLaren, Esq., hardware merchant, Mount Forest, to Mary, daughter of Arch. Hunter, Esq., of Durham.
FRASER—Davidson—At the residence of the bride's father, Garafaxa, by the Rev. Mr. Cooper, on the 19th ult., Mr. Michael Fraser, Township of Arthur, to Charlotte, youngest daughter of Mr. John Davidson.

DIÉD.
KENNEDY—At Guelph, on the 18th instant, Henry Alexander, son of A. H. R. Kennedy, aged 3 months and 4 days.
The funeral will take place to-morrow (Friday), at 2 o'clock p. m. Friends and acquaintances are invited to attend without further notice.
HYA—In Nichol, on the 11th inst., after a long illness, James H. Hyalop, aged 52 years, a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland.
FERGUSON—In Pilkington, on the 6th inst., Catherine, eldest daughter of Mr. Peter Fergusson, aged 21 years.

Henry Mulholland!
of Henry Mulholland is removed temporarily to the
READING ROOM OF ELLIS' HOTEL
Nearly Opposite the Old Stand.
Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw

Private Boarding.
EXCELLENT accommodation and comfortable boarding can be had for five or six gentlemen. The house is only three minutes' walk from the Market House. Apply to
WM. DYSON'S, sr., Waterloo-st.
Guelph, 27th Nov, 1867. dw

Be sure to get the NEW BURN.
No other will answer. Is to

Gift Books
Gift Books
Gift Books
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Illustrated Books
Illustrated Books
Illustrated Books
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Pocket Bibles
Pocket Bibles
Pocket Bibles
VERY CHEAP,
At **Day's Bookstore,**
Opposite the Market.

Wesley's Hymns
Wesley's Hymns
Wesley's Hymns
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Church Service
Church Service
Church Service
VERY CHEAP, AT
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Hymn Books
Hymn Books
Hymn Books
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Family Bibles
Family Bibles
Family Bibles
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Boys
Juvenile Books for Boys
Juvenile Books for Boys
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Girls
Juvenile Books for Girls
Juvenile Books for Girls
Very Cheap,
At **Day's Bookstore,**
Opposite the Market.

TOY BOOKS
TOY BOOKS
TOY BOOKS
Untearable Books
Untearable Books
Untearable Books

Washable Books
Washable Books
Washable Books
VERY CHEAP
Day's Bookstore,

Books for Xmas
Books for Xmas
Books for Xmas
VERY CHEAP, AT
Day's Bookstore,
OPPOSITE THE MARKET.

Ladies' Satchels,
Gents' Satchels,
Wax Dolls,
Fancy Goods, of every description.
VERY CHEAP, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

DAY BOOKS
LEDGERS
CASH BOOKS
JOURNALS
AT DAY'S
BOOKSTORE,
Opposite the Market.
Guelph, 19th December, 1867. dw

CHEAP
Photographs
W. BURGESS
BEGS leave to inform his friends and the public of Guelph and surrounding country that having received a large lot of **FRAMES** suitable for
Christmas Presents,
he will through the HOLIDAYS furnish all kinds of Photographs at greatly
REDUCED PRICES.
Parties wishing to make presents of Photographs to their friends should call at once.
PICTURES
of all kinds furnished in the first style of the art.
Gallery above John A. Wood's Grocery Store.
W. BURGESS.
Guelph, 18th December, 1867. dw

G. A. D. C.
FIRST APPEARANCE
OF THE
Guelph Amateur
DRAMATIC CLUB!
THE above Club will make their first appearance in the
TOWN HALL,
ON
Monday Evening, Dec. 30th,
On which occasion will be produced, for the first time here, George Almar's celebrated Drama, in two acts, entitled
"The Charcoal Burner,"
or "The Dropping Well of Knarlsboro."
To conclude with an amusing afterpiece by all the members of the Club. For particulars see programme. Admission 25 cents; Reserved seats 50 cents. For sale at the Book and Drug Stores, and also by the Members of the Club.
MR. VALE, MORRIS ARMOUR, Manager.
Guelph, 14th December, 1867. dtd

FURS,
FURS, FURS.
WE have opened our stock of **FURS,** of our own manufacture, which we will sell at **LOW PRICES,** viz:
Extra Dark Mink,
Royal Ermine,
Siberian Squirrel,
River Mink,
Ladies' Hoods,
And a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' MUFFERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.
F. GARLAND,
Market Square, GUELPH.
The Highest Price paid for Raw Furs
Guelph, Oct. 31, 1867. 884 w732

Stewart vs. Kingsmill.
ALL Persons trespassing on or removing earth or sand from the unsold portions of the property known as "The Kingsmill Survey" will be vigorously prosecuted.
PALMER & LILLIE,
Plaintiff's Solicitors.
Guelph, 18th December, 1867. dw

CARD OF THANKS.
THE subscriber begs to acknowledge the payment in full of his claim against the Fidelity Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the loss sustained on the 8th July last, by fire, in the destruction of his dwelling House and contents. Absence from the Township prevented his publicly acknowledging earlier the prompt manner in which the Company paid his claim.