

quiry, by those who are interested in the suppression of the truth, and either the charge will be hushed up, or the perpetrators of the abomination will be shielded by bribing the necessitous victim to silence. Some other mode must be taken to arrive at the facts; and if indeed it be found that such conduct has had the sanction or direction of the head-keeper of the Penitentiary, we trust that not even the influence of a 'silk gown' will prevent Mr. Draper from causing due atonement to be made to the insulted feelings of the country, by dismissing him instantaneously from an office he is so unworthy to fill. The eyes of the country are upon the Government; and we, for one, will not permit the matter to slumber, until the ends of justice have been met. Talk of barbarity in the corporal punishment! What, we ask, can equal the shame—the crime of flogging a woman, as shown below?

The statement of the *Courier* appeared yesterday in the *Times*, in a letter addressed to Mr. Draper, under the signature of "Catarqui."

Since writing the above, we have seen a gentleman who strongly expresses his disbelief of the accuracy of the charge. We hope, for the sake of humanity, that it may be found that his opinion is correct; but the letter in the *Times* scarcely leaves a doubt on the subject.

DISGUSTING BARBARITY.—As discussion on flogging soldiers seems the order of the day, and every voice is loudly lifted up against the continuance of this punishment, we propose to notice a similar system of corporal infliction, which we are told prevails to a great extent in the Provincial Penitentiary. If our readers have been horrified at the idea of flogging a soldier, generally richly deserving punishment, and from his bodily strength and rude health in most instances quite capable of enduring the punishment in a physical point of view, what will they think when we tell them that it is currently reported that women of all ages are stripped and flogged by a man, and in presence of other men, within the walls of the Provincial Penitentiary!

We say nothing of the same punishment inflicted on the male culprits, though we are told that that is done with an extent of cruelty quite shocking and perfectly unnecessary, but we do think that the flogging of women, under any circumstances, is truly horrible,—an outrage on the feelings of the community, and a disgrace to the age we live in.

We should hope that the account is, if not quite untrue, at any rate exaggerated, but we fear that our information is too correct. If this disgusting practice does prevail to the extent alleged, we should think it must be known in Kingston, and we wonder that the Press of that town has never taken up the subject.—We trust that this notice of ours will induce them to make enquiries relative to this matter, with a view to its being brought immediately under the notice of the government.—Women may be vicious, criminal, and degraded, but we would ask every man in the community who has a mother, a sister or a daughter, what they think of such treatment of the female portion of the prisoners in the Penitentiary; whether they think that stripping a woman naked, tying her up, and flogging her with a cat-o-nine-tails, in the presence of a lot of brutal gaolers and turnkeys, is a likely way of reforming her morals, or refining her disposition? We know not by whom the prison regulations have been drawn up, or by whose authority corporal punishment

is inflicted upon women, but we know this, that those who have authorized such beastly and disgusting inflictions, be they the highest officials in the country, richly deserve the same punishment, and we should enjoy nothing better than to have the command of the punishment parade, with the liberty of giving a gentle hint to the drummers.

This is a subject which cannot be allowed to drop, and we trust that Mr. Draper's attention will be called to it immediately, and that some independent Member of Parliament, if there be such an animal, will bring it before the House of Assembly and vote for a rigorous inquiry into this most abominable outrage on humanity.

THE LAST CONCERT.—When Mr. Templeton arrived, two concerts only were to be given. The persuasion of intimate friends, however, induced the vocalist to do extreme violence to his feelings, and give a third on Monday last; and to-night, another mesmeric influence having been brought into play, he takes his final leave—so say the bills—of a Montreal audience. Mr. Templeton has, moreover, been graciously pleased to signify his intention to avail himself of the pressing recommendation of his friends, and take an additional fifteen-pence for seats from whomsoever may feel inclined to pay for them at that price. The three-and-nine-penny seats, we presume, are the stalls,—the two-and-sixpenny, the vulgar pit. *Ainsi va le monde.*

THE ROCHELLE CANNON.—Although we naturally feel the greatest diffidence in placing our opinion in opposition to that of an old officer of Artillery, whose letter has been shown to us by the ingenious inventor of this gun, we cannot coincide in his view, shared by such of the Montreal press as have commented on the subject, and pronounce the piece as wholly unfitted for service. We admit that, in the field, it might be rendered unserviceable at the first or second shot from the same arm, but for purposes of defence it might be made highly available. With an embrasure merely sufficiently large for the protrusion and withdrawal of the gun itself, the machinery by which it is worked might be effectually guarded by the fortifications themselves, which, from the rapid fire that could be kept up from a series of these, and without a probability of the same interruption which the picking off of artillerymen by musketry would occasion, advancing columns might be swept away, by cannister and grape, before they could reach the breach of a fortress through which they might expect to gain an entrance. Night work alone would take from their superiority over the present arm. But we shall recur to this subject next week.

At a Special General Meeting of the Stockholders of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, held on Saturday, at the Company's Office, St. James Street, to consider the demands made upon the Provisional Committee in London, by a portion of the English Scripholders, for the return of their deposits, and to decide thereon—the Hon. Mr. Moffatt was called to the Chair, and Mr. Steers named as Secretary.

Upon motion of ROBERT ARMOUR, Esquire, seconded by W. FOOTNER, Esquire:—

Resolved, 1.—That the Proprietors of the Capital Stock of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, having duly considered the disinclination manifested by a portion of the Scripholders in Great Britain to continue their connexion with the enterprise, in which they are mutually engaged, and their application to the Provisional Committee in London for the repay-

ment of their deposits, feel called upon to express their regret, that a great and important Colonial work, such as the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road, has not been met in the Mother Country, even by those who had willingly become associated with themselves, for its prosecution, with that encouragement which the large excess in the number of Shares applied for, then, over the whole capital, had given them just reason to expect.

Moved by WM. LUNN, Esquire, seconded by Mr. H. MURPHY:—

Resolved, 2.—That the proprietors, desirous of removing all cause of dissatisfaction on the part of the dissentient Scripholders in Great Britain, and the more forcibly to evince the spirit in which their enterprise has been undertaken and conducted, are disposed to adopt the suggestions of the Board of Directors, relative to the demand made by said dissentients, and in accordance therewith, to authorize, and they do hereby empower, the said Directors, to take the necessary measures to offer to such of the Scripholders in Great Britain (not having signed the Subscription of Shares Books) as may be desirous of receiving the same, the repayment of their deposits, deducting them from their proportionate share of the expenditure in England and in Canada to this date, with the exception of the cost of survey, now in prosecution, and that arising from land negotiations.

To which by BENJ. HART, Esquire, seconded by R. M'KAY, Esquire, proposed the following amendment:—

That, although the large additional support which this Rail-Road has met with in Canada, and the confidence with which it is now regarded by the public at large, leave no room for doubt that the undertaking could be prosecuted and completed, without the assistance of the English Shareholders, still, the proprietors would not feel themselves justified on sound principles in acceding to the request of the Scripholders in England.

Which was put to the meeting, and negatived; after which the original Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Moved by R. M'KAY, Esquire, seconded by MAJOR CAMPBELL, and

Resolved, 3.—That the Board of Directors be and they are hereby authorized to take measures to defend any action or actions that have been or may hereafter be brought for the recovery of their deposits, by Scripholders who may refuse to accept the compromise, as now proposed by this meeting.

T. STEERS, Secretary.

NOTICE.

WE the Undersigned hereby give notice, that application will be made by us at the next meeting of the Legislature to obtain a CHARTER for the purpose of CONSTRUCTING A BRIDGE ACROSS THE ST. LAWRENCE; say from the South side of said River to a point on St. Paul's Island (Isle St. Paul), and from said Island to the North bank with right of way across the said Island, and from the North bank of the River to a convenient terminus on the Canal.

H. STEPHENS,	ANDREW SHAW,
HUGH ALLAN,	JAMES GILMOUR,
JASON C. PIERCE,	WM. ELMONSTONE,
D. DAVIDSON,	MOSES HAYS,
WILLIAM DOW,	JOSEPH MANSON,
JOHN LEEMING,	ROBERT MACKAY,
WM. LUNN,	O. BERTHELET,
J. B. SMITH,	H. JUDAN,
J. FROTHINGHAM,	A. LA ROCQUE,
JNO. YOUNG,	B. HART,
JOHN E. MILLS,	JOSEPH BOBBERET,
L. H. HOLTON,	A. M. BELLEE,
D. L. MACDUGALL,	W. ERMTINGER,
BENJ. LYMAN,	W. C. MERRITT,
R. CORSE,	JOHN J. DAY,
DAVID TORRANCE,	GEO. ELDER, Junr.

Montreal, September 14, 1846.

THE LA ROCHELLE CANNON !!!

IN accordance with the request of a great number of persons, Mr. LA ROCHELLE has decided upon exhibiting the PIECE OF MECHANISM of which he is the inventor, and which has been an object of admiration to all those who have examined it.

The CANNON, by means of its Machinery, LOADS ITSELF and FIRES TWELVE SHOTS PER MINUTE !!!

To be seen in one of the Shops of JOSEPH BOURLANGET, Esq., Notre Dame Street, near Donegan's Hotel—Hours of Exhibition, from TEN A.M. to ONE P.M., from Two to Six and from Seven to Ten.

It will be seen by the Certificate of Colonel CAMPBELL, of the Artillery, that he considers this Gun a most ingenious invention.

Montreal, 17th Sept. 1846.