

In appear but a look of lease of his for any cons brisly down, burie to the right an absent Suddenly he and jumped setting a fat home with wurst," which lodged arot hurrying by rid things! middle of tl "good morn down to se parted com slipper a nu once forgot began to th fat woman t boy who ha of ice to tak down on the who was so tion that he the back—n impressive full or d's a unworthy o dive to esca mourned o swore he-w on the fir falling bro red hair a cuttle from head, and l as the autl pitched into and taking the genteel going by ge string from his nose, q woman put with her fee for a weel Table.

An Ind A Manito post of P writes section and the employ pany. He the trade d When the s small th their pile g sugar. Th ward are the Failing to those machi of one artic of another, like this: side tea or le bit of i medicine th one side of of pemmice blankets a when the t take the pe blankets ar or one side This ver sational sation of t ed appro berves: "Ve will m between the blankets, b fill further and marten against the and my gu when both the ball an fill take the fur furs?" enly illu sious Indi balances an aliberation by the old ader decid way; f and is a v rave can ly be ma ne-man.

Mr "Fay," e Louvise follow A lady w the trea is from a "This is \$50,000, mbling, pril 1, 187 The next rote bene "Well, y have the re." Still anot on this pe says: "How ex ally muc hful, de These clu ple of o sional b ves the t consigne destructi it is sugg ny marri because t best man

The New York Post-Office.

We copy the following extracts from an interesting article in the *Scientific American*, giving a description of the large amount of labor performed in the New York Post Office, from which some idea may be formed of the onerous duties of Postmasters in small offices, for which in the Dominion they receive very low salaries:

Enough letters, circulars, and postal cards annually pass through the post office in this city to extend, if placed end to end, from one side of the Atlantic to the other; or, in round numbers, they aggregate over 240,000,000 per year. To this must be added over 100,000,000 newspapers which in the same period are dispatched, and then a roughly approximated idea of the enormous mass of mail matter which is handled in the lower floors of the new Post office building will be obtained. It is curious to remark that the aggregate of letters is more than half of the total number dispatched in all France, and over four times as many as are forwarded in Russia, while a notion of how extensively news and information is disseminated in this country may be obtained by comparing the above aggregate number sent in all Germany (1,200,000), or even with the same in all Great Britain, which is only about fifty per cent in excess.

After the letters are stamped they are separated into bundles for States and large cities, and sent to be further distributed on board the railway postal cars on the different routes, or in many cases they are made up into packages for direct delivery to their different destinations.

The clerks also become exceedingly expert in weighing letters by merely holding them in their hands for an instant in distributing them, and on their individual estimate they toss the massive aside as underpaid. It is afterward weighed and delivered in the city with the amount due stamped upon it.

The post office is subject to constant inconvenience by the mailing of so-called unavailable matter. No doubt hundreds of people are mathematically maddened by losing their Christmas gifts, when the articles are probably soundly entombed in the dead letter office, whither they have been sent after a temporary sojourn in the office where dispatched. There is quite a museum in the New York office of this material, and it is a most heterogeneous collection. Here are bottles of hair tonic, packages of flour, dairy fancy work made evidently by fair hands, but ruthlessly consigned to this limbo because not properly prepared, jostling big bundles of shoe blacking. Some dandies in minus her trunks, for a packet of female hair loosely rolled in newspaper occupies a corner. No one tries to forward these things. They go to Washington, and Christmas gift or not, unsympathizing buyers bid them in at potential auctions. Another class of individuals try to evade the revenue laws by making the Post Office an accessory, which they always fail. Whenever a bulky letter comes from Europe the owner is requested to appear at the office, where a custom house official politely insists on seeing the packet opened, and, if the contents are dutiable, requires payment before delivery.

A FOWL MONSTROSITY.—An interesting instance of a strange malformation in the head of a fowl has been exhibited alive at the New York Aquarium, and as Professor Fr. Stengel of Columbia College vouches for its authenticity, it may be presumed to be a genuine specimen.

The illustration will convey an excellent conception of the peculiarities of the fowl in question, which is said to have a monkey's face. It will be noticed that the ordinary beak of a bird is absent, and that the nose and lips of an animal are fully developed.

Constantinople a Free City.

The Turkish capital should become what nature seems to have designed it, the commercial mart, not of Turkey nor of Russia, but of the world. Constantinople under Turkish rule became the centre of a vast system of plunder and conquest. The city was enriched by the spoils of Europe and Asia. A large multitude gathered there, but its legitimate commerce has never been large. The race which has held this golden key of the world's commerce has never been able to open the storehouse. They were like barterians in possession of a complicated machine. The Sultans have simply wrung their wealth from the plundered peasantry, and fifth generation after generation in their rich palaces on the Bosphorus. No building, no work of art, no machine or invention, so far as we are aware, has ever been discovered or constructed in Constantinople by a Turk. The Greek has done all. The race has basked in the rich sunlight of the delicious climate, and has enjoyed all the luxuries and beauties of the Golden Horn for more than four centuries, has seen the current of the world's history flow by, and has never contributed a single blessing or benefit to mankind. As a free city, it might, like Venice of old, or Hamburg in later times, be the centre of a world's commerce. The Greek has an aptitude for trade, and no doubt, the merchants of all countries would gather there. The burdens that have hitherto rested on all productions and industry in the Turkish Empire would then be removed, and we might see a new centre of civilization where Slav barbarism has reigned so long. But this will not be till the Empire of the race of Osman has come to its end, and then

must be yet in a future, not remote, but not immediate.

Mrs. Alex. Mackenzie, has given two gold medals to a girls' school at Ottawa, as prizes for courses in domestic economy and plain sewing.

The entrance to the STANDARD office is from the side door on the wharf.

The St. Andrews Standard.

St. Andrews, February 6, 1878.

SOUTH AFRICA DIAMOND FIELDS.
In last week's *Standard* we mentioned the story of our townsman Mr. Lamb from Kimberley, South Africa, where he was employed at the diamond mines; we since had the pleasure of obtaining a description of the country, mines, &c., are included in him for the following information, which is but an outline of his graphic and interesting description. He is not favorably impressed with that part of the country through which he passed, the greater portion being an arid desert without a shrub.

The first known diamonds in Africa in 1867, when it was discovered by a Dutch settler in the hands of a child, he offered to buy it but the mother of the child gave it to him, it was afterwards examined and found to be a genuine diamond weighing 21 carats, and was sold to the Governor of the Cape for £500. Afterwards several diamonds were found, which led to the commencement of diamond digging in 1872 in the district of the Vaal river.

The town of Kimberley, which is built round a small hill called Caledon Kopie, is but a village, with four thousand. The top of the eminence has been cut off and a mine sunk about 200 feet deep. The drift or stuff is raised on aerial tramways in boxes, which contain upwards of a bushel. The mine is divided into a number of "claims," and is not owned by one company; the area of these claims is nearly 9 acres, but the pit including the slope of the reef will cover 12 acres; the pit or mine is shaped like an immense bowl, and is divided into upwards of 400 claims.

The method of obtaining the diamonds he describes as follows: When the "blue," as it is called, is brought to the surface, it is carted away to the ground of its owner (all diamond diggers having a space of ground), and left to crumble or decompose; should there be a good rain fall the stuff quickly decomposes; but if there is no rain it has to be watered, which costs a large sum. It is afterwards placed in a trough which allows runoff, and is separated by stationary rakes; the stones fall to the bottom. The mud is then examined and carted off. The stones are washed several times and examined, when the diamonds are found. The larger ones which are of greater value, are usually packed up while putting the earth into the buckets.

There are other mines in Griqua Land West which was taken possession of by the English in 1871—they are Old Beers, Buitantem and Du Forts Pass, in which the labor work is principally done by Kaffirs, but the New Earth, Kopie or Kimberley mine, is reported to be the richest spot on the globe. We could fill several columns with Mr. Lamb's vivid descriptions, but must content ourselves with this short notice, thanking him for kindly furnishing us with his interesting account of the mines and country.

The Temperance Reform has taken strong hold at St. Stephen, and indeed is progressing so rapidly that almost every one is wearing a blue ribbon; the insignia of the order; the Ladies have also lent their powerful aid to the movement and formed what is called a "Ladies Aid Society." Mr. D. B. McKenzie the Boston Temperance lecturer, has given an impetus to the cause by his labours; he appears to be very earnest in the work, and forms not only adult clubs, but youths clubs. At the rate people are joining, the liquor sellers business in St. Stephen will be used up and it will be hard for a person to "get a wee dram" as the Scotch have it. While the movement continues a moral one, it will succeed, but once it is used as a political wedge, it will meet the fate of its predecessors—defections and ultimate discomfiture. It is to be hoped, the cause will be so conducted as to ensure its stability, and that by its fruits it will be known; the occasional falling away of some members, exhibits the weakness of human nature, and is one of the numerous proofs that "offences will come." A strict adherence to the pledge, is respected by every well balanced mind, but hypocrisy is detestable. Where there is principle, it will be carried out in practice.

The *Canada School Journal* is an excellent educational paper published in Toronto, monthly at \$1 per annum. It has an editorial committee consisting of some of the leading educationists of the Dominion, and Provincial contributors among whom are Superintendents and Inspectors. From a cursory glance at the contents, we believe it will be an aid to teachers, and also useful to Trustees and others who take an interest in education. The information it contains is worth ten times the price.

Correspondents should remember that we do not publish letters without having the name of the writers. This will account for some correspondence not being published; besides we do not publish all we receive for several reasons.

THE GLOBE.—A change in the proprietorship of the *St. John Globe* is announced in its issue of the 1st. Our genial and clever friend, Mr. ARMSTRONG, has retired, and Mr. Robert Robertson and Mr. Robertson have become partners. An acquaintance with Mr. Armstrong, with whom we have been on the most intimate terms for many years, causes a pang of regret to us on his leaving the field of journalism; a polished writer with no ordinary descriptive powers, he advocated measures with a force of argument, energy of expression and elegance of composition not surpassed by any of his brother journalists; he also had an advantage over many of them, as he could set type, make up, and print. We sincerely wish him prosperity in any undertaking he may engage in. Mr. T. N. Robertson has some acquaintance with newspaperdom, as well as being an excellent accountant. Mr. O'Brien has been associated with the *Globe* for several years, and we invariably found him at his post, writing, condensing or reporting. He is to continue in charge of the editorial department. The firm now is "Ellis, Robertson & Co."

The enthusiastic Reform movement continues to increase. On Monday afternoon Mr. D. B. McKenzie accompanied by a large party from St. Stephen and Calais, were met some distance from this town by the Band in a large sleigh drawn by four horses, and several double and single sleighs, and persons on foot, and escorted into town. In the evening the Methodist church was literally crowded. Mr. McKenzie was introduced by Dr. H. Gove, and addressed the audience at some length followed by Messrs. Main, Chipman, Vroom, and Rev. Mr. Hudson of St. Stephen in short, stirring addresses. A number signed the pledge and joined the "blue ribbon." On Tuesday forenoon the ladies were met by Mr. McKenzie in the same building and a Ladies Aid Society formed. In the afternoon, the children met at the "Club Room," and were addressed by Mr. McKenzie and formed a Youth's Temperance Society. In the evening several houses were brilliantly illuminated, and a large torchlight procession preceded by the band marched through the streets. At half past 7 o'clock another mass meeting was held in the Methodist Church and was addressed by Mr. McKenzie in energetic terms. Several signed the pledge, and a subscription was opened, and a considerable sum subscribed. An offer we learn was made to Mr. McKenzie, that should the "New Hotel" be finished for an "Inebriate Asylum," one of the owners would give him \$5000 gratuitously, the same gentleman subscribed liberally to the fund.

Fredericton News.

The curlers returned from Picton on Friday night last, bringing with them the best record of any club taking part in the tournament. Out of eight games played they were victors in six, except one which was lost by one point, and in one case were tied. They were hospitably entertained by their Picton friends, and on their return home were treated to an oyster supper by Mr. Barnham of the "Queen." Frederick is proud of her "knights of the besom."

A serious fire occurred here on Friday night resulting in the destruction of Messrs. Hatt & Son's store and dwelling on Queen Street. A great deal of the stock was lost, but the furniture was saved though much damaged. Insurance on house, stock and furniture, \$3,000.

The Parlor Concert given by the "Ladies Christian Union" was repeated with a varied programme, to a full house, on Saturday evening. Some of our new and rising vocalists took part in the entertainment, which by the way was very successful, realizing at the price of ten cents admission upwards of \$100.

Mr. Hammond, the lessee of the Skating Rink is making arrangements to have the Band present on Saturday afternoons. This is a popular move and will render this favorite resort still more attractive.

The dramatic members of the Reform Club are rehearsing "Ten nights in a bar-room" with a view of presenting it before the public shortly.

Valentines have already made their appearance in stationer's windows.

Mr. Jones was elected by upwards of 200 over Mr. Ritchie. The battle was severely contested one, but the Minister of Militia gained the day. By the way we have not seen his name gazetted in the *Canada Gazette* as Minister of Militia.

The Dominion Parliament is summoned to meet on the 7th inst.

Mr. Woodworth, M. P. P. for Kings, Nova Scotia, gave offence to the majority of a former Nova Scotia Assembly by refusing to make an apology dictated by it to him. Thereupon he was ejected from the House. Against the perpetrators of this act Mr. Woodworth brought an action for

damages, and obtained a \$400 verdict. On appeal to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, this verdict was confirmed; and now, on a further appeal to the Dominion Supreme Court, the verdict is intact, has been confirmed again.

See Campbell's Reports.

The *Temperance* is the organ of Canadian prohibitionists, and leading temperance journal in the Dominion, urges the present organizations to stick to their Divisions and Lodges. It says "There is a disposition often when a new thing comes round, to think it all-sufficient, and go to throw off the old. We have a word of warning to our Lodges and Divisions in this respect. Do not give up your meetings and organizations because of the Reform Clubs, your mission is quite distinctive and useful. The Reform Clubs, are only allies, you are still requisite. In the first place Reform Clubs are no more than the old total abstinence societies with the added feature of club rooms."

St. Petersburg, Feb. 2.
Russia has accepted Austria's proposal of a conference for settling the European question resulting from the war. The place at which the conference will meet has not been determined upon. It will probably be in one of the smaller States.

The basis of the Russian peace conditions has been signed.

A dispatch from Vienna says: "What has hitherto passed between England, Austria and Russia is only preliminary to a discussion in what way the interests of Europe in the Eastern question are to be taken into consideration, and in what manner the powers are to exert their legitimate influence on the settlement of the land question. Russia, it is true, has declared her readiness to discuss matters, but beyond this, all is mere conjecture."

Adrianople, Jan. 31.
The peace preliminaries and armistice were signed to-day.

Constantinople, Feb. 2.
There is great satisfaction here that a settlement of the peace preliminaries. The following are the conditions of the protocol:

First—the cession of Bulgaria into a principality.

Second—a war indemnity, or territory in compensation.

Third—the independence of Roumania, Serbia and Montenegro, with an increase of territory for each.

Fourth—reforms in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Fifth—an ulterior understanding between the Sultan and the Czar regarding the Danubian provinces.

Sixth—the evacuation of the Danubian fortresses and Ezeroum.

Ottawa, Feb. 4.—The Rev. G. N. Higginson, Minister of the Anglican Church, New Edinburgh, who has just returned from New York, where he had accompanied two of Lord Dufferin's children, who are on their way to England, was not present at the service in his church, but the Bishop of Ontario was present instead. At the close of the service, His Lordship said he had been under the painful necessity of accepting Higginson's resignation. Higginson is charged with seducing a daughter of a prominent city merchant. The affair causes much scandal.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for February is a very strong and brilliant Number. Two celebrated English novelists William Black, and Thomas Hardy, contributed the early chapters of their new novels. Black's story, "Melod of Dure," is laid in Scotland, and at the head of the first chapter is a bold illustration by Pettie. Hardy's novel "The Return of the Native," introduces us to Egdon Heath, a furzy, brier wilderness in Wessex, and is also illustrated.

A thrilling ghost story, entitled "Panishal Enough"—adapted from an old French feuilleton by Mrs. R. B. Latimer—is effectively illustrated by Abbey.

The opening article of the Number is a picturesque description, by William H. Ralston of life and scenery "Along our Jersey Shore," with twenty-four beautiful and characteristic illustrations.

The pre-eminence of Harper's Magazine in the treatment of art subjects is fully sustained in this Number. There is an admirably written paper by Helen S. Conant on J. M. W. Turner, with a score of engravings from that artist's most remarkable paintings, including "The Slave Ship," from which no engraving has ever previously been made, but which the owner (Miss Alice Hooper, of Boston) has graciously permitted to be copied for this article.

As is usual in Harper's, there is a considerable proportion of space given to subjects of general literary and historical interest.

The Editorial Departments—literary, historical, scientific, and humorous—are well sustained.

Victor Hugo is so strong a person that he can go out in all weathers without

great cost. It is his custom, every afternoon, to take a long ride upon the top of an omnibus, and in this position, commanding a view of the busy life of Paris, he jots down his fast coming ideas, and when he reaches home puts them into shape.

INSOLVENCY ACT.—Respecting amendments to the Insolvency Law, discussed by the Dominion Board of Trade at Ottawa, Mr. Wm. J. Paterson, Secretary, has communicated with the members of the Board to ascertain their views upon the following resolution, adopted at the last annual meeting:—"That the Insolvency Act of 1875 and Amendments are framed for the management of the estates of traders after they become insolvents, and to prevent any creditors from obtaining a preference over the general creditors of the insolvent; that such an Act is necessary, and should not be repealed, and further, that the subject of insolvency be referred to a committee to report thereon at the next meeting of the Board."

Assessors Notice.

THE undersigned having been appointed Assessors of Rates and Taxes for the Parish of St. Andrews, hereby give Notice thereof, and request all persons liable to be rated, to bring in to the Assessors within thirty days after publication of this notice, true statements of their property and income liable to be assessed.

And further the Valuation List will be posted at the small building between the stores of Capla, Green and Bileon, on King Street, in pursuance of the provisions of the Assessment Act of 1875.

Dated 6th day of February, 1878.

J. R. BRADFORD, Assessors
C. O'NEIL, of Rates.
J. D. GIMMER, of Rates.

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E. CAMERON, M. D.
Physician, Surgeon, AND ACCOUCHEUR.
Dr. CAMERON may be consulted professionally at his office, at Woodlands Cove Grand Manan.
Grand Manan, Nov. 16, 1877.

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NOTICE is hereby given that the next session of the Court of Session will be made to the Court of Session, at St. Andrews, on the 1st day of March, 1878, at 10 o'clock, A.M. The Court will be held at the Court House, at St. Andrews, on the 1st day of March, 1878, at 10 o'clock, A.M. The Court will be held at the Court House, at St. Andrews, on the 1st day of March, 1878, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

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