NEWS ITEMS.

The number of Jews all over the world is computed by the *Jewish Times* to be 6,503,-000.

London has a police force comprising 10,-474 men, and necessitating the expenditure of £1,251,452 to maintain.

A country blacksmith out West put up a notice :—" No hosses shodded Sunday except sickness and death."

Charlston, S. C. contains about 25,000 white people and about 33,000 colored people. For every white person who dies three colored persons die.

A youth in Kingston, N. Y., went to the barber's, and taking a seat announced that he desired to have his mustache colored. " Did you bring it with you ?" queried the barber, to the infinite disgust of the ambitious youth.

Butcher—" Come, John, be lively now; break the bones in Mrs. Williamson's chops, and put Mr. Smith's ribs in the basket for him." John, (briskly)—" All right sir ; just as soon as I've sawed off Mrs. Murphy's legs.

Sir Julius Vogel, Agent-General for New Zealand and candidate prospective for Falmouth in the Imperial Parliament, stated at a recent meeting that he had as many as 1000 applications (which meant about 3,000 persons) for passages to New Zealand in a single day.

The name of " Nihilist " was used for the first time by the distinguished novelist M Ivan Tourguenieff, and subsequently adopted by the Russian revolutionists. It should be stated, however, that it was only in its special and political sense that M. Tourguenieff gave the word a new life.

The advance of thought among " free Christians " is shown by the fact that the ministers of the Unitarian chapel, Islington, recently gave notice before the Unitarian Association of Great Britain, of a motion affecting the new model trust deed for Unitarian's chapel that "the word, Almighty, before the word ' God ' be left out."

A man in Fredonia, Chautauqua county, N. Y., has a passion for the practical illustration of scriptural truths. He built a boat after the model of Noah's ark, on the exact scale of the dimensions put down in the Bible. When he put his vessel in the water he was thoroughly disgusted to find that the thing would only float with the keel up.

James Palmer went into an undertaker's shop at Riverton, Va., and got measured for a coffin, which he says was for a man exactly his size. "Have it ready this afternoon," he said, "for the corpse will be ready by that time." Then he went to a railroad track near by, lay down on it, and let the train run over him.

Thomas Vaughan, of Middlesborough, England, ran through $2,500,000 in eight years, and all his effects were recently sold. The furnishing of the billiard room alone cost between $150,000 to $200,000; in the smoking room the spittoons cost $100 each; in some of the rooms the leather covers of the seats cost $90 a yard; a fire-place cost $10,000, and the owner's bedstead $7,500.

At a recent execution of Nihilists at Kiew Russia, a young girl acknowledged at the foot of the gibbet that her name was Nathalie Gortschakoff, and that she was neice to the Chancellor of the Empire. She had previously refused to reveal herself notwithstanding that she had several times been flogged with the knout in order to compel confession.

The Dunkard church forbids a man to marry a divorced woman. George Hoover, of Hagerstown, Ind., was a Dunkard, yet he married a woman who had been divorced. The church warned him beforehand, and expelled him afterward. The expulsion grieved him so much that he refused to eat, and starved himself to death in spite of his wife's entreaties.

According to late estimates, Great Britain is not the wealthiest country on the earth, as has been believed. France values her private property, real and personal, at $43,110,-600,000, and her navy, palaces, public buildings and other public property, excepting highways, at $1.475,000,000, making $44,-585,600,000. The aggregate estimate for England, Scotland and Ireland, without reckoning public highways, is $42,500,000,-000. Real estate in France greatly exceeds in area that of England, while in the latter there is a great excess of personal property over the former.

The Nihilist propaganda in Russia is reduced to all sorts of expedients to defeat the vigilance of the police. There was a time when prohibited journals and tabooed manuscripts could get across the frontier in cotton bales or in plaster busts of the Czar. But now bales of cotton are opened and plaster busts are smashed by the customs officers. The revolutionaries have, therefore, been fain to seek for something better, and being men of inventive minds they found it in sardines. Sardine boxes may be weighed and charged for. but they cannot be opened, and this delightful little fish has become an instrument of sedition so formidable that it is seriously a question of a prohibitory ukase upon them.

The Queen has conferred the Albert Medal of the second class on Her Majesty's ship *Thunderer* at the time of the recent explosion, for bravery on that occasion. When the gun burst the magazine was filled with smoke, and all the lights were extinguished. and the prevailing impression being that one of the filled shells had exploded, the men stationed in the room made their escape as speedily as possible, with the exception of Bridges, who, taking off his woolen comforter, wrapped it round the burning fragments which had been blown into the magazine, and brought them up on the flats. Bridges afterward went down again to make further search for any smouldering material that might have found its way among the projectiles.

The new Ameer of Afghanistan has been photographed. He was dressed in European style, the coat and trowsers were of white cloth, heavily embroidered with gold, epaulets of gold, and a sash of blue with three gold stripes through it was worn over the left shoulder. The head gear was a steel helmet with gold and a plume of feathers surmounting it. Yakoob Khan parts his hair in the middle, and when the helmet was off the front view of the face presents a wonderful resemblence to the Duke of Edinburgh, this was noticed by more than one of those present. The projection of the forehead over the eyes is marked, but the brow retreats very much, the head being remarkably high and small, the height being behind and not in front. He speaks English slowly but intelligibly and reads it very well.

A somewhat novel effort is making in England to bring together church people and members of the dramatic profession by means of an association called "The Church and Stage Guild." The Guild is to be managed by a Committee made up of representatives of the church and stage. The names of several clergymen appear on the present Committee with those of well-known actors. A circular issued by the Guild says that the objects sought in its organization are :—" 1. To promote religious and social sympathy between the members of the church and stage. 2. To hold meetings for these purposes from time to time, at which papers may be read and questions discussed of common interest to the members of the Guild. 3. To meet for worship at least once a year."

The London *Economist* remarks that the firm of Rothschild has for three generations succeeded in keeping its affairs singularly secret, and has been wonderfully exempt from lawsuits, defaulting agents, and spendthrift partners. It is virtually the banker of five great Governments. The late Baron guided for thirty years the more important business of five or six great financiering firms composed of many individuals, knew the precise condition of all European treasuries, and and selected and controlled score of agents. A remarkable fact about this great firm is that it has done no mischief, and has resisted the temptation to form alliances with particular States or parties. The Baron was never accused of waging war with rivals, or making a revolution, or of entering into speculations outside of his business. Although great capitalists, great loan mongers, and avowedly Hebrews of Hebrews, the firm has, moreover, by the tact and moderation displayed by its controlling head, entirely overcome the dislike which all but universally fastens upon such men. The *Economist* regards the late Baron as one of the greatest men, if not the greatest, of his kind.

Communications.

For the "Agriculturist."

A Correction.

MR. EDITOR,—The committee appointed by the F. W. C. T. U., to take charge of their Festival and Sale, held in the Exhibition Palace on the 3rd inst., wish to correct the erroneous impressien that the Races and Bonnet Hop at the close of the entertainment were under their direction. *That* programme was arranged without the committee's knowledge or approbation.

SECRETARY TO COM.

Fredericton, July 12th, 1879.

For the "Agriculturist."

Information Wanted.

MR. EDITOR,—Do you think any of the City officials or Aldermen can give the citizens any information as to the rent paid for the building used as a Carpenter's Shop on the Alms House grounds; also what is paid for pasturage by the Assessor, for the pasturing of his cow in the Alms House field. As the public are interested, somebody can surely answer these questions.

Yours &c.,

TAX PAYER.

Frekericton July 10, 1879.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., JULY 12, 1879.

Revival of Business in the United States.

The depression in business which has been so long and severely felt, commenced in the United States in 1873, when there came a collapse of the period of wild feverish speculation that followed after the close of the war. In the time between 1865 and 1873, the United States appeared to be prospering. Millions were borrowed from the old country, gigantic railway works and land enterprises were undertaken, the Great West was opened up, labor was in demand, paper money was plentiful, extravagance and high living and high prices reigned everywhere, everybody felt rich, and the imports, in a great part of luxuries, exceeded the exports by millions. Then the bubble burst; then came a reaction, credit was shaken, work was stopped on the railways, furnace, blasts were blown out, manufactories were closed, regiments of tramps spread terror through several of the States, failures were frequent, and distress was everywhere felt; pinching and economy began to take the place of extravagance, everybody felt poor, and talked poor, and as the saying is, " wore their old shoes," and the imports fell away. The people of United States had to face hard times in grim earnest, until the spirit of gambling and speculation were replaced by habits of sober business, until the license of extravagance gave way to the practice of economy, until things at the expense of great suffering, righted themselves, until the overstocks of the markets were worked off, and a demand arose for goods and wares. Business affairs in the United Stutes are on a sounder basis now than they have been for the last eighteen years, and that country is entering probably on a period of great prosperity.

As an indication of the current we quote the following on the revival of business in the United States, from the American Trade Review :—

" Business continues to revive throughout the country. The Boston *Traveller* reports that the demand for labor in the west has materially reduced the volume of unemployed in the New England States, and that the demands to meet the wants of the West are causing most of the Eastern manufacturers to work on full time. The evidences of an improved condition of affairs increase every day. They do not come from one Section, but from all. This state of affairs must in a short time silence the agitators who have been denouncing the assaults in labor. Factories are running in full time everywhere. In the iron trade, affairs are particularly lively, and every day the prospects grows brighter."

As the depression in the United States was the beginning of and tended to bring about a similar state in Great Britain and Canada, there is some ground for hope that the revival will extend there also. In every nation there are causes peculiar to itself that bring about prostration of business. In Great Britain the strife between labor and capital, the numerous strikes, great foreign competition in the home markets, the uncertainties of the political situation, the fear entertained that the country was about to be involved in a great war, and its actual involvement in small wars, have all tended to stay enterprise and depress business, but there is no doubt, that, as in the United States and Canada, overproduction has been one of the main causes of depression there. During the last four or five years the United States have imported very much less from Great Britain than they formerly did, but when the tide of business is in full revival in the States, and people begin to feel rich, they will again import in larger quantities probably than ever, articles of luxury and finer manufacture from thence, and the overstocks will be worked off; and so, if there comes also a cessation of the labor and political difficulties, and warlike involvements, the revival in the States will tend to raise one in Great Britain, and bring about a more encouraging state of affairs everywhere.

The Letellier Embrogrio.

The Letellier case is not one that is going to be readily settled. Any way that it is looked at, it threatens difficulties. It threatens to bring the Governor General into collision with his advisers in the Federal ministry; it threatens to turn all the Conservative supporters of that ministry into embittered opponents, if Letellier is not dismissed from the Lieutenant Governorship, and it threatens to raise the Liberal party in revolution if he, M. Letellier is dismissed. Somebody, or some party is sure to come to grief before the case is settled.

The British Government, having plenty of pressing and difficult cases of closest Imperial interest to settle, have washed their hands of the Letellier business, and referred it back to the Governor General, but have let it be understood that the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec should be sustained. The Governor-General will probably act upon this cue and resist any pressure that Sir John McDonald may bring to bear upon him to carry out the resolution of the majority of House of Commons and Senate to dismiss M. Letellier. The Governor-General is between the fires, or rather the forces of two parties striving to pull him different ways, and he cannot possibly please both. To make the situation more difficult, M. Joly, Premier of Quebec, made jolly and confident by the victories of the Liberal party in St. Hyacinthe, Rouville and Chambly, which he interprets as strong proof that the action of M. Letellier in dismissing the DeBoucherville Cabinet is approved of by the majority of the people of Quebec, has submitted a series of resolutions to the Local Legislative Assembly, very loyal in their expression of devotion to the crown, and of contentment with the form of government Quebec enjoys under the constitution; but very explicit in the declaration that that institution has secured it autonomy and self-government, and that resistance should be made to any encroachment on its rights. The resolutions set forth that the attempt by the Federal government to dismiss the Lieut. Governor was such an encroachment, and close by thanking the Governor-General "for his firmness and wisdom in resisting the encroachment attempted by the Federal Parliament and government in the rights of the Province, and expressing confidence that His Excellency will continue with the same firmness and wisdom to protect those undoubted rights."

Those resolutions are to be presented to the Governor-General. How will His Excellency receive them ? He will not possibly feel very much gratified at the compliments paid to his wisdom and firmness, but will think the resolutions excessively ill-timed, as designed to draw from him some expression of opinion in support of M. Letellier, that would strengthen M. Joly, and which would place him in antagonism with Sir John McDonald and his Federal advisers. M. Joly, it seems to us, was too precipitate in bringing down those resolutions; they cover too much ground; they ask the Governor-General to acquiesce propositions that he cannot, constitutionally approve of. It is one thing for the Governor-General to uphold a particular act of the Lieut. Governor in dismissing his ministry for certain assigned causes and another to endorse the opinion that the Federal Government, which has the power to appoint the Lieut. Governor has no power to dismiss him for any cause whatever. If such a proposition was assented to by the Governor-General, it would be an admission that the Local Government is independent of the Federal Government, which His Excellency, as a constitutional ruler could not make.

M. Joly's action in bringing up, by his resolutions to be presented to the Governor General, a constitutional question which pits the independence of the Local Government against the authority of the Federal Government, weakens rather than strengthens himself and his party. He ought to have contented himself with the evidences that his party was growing in strength in Quebec and with the indications that M. Letellier will be sustained. By boastfully defying the Federal Government, he gives Sir John an opportunity to shift his ground, and to join issue with M. Joly on the constitution under cover of the heat and dust raised by which he may be able to retreat from a difficult and unpleasant position. For there is no doubt that Sir John finds himself in a very ugly and critical place, and one into which he has been forced against his better judgment, and by the pressure and clamour of a strong party of his Quebec Conservative supporters. He would have been very glad to let M. Letellier alone. But his political sin has found him out. When in opposition he moved for political purposes, to strengthen his party, for the dismissal of Letellier, and he has to bear the brunt of having, when in power, allowed his Quebec party, as the price of their support, to wreak or attempt to wreak their vengeance on the Lieut. Governor. Sir John would have been mighty glad to accept an imperial decision sustaining M. Letellier, and he would probably willingly bow to a decision of the Governor General to the like effect were it not for his Quebec supporters. He is on the horns of a dilemma. If he accepts a decision sustaining M. L. he will loose the support of his Quebec supporters, if he will not accept it, he must resign. Either way he turns he is impailed, unless he can get out of the way of the horns, by raising some grand general constitutional question, taking for his text M. Joly's resolutions. As we said at the outset the Letellier case is not one that is going to be readily settled.

The Slain of Isandula.

The description drawn by the correspondent of the London *Telegraph* of his visit to the camp of Isandula, the scene of the disaster of January, is very weird and ghastly. One of the aspects, and the most revolting of " horrid war," was never more vividly portrayed. It calls to memory the account given, months after the murderous engagement, of the appearance of the defile of the Monogahela, into which General Braddock foolhardily led his troops, who fell by hundreds before the withering fire of the French and Indians crouching in the tall grass, and behind prostrate trees. The dead of Isandula had lain four months before the correspondent saw them, and time and the sun, coming after the ferocity of the foe, had worked woeful havoc with the manly frames of the warriors, brought a look of nameless horror into their faces and bleached their beards and hair to a sickly color. The grass had grown tall, half hiding many of the bodies and the waggons stood rotting and rifled, and articles lay all about the deserted camp in confusion indescribable.

" In a patch of long grass, near the right flank of the camp, lay Durnford's body, the long mustache still clinging to the withered skin of the face. Capt Shepstone recognized him at once, and identified him yet further by rings on the finger and a knife with the name on it in the pocket, which relics were brought away. Durnford had died hard—a central figure of a knot of brave men who had fought it out around their chief to the bitter end. A stalwart Zulu, covered by his shield, lay at the Colonel's feet. Around him, almost in a ring, lay about a dozen dead men, half being Natal Carabineers, riddled by assegai stabs. These gallant fellows were easily identified by their comrades who accompanied the column. Poor Lieutenant Scott was hardly at all decayed. Clearly they had rallied round Durnford in a last despairing attempt to cover the flank of the camp, and stood fast from choice, when they might have essayed to fly for their horses. Close beside the dead at the picket line a gully traverses the ground in front of the camp. About four hundred paces beyond this was the ground of the battle before the troops broke from their formation, and on both sides this gully the dead lie very thickly In one place nearly fifty of the Twenty-fourth lie almost touching, as if they had fallen in rallying square. The line of the straggling rush back to camp is clearly marked by the skeletons all along the front. Durnford's body was wrapped in a tarpaulin and buried under a heap of stones. The Natal Carbineers buried their dead comrades roughly. The gunners did the same by theirs. Efforts were made at least to conceal all the bodies of the men who had not belonged to the Twenty-fourth Regiment. These were left untouched by special orders from General Newdigate. General Marshall had nourished a natural and seemly wish to give interment to all our dead who so long have lain bleaching at Isandula, but it appears that the Twenty-fourth wish to perform this office themselves, thinking it right that both battalions should be represented, and that the ceremony should be postponed till the end of the campaign. In vain Marshall offered to convey a burial party of the regiments, with tools, from Rorke's Drift in waggons. One has sympathy with the claim of the regiment to bury its own dead, but why postpone the interment till only a few loose bones can be gathered ? As the matter stands the Zulus, who have carefully buried their own dead, who do not appear to have been very numerous, will come back to-morrow to find that we have visited the place, not to bury our dead, but to remove a batch of waggons."

A cricket match will take place in the Officer's Square on Monday,afternoon, between the "Eureka" and "Fredericton" clubs. An interesting game may be expected, as both clubs will have their best players in the field.

The Panama Canal.

A short time ago, we mentioned the enthusiasm with which M. De Lesseps, of Suez Canal fame, had thrown himself into the project of constructing a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, and the favor with which it was received in France, and the probability of men of capital, seeking investment, taking hold of it. News of the date of July 5th comes from Paris, that M. De Lesseps had just signed a treaty, " giving him the concession of the Isthmus grant by the United States of Columbia, and stating that matters are to be pushed with the greatest activity, and a new company to be immediately constructed with a capital of 400,000,000 francs." The New York *Herald* thinks that the United States will have something to say about this canal, if the following is not mere bluster and rhodomonitade :—

" It is perfectly absurd to suppose our people will ever permit the nations of Europe to have any share in the control of the Darien Canal, whose chief business will be furnished by the coasting trade of the United States between its ports on the Pacific and its ports on the Gulf and Atlantic. It is certain our Government will not only enter into no entangling alliances with European powers for the protection and regulation of the proposed canal, but that it will neither recognize, nor respect, nor tolerate any European interference in the matter."

It would not be safe to take this statement of the *Herald*, which has always been the Bobadil, the braggart of the American press, as expressing the general sentiment in United States regarding the great canal project; but, still, considering the character and temper of the American people, and their prejudices in favor of the so-called Munroe Doctrine—of keeping America for the Americans—it is not impossible that they may do something to prevent the canal across the Isthmus from being altogether in foreign hands. Did not the late Emperor Louis Napoleon's project of establishing an empire in Mexico, under an Austrian Arch Duke, and propped up by French baynots come to grief, chiefly through American intrigue ? Was not the unhappy Maximilian shot dead, as if he had been a malefactor, and his still more unhappy wife driven mad by the military murder of her husband, and all the miseries and disappointments of the wretched Mexican expedition. As the Americans were determined that no European ruler should establish an empire in a country over which they may secretly hold a prospective claim, so they may come to the resolution not to permit any prince of foreign engineers and foreign capitalists to construct and control a canal in which they have the chief interest. The Americans would not object to the construction of the canal, by foreign gold, probably, if by any means they could secure the whole control of it afterwards. Before adventuring actually in the project, M. De Lesseps should approach the Government and men of capital in the States to secure, if possible, their co-operation. If he proceeds without their countenance, support and sympathy, he may count upon opposition unceasing, and the fate of Maximilian may be typical of his own, and he may be done to death by the difficulties thrown in his way.

British Agriculture.

The woes of the British farmer have moved the heart of Parliament. A motion by Mr. Henry Chaplain, conservative member for Lincolnshire, for a Royal commission to inquire into the causes of the agricultural depression, and how far they were created by or are remediable by legislation, gave rise to a great debate on the evening of Friday, 4th of July. All the more prominent members, conservatives and liberals, took part in it. A number of reasons were given for the depression, bad seasons, the legislation regulating the tenure and transfer of land, the game laws, but all the speakers agreed that one great cause was the competition of America. Mr. Chaplain argued that the future of British Agriculture was dependent upon the cost of production in America, and that if the cost of importation fell below the cost of production at home, the ruin of British agriculture was not far distant. It might be thought that, since it was generally conceded that the depression was really caused by American competition, that it would have been urged that measures should be taken to shut it out. But though a return to protection was suggested by two members, Messrs. Bentinck and McIver, leaders both of the conservative and liberal party, declared that protective measures would never be sanctioned. Great Britain will not recede from its free trade principles, even at the cry of distress of its farmers. Agriculture is only one interest, though of great magnitude. The manufacturing interest is greater. Dear food would go far to ruin that. The immense population engaged in in it, and the working classes generally must have cheap beef and bread, which they would not have if American cattle and grain and dairy produce were shut out of the British markets. As Mr. Bright said, the competition of America will go on increasing. But surely if it does, it is not likely that British agriculture is doomed to be ruined. When it is ruined the decadence of the nation will be assured. But the wisdom of Parliament, the good feeling and the good sense of the land owners, and the energy of the British farmers themselves may be trusted to rescue the agricultural interest from the doom that threatens it. One course many of the farmers in Great Britain can take to relieve their own distress, which was suggested by the Earl Derby, and that is to emigrate to countries where land is cheap, where they can become land owners, where there will be no high rents to pay, or conditioned leases to hamper them, or game laws to pester them, and where they alone will derive benefit from all the improvements they make on their farms.

Our Streets.

Is it because the city has so little money to spend upon the streets this year that the Road Master wants so large a portion of the little he has to lay out, or is it because a certain sum must be thrown away in a loafing, idle, useless manner, whether there is any left for necessary work or not ? Any person taking note of the work done this season, will be led to think that such must be the intention. The streets are full of mud puddles, that could be easily filled up with proper material which would stand the traffic for a long time. Ordinary Road Masters would think this the proper course to adopt. So it would be if the object was to make a good hard road at the least cost, but it answers a better purpose, from the Road Master's stand point, to throw a few shovels full of mud or at least fine sand in these holes, and in a few days they are worse than before, and he and his crew of able, hardworking, industrious voters have another job on hand. And so it goes on time and again. Some of these holes are as good as a gold mind to those men. They have repaired them in this way so often that it would be an interference with vested rights to make any change now. The more work is done in this way the more is required. How long will this system be tolerated ?

The nett proceeds of the Bazaar and Strawberry Festival held by the Ladies of the Christian Temperance Union, on the Thursday of last week, amounted to $261.

The Late Prince Imperial.

The death of the young Prince Imperial has everywhere evoked expressions of pity and sorrow. Even in the bitterest and Bonapartist paper in Paris, political feeling has been forgotten in the sadness of the moment. In England the Commander-in-chief and general officers have headed a movement to erert a memorial to the Prince who died in the British service. An imposing funeral cortege will follow the body to its resting place in the mausoleum, in the chapel of St. Marie, Cambden House, Chiselhurst, where the remains of the late Emperor repose.

The death of the Prince is made sadder by the circumstances under which it took place, and much feeling has been aroused in England. It is looked upon as a culmination to the disasters, arising out of utter carelessness, and a want even of the indominable pluck and staunchness to death that were (and still in the mass are) the characteristics of British soldiers. Lieutenant Carey of the 98th, who headed the reconnoitering expedition, which consisted of six men of Bebbington's Horse, gives the following account :—

" We left Koppie Allein at half-past seven, rode to Itelezi, and waited for the Basutos. The Prince being impatient at their non-arrival we rode on without them to a hill seven miles and a half this side of Ishlawani Hill; reconnoitred with telescopes for one hour, but saw no one; decended to a deserted kraal in the valley below, off-saddled, and rested one hour. I reminded the Prince of the time. He said, " Wait ten minutes." At length, as we were about to resaddle our horses, I saw the black faces of Zulus peering out between the maize stalks all round. The Prince, looking aside, said, ' I see them too.' We leaped upon our horses and rode off amid a sudden volley of musketry from the Zulus, who, as soon as they saw us mounting, rushed forth on all sides from the maize. All rode off. On crossing the donga, 200 yards away, we noticed the Prince's horse following riderless. I expect the Prince had been killed in the kraal. Two of the escort were killed."

Very severe censures are cast on Lieutenant Carey for deserting the Prince in a cowardly way, and it will go hard with him. He will be court-martialled, and in all probability dismissed from the service, and with a stigma on his character the worst that could be cast on a soldier. Better for him to have met death from a Zulu assegai.

Great commiseration is felt for the Empress Eugene. The following account of the manner in which the death of the Prince was broken to her, was given to some one connected with the London press, by Due de Bassano, an officer of the Imperial household, on the day when the Queen sent Lord Sydney to Cambden House with the terrible news :—

" The Empress learned the news, in fact, by an accident last night. Some friend of M. Pietri, hearing of the disaster which had befallen the Prince, wrote him a letter, which he sent by rail, warning him to prepare for sad, and, indeed, painful intelligence. Some how or other the Empress opened this letter, and although unable exactly to comprehend its import, feared unhappy tidings. She knew her son had been ill and she naturally dreaded to hear that he was worse. However, no more intelligence came till this morning when Lord Sydney, who had received a message from Lady Frere, and also the command of the Queen, came round to communicate the terrible news to the Empress, together with the expression of Her Majesty's sympathy. I received him, and upon me the duty divolved of breaking the fearful news. I asked permission to see the Empress, who noticing probably from the expression of my countenance that I was troubled, begged to know at once all I had to tell her. I said, ' Madame, the Prince is ill, more dangerously ill than he was when we last heard.' Immediately Her Majesty exclaimed, ' I will go to him; I must go, to which I replied nothing, and retired. A quarter of an hour elapsed and then I returned to her. I told her that further news had come which made the aspect of affairs still graver. She cried out, ' I will go at once; where is he ?' To which I replied, ' It is too late, Madame,' on hearing which Her Majesty burst into a flood of tears, exclaiming, ' *Mon fils, mon pauvre fils*,' and I left her."

Telegraph Amalgamation.

Last week, at a meeting held in Toronto, the Dominion Telegraph Company concluded an agreement, by the terms of which they lease their lines for ninety-nine years to the American Union Company, who will control and manage them, in connection with their own widely ramifying net work of lines, which, when completed, will give telegraph communication all over the United States. The members of the American Union, of whom the famous or notorious Jay Gould is one, are reputed to form a very wealthy, powerful organization, and their object in securing the control of the Dominion lines is to enable them to compete more favorably with the Western Union. They are incited to the competition by the enormous annual profits made by the last named Company. The terms on which the Dominion Company have leased their lines, (virtually sold them it appears to us,) are sufficiently favorable to the shareholders; certainly they will have nothing to complain of if they are carried out in good faith. They are to receive a rental of $1000 per week—$52,000 per year; paid quarterly, in advance, and the first quarter has already been paid down; they have handed over all their unissued stock at the rate of 80 per cent., for which they have been paid by the American Union $289,000 down; they have received guarantees for the payment of 6 per cent. interest on the sum of $300,000 to bondholders, and of 5 per cent. interest upon their stock, and lastly they will receive $2,500 annually towards the expenses of management in Canada. The general public will have nothing to complain of in the arrangement either, if the competition of the American Union, who will now control all the Canadian business, will give them lower rates of telegraphy. The American Union have dealt handsomely with "The Dominion," and promise fair, but still there is no sure saying what they will do now they have full control of the Dominion lines. We can only hope that the arrangement will prove advantageous in the long run to the shareholders of the Dominion Company, and to the public generally.

The following are the Rules issued by Lt. Col. Wiley, Director of Stores and Militia Property of the Dominion, to Capt. McKenzie, Caretaker of Militia Property in this city, to be observed by the Cricket Clubs who have obtained permission to use the Square as a Cricket ground :—

1. The wickets to be so pitched to prevent damage to public property, or injury to residents.
2. Clubs when playing or practising, are to use every precaution to prevent needless damage to public property.
3. Clubs must prevent by every means in their power the congregation of disorderly characters on the grounds.
4. Should any two Clubs desire to play a match on the same day, the caretaker of Militia property should be notified thereof, the caretaker having previously apportioned the days set apart for the playing of the different clubs.
5. When any damage has happened, the caretaker should be notified of the fact by the club through whom it has occurred.
6. Cricket players are not to trespass upon the private grounds adjacent, nor must they permit the fences or trees to be injured,
7. Disorderly conduct of any kind is strictly prohibited, and persons so offending will be expelled from the grounds.
8. Before any club can be permitted to play on the Barrack Square, it must furnish the caretaker of the Militia property at Fredericton, with a *Bond*, guaranteeing to make good any damage caused.

The Band of the 71st Battalion played for the first time, from the stand in the Officer's Square, on Wednesday night, and afforded great pleasure to the crowd of citizens who were attracted by the performance.

Camp Maunsell.

Camp Maunsell was broken up yesterday at noon, but the gallant Dept. Adjutant General after whom it was named was unable to be present at the interesting ceremony which marked its close, having been called on military duty elsewhere, but he was ably represented by Lieutenant Colonel McShane, Brigade Major.

The time which the quota of men of the 71st Battalion spent under canvas, and in the field has been short, but it was spent to some purpose if we are able to judge of the steadiness of their marching, and the precision with which they went through the exercises and manœuvres on Friday morning. Our opinion, we are free to confess, is of no weight, but we heard a veteran officer who has commanded British Troops pass a high encomium on the men, and that not in the spirit of mere compliment.

The site of Camp Maunsell was very fine, a better one could hardly have been selected. On elevated ground on the right side of the Hanwell road, it commanded a view of a piece of the finest cultivated scenery in the Province. It looked down on a long stretch of level plain, of green and parklike fields on Government House and grounds, and through the trees on the factory, and on the highlands which enclosed the furthest views; the river seen in glimpses of blue water, through green branches, winded down past its gently rising cultured bank, dotted with frequent houses, homesteads, on the left, and on the right rose rough fields, and high umbrageous woods.

In the camp there were five rows of bell shaped tents, one for the staff officers, a row of 5 tents for each of the four companies.

The cooking fires and ranges for each company were placed on a line with the tent rows next the woods, where the excellent rations served out by the Quarter Master, and supplied by Geo. Hatt & Sons, were prepared. At the entrance of the camp was placed the tent of the sentry guards, and higher up, on the fence side of the field the marquees, the general rendezvous after the exercises of the day.

The number of men called out was 187, all of whom, save one Lieutenant who was absent from sickness, were present in camp.

The staff officers numbered seven, viz., Lt. Col. Marsh, Major Staples, Adjutant Beckwith, Surgeon Gregory, Asst. Surgeon Brown, Paymaster J. W. Smith, Quarter Master A, Lipsett.

The quota comprised 4 companies. No. 1, Capt. Christy, Lieut. Bird, and Lieut. Christy and 36 men. No. 2, Capt. Wilkinson, Lieut. Howe, and 2nd Lieut. Waugh and 36 men. No. 3, Capt. Cropley, Lieut. Loggie, and 2nd Lieut. Pinder and 36 men. No. 4, Capt. Alexander, and Lieut. Alexander and 36 men. Staff Sergeants and Band 24 men.

The behavior of the men in camp was excellent; there was no drinking or rowdyism, and only one instance of marked insubordination occurred. The general health of the men was good, though the hardiness of their constitution was well tested by the sun and rain, and put a few on the sick list; on the whole, none find themselves the worse for having been six nights under canvas.

A magnificent morning broke over Camp Maunsell on Friday; its heat increased as the hours advanced, but the hottest rays towards noon were tempered by a delightful breeze. Between nine and ten Camp Maunsell presented to eyes unaccustomed to military ongoings, a lively sight. Sentries were being relieved from guard, bandsmen were reposing or mildly smoking in the shade of the marquee, officers were moving smartly about, the companies were beginning to form in front of their tents, a volunteer in half civilian and military toggery was being remonstrated with by his captain for being late in donning his uniform and falling in, and carriages with ladies and gentlemen from the city were driving into the field. Ushered into the tent of the officer commanding, the visitor found Col. Marsh, cool looking and courteous in a temperature of 90° in the canvas shade, and arraying himself for the field, but ready to afford all information about the camp, and delighted to be able to give so good an account of it.

Towards ten o'clock, (by which time there was quite a number of carriages, amongst which were those of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Wilmot, who brought down the colors in their cases that were to be presented and Judge Wetmore's, and persons on foot in the camp,) a cavalcade of ladies, Mrs. Col. Maunsell and daughter, and gentlemen, amongst whom Lt.-Col. McShane was conspicuous in a white shako and snowy plume, were seen coming up Hanwell road towards the camp. The time for the parade was close at hand.

The parade in front of the camp was held by instructions to Lt.-Col Marsh, from the Deputy Adjt. General, who, unable to be present, owing to military engagements elsewhere, deputed the Brigade Major to act in his stead, to receive the colors of the old York Militia from the hands of E. H. Wilmot, Esq. The colors were in the possession of the late lamented Lieut.-Governor Wilmot, who was the last Lieut.-Col. commanding the 1st Batt., York County Militia, at the time of has sudden death. He made no provisions for the disposal of the colors, and it was the wish of his widow, Mrs. L. A. Wilmot, and of his only surviving brother, Mr. E. H. Wilmot, that they should be presented to the 71st York Battalion of Infantry, then in camp, to be held as their property. The colors, which were presented to Lieut. Col. George Minchen, then commanding the Battalion, by Lady Campbell, on behalf of the ladies of Fredericton who raised the money for their purchase by subscription, after consecration by Archdeacon Coster in 1835. The colors, the Queen's and Regimental are very handsome, and the 71st Batt., may well be proud of them, and cherish the memory of the late Lieut. Col. of the 1st Batt., of York County Militia, who, (in the words of Col. Maunsell in answer to E. H. Wilmot, who had by letter signified to his wish as to their disposal) "as Lieut. Col. of our Militia, as Judge of the Supreme Court, and as a citizen of Canada generally, set a noble example."

The companies having been formed three sides of a square, and the Brigade Major having been saluted, the ceremoney of receiving the colors was commenced. Two drums were placed in the centre of the troops and the two senior sergeants were ordered to receive the colors from the hands of the Mr. E. H. Wilmot. The colors were then uncased and placed across the drums, and the Queen and Regimental color parties formed. Lt. Col. McShane then addressed Col. Marsh, the officers and men of the 71st Batt., reading the letters of Mr. E. H. Wilmot and Col. Maunsell, and Col. Maunsell's letter to Lieut. Col. Marsh the purport of which has been already given.

The gallant Brigade Major spoke for himself a few spirited sentences, saying, (in effect,) that he had been deputed by Colonel Maunsell, who had been called away to attend the Cavalry Camp at Sussex, to take his place. If it had been left to his own option, he would not have preferred to appear there on the occasion, but it had not been optional. He hoped that the same national instincts which had illumined many a dreary page of the national history would preserve, untarnished, the beautiful symbol of the greatness and the courage of the Empire, in the hands of the 71st Battalion. Unthinking persons in this practical age, might suppose that the sentiment which underlies the real greatness of the Empire to which we have the honor to belong, namely its courage, had disappeared; but the last page of its history, of which the ink was scarcely dry, recorded the imperishable exploits of the gallant Coghill and Melville, and the heart of the Empire had been thrilled. There could be no reason to suppose that the gentlemen to whom the defence of these glorious colors was entrusted would fail, if the exigency should arise, to exhibit the same qualities which had distinguished their countrymen in other parts of the Empire. He therefore bespoke for them the kindly sympathies and respect of their fellow citizens and subjects, feeling that they would endeavor by a zealous performance of their duty to deserve it. He joined with them in returning thanks to the good lady who had been the means of transmitting those sacred relics, which hereafter would be a rallying point to them, and it would be one of the most grateful recollections of his life, that he had been the medium of their transmission.

Mr. E. H. Wilmot then read the following address :—

Lieut. Col. McShane, Brigade Major:

The late Hon. L. A. Wilmot, the last Lt. Colonel commanding the 1st Batt., York County Regiment of Militia had possession of this stand of colors formally borne by that Battalion.

As a momento of his long active connection with the Militia of York County, these colors were treasured and preserved by him to the day of his death. It is proper now, that they should be committed to other guardianship.

On behalf of Mrs. Wilmot, and for myself, the personal representative of the late L. A. Wilmot, I request you to present these colors to the 71st York Battalion of Infantry, as representing the York County Militia, and as the most fitting guardian of such a valued relic of the old-time Militia of New Brunswick.

The Queen's and Regimental colors were placed in the hands of Lieuts. Howe and Loggie, who received them on bended knees.

After the ceremony, the regiment was put through battalion and skirmishing movements by Col. Marsh and Major Staples, and the exercises were closed by rounds of cheers for "the Queen," "the Depty. Adjt. General." "the Brigade Major," and "Col. Marsh," After the breaking up of the camp, the companies, preceded by the band, marched to and through the city, and their serviceable appearance called forth many favorable comments.

The target practice of the companies in camp, at the rifle range, was under the charge of Asst. Musketry Instructor, Sergt. Jas. Perkins, and was conducted in a systematic and orderly manner. The figures of merit were as follows:

Capt. Alexander's	Company,	29.18
" Wilkinson's	"	24.88
" Cropley's	"	24.71
" Christy's	"	23.77

The prizes given by the Dept.-Adjt- General for the two best shots were won by Sergt. Smith, of Capt. Cropley's Company, who scored 53 points; and the second by Bugler Sanson, of Capt. Wilkinson's Company, who scored 49 points.

High School Examination.

The closing examination of the High School took place yesterday, which were conducted before the Lord Bishop, Prof. Harrison, Dr. Atherton, Julius L. Inches, Esqrs., and a number of ladies and gentlemen interested in the institution. The exercises included an examination in Geography by Mr. Fenwick, in Junior Greek by Mr. Parkin, in Grammar and Analysis by Miss J. L. Gregory, and in French by Prof. Rivet, and in Hamlet by the Principal. The Bishop presented Mr. Cowie with the Douglas Silver Medal, and Dr. Atherton, Miss Vandine with the Bronze Medal, for general proficiency. Mr. Chapman received a special prize for mathematical attainments from the hands of Prof. Harrison.

DANGEROUS.—We think the authorities should take notice of the state of an old wreck of a building immediately below the residence of Dr. Gregory on King Street. It is surprising the Dr. has not complained of the state in which this building is allowed to remain as inviting tramps and evil disposed persons to set it on fire. It is in the centre of a block of wooden houses, and endangers the whole neighborhood. It should be closed up, or what would be better, torn down.

It would be a pity if any meddlesome person should inform the Governor General, when he is residing at Government House, that the property on the opposite side of the road is owned by Hon. Senator Odell, the state of the fences, or rather the accumulation of old slabs along this beautiful Avenue is not creditable to the Senator, who is supposed to represent this city in the Senate.

Cetawayo has rejected the terms of peace offered him by Lord Chelmsford. It is probable that by this time a decisive battle has been fought. News from the seat of war is waited for with intense anxiety.

The Rev. Mr. Brewer will preach his last sermon, as pastor, in the Methodist church to-morrow evening. He has been appointed to the spiritual charge of the Marysville district.

Gilbert S. Fletcher, of Woodstock, will accept the challenge of J. Legget, of Sussex, for a 75 hours go-as-you-please match, for $150 a side, provided it takes place in Fredericton.

We have received a letter from J. Pickard, Esq., which we are sorry, came to hand too late for publication this week. It will appear in our next issue.

REDUCTION OF THE BRITISH INDIAN ARMY.—The British Government has decided to largely reduce the European army now in India. No further difficulty is apprehended by the Government either in Afghanistan or Burmah, and a considerable reduction of European forces now in India, it is believed, can be safely and advantageously made. The details respecting the regiments which are to be brought home have not yet been made public, but it is thought that within the next few months the British garrison in India will be very materially reduced, and the millitary necessities of the empire be supplied by native Sepoy regiments to a very great extent. If the war in South Africa, contrary to the present opinion, continues, some of the regiments withdrawn from India may be sent to the Cape.

The new Ameer of Afghanistan has been photographed. He was dressed in European style, the coat and trowsers were of white cloth, heavily embroidered with gold, epaulets of gold, and a sash of blue with three gold stripes through it was worn over the left shoulder. The head gear was a steel helmet with gold and a plume of feathers surmounting it. Yakoob Khan parts his hair in the middle, and when the helmet was off the front view of the face presents a wonderful resemblance to the Duke of Edinbargh—this was noticed by more than one of those present. The projection of the forehead over the eyes is marked, but the brow retreats very much, the head being remarkably high and small, the height being behind and not in front. He speaks English slowly but intelligbly and reads it very well.

THE PLAGUES IN RUSSIA.—All the plagues of Egypt, charged with ruin and devastation seem to be going the round of Russia. After the war came the new Black Death, and after that assassination and terrorism. Reports of burning towns and villages now reach us from all quarters of the unhappy country. However much of aggregation there may be in all this, it is certain—for the *Moniteur Officiel* itself records it—that, within the last three weeks, a village near Woronesch, and the town of Grojesz. in the government of Warsaw, have been burned down. Tatarskaja—Pischyla, in Prensa, has also been reduced to cinders; while in the neighborhood 134 farms have been utterly consumed with fire. Though the news of the fires has only recently reached Western Europe, Russia has really suffered from the calamity for more than a year. The official journal, above quoted, records that, in 1878, there were throughout the Empire no fewer than 33,319 conflagrations. In 5,283 cases it was proved to be the work of incendiaries, 8,194 were the work of carelessness; 704 were due to lightning; while the cause of 19,138 great fires could not be accounted for. The calamities do not end with fire; for the south-eastern regions of the empire are being ravaged by innumerable swarms of locusts. In Elizabethpol, the hosts of these terrible insects have been so enormous as to render impossible all traffic in the streets; they have filled the houses, and rendered the gardens barren wastes. The inhabitants have been seized with a perfect frenzy; and they carry holy images and sing sacred songs to discomfit the plague. Again, in Podolia, which the locusts have not yet reached, a blight insect (a kind of plant louse) is doing almost as grievous work among the corn. Its voracity is described as fearful, and the crops in vast tracts of country will be completely ruined.—*Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.*

The ex-Bishop of Zululand, the Right Rev. Dr. Wilkinson, who is now holding the rectory of St. Michael Carhayes, near St. Austell, Cornwall, and who spent six years in Zululand, returning the year before the war commenced, states to a representative of the *Western Morning News* that he always found the Zulus most kindly disposed to the English. He added:—"I cannot help feeling we shall hold the same high position amongst them still, because I have every reason to believe they will feel we are fighting, not against them, but against their King, whose reign has been a reign of terror. There are thousands of Zulus who would be glad to escape from the wretched condition in which Cetewayo keeps them." The King liked to talk to the Bishop of nothing so much as the strength of his army and the strength and constitution of the English army, and was always evidently calculating in his own mind whether he would be strong enough to attack us, The cause of the war, in the Bishop's opinion, was simply this. By taking over the Transvaal and gaining the friendship of the Swazi people, we had so shut Cetewayo in that it was impossible for him to "wash his spears" without coming into collision with the British power. Consequently, as the Zulus lived for nothing but hunting and fighting, it had long been seen inevitable that war must sooner or later occur between them and us. It was, however, a great day for Zululand when the British army entered it, as nothing could improve the wretched condition of the people—nothing could prevent them from being, as Sir Bartle Frere terms them, the great manslaying machine of that part of the world—but the breaking up of Cetewayo's bloodthirsty rule.

A MILK-WHITE THOROUGHBRED.—A true white horse, born white and thoroughbred is understood to be so great a rarity in Europe, unless it be an importation from the East, where it is common enough, that the birth of such an animal has been thought worthy of special announcement in *Le Sport*, which prints a letter to the following effect:—"A thoroughbred mare, Perseverance, of English blood, by Watergaze and a Faugh-a-Ballagh mare, has lately thrown a colt foal (the sire being Bagdad) the description of which is as follows :—White (perfectly snow-white, with a few reddish hairs on the ears, all the hair very short), eyelids and nostrils rose-color, hoofs white. * * * The colt is large, lively and well shaped." It may be mentioned that Perseverance, now belonging, it appears, to the brothers Lange, was bred in France by the late Baron de Nexon in 1858, and that Bagdad, sire of the white colt, bears a name which seems to point to an Arab parentage, but no information is given on that point, and there is or was a French sire named Bagdad foaled in 1862 by West Australian, out of Young Lady, by Ionian. However, all the Bagdads to be found in the French Stud books are described as bay, gray or chestnut, and Perserverance herself is described as bay. So that the color of the white colt has no immediate hereditary justification.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

Says the London *Times*:—Within the present generation, and mainly during the present decade, nearly all the great geographical problems left us by our adventurous ancestors have been solved; all the great lines of exploration have been taken up and worked out with a success that leaves to the future only the details to fill in. The North-West Passage was completed more than a quarter of a century ago; the Australian interior has been crossed and recrossed within the past few years; several bright lines now break up the once mysterious darkness of the "Dark Continent." But sources of the Nile have been traced, and the course of the Congo all but laid down; the Russians have filled up many important blanks in Central Asia; there is now no mystery to speak of or geographers on the North American continent and none of any magnitude on the South; even the great outlines of the ocean bed had have been charted, and now at last after a struggle began more than three hundred years since, the North-East Passage has been made with an ease that makes one wonder why it was not done long ago. A matter-of-fact Swedish professor has shown that with a suitable ship at the proper season this long sought-for passage to "Far Cathay" is a question of only a few weeks. Of Arctic feats there now remains only the "dash at the Pole," and that the North Pole will be reached sooner or later there can be no doubt.

The Grand Trunk Railway is vigourously pushing its way west to Toledo and Chicago. It is stated that the line between Detroit and Toledo will be completed by September, and Mr. Hickson has bought the portion of the line from Port Huron to Flint sold on Saturday last; so that it only remains for Vanderbilt to hand over the middle link or forfeit half a million dollars, and if he should choose the latter then the duplicate line already surveyed will be at once constructed, and as the Grand Trunk Railway already have control of the Chicago State line—into Chicago—the long-desired connection will be completed in the course of a few months. With a terminus at Portland, and the connection with the Central Vermont to Boston, the Grand Trunk Co. can then assert its position as a thorough trunk line and claim its division in pools of the business between the east and west. If the report which has appeared this week be correct—that the American railway presidents have agreed that no cutting shall take place without their sanction, and that a money forfeit shall be put up to prevent subordinates breaking contracts—there is a better augury for the future of the railways which compete for traffic between the Western States and the Atlantic than has existed for a long time past. It is a sensible course, and should commend itself to those who have such large interests to conserve, and, it is hoped, that it will be fairly, honestly and loyally carried out.

Helen Petrie, the Grace Darling of the Shetland Islands, has just died at Kinghorn. She was a native of Unst and during a great gale, May 26th, when, in sight of the islanders, the last of the home-seeking fishing-boats was capsized, two of its occupants being drowned and the other two, clinging to the overturned boat, were drifting out with the tide, she and her sister-in-law, her father, a one-armed man of 70, steering, put off in a small punt and effected the rescue which none on shore would venture to attempt. Helen Petrie, who received the Royal Institution's medal for this feat, was a small woman little used to boats. Two years later she saved three lives under precisely similar circumstances: then she went over to the mainland and ended her days as a domestic servant. "She was a simple-minded, straightforward, strictly pious woman,"