The *Daily Telegraph* writes as follows on the bombardment of Paris:—

It is reasonable to believe that a resolution so grave, both in a strategical and moral sense, cannot have been taken in the councils of King William without deep reluctance. Like our own Cromwell, his pious Majesty has, no doubt, sighed, "I have prayed the Lord, night and day, that he would deliver me from this thing." To those who find the sanctified utterances of the Prussian monarch difficult to reconcile with Christian ideas of a religion of compassion, peace, and love, it will appear a curious scruple to defer the bombardment till New Year's Day, in order to avoid a desecration of Christmas. Without seeking to explain the difficulty, we may in the meantime give the King all the credit which his admirers claim for him, and express the hope that the bombardment, once opened, will be carried out on the most humane principles. Unquestionably, however, the imperious demands of a public opinion outside the military council have had much to do with the sudden resolution to open fire against the famous forts and their redoubted guaners. The Germans have now been one hundred days before Paris, and have kept their huge circle during that long interval firm against sortie, frost, disease, and all the difficulties of supply. North, south, east, and west, indefatigable generals have defeated or checked, one after the other, the armies raised for the relief of Paris. The capital itself contains something like half a million of fighting men, who day by day grow more inured to arms. It is easy, therefore, to understand the cry which has reached the King from the German officers and soldiers, decimated by constant fighting and pining for peace and home. "We have again thrust back France from Paris, and Paris from our lines, and yet the capital neither surrenders nor starves. How long are we to wait? Is Paris more sacred than Strasburg, Toul, Soissons, Montmedy, Laon, and the other places which have yielded to bombardment? The most merciful way in war is the sharpest way. Open, therefore, upon this guilty city, and let us fight her to the death, and make an end, that those of us who survive may go back to wives, children, and Fatherland." Such, no question, is the language of the German camps, and it is echoed by all the soldiery now pressing back the armies raised by Gambetta. Paris herself proclaims by every balloon that she is not distressed for food, and thus indirectly strengthens the demand of the weary Teutonic soldiers. She treats with supreme indifference the news so kindly sent her by Count von Moltke, and declares in so many words that she is both able and willing to maintain for months her attitude of passive resistance. We need not, therefore, feel surprised that the invading soldiery now demand the bombardment of Paris. Viewed from the military standpoint, the operation is a simple necessity: the guns are mounted, the ammunition is ready, and Manteuffel, Von Werder, and Prince Frederick Charles cannot of themselves hold France down for ever. We may, alas! comprehend the terrible recommendations of the last resort better than we can bear to think of the painful sequel.

UNITED STATES.

The correspondence between Mr. Motley and Mr. Fish, relative to the former's recall as Minister at the English Court, appears in the U. S. papers. The *Boston Weekly Spectator*, thus speaks of the matter:—

The first comment which an outsider must make on the Fish-Motley correspondence is that it is not creditable to the public service. In a just retribution of responsibility for the offence, the first fault seems chargeable to Mr. Motley. He fell into the error of supposing that the country would patiently pause to listen to the recital of his wrongs, or to sift the evidence between him and those who had wronged him. It is true that his communication was an official one, and was not addressed originally to the public. But the author never intended and never expected that it would be buried in the official archives, out of range of the general eye. It was an appeal from the administration to the people; and as such, it must be judged not only on its intrinsic merits, but with reference to its effect on the *morale* of the service. In view of all the circumstances, we regret that Mr. Motley chose the course which he did. It may be said that self-respect forbade him to take any other. We totally dissent from that plea. It is admitted that self-respect forbade him to receive the tidings of his removal by retiring to the shade of some dark tree to weep his sad bosom empty; but patriotism forbade him, just as peremptorily to hold fast the mortal sword, and protract an unprofitable controversy. The advice of Macduff is as pernicious as that of Malcolm to an honorable man in Mr. Motley's position. The Minister's brief letter, of July 14, covered all the essential points in the case, was a dignified and forcible protest against the injustice which threatened him, and was sufficient to bring his case before the tribunal of public opinion. As the matter then stood, the administration appeared at a disadvantage. It had incurred the hostility of Mr. Motley's numerous friends, and the displeasure of many of its own special supporters, yet it had no opportunity of defending or explaining its action. This vantage ground Mr. Motley abandoned, and descended into the arena of acrimonious controversy, from which he was soon to emerge with a reputation no better than before. His letter afforded a coveted opportunity, and Mr. Fish promptly and skilfully seized it.

As to the correspondence itself, we presume it will have very little power to change public opinion. As specimens of literary composition, both letters are masterpieces. It is an unfortunate duel, but the principals are skilful swordsmen, and they who are interested in displays of the kind, will find plenty to excite their admiration. The styles of the combatants are widely dissimilar. Mr. Motley writes in a direct, indignant, aggrieved manner,—like an innocent man defending himself against an unknown charge. Mr. Fish is equally earnest, but less ingenious. His letter is marked by an occasional levity, and exhibits a harsh, though perhaps an unintended indifference to Mr. Motley's feelings. In short, it is too much like the effort of an advocate, and less like that of a statesman. Nor is Mr. Motley's performance above criticism. Its tone and spirit are open to objection, whether they be judged by the canons of a severe taste or by the standard of official propriety. Indeed, they who hold that the diplomatic service should be regulated by a discipline as strict as that taught at West Point, will take exception to the entire course of the Minister's conduct. The indirect allusions to the San Domingo affair, and its influence in causing the change in the mission, were sadly out of place. The newspapers have exhausted that subject. Secretary Fish meets all the allegations in question by a square denial, and his word is entitled to some respect. At best it is a matter purely of speculation and conjecture. No useful end could be subserved by its introduction, without any evidence at all, into the body of Mr. Motley's vindication; and we regret that he saw fit to insinuate a charge which he could not, and did not attempt to sustain.

If the correspondence itself is an evil, the publicity given to it is a very serious aggravation of the evil. That this publicity is a necessary result, we have already suggested. The injury to the government from this trifling with an important office and an experienced officer, and from such an exposure of the insecure tenure by which faithful public servants hold their positions, can hardly be exaggerated.

The Herald.

Wednesday, February 1, 1871.

We have received a small pamphlet entitled a Review of President Grant's recent message to the United States Congress, relative to the Canadian fisheries, and the navigation of the St. Lawrence. The work is opportune, clearly argued and temperately written. The writer enters upon his task by laying down the settlement arrived at in 1783. In the negotiations which preceded this treaty, the American Commissioners claimed the same rights to the fisheries which they had enjoyed as British subjects, on the ground that they had assisted to wrest Nova Scotia and Cape Breton from France. They did not obtain their demands to the full, but they succeeded in securing a certain status on the fishing grounds, as set forth in the third article of the treaty of 1783. This arrangement was abrogated by the war of 1812, and from this date until 1818, the fisheries were managed on the broad basis of the law of nations. By this Convention of 1818, the United States "renounced for ever any freedom before enjoyed or claimed, to take, dry, or cure fish on or within three marine miles of any other portions of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbors of British America, save those specified. And it is further stipulated that their fishing vessels shall have the privilege of entering such bays and harbors for the purposes of shelter, repairing damages, purchasing wood, and obtaining water, and it is expressly agreed that they go in for no other purpose whatever, and shall be subject to the restrictions which may be found necessary to prevent them abusing their privileges or overstepping their rights." The right of excluding American fishing vessels from the Provincial ports, except for the reasons stipulated in the Treaty, was, says the writer, formally and continually asserted till 1852. At that date, specific instructions were issued by the Government of Nova Scotia to prevent trading for supplies, and transhipping fish cargoes. The Imperial Government, instructed by the law advisers of the Crown, sanctioned the regulations thus provided; and thus, for thirty-five years, up to the Treaty of Reciprocity, the construction of the Treaty of 1818, its interpretation, and the action taken upon it, were identical with what President Grant now complains of. And the author further proves that with the exception of the "Arms of the Sea," the Americans practically admitted the British construction of the Treaty up to the forming of the Reciprocity Treaty.

In 1866 the American Government by its own act, repealed the Reciprocity Treaty, and refused all overtures towards renewing commercial intercourse on any basis "at all resembling the principles of free trade." It was not to be expected that American fishermen should be allowed the same liberties and privileges under this new state of things, as they had enjoyed under the Treaty of Reciprocity. It was, however, imagined that some intermediate policy could be devised, without falling back upon the provisions of the Act of 1818, by which American fishers might be admitted to some participation in the profits of the fisheries. The licensing system was resorted to, and ended, as all temporizing measures in the settlement of great questions must end, in failure. It did more than fail, however. To it we believe must be referred the discontent and outcry which a reversion to the Treaty of 1818 has occasioned. How completely the License System failed, may be seen from the following figures. In 1866 there were 354 licenses granted, in 1867, 281, in 1868, 56, in 1869, 25. If the interests of the Provinces were at all to be looked to, some change was called for. Americans were enjoying all the privileges of the Abrogated Reciprocity Treaty, and the Provincial fisherman were enduring all the privations. The License System was accordingly done away with, and the Act of 1818 adopted as the basis for regulating the fisheries. Last year it was carried out not perhaps in its full rigor, but certainly with greater strictness than had been shown during the Licensing System.

President Grant in his Message to Congress, complains that the action of the Canadian authorities, during the past fishing season, was marked by an unfriendly feeling—that legislation was carried out in a hostile spirit—that fishermen had received no warning—that American vessels had been seized without cause—and had been refused permission to trade in Canadian ports. To each of these charges, the author replies, and has, as far as we can judge, the best of the argument. To the charge of unfriendliness, he says:—"The Americans enjoyed our fisheries for 10 years, and then gave notice to terminate the treaty, which has been done; and now President Grant charges us with unfriendly feeling, because we will not allow them to enjoy our fisheries in return for the prohibitive tariff by which they exclude our fish." He then enumerates the disadvantages which resulted from a repeal of the treaty, and adverts with some force to the increased duties on the principal articles of production, varying from 25 to 80 per cent., and in the case of coal to 100 per cent. With regard to the charge of not giving American fisherman notice, Secretary Boutwell's circulars are produced, setting forth the abandonment of the system of granting licenses, and the resumption of the Treaty of 1818.

President Grant calls the legislation of Canada novel. The writer replies that the treaty of 1818 was enforced by a law of the Imperial Parliament in 1819, which has been ever since in force. Under it seizures of foreign vessels were made, which were tried and condemned, just as was done last year. It would further appear that President Grant makes another mistake when he says that a strained construction is put upon the Act, when American vessels are excluded from Canadian ports, except for the four objects mentioned in the Act. The Americans themselves never before set up any such pretension—nay, the American Commissioners who negotiated the treaty, informed Mr. Adams that the proposition of limitation to four objects, and to those, only was made by themselves.

The "Review" says that it is a gratuitous assertion on the part of President Grant, that Canada claims a right to exclude the citizens of the United States from the navigation of the St. Lawrence. He adduces the fact that the Welland and St. Lawrence Canals, without which the navigation of the river could not be utilized, have been as freely used by the tonnage of the States as of Canada. He shows what disastrous results would ensue from shutting the Canals, results which we do not believe President Grant would ever think of producing by carrying out the suspension of the bonding system, as he threatens in his message.

However aptly written, the Review has a melancholy subject. The bickerings of two peoples who ought to be on friendly terms, are not pleasant matters to read about. Free and unfettered trade would benefit both countries; and the country which refuses concessions, has little cause to grumble, if concessions be denied to it. President Grant professes his readiness to come to some amicable arrangement on matters in dispute. His Cabinet has hitherto refused to do so. From which we conclude that he and his party have in all probability a political motive to serve, more valuable to them than the restoration of the Reciprocity Treaty would be to us and the people of the United States.

We are happy to perceive that Mr. Laird has got over the contemplation of his own sorrows in connection with the unfortunate New London Election, and betaken himself to the consideration of a subject more worthy of public attention. The Railway occupies the place of honor in his editorial columns of Saturday last. While complimenting him upon the good taste displayed by the change of topics, we are not altogether prepared to agree with his reasoning. He desires the subject to be ventilated. So do we; but while we are satisfied to do so as far as our information extends, we desire something more accurate from our opponent than the statement that, in the year 1858, Nova Scotia spent only £2 3s. 9d. upon its Road Service. Other equally reliable information in the article referred to will be dealt with when we have more time at out disposal than we have at present. It will suffice us just now to remind Mr. Laird that in less than twelve months, Halifax and Nova Scotia will be connected with all the rest of the Continent by railway. The Intercolonial will not then be completed, but the Nova Scotia sections of it will be, and also the remaining link of Western Extension, about fifty miles from the border of New Brunswick into Maine. The New England newspapers, in which, no doubt, Mr. Laird has great confidence, have some interesting speculations about what is to be done when these two short sections of road are completed. We have space to give him only one short extract in to-day's paper. In a future No. we may give him a few more facts to improve his digestion and remove the fog from his intellect. We quote from the *Boston Journal*:—

"The grand forests, the noble rivers, the waterfalls, and the various hunting and fishing grounds of Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and the Islands of Cape Breton, Prince Edward and Newfoundland, will, when railroads reach over and towards them, draw thousands of pleasure and health-seeking travellers to salubrious and invigorating scenes of novelty and recreation. The wonderful phenomena of the tides; the beautiful shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the northern Atlantic; the two great waterfalls of St. John; the fertile intervals of that river, the Kennebecasis, and the Annapolis; the wide-spread salt marshes of Horton and Grand Pre, the classic abode of the Acadians, diked in from the sea, and bearing crops without ploughing or manuring for hundreds of years, as smooth as a floor, and miles in width—that of Tantramar, 13 miles; the one, single, heaped up, in-setting tidal wave of the Petitcodiac, rushing with a roar like that of Niagara; and other remarkable spectacles and objects, too many to be named or numbered, will award visitors from afar. Temporary residences, during the pleasant months of the year, for the wealthy from all parts of the Union, will, perhaps, line the beaches of Shediac, and the gulf shore to the Miramichi, rendered especially attractive by rich beds of native oysters, and salmon fresh from inlets—from its inexhaustible abundance all along the coast, the cheapest as well as the most delicious of all kinds of food. Within five or six days of Europe, a summer emigration from the Old World may find health-inspiring and exhilirating abodes in these interesting regions of the west.

"This leads to a view of the importance of the Europ an & North American Railway, that has a national and world-wide interest. At the close of the next season, when the two remaining links of the chain from Bangor to Halifax are completed, there will be a continuous railroad bed from the latter point to San Francisco. Travellers and freight, without interruption and probably without change of cars, will pass from the Pacific to the extreme northeastern limit of America, the most perilous part of the present trans-Atlantic voyage, namely, from Halifax to New York or Boston, will be avoided. The distance from Halifax to Galway is not quite 2,200 miles—the time of passage on this route, therefore, will be reduced two days.

"But it is more than probable that ultimately the railroad will find its continental terminus and port of trans-Atlantic departure, not at Halifax but at Canso, in the strait of that name, separating Nova Scotia from Cape Breton. This would save considerable distance, both on the land and ocean route. But a still greater reduction of the ocean passage may be accomplished. At Canso the strait is only a mile wide. A track may be laid over the length of Cape Breton to Cape North. From that point to Cape Ray, the southern extremity of Newfoundland, is less than fifty miles. A continuous track over that island might be laid to Trinity Bay. It would be a pleasant relief to the traveller to shift from the constraints of a car to the decks of a steamer for half an hour in crossing to cape Breton or to Newfoundland. From Trinity Bay to Galway Bay is about 1700 miles, taking but half the time now occupied by a steam voyage across the Atlantic, and there is absolutely nothing to interrupt or embarrass the passage from shore to shore, no coasts on either side, no reefs no sandbanks, no shallow banks. The steamers would pursue a straight line from wharf to wharf. It is impossible to imagine an ocean voyage more free from danger, or more securely or easily navigable. The period consumed in the trip would be uniform and as calculable and reliable as by the time tables of the railroad."

This may be considered somewhat imaginative; but we trust it may serve to occupy Mr. Laird's attention for a week.

Hankering after the Flesh Pots.—Our unselfish friend of the *Patriot*, in speaking about the forthcoming census, remarks in reference to the Government:—

"They have the patronage in their hands, and very likely they will, as has been the case with all political parties, make it subservient to party ends."

This does not mean that David would like the printing of the census papers, and the simmering up of all his blatant patriotism. Oh, no! Gentlemen of the Government, give him the job by all means, and close his mouth. We shall hear no more about stipendiary magistrates and the villainy of coalition governments after that.

The *Patriot*, for a few weeks past, has awakened to the astounding fact that the Herald is opposed to godless education. The information must be new and refreshing to its readers. Mr. Laird has at last found a fountain wherewith to refresh his thirsty followers. May he and they be greatly invigorated thereby. We will not attempt to follow him through all his political, personal and educational windings. We will content ourselves with informing him that we are decidedly in favor of secular instruction, being based upon religion. It is almost needless to say that he is at liberty to make all the political capital he can out of this piece of information. As far as Mr. Reilly is concerned, he can assure Mr. Laird that he is in no way bound by the "Memo" upon which the Government is based to suppress his thoughts upon this question either in the Legislature or the press. He is at perfect liberty to endeavor to mould public opinion to his views, and this he purposes doing as long as he can speak or write a word. He has sanguine hopes that the sacred rights of the Christian parent and tax-payer in the matter of education will be recognized by law even before Mr. Laird shall have shuffled off this mortal coil—quite as sanguine as we are that the whistle of the railroad between Charlottetown and Summerside will yet startle him from other equally antiquated and contracted views. Political exigencies, which hurled from power the politicians of the Laird stamp, may have left the subject in quiescence (as far as Legislative action is concerned) for a time; but right and justice will yet settle it upon a permanent basis. With reference to Mr. Laird's *argument*, we may summarize it thus: After having expressed his indignation at our meddling at all with the School question, he proceeds to review (refute he thinks) our views, and says that in Catholic countries, where denominational education is established, infidelity is strong. The same, we think, can be said of Protestant countries—Germany, for example, Scotland and England. David should not forget, however, that it is *in spite* of the teachings of their respective churches, that men become infidels. Here then is the form which his argument must take: In Catholic countries, denominational schools send out infidels—in Protestant countries the same. Let us, therefore, bring up our children infidel at once, and save them in after life the remorse of abjuring the principles which religion instilled into them in their school-days. We hope that Mr. Laird's friends are satisfied with his logic. We say nothing of his own satisfaction, for we know he is always to himself an object of supreme delight.

Temperance.—The third of a series of monthly public Temperance meetings, under the auspices of the Sons of this city, was held at the Division Room, (Athenæum) on Monday evening, the 23d instant. Although the weather was intensely cold during the day, there was a fair attendance. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. J. Chapple, who addressed the meeting on the evils of the Liquor Traffic, and the advantages offered by Temperance Societies in the work of reformation. Mr. C. Full read an extract from a popular author, which illustrated the doings of the demon, Intemperance. Mr. R. M. Barrett delivered the speech of the evening, showing in clear and concise language the benefits resulting from total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, and the importance of refusing the first glass, in order to avoid the fate of the drunkard.—Mr. J. Robinson, in an agreeable and characteristic manner, read a selection from the works of H. W. Longfellow, showing the doings of Liquor and Tobacco. The proceedings were enlivened by the singing of several well selected Temperance songs, which Mr. Pope Fletcher accompanied with the Organ in excellent style. The solo by Miss Robinson was admirably performed. After singing the National Anthem, the meeting, which was altogether a pleasant and agreeable one, was closed.—*Com.*

The Halifax *Reporter* gives information of the loss, at Maria Joseph, of the brigt. *Annandale*, owned by Capt. Michael Foley, of this city. She was laden with fish, and was on the voyage from St. John's, Nfld., to Halifax. She was in charge of Capt. Henry James, at the time, and was only partially insured. The *Reporter* gives the following details of the disaster:—

"The schr. 'Seriole,' Jordan, which arrived here yesterday from St. John's, Nfld., brought the captain and crew of the brigt. *Annandale*, previously reported wrecked off Maria Joseph. Captain James, of the *Annandale*, reports that on Sunday night, 15th inst., about eleven o'clock, in a thick fog, the vessel struck a hidden rock. The pumps were instantly sounded, when it was found the vessel had already five feet of water in the hold, and was fast settling down by the head. The crew had barely time to cut the lashings of the boat, jump into it, and shove off, before the brigt. went down. None of the crew saved any of their effects, and the only thing saved belonging to the vessel was the chronometer. The crew lay in the boat near the scene of the wreck until daylight, when they made for land about four miles distant. The *Annandale* was only partly insured. The crew were taken on board by the *Seriole*, at Beaver Harbor."

We sympathise with Capt. Foley in the loss he has sustained.

Another Vessel Supposed to be Lost.—Mr. John Matheson, of Rustico, left the Island last fall for St. Pierre, with a cargo of produce and some sheep, in a schr. owned by himself. He arrived safe at St. Pierre, having experienced a somewhat rough passage, and, after disposing of his cargo, left again for home. We are informed the vessel was light in ballast, and that, soon after leaving port in company with two vessels bound to Arichat, a violent gale sprung up, and the vessel has not since been heard of. She was navigated by Captain Davidson. A son of Mr. Matheson, and two other men belonging to Rustico, were also on board. Two other passengers, a man and woman, went on board at St. Pierre. In all, six men and one woman. There is every reason to believe that they have all been drowned. One of the Arichat Schooners reached home after an exceedingly rough passage—the other, it is said, has not yet been heard of.—*Isl.*

The last No. of the *Royal Gazette* contains a Proclamation summoning the Legislature of this Colony to meet for the despatch of business, on Wednesday, the 15th inst.

SUPREME COURT.

Ebenezer Marshall *vs.* A. H. Yates.—This was an action of trespass brought by Plaintiff to recover the value of certain seines and boats sold by Defendant as Marshall of the Vice Admiralty Court. It arose out of the seizure of the *S. G. Marshall* by H. M. S. *Valorous*, and the subsequent condemnation of that vessel by the Court of Admiralty. The facts were, that the vessel was condemned with her tackle, apparel and furniture, for breaches of the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, and the Defendant, acting under the instructions of Captain Hardinge, sold the property in dispute, claiming it to be part of her apparel, tackle and furniture. The Plaintiff contended that the decree of condemnation did not embrace this property, and as the question was a purely legal one, the Judge directed a verdict to be returned for the Plaintiff, for the value of the property, reserving leave to the Defendant to move to set it aside, if the Court should be of opinion that the goods in dispute were within the words of the decree of condemnation. Verdict accordingly—for Plaintiff, for £575. Counsel for Plaintiff, Palmer & McLeod; for Defendant, E. J. Hodgson & L. H. Davies.

Ebenezer Marshall & I. C. Hall *vs.* A. H. Yates.—Action of trespass—tried on Thursday, 19th ult. Facts in this case are precisely similar to those above, excepting that the property was owned jointly by Plaintiffs. Verdict was returned in a similar manner—for Plaintiff, for £122. Counsel for Plaintiffs as above; for Defendant, as above.

Queen on the prosecution of Edward Toombs *vs.* Andrew Doyle and others.—This was an action for assault and battery. The prosecutor and his two sons were, on the 30th July last, gathering seaweed on the shore of Rustico Bay. The defendants—Andrew Doyle and his three sons—interfered and forbade them to take the seaweed, as it was partly in front of Mr. Doyle's farm, and partly in front of a piece of land known as Capt. Marshall's acre, where the defendants had purchased the right of taking seaweed from Capt. Marshall. The defendants proved their right to take seaweed, both in front of their own land and in front of Capt. Marshall's acre. The Judge directed the Jury that the defendants were entitled to the seaweed cast on the shore on both fronts, and that the defendants were justified in using such force as was necessary to protect their property in the seaweed. The prosecutors contended that the assault was excessive and wanton, &c., &c. The Jury, after a consultation of 5 or 6 hours, were unable to agree, and as they were discharged, and as they brought in no verdict, the defendants were virtually acquitted. For the prosecution, the Hon. E. Palmer & Solicitor General; for the defence, Messrs. Palmer & McLeod.

I. C. Hall and Wm. Heard *vs.* F. W. Hales, Secretary Marine Insurance Company.—This was an action of assumpsit on a policy of insurance tried before Mr. Justice Peters and a Special Jury. It was brought to recover the amount insured on the cargo, jointly shipped by plaintiffs in schr. *Model*, of which Mr. Heard was owner. The insurance was effected on 10th Dec., 1868, from Charlottetown to a port in Cuba. The vessel sailed on that day and after having been stranded in Charlottetown harbor, at the Block House, and on St. Peter's Island Bar, was subsequently frozen in during the winter in the Straits. In the month of April she succeeded in working out of the ice, and in reaching Port Mulgrave, N. S. The cargo, which consisted of fish in drums, and potatoes in barrels, was there examined, and found to be in a damaged state. The Captain entered a protest there and a survey was held upon the cargo, under which it was ordered to be sold for the benefit of all concerned. The cargo was subsequently taken to Halifax and sold, and the action was brought to recover the balance due on the amount insured, after deducting the salvage or net proceeds of sale. The plaintiffs also claimed the right to deduct the freight for the voyage or a *pro rata* freight from the salvage. They contended that the sale of the cargo was for the interest of the assurers, as, though existing in species in Halifax, from its damaged condition it could never have reached its port of destination, preserving the character of fish and potatoes. The case was therefore one of total loss. The defence was that the cargo was not in such a state as to justify its sale, and that it was the duty of the Master to have dried, repacked and reshipped it for Cuba. The case lasted four days and ended on Tuesday, 24th, and the Jury returned a verdict of constructive total loss—£243, of which is made up as follows:—

Amount insured on cargo,	£1000	0	0
Proceeds of sale of cargo at Halifax, without deducting freight,	621	13	6
The Company paid into Court,	100	0	0
The plaintiffs owing on the premium,	35	6	0
	£756	19	6
Amount verdict,	£243	0	6

For plaintiffs, Ailey & Davies and C. Palmer and Longworth; for defence, E. Palmer, Haviland & Brecken.

Tuesday and Wednesday, 24th and 25th, the Court was engaged in trying Summary Suits and Appeals. The Chief Justice on Wednesday, 25th ult., administered the following sentences to prisoners, arraigned and decided this Term.

Queen on prosecution of Alex. Dixon *vs.* Arch. Bohannan and Arch. McTavish.—Indictment for larceny—prisoner sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with hard labor.

Queen on prosecution Rustico Bank *vs.* Smith Robins.—Indictment for larceny—prisoner sentenced to 12 months with hard labor.

On Thursday, the 29th, the Grand Jury having made a presentment against the City Council in the matter of granting Tavern Licenses, were discharged.

Queen on prosecution of James McRae *vs.* Maria Cusack.—This was an indictment for larceny of money, from prosecutor's person, on which a true bill was found by the Grand Jury, this Term. As no time was allowed for prisoner's trial, she was, this day, discharged, on her own recognizance.

Court adjourned from Wednesday, 25th ult., until last Saturday, when it again met for the purpose of hearing argument. In the suit of J. R. Bourke, jun., *vs.* John Holman, absent debtor. A *rule nisi* was granted to set aside the judgment on the ground of irregularities in the proceedings.

The *rule nisi* granted to set aside the verdict in the Ejectment Suit between Theoph. DesBrisay *vs.* Margaret Stewart, involving the title to Lot 18, was returnable this Term, and was argued by Counsel. No judgment or decision upon the legal point has been given by the Court..

The *rule nisi* obtained some time since, to set aside a verdict on the Ejectment Suit brought by John A. McDonell *vs.* Charles McIsaac, and which was heard in June, 1868, was also argued this Term. The legal questions involved in this argument arise upon the construction of the will of the late Capt. McDonald, father of the late Hon. Donald McDonald, of Tracadie, and the decision will probably be given next Easter Term.

On Saturday last a *Rule Nisi* was obtained to set aside the verdict rendered on the first day of the term in the plaintiff's favor, in the suit of Richard M. Gidley *vs.* Edward Meagher. This application was made on the ground that the action was brought on a joint and several bond, entered into by the defendant and another party, and by a resolution passed by the Board of Trustees of the Lunatic Asylum, the other party to the bond was discharged. The Rule was argued on Tuesday, the 31st ult., and the Court decided that this operated as a discharge of the defendant. The verdict was accordingly set aside.

A *Rule Nisi* was granted on Monday last, for a new trial in the suit of Heard & Hall *vs.* F. W. Hales, Secretary of the Marine Insurance Company, which will be argued on Monday next, the 6th February, inst.

Mr. John Crawford, Law Student in the office of the Hon. John Longworth, passed a highly satisfactory examination this term, and was admitted an Attorney of the Supreme Court. We congratulate Mr. Crawford upon his admission, and wish him a very successful career in the profession which he is about to enter.

Before concluding our notice of the proceedings of the Supreme Court, we have one suggestion to make which will commend itself to all rightly constituted minds. For many years past, the Grand Jury have manifested great zeal in punishing all infractions of the license laws, which have come under their knowledge. For this we commend them, as it is nothing but what morality and the obligation of an oath require of them. But in discharging this important duty, we do not think it is necessary to work upon the information of anonymous informers. Any person whose conscience impels to communicate to the Grand Jury his knowledge of the infraction of the license laws, and especially in the vending of liquors and playing of cards on Sunday, should have no hesitation in giving his own name to the Jury,—not necessarily for publication, as the newspapers say—because the Jurors are bound by the solemnity of an oath to keep the informant's name secret—but as a guarantee of good faith. Otherwise the names of innocent parties may be sent in to the Grand Jury by some malignant individual, who seeks in this way to gratify a vindictive spirit or wanton mischievousness, rather than the suppression of an evil. Such cases have occurred, and no reparation can be made to the victim whose character has suffered more or less from this system, which is in no way removed beyond the Spanish Inquisition. Men's reputations and their rights and privileges as British subjects and free men, demand that this species of secret informing be done away with. It is an innovation which neither the Court nor the Grand Jury should countenance or tolerate.

We are glad to see the names of several Catholics among the list of Grand Jurors for the present Term. While thanking the Sheriff for the reform which he has introduced in this respect, we respectfully suggest to him that there is margin for still further improvement in this direction, which we expect to see carried out in future Terms.

Note.—In our report of the previous proceedings of the Supreme Court, we omitted to state the name of the defendant in the suit of John Roberts *by* Edwin Roberts, his next friend *vs.* Mathew Murphy.

News Items.

LOCAL.

Judge Young, with his usual large-hearted liberality, contributed £5 towards the Convent Tea.

Georgetown is henceforth to be favored with a tri-weekly mail, and Summerside with a daily mail.

The *Catholic World* and other publications received by late mails, will be reviewed in our next number.

The *Argus* has discovered that the Herald steals some of its information. This is information with a vengeance.

The Saving's Bank is as full up of money as the law will admit of. This speaks well for the prosperity of the country, and for the economical habits of its people.

Father McKenna, of Summerside, was presented with a sleigh and set of furs, worth £40, on the 25th ult., by some of his Summerside and Indian River parishioners.

Don't forget the grand tea in the Hall of the New Convent to-morrow (Thursday) evening. A very pleasant time may be anticipated.

The railway question was to have been discussed at a public meeting in Georgetown on Friday last. We have not heard of the result up to the hour of writing.

A Skating Rink for Charlottetown is on the *tapis*. To make it pay it should be built in such a locality as would enable it to be utilized for bathing purposes in summer.

A Sunday School Tea, in connection with St. James' Church, was held in the Market Hall on Wednesday night last, and is pronounced to have been a happy affair to all concerned.

The Literary Class, Y. M. C. A., holds a social Entertainment at their Rooms on Tuesday evening next. This meeting was announced for last evening, but was unavoidably deferred on week.

Messrs. Compton & Co., of Halifax, will please accept our thanks for their price list of Mr. Geo. H. Morril's Printing Inks.—Messrs. Compton & Co. are the agents for these inks in the Maritime Provinces.

The *Church Observer*, a weekly paper, devoted to the interests of the Episcopal Church, and published in Montreal, at the rate of $2 per annum, has reached our *Sanctum* and has been placed on our exchange list.

Thursday next, the 2nd February, being the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the services at S. Peter's Church will be as follows:—Holy Communion, 7.30 a. m.; matins, 9.30 a. m.; evening (choral with sermon) 7.30 p. m.

A Farmer's Club has been formed at Georgetown, with Wm. S. McGowan, Esq., as its President, Michael Hession and Geo. Parker, Esqs., Vice Presidents, Geo. Moar, Esq., Treasurer, and Boswell McGowan, Esq., Secretary.

The annual Report of the Charlottetown Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which was held in Scott's Hall a few nights ago, shows the Company to be in a satisfactory condition. Thirty new policies were issued during the past year, and but three allowed to expire. The balance in favor of the Company up to the 31st of December, was £4787 19s. 8d.

A petition to the Executive Government is in circulation for signature, praying that Capt. E. Marshall be reimbursed from the public funds for the loss sustained by him last summer, in having his vessel, with most of her contents, seized and sold. As will be seen from our report of the proceedings of the Supreme Court, the matter has already been referred to that tribunal and disposed of, rendering unnecessary, we presume, the contemplated appeal to the Government.

COLONIAL.

The Widow of the late Hon. T. D. McGee, was engaged in prayer at her own bedside, when suddenly summoned to meet her God.

The Ottawa Board of Trade passed a resolution on the 21st ult., in favor of a uniform international decimal system of measures, weights and coins.

General News.

Sympathy with the Pope.—The Catholic papers everywhere, says the *N. Y. Tablet*, are full of reports of immense meetings, and earnest protests in behalf of the Holy Father. The whole Catholic world is stirred to its very depths by the flagitious outrage offered to the Head of the Church, and through him to all his spiritual children. In England, in Ireland, in Scotland, and all over North America, the hierarchy, the clergy and the laity have entered their solemn and earnest protest against the spoliation of the Holy Father, and the seizure of the estates of the Church by the King of Sardinia. In due time we shall hear of similar demonstrations from the remotest parts of the world, echoing and re-echoing the universal protest of Christendom against the wholesale robbery of Victor Emmanuel, and the grievous wrongs of the Vicar of Christ. Some may sneer at this world-wide manifestation of sympathy with the Pope, and still more at the unanimous demand of Catholics that his temporal power be restored. Let them sneer who may, they will find that the united action of the Catholic people, forming a part, and in many instances, a considerable part of the population even of so called Protestant countries, must and shall have its effect. The voice of over two hundred millions of the spiritual children of the Church, speaking as one, and demanding the restoration of the estates of the Church to their rightful sovereign, cannot fail to produce its effect. None know this better than Victor Emmanuel and his ministers, and they shall probably know it better still before many months go by.

German Insults to McMahon.—Some time ago it was announced that Marshal McMahon had left Pourru-aux-bois, where his health had been restored, in order to repair to Wiesbaden. To-day we have learnt a fact which ought to be placed in relief. The Germans charged to accompany the Marshal, wished him to declare again his adhesion to the capitulation of Sedan. The Marshal refused energetically, upon which they threatened to have him conveyed to Wiesbaden between two gendarmes. "Do so," he replied, "but I will not sign." As far as he was concerned, they were ashamed of their harshness, and did not insist upon it any longer. They made him give his word to repair to Wiesbaden, and let him go. But they did not act in like manner to his two aides-de-camp, MM. d'Abzac and d'Harmint. They wished to force them again to sign the capitulation, and, upon their refusal they were sent to their destination on foot, and between two gendarmes. Having arrived at their journey's end, one of them, the young Vicomte d'Armint, declared to the German chief that after the treatment which they had received, he no longer considered himself bound by his parole, and that he should attempt to escape whenever he got the chance, in order to offer his services to France.

The offence charged upon Mr. Motley by Secretary Fish, has some points of resemblance to a proceeding for which the late William L. Dayton, Mr. Lincoln's Minister to France, was censured by Mr. Seward. Mr. Motley, it will not be forgotten, was accused of departing from his instructions, and of pressing his own private opinions, instead, on the British Government. The case of Mr. Dayton occurred in connection with some negotiations in regard to the declaration of Paris. On the outbreak of the rebellion he had been instructed to announce the unqualified adhesion of the United States to that compact, by which act Mr. Seward expected to bind the Government of France to regard the rebel privateers as pirates. Mr. Adams, at London, was similarly instructed. Both France and Great Britain had already recognized the rebels as belligerents, and Mr. Dayton saw that they agreed in regarding Mr. Seward's proposition as prospective, only, and not to be construed as affecting the South. He, therefore, delayed acting on his instructions till he could communicate his fears to the State department. Mr. Seward was quite indignant that any such difficulty could be raised, and wrote to Minister Dayton to that effect, directing him to go on and complete the negotiation. He did so, and the issue was exactly as he had predicted.

The French Minister would sign the protocol only on the express condition that it should not be held to question the right of the rebels to issue privateers. Of course this was the very right which Mr. Seward wished to restrict, and the negotiation was by his order terminated. Mr. Dayton's sagacity was fully vindicatee, and but for that and the frankness of the French government in explaining in advance its understanding of the treaty, Mr. Seward's precipitancy might have involved the two powers in a serious complication.

The Big California Tree.—A section of the "Orgiinal Big Tree" of Calaveras county, California, recently arrived in Boston for shipment to Europe, where it will be exhibited. The tree from which this section is taken was cut in 1853, five men working twenty-five days in felling it. The stump smoothed off, now easily accommodates thirty-two dancers (with musicians) at four sets of cotillons. Theatrical performances have been given on it, and in 1858 a newspaper, "The Big Tree Bulletin," was printed in a house built upon its surface. This tree, when standing, was three hundred and two feet high (near a hundred feet higher than Bunker Hill monument or the spire of Park Street Church). It is estimated that it contained nearly six hundred thousand feet of inch lumber. From a section forty feet long a hotel was constructed. A saloon and double bowling alley, more that eighty feet long, are built upon a portion of the prostrate trank. The bark was from fifteen inches to two feet in thickness, and a section was brought to New York for the Crystal Palace. A portion was also sent to the crystal palace, England, at the time of the World's Exhibition. The estimated age of the tree was about twenty-five hundred years. The weight of this section, which is a cross cut (the solid diameter and full circumference of the tree) at thirty feet from the ground, is eight thousand pounds, its diameter nearly sixteen feet, and circumference forty-six feet. It is the only section of the solid wood of the tree ever