

wrongs to British subjects, and he was not disposed to allow of further absurd demands upon us. At the same time, he failed to see that the United States would be satisfied on the question of the Fisheries unless we gave up our rights. He said he could not congratulate the country on the state of Manitoba. He then complained of the additions to the Cabinet, especially of the selection of Mr. Tupper, on whose conduct and career he commented severely. He then spoke of the Intercolonial road, and regretted the absence in the resolutions of any reference to a canal at Sault Ste. Marie. He concluded by bestowing a eulogium on the promptness and courage manifested by the volunteers on the occasion of the last Fenian raid. Sir JONES replied. He said, with regard to the American complication, that they need be under no misapprehension, for England would never be so base as to trample on our rights, and that our interests on the Fishery question will not be neglected. On the Manitoba question he thought there was room for congratulation. A large province had been acquired without bloodshed. As to the first disturbance, the Government could no more have interfered than they could have interfered with the Jamaica insurrection—that being at the time the duty of the Home Government. He hoped no further endeavours would be made to keep alive feelings of animosity on subjects now past and gone. He would venture to promise, with reference to the Intercolonial, that the House would be satisfied. Dr. BOWEN found fault with the so-called conciliation policy of Governor Archibald, and regretted that after the entrance of Manitoba into the Union, the murderers of Scott, who were still in the province, should be allowed to go unpunished. Mr. MASSON (Terrebonne) defended the action of the Government. Mr. MILLS explained that the Government had a right to punish the murderers of Scott, but, he thought had it not been for this crime, the people of Red River had not been so wrong as was generally believed. At the instance of Hon. Mr. DUNDAS the wording of the fifth paragraph was altered so as not to commit the House. The remaining paragraphs having been passed a committee was selected to draft an Address. The House adjourned at 10 p.m.

Feb. 17.—After some preliminary business relating to Grand Trunk matters, Mr. MACGREGOR moved for copies of the instructions given to the Governor of Manitoba,—carried. The Public accounts were then laid on the table. Several motions were carried, among them one for the correspondence with the Home Government relating to the North-West. In reply to a motion of Hon. Mr. HOLTOS respecting American silver, Sir FRANCIS HICKES related the steps taken for the withdrawal of the silver, nine millions of which had been exported, leaving \$1,250,000 in circulation; \$750,000 of new coins, exactly proportionable in fineness to the sterling coin, were brought out at a profit of something like \$14,000. Sir A. T. GALT, on his motion for the correspondence relating to the Fisheries, stated that the whole correspondence should be made public in order to remove the feeling of mistrust that pervaded the country. Sir JONES acquiesced in the importance of publicity, and assured the House that all papers of importance should be sent down. Sir A. T. GALT moved for all papers relative to the defence of the country, and to Mr. Alexander Campbell's mission, and for information on these subjects. He wished to know what was the policy of the Home Government in the matter of the defence of Canada. He alluded to the sudden return of a large portion of the Red River force, and censured, in severe terms, the author of the Blackwood article. Sir GEO. CARTER remarked that the papers to be brought down would contain an assurance from the Imperial Government that the withdrawal of the troops was intended only for times of peace, and that England would still hold it her duty to defend Canada as a portion of the British Empire. The motion was adopted, after some remarks from Mr. JONES, of Leeds. The House adjourned at five p.m.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

LONDON, 1st February, 1871.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

In my last letter I announced that there were rumours of the capitulation of Paris, and that she could hold out but for a short time, and you will have since received the announcement by Cable that that splendid capital no longer defies the armies that have invested and besieged her for over four months. Paris has done her best, borne her fate gallantly to the last, and now—when food fails—and with it all hope, she sends Favre to make an honourable peace. The following was the telegram received from Versailles, January 29:—"An armistice of twenty-one days. A constituent assembly will be immediately called together in Bordeaux. The whole of the Forts will be surrendered to-day. The army remain in Paris as prisoners of war. All arms with the exception of those of the National Guard and one Division will be delivered up. Communication with Paris will be provisionally restricted. Revictualment allowed." And subsequently the following:—"An armistice having been signed and the revictualing of Paris having been agreed upon between Bismarck and Favre, —all goods, especially flour, corn and coal, that the trade may have in store to this effect, should be forwarded at once and by the fastest trains to Dieppe, where the French Government have made arrangements and are willing to buy the same."

The armistice will expire on the 19th of February, and in the meantime how much suffering, distress and bloodshed—oh, ye horrors of war!—will be checked.

Paris will soon now be open and "postea balon" pass into an historical curiosity. The war contribution demanded by Count Bismarck from the City of Paris is £8,000,000 stg.

For the moment all thought of the price to be paid succumbs to the feeling that "Paris has capitulated" and the sufferings endured therein for one hundred and thirty days, by men, women, and children will be relieved. When sympathizing with the fallen we must not, however, entirely forget the sufferings endured by the victors, and the many homes that now mourn the loss of fathers and sons and brothers. Thecession of Alsace and a part of Lorraine will no doubt be made, on the part of Count Bismarck, a basis of the treaty for peace. A Bonapartist restoration in France is the subject of

many rumours, and the ex-Emperor and Empress are believed to have furnished Bismarck with terms as a basis of peace.

Reuter's telegram from Berlin says, however, that "if Favre accepts the proposals made to him by Bismarck, Germany will recognize the French Republic."

The following curious fact shows the feelings of the Londoners touching the war. In the Mr. Strachan's burlesque, "Cœur de Lion," now performing at the Strand Theatre, one of the characters is an Austrian Archduke. It happens that the individual who represents the Archduke resembles Bismarck, —and in part of the play King Richard tramples on the Austrian flag, at which the audience go wild with enthusiasm, identifying the actor with the obnoxious Prussian statesman.

Numerous complaints have been made to the Lord Chamberlain by the resident Prussians, who ought to know the difference between their own and the Austrian colours. I have suggested that they demand that the Austrian Archduke should not be represented by one who so closely resembles Bismarck.

In my last I mentioned about the transmission of despatches by carrier pigeons, in quills attached to their wings. I will now tell you the *modus operandi*. "The paper containing the communications are photographed by 'The London Stereoscopic and Photographic Company' on their almost transparent paper about an inch and a half long. On these impressions the words *The Times* can only be seen by the naked eye, and six narrow bands representing the six columns of printed matter forming a page of the newspaper. Under the microscope the brown spaces become legible and every line distinctly copied. The photographs are then sent to Bordeaux for transmission by carrier pigeons to Paris. On arrival there they are then magnified by the aid of the magic lantern to a large size and thrown upon a screen. A staff of clerks immediately transcribe the despatches or messages and send them off to the places indicated by the advertisers.

The clever little pamphlet I mentioned in my last, "Dame Europa's School," of which over 60,000 copies have been sold, is now said to be written by the Rev. H. W. Pullen, M. A., Canon of Salisbury Cathedral. There is now a reply just out under the title of "John Justified."

The address in reply to the Queen's speech will be moved in the House of Commons by Major Hamilton, M. P. for South Lanark, and seconded by Mr. S. Morley, senior member for Bristol. The mover and seconder in the House of Lords I gave you in my last.

Her Majesty will, after the opening of Parliament, spend a week at Claremont and return afterwards to Windsor about the 20th February. She is said to have been suffering from an attack of neuralgia.

It is stated at Vienna that the marriage of one of the daughters of the ex-King of Hanover with an English Prince is arranged,—of course, meaning the Duke of Edinburgh.

Tuesday, the 21st of March, not 19th as stated before, has been decided upon for the marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. In the Albert Memorial Chapel, Mr. Seabrook, Her Majesty's Inspector, is busy preparing a covered way between the Deanery and the Chapter-house of St. George's Chapel, for Her Majesty when she passes through privately to the Royal Closet, within the choir of the sacred building. On the south side of the choir it is proposed to erect a gallery for the accommodation of the numerous members of the Argyll family invited. The musical portion of the ceremony will be conducted by Dr. Elvey, the organist, and it is anticipated besides the gentlemen and choristers of the Chapel Royal of St. George, and the members of Her Majesty's band will be also in attendance.

A large meeting of the subscribers to the *Kintyre* present was held lately at the Town Hall, Campbellton, and the Chairman read a letter from the Marquis of Lorne, in which he stated that "a row of pearls would be an acceptable present from *Kintyre*," adding "that the clan Campbell gave a pendant and that of *Kintyre* gave the necklace of pearls,—the two might be worked together."

Owing to the recent frost, ice has again appeared on the ponds to the delight of skaters, and one young lady, a Miss C., formerly of Montreal, is the admiration and wonder of the frequenters of the Serpentine, Hyde Park.

With regard to the Alabama claims, Mr. Gladstone in a letter in acknowledgment of a memorial from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce in favour of the settlement of these claims, writes—"I beg to assure you that for years past the Government has attended to every allowable proceeding with a view to a settlement of these claims. We continue to be in the same disposition, for we cordially agree in the opinion that the long unsettled state of the controversy is not for the advantage or honour of either country."

General Schenck, the newly appointed Minister from the United States, is expected here about the 14th of next month.

I note "British Columbia" has accepted the proposals of Confederation, but we do not think "Newfoundland" would be induced to come in now unless this fishery question is differently arranged than that now proposed and said to have been all but agreed upon.

The salmon fishing season opened to-day in English waters. During this cold and severe weather salmon angling would be found pretty hard, though the enthusiastic salmon angler will trudge along a river all day in slush and cold for the chance of stirring a fish. There are many things in English waters combined to make salmon angling a very uncertain sport. The rivers are so drained of water for canals and other purposes that when the dry season arrives the salmon have no water to travel upwards. The estuary fisheries too are so closely fished by nets that a very small proportion of the fish that enter it can ever arrive at the upper water. I have had conversations with some parties with regard to the present working of our Fish and Game Acts and the happy results, and think England can take a wrinkle from us particularly on the Fish question.

The great match for the *championship* of England at billiards was played on the 30th January, between T. J. Bennett and Young Roberts, in which the latter was victorious—the score being 1,000 to 63. Cook, who beat Roberts, senr., some years ago, and was afterwards beaten by young Roberts, has now challenged the present champion, and it is said will have a good chance of redeeming his laurels. The game played here is more like French billiards than English,—for the pockets are so narrow and consequently so difficult that cannons are played for in preference to the winning and losing hazards, the chief beauty of the English game. I should like to see Joe or Cyrille Dion play with Young Roberts or Cook.

The Oxford and Cambridge crews have commenced practice for their annual struggle.

The *light blue*—the victors of last year—are the favourites. His Royal Highness Prince Arthur has returned to Woolwich after more than a month's leave and resumed his duties as lieutenant of the Rifle Brigade.

The finest piece of acting I have seen for some time is now being performed at the Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, in which Mrs. Rousby takes the part of the "Lady Elizabeth," in Taylor's Historical play of "Twixt Axe and Crown." "Lady Elizabeth" is very pretty, graceful, dignified and perfectly enchants the audience.

The ceremony of opening "The Royal Albert Hall" of Arts and Sciences by Her Majesty, is to take place on Wednesday, the 29th March, and through the especial kindness of a friend I have obtained tickets, which are limited and not for sale.

The building which is now being completed is situated in Kensington Gore, opposite to Hyde Park, and reminds me, though on a larger scale, of our beautiful Crystal Palace erected in commemoration of the visit of the Prince of Wales.

Opposite the building in the Park is the monument now nearly completed, called "The Albert Memorial," erected in memory of the late Prince Consort.

ICE HARVESTING AT TORONTO.

When *Punch* portrayed the Cockney tourist asking the astonished waiter of a country inn for ice, and he replied:—"Surely you don't expect ice in August, and the weather so warm!" the scene of the joke could certainly not have been laid in Canada; for in this country ice in summer is an article of almost prime necessity and of universal use. The mode of harvesting ice, and the construction of houses for its keeping, are familiar to every resident of the country near the lakes and rivers which so plentifully abound; but no one can compute the amount of human misery that is prevented, or the loss of property that is averted by carrying this precious legacy of winter into the very lap of summer. In warmer latitudes the manufacture of ice by artificial means has grown into an important branch of trade, but Canada, happily, has an inexhaustible stock of the raw material, and has only to cut, cart, and house it, to secure a full supply for the season. It is served daily throughout the cities and principal towns in quantities of about 10 lbs. per day and upwards, at rates which probably do not average more than five dollars per ton, though in many of the cities in the United States it costs several cents per lb. The procurement and easy housing of ice is an advantage in favour of Canada which, we believe, is too little appreciated, and not utilised as it ought to be, notwithstanding the very general use of the article in city families. Every farmer ought to have his ice house—many of them have—and procure his own stock, not merely as a source of comfort at his table, but for the purpose of preserving perishable produce from the destructive effects of the summer heat. Our illustration gives a sketch of the cutting and carting away of ice on Toronto Bay, opposite the Union Railway depot, and the process is identical with that pursued in most other localities where ice-fields are worked. On the Ottawa, and at other places, accidents have sometimes occurred from the carelessness of the ice-gatherers in not marking off the places where they have been cutting; but the police authorities should keep a close watch as to that matter, and if existing laws are not sufficiently stringent to protect the public, they should be amended. Having once read of an Irishman who, on going to cut ice for the first time, proposed to "toss" with his companion as to who should "go below," we may state that the operation of cutting ice is performed without the disagreeable necessity of going under water, and the blocks are readily "hooked up" and loaded without the slightest danger to the workmen, so long as they exercise reasonable caution. Working with ice is far more dangerous in summer, when the sudden chill which a large body of it gives to those who come near to it has been often known to seriously injure the health.

THE R. A. ON A SNOW-SHOE TRAMP.

In this issue we present a sketch of the Royal Artillery at Quebec on a snow-shoe tramp near that city. The view was taken by the artist near Bijou, going towards the St. Charles River. The Artillery go out every week for a march in snow-shoes, to keep themselves in training, we suppose, for the efficient performance of their duty in the event of a winter campaign. The force stationed at Quebec consists of the 5th Battery, 3rd Brigade, R. A., Col. Chandler, R. A., commanding. The other batteries are stationed at Halifax, Barbadoes, Bermuda, Jamaica, and in England. We understand that this exclusively wintery, and peculiarly Canadian, exercise of tramping in moccasins and snow-shoes is never imposed upon the troops when the thermometer ranges below Zero.

Temperature in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Monday, Feb. 13, 1871, observed by John Underhill, Optician to the Medical Faculty of McGill University, 299 Notre Dame Street.

		9 A. M.	1 P. M.	6 P. M.
Sunday,	Feb. 12.....	0°	10°	3°
Monday,	" 13.....	12°	21°	16°
Tuesday,	" 14.....	4°	15°	14°
Wednesday,	" 15.....	16°	24°	24°
Thursday,	" 16.....	25°	30°	30°
Friday,	" 17.....	20°	27°	28°
Saturday,	" 18.....	37°	38°	32°

		MAX.	MIN.	MEAN.
Sunday,	Feb 12.....	12°	-4°	4°
Monday,	" 13.....	21°	4°	12° 5
Tuesday,	" 14.....	16°	-6°	5°
Wednesday,	" 15.....	25°	10°	17°
Thursday,	" 16.....	35°	18°	26° 6
Friday,	" 17.....	30°	16°	23°
Saturday,	" 18.....	38°	20°	29°

Aneroid Barometer compensated and corrected.

		9 A. M.	1 P. M.	6 P. M.
Sunday,	Feb. 12.....	30.43	30.35	30.25
Monday,	" 13.....	30.36	30.40	30.46
Tuesday,	" 14.....	30.40	30.33	30.28
Wednesday,	" 15.....	30.40	30.42	30.30
Thursday,	" 16.....	29.85	29.80	29.96
Friday,	" 17.....	30.32	30.32	30.27
Saturday,	" 18.....	29.33	29.19	29.36