261 Gov Gen Secretary

The Weekly Mail.

VOL. V. NO. 249. TORONTO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1877. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

BIRTHS.

GIBBONS—At London, on the 29th ult., the wife of Geo. C. Gibbons, of a daughter.

CALDER—At 98 Hughson street south, Hamilton, on Saturday, the 30th ult., the wife of Mr. John Calder, of a son and daughter.

McCONKEY—At 387 Duke street, London, on the 29th Dec., the wife of B. R. McConkey, Esq., of a son.

MOODY—Dec. 30th, at 59 Dovercourt road, the wife of Harry Moody, Esq., of a daughter.

USSHER—On Sunday, Dec. 31st, at 26 High street, formerly Charles street west, the wife of Rev. B. B. Ussher, M.D., of a son.

WETHEY—On Saturday, 30th Dec., 1876, at 89 Baldwin street, the wife of H. C. W. Wethey, Esq., barrister, of a son.

ROOTS—In London, on the 1st inst., the wife of John W. Roots, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CAMERON—WRIGHT—On the 27th ult., at St. James' Cathedral, Toronto, by the Very Rev. Dean Grassett, Irwin Heward Cameron, M.D., son of the Hon. M. C. Cameron, Q.C., to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of H. H. Wright, M.D.

NORTHCOTT—PYE—At Leslieville, on the 26th ult., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. G. J. Taylor, Benjamin Leigh Northcott, of Toronto, eldest son of the late Benjamin Stoodley Northcott, of Grosvenor Park London, England, to Charlotte Eliza Pye, second daughter of Mr. Henry Pye, of Leslieville.
London, England, papers please copy.

HURRELL—BLAKESLEY—Dec. 27th, at the residence of J. G. Abbott, Esq., Bradford, Walter, youngest son of the late Charles Hurrell, Esq., of Brick House Farm, Maldon, Essex, England, to Elise Frances, widow of the late William Blakesley, Esq., of Barrens Park, Leicestershire. Essex and Leicestershire papers please copy.

CAMPBELL—AITKEN—On Wednesday, the 27th, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. W. Reid, pastor of Primitive Methodist church, Mr. A. F. Campbell, editor and publisher of the *Conservator*, to Josephine, fourth daughter of Robert Aitken, Esq., all of Brampton.

HEARTWELL—MURRAY—On the 27th December, at the residence of the bride's father, Cruickshank street, by the Rev. Thos. Guttery, Dr. O. T. Heartwell, of Dunnville, Ont., to Bella, only daughter of James Murray, Esq., Toronto.

TASSIE—WOODROFFE—On Thursday, the 28th, at Trinity church, Galt, by the Rev. W. B. Curran, rector, Alexander Stewart, son of Jas. Tassie, Esq., Golden Hill, Nelson, to Wilhelmina Olivia, only child of Henry J. Woodroffe, Esq., A.M., T.C.D.
Dublin and Cork papers please copy.

LUNDY—RODDEN—On Wednesday, the 27th Dec. 1876, at the residence of the bride's father, 35 Elm street, by the Rev. S. N. Jackson, Mr. William Thomas Lundy, youngest son of Joseph Lundy, Esq., of Brampton, Ont., to Annie Agnes, only daughter of Wm. H. Rodden, Esq., of Toronto.

ROBERTSON—[illegible]—On the [illegible] ... qer, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Thomas Colling, B.A., Wm. J. Robertson, Mathematical Master in the Collegiate Institute, St. Catharines, to Maggie, second daughter of John Junkin, merchant, of St. Catharines.

DEATHS.

STARK—At No. 4 Baldwin street, Toronto, on the 29th ult., Katie, the beloved wife of Wm. Stark, and third daughter of James Todd, Esq., Clarke Township, aged 26 years, 3 months, and 12 days.
Port Hope and Orillia papers please copy.

STEVENSON—On the 28th ult., at her residence, 82 Wood street, Isabella, youngest daughter of the late James Stevenson, Esq., of Southsea, Hants, England.

CAMPBELL—At Aberdeen, Scotland, on the 12th December, in the 67th year of his age, the Very Rev. Peter Colin Campbell, D.D., Principal of the University of Aberdeen, formerly professor of classical literature in Queen's College, Kingston, Ontario, elder brother of Dr. D. Campbell, of Bay street, Toronto.

MORRIS—At Montreal, on Christmas day, Ada E. M. Morris, second daughter of George Morris, aged 2 years and 22 days.

YOUNG—At his father's residence, 460 King street west, on the 28th Dec., Matthew George, youngest son of Matthew and Margaret Young, aged 3 years, 9 months, and 7 days.

JACK—At his residence, No. 110 Lumley st., on the 27th Dec., of paralysis, Mr. Andrew Jack, late of Omagh, County Tyrone, Ireland, aged 46 years.

STOKES—At his residence, near Thomasburg, on the 28th December, Geo. Stokes, Esq., aged 71 years.

JONES—In Clinton, on Dec. 27th, Thos. Jones, fourth son of Mr. W. Jones, Huron road, aged 22 years and 9 months.

BENSON—In Belleville, on Wednesday, 29th December, Samuel M. Benson, aged 75 years and 9 months.

DELISLE—At Ottawa, on the 27th ult., Alice Isabel Maudsley, wife of Mr. John Delisle, Advocate, aged 36 years.

MAGUIRE—In St. Catharines, at the residence of his son-in-law, P. Larkin, Esq., on the 27th ult., Patrick Maguire, in the 79th year of his age.

HORN—On Saturday, Dec. 30, 1876, at the residence of her son-in-law, No. 17 Maple lane, Mrs. Horn, formerly Mrs. Hendrick, aged 39 years.

FOSTER—At her residence, 381 Parliament street, on 1st inst., Mary Jane Baird, the wife of David Foster, aged 43 years.

McCALLUM—At his residence, Lot No. 8, 6th concession King, on Dec. 24th, Donald McCallum, aged 97 years and 8 months. Deceased emigrated to Canada in 1831, and was one of the oldest residents, having settled in King over 40 years ago.

LEITH—In this city of congestion of the lungs, John Duncan, aged 3 years and 5 months, fourth son of John Leith, night-watchman.

PETTIT—At his residence in the township of Nelson, on the 2nd of January, Jonathan Muir Pettit, eldest son of Andrew F. Pettit, of the same place, in the forty second year of his age.

ATKINS—In the township of West Gwillimbury on Sunday 31st December, 1876, after a lingering illness, Ann, the beloved wife of Thomas Atkins, Esq., aged 47 years and 10 months.

DICKSON—On Monday January 1st, at his residence in Galt, Wm. Dickson Esq., aged 77 years and 6 months.

WIGGINS—In London, on the 1st inst., Catharine, the beloved wife of Thomas Wiggins, aged 45 years.

SEVERS—On Dec. 31st, 1876, at Yorkville, Mrs Deborah Sabine Severs, wife of Mr. James Severs, daughter of the late Rev. Samuel Sabine, and niece of the late Rev. James Sabine, Boston, Mass.

The Weekly Mail

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JAN. 5, 1877.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

OF the sixteen paragraphs of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech, one contains all the policy our timid Premier has brewed during the year, and the other fifteen make mention of as many details of routine and congratulation.

The one in question promises a measure "giving votes to the sons of farmers" in certain cases, and a bill for extending the Voters' Lists Act to municipal elections.

The fifteen (1) formally welcome the return of the members to their duties; (2) congratulate the House on the completion of the statute consolidation; (3) hope for progress and improvement in educational matters; announce (4) that the Liquor Act of last session has diminished the evils of drunkenness, and that (5) further provision is needed for the care of lunatics, and (6) deaf mutes; (7) commend the claims of new railways for Government aid to the House's "prudent attention;" (8) rejoice that the country is opening up new markets; (9) revive the scheme of 1872 for the construction of a fire-proof building for the Crown Land records; (10) speak with pride of Canada's success at the Centennial, and (11) with much circumlocution of the *status in quo* of the Provincial Arbitration, and (12) of the Provincial Boundary question; (13) promise the Public Accounts for 1876, although those for 1875 have not yet been brought down; (14) refer to the Estimates, and (15) invoke the Divine blessing on all and sundry.

While Mr. MOWAT was about it he should have made his Honour refer with pride to HANLAN's success at the Centennial Regatta; to the fact that this Province has not as yet experienced horrors such as those which have made Bulgaria a moaning desert; to our great deliverance from the recent Presidential election and Indian cyclone, and to the kindness of the fates which did not permit the noisome weevil and vicious midge to eat up *all* the standing crops in the last harvest.

Where are the reforms of this Party of Reform, or is Mr. MOWAT a man hated of Mr. BLAKE, to wit, the leader of "a "Reform Party that can find nothing to "reform?" Nothing about the abolition of exemptions from taxation, a reform on which the country is a unit! Nothing of the amendments to the Jury system of which we have heard so much! Nothing of a well-digested Civil Service scheme! Nothing of a fusion of the Courts similar to that which has been successfully worked out in England! Nothing of compulsory voting, nor even of HARE's scheme for the representation of minorities! Nothing but joyful platitudes and congratulations which we thought the Lieutenant-Governor had officially disposed of when he appointed a day of thanksgiving two months ago.

But not having built up tall expectations, we are not very sorely disappointed. The truth of the immortal principle *ex nihilo nihil fit* is vindicated once more, and once more too the country is witness of the utter poverty of "Reform" brains.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

FROM the latest news it seems almost certain that war there must be, but not the great, general European war that many people have been anticipating. The Conference appears to have endeavoured not only, in the first place, to prevent war altogether, if possible, but in the second place to have come to an understanding as to how best to localize it, and to make it, if it does come, a war between Russia and Turkey only. Lord SALISBURY has, in a personal interview with the Sultan, told him plainly that England would not support him in refusing the demands made by the Conference; and the Sultan's reply has been that he would forfeit both his crown and his life were he to yield. To show that the British Government is in earnest in what it has laid before the Porte, the British fleet has left Turkish waters. A Council of Turkish Ministers was to have met on Wednesday, to decide on the final answer to be given to the Conference on Thursday. At the time of writing the result is not known here, but it is barely possible that at the last moment the Turk may "come down." But this, we might say, does not at present appear probable, and it is an ominous circumstance that in London, on Wednesday, it was the prevailing belief in well-informed circles that Thursday's sitting of the Conference would be its last, and that war was inevitable. Later despatches may modify this, but so far the outlook is dark to the eastward.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

IN Florida the two Houses of the State Legislature have been organized, with a small Democratic majority in each. DREW, the Democratic candidate for Governor, has been inaugurated, and the State has now a Democratic Government. The chances that the Republicans will soon again control that State are but slight, and may be looked at as being a long way off. Strange to tell, however, the State gives a Republican majority in the Presidential, which shows cross-voting as between local and national issues. Something of the same kind has, it is said, happened in South Carolina, but there the Republican Governor has been kept in power to a great extent through help from Washington. In Louisiana the State Legislature has just convened under Republican auspices, and that Party [illegible] Federal power, if need be. There has been much talk of late of compromise on the Presidential question, and one of the latest proposals is that the Senate, which assembles on the first Wednesday in February to count the votes for President, should keep up a debate until noon on the fourth of March, when the present Congress becomes defunct, and after which it can do no business. Then there would have been no choice of President, the President of the Senate would be *ex officio* acting Chief Magistrate for a year, and a new election would be held next fall. The Republicans say that if this were tried it would be his duty to stop the debate and count the vote at once. Such rumours as the above may or may not be true, but they show the existence, in the public mind, of a strong feeling in favour of some way of peaceably settling the present difficulty.

FREE INSTITUTIONS AND CIVIL LIFE.

"THOSE noble walks and commons of "liberty"—these are the words in which WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR describes such assemblies as Town Councils, County Boards and the like. It is a law of our minds to be more sensible of what is evil than of what is good in the present, and all but utterly to fail to realize the defects in the past. TENNYSON speaking more as a poet than a philosopher, and yet not wholly unphilosophically, asks if it is the haze of grief which makes former gladness loom so great—the darkness of the present which sets the past in such bold relief? "Or is it" he says, still speaking poetically "that the past will "win a glory from its being far and orb "into the perfect star we saw not when "we moved therein?" The balloon and modern science have made it impossible to describe trips to the moon. But we know if an aerial passenger could live in the rarified atmosphere and in the utter void beyond, when he had gone far enough, this earth would seem, though he might have left a dunghill or some scene of wretched squalor, like a glittering diamond on the bosom of the night. Who could believe that within the bright serene orb hearts were breaking, that tragedies were being enacted, that misfortune and misery were the companions of thousands of lives? But our supposititious voyager would know all about it. Let us suppose further that he made his way to some planet and married and died, leaving behind him descendants, with a tradition that their father had originally come from this earth which they would see holding its beautiful course amid the host of the sky. Most of them would grumble at the sufferings they had to undergo, their daily toil, their trials, and ignoring with thankless hearts their many pleasures, the love of wife and child, the joys of intellectual activity, scope for individuality, an open door into the fields of science and the halls of art, would cast a glance towards the shining home of their race and wish they had the space-spanning wings to enable them to fly thither and be at rest. It is probable that it is the same faculty makes us laudatory of the past and hopeful of the future. Between the beautiful two-fold illusion the present seems sombre and mean—a ditch full of stagnant water dividing happy fields—a prison on a moral Rhine in which we are detained by that gaoler Fate—on the one hand the bounding, bounteous, and beauteous river, making its waves a blessing as they hurry to the sea, on the other fields full of promise of corn and wine and oil, with castellated hill and grey storied hall.

It is only the other day that men were allowed to look on civil freedom not through bars and dusty windows, but as it were in open prairie, as it comes up full-orbed, scattering before its resistless progress the mists of feudalism, the frowning clouds of tyranny. Yet, freedom has been enjoyed long enough to make men forget the miseries of the past; the want of freedom; the want of individuality; the gross and galling monopolies; the recklessness; the injustice. These things they feel not, and they have not imaginations strong enough to realize what they do not feel. The past has orbed into the star, and all its deformity is hidden in distance. Men only see its beauty, its picturesqueness, its grace; the hardness and hollowness and corruption are hidden from them. But they are keenly alive and keenly critical of the defects of the present, and fancying themselves enlightened when they are only narrow, they shrug their shoulders and sigh over small blemishes. With an eye for details and pettinesses they fix their attention on a mole hill, or a wasp's nest, or a little barren patch, and do not take in the whole country with its rich acres and fertilizing streams. They know nothing about the marshalling of an army or the movement and division of a battle, but things have come to a dreadful and deplorable pass in their opinion if a little pipe-clay has been neglected and a soldier's stock is a little loose. They would be shocked to learn that HENRY IV. won his battles in patched hose, and that the white plume on the helmet of Navarre was often draggled and dirty even when it was the oriflamme of victory. We here in Canada enjoy a noble freedom; a freedom which great and good men saw in vision but never tasted; such a freedom as great heroes and martyrs have toiled and died for. There are defects undoubtedly, for society is human. If the individual is imperfect the aggregate cannot be flawless. There is at times coarseness; here and there we see self-seeking; here again we see vanity; and we might enumerate other blemishes. But what are they all but so many chips and weeds, and brambles on the broad bosom of our political life which flows majestically on, never failing in due time to drown such worthless waifs? There is no excuse for any one holding himself aside from our political life in fancied superiority. His duty as a citizen if he sees it in a true light will appear to him also as a privilege.

The first of this month was for many an exciting day of electioneering. Animated by a laudable ambition many candidates were forthcoming. Some who have been among our city Fathers in the past have been rejected; others still continue to give their time and experience to the city. New men have been brought in. Each had his partisans. The appearance of the newspaper offices in the evening showed what interest had been taken in the contest. Yet there were no riots, and, if any, very little drunkenness. What progress does all this not indicate? Now try to realize the educational effects on the mind of all that took part in that election. Then seek to compute the knowledge of the principles of free Government, the experience and capacity to govern, serving in the Council gives to those who win the confidence of the citizens. Remember the daily interest in the management of their own affairs, the people are induced to take by reading the proceedings of the little Municipal Parliament. Remember further that the same process is going forward throughout the length and breadth of the country. We are thus placed face to face with a community full of experience and fertile in resource. Society appears to us as an organic whole, every smallest member of which, every tiniest pore fulfils some important function for the body politic. When we have grasped the full significance of all this we see what LANDOR meant and how felicitous are his words, "the noble walks and "commons of liberty." It was in the provincial assemblies of Prussia that STEIN learned to be a statesman, and, as Sir JOHN MACDONALD said the other day, many eminent Canadian politicians commenced their career in the Council. It is a healthy sign to see so much interest taken in that body and in the men who compose it. We hope the interest will increase and not diminish, and that from year to year that pettiness of spirit which sickens at small blemishes will die out so that the country may have the hearty and generous service of every member of the community whose tongue or vote is calculated to advance her prosperity.

THE GLOBE'S "RESPECT" AND "REVERENCE" FOR THE BENCH.

OUR contemporary of "Big Push" fame in its issue of Friday last—stung by Mr. McCARTHY's expression of pleasure at the *Globe* having, in view of the lesson that had been taught the Managing Director, assumed the character of a defender of the Judiciary—proclaims with an audacity not to be found except in the columns of that paper, that "the *Globe* [illegible] "honour and good fame of the Judiciary." Nothing like bounce! No man proclaims his own honesty more loudly than the thief; no woman prates of her virtue save her of doubtful fame. As a specimen amid a very choice selection of the methods by which the *Globe* has created "the respect and almost reverence" for the Bench, which most people had previously thought had been gained by the spotless integrity, impartiality, and ability with which the duties of their high offices had been uniformly discharged by the Judges, we commend the following extract, clipped from an article that appeared in the *Globe* of the 19th of February last, under the head of "Official Clothes":

"The adoption of the costume"—referring to the costumes worn by the Judges of the Supreme Court—"is, we think, "a little unkind towards its intended "wearers. Except a small circle of "friends no one in England ever sees a "Judge but at those times when he is "on the Bench. There is a halo of "mystery surrounding him, and when he "disappears from the view of the spectators in the Court no one will see "him, or, if they should see him, would "not recognize him until he is again the "ermine-adorned representative of inscrutable law and infallible justice. "But at Ottawa we shall see an old "familiar face looking very uncomfortable "on the top of a large scarlet cloak, *and a half an hour afterwards we shall meet our friend at the bar of the Russell House with his cigar in his mouth, and we may be thankful if it isn't a pipe. There is no reason, in the absence of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, why a Judge should not go to the bar of the Russell House, and surely no reason why he should not smoke a cigar, or, if he prefer it, a pipe.* But to put such very "gorgeous plumage on birds who are "more likely to be admired for the "sweetness of their song than the beauty "of their feathers is in our opinion a "mistake."

And again: "But to adopt the English scarlet and ermine, and to be consistent, the superstructure of horse-hair beneath which is hidden the oracle "of English law, *may be forcibly likened to a person sticking one plum into a home-made loaf and calling the combination a cake.*"

Can the "respect" and "reverence" which the Canadians entertain for their judiciary be matter of surprise when they have been "nurtured" into the feeling by such remarks about judges occupying the very highest position?

Would our contemporary like us to reproduce a few more such extracts? or is Mr. BROWN satisfied to acknowledge that it was under the dread of well-deserved and but narrowly-escaped punishment that like many another culprit he proclaimed in blatant and yet cowardly tones his high admiration and honour for those who he thought were about to mete out the measure of his sentence. There is nothing of "the sneak" or "base hound" in this! No, it is but proof of that high "moral "courage" which so greatly distinguishes the editor of the organ of the party of "organized hypocrisy."

THE UNEXPENDED GENEVA AWARD.

THE legal existence of the Court to adjudicate and make awards on the Alabama claims came to an end with the year 1876, leaving unawarded and unexpended a balance of about eight million dollars of the fifteen millions odd paid over by Great Britain to the United States. That something like this would happen has for some time been foreseen, and near the close of last session of Congress the House passed a bill continuing the existence of the Court until July 22, 1877, presumably with the view of giving all possible claimants the opportunity to come forward and prove their cases. The bill authorized the Court to examine and determine claims for vessels and cargoes destroyed by insurgent cruisers other than the Alabama, Florida, and Shenandoah, and also claims for the payment of premiums for war risks. This bill was sent to the Senate and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, but on account of great pressure of business at the end of the session it was not considered. During the present session the important questions attending the Presidential contest have consumed all time and prevented action on it, and so the existence of the Court comes to an end by effluxion of time.

A Washington despatch says that conflicting opinions now prevail among Senators and Representatives regarding the disposition of the unexpended balance of the award, some holding the view that all the claims contemplated by the Geneva Tribunal having been satisfied the balance should be returned to Great Britain, the sum having been awarded by that tribunal to the United States in trust for the payment of these claims, which were for losses caused by the Alabama, Florida, and Shenandoah after their departure from Melbourne on the 18th of February, 1865. Others claim that the money was awarded to the United States in gross for losses sustained by our commerce, and the Government has the right to make such disposition of the balance as it may think proper; either deposit it in the Treasury to be used in ordinary expenditures, or disburse it for claims of insurance companies, losses by cruisers other than those named, &c. Papers now on file in the State Department show 62 vessels destroyed by cruisers other than the Alabama, Shenandoah, and Florida, the value of which was $1,226,444.03, exclusive of cargoes valued at $425,253. The amount of insurance on these vessels and cargoes is stated at $671,494.

Regarding the unexpended balance a certain suggestion from this side of the lakes might very fairly be made, though we fear it would meet with but little favour either in Washington or London. It being the case that Canada suffered grievous loss and damage by Fenian raids made upon our soil by American citizens, at a time when the two nations were at peace, why not use the overplus or a portion of it to make some reparation, more or less, for an injury that we had to endure, not for our own cause, but for that of the Empire? When the terms of the Washington Treaty were under discussion, we were not allowed even to mention this righteous claim of ours, and why? For this potent reason, that the Alabama builders and Southern sympathizers in England had got the Empire into a false position, out of which it was necessary to escape, at all hazards, and that only through the sacrifice of Canadian interests could this be effected. To put it as briefly as possible, Canada had to pay a heavy indemnity, through foregoing her just claim, for the offences committed by the Messrs. LAIRD and others. Our neighbours are now actually at their wit's end what to do with money paid them over and above what it turns out that they were entitled to; even in this day of claimants for everything positively not another Alabama claim can be manufactured. We may be sure that if any more claims than those already tried could have been conjured up they would have been heard of ere now. However, as it would be preposterous to expect that our neighbours would do justice to Canada in the way above suggested, let us suggest still another way in which they might kill two birds with one stone—that is, do a benefit both to themselves and us together. Let them donate the unexpended eight millions towards the building of the Huron and Ontario Ship canal, by the opening of which they as well as we would greatly gain, and we will promise to say no more about indemnity for the Fenian raids. That eight millions would be a splendid nucleus, around which more capital would grow, and would probably insure the completion of the work.

VULGARITY.

ON this subject we propose not so much to say anything ourselves as to lay before our readers the gist of an admirable essay on the subject to be found in the December number of *Temple Bar*. It is a subject which should prove universally interesting. Each reader will see how some acquaintance is hit off. For it is a singular fact, we are never vulgar ourselves, whereas the vulgarity of our neighbours is something truly shocking. Mrs. A. sees all the vulgarity of Mrs. B., and Mrs. B. perceives with great clearness all the vulgarity of Mrs. A., but each lady goes through the world with the comfortable consciousness that she is the pink of perfection. And so with men. The article goes deeper than mere manners, and deals with a gross material age and shows the vulgarity of soul which characterises the present generation, nay the present century.

Crime has been divided by jurists into crimes evil in themselves, which are denounced in the dialogue, such as murder, and crimes which are made such by law; which consist of acts that, apart from law, would not be wrong, such as poaching. In the same way there are vulgarities condemned by the general code of Good Taste, and vulgarities which are such, not because of any offence against good taste, but because they are not for the time being considered "good form"—as for example, SAINTE-BEUVE saying "Thank you" to a servant, which shocked the society of the Tuileries. It was contrary to current etiquette, but in strict accordance with good taste. Good taste would impel a man to salute a stranger on neutral ground and who appeared embarrassed; but for doing so "good form" would dub him a cad. In addition to the divisions above there is a subdivision, which might be headed "Permitted Vulgarities," such as picking the teeth in public. Fifty years ago if a writer wanted to stamp a character with indelible vulgarity he was made to pick his teeth in public. It is not so long ago, however, since in London no young gentleman's afternoon toilet was considered complete "unless he had a tooth-pick in "his mouth." There was a time when it was considered that "any arrangement "or derangement of robes which would "indicate the lower portion of the female form divine as bifurcate was a "vulgarity." Mrs. GAMP's vulgarity "beamed out of her knees." All that is gone. "Ladies," says the writer, "deliberately adopted arrangements for "relieving the imagination of trouble in "conjecturing anatomical details. *Knees are worn*; and I should not wonder if "eating peas with one's knife should "some day come into fashion and be pronounced 'ever so nice.'"

How define vulgarity? STORMONT defines it as "clownishness of manners or "language; mean or gross mode; rudeness of manners." Our author would, he tells us, define it as "bad manners "which 'good society' has not for the "moment adopted." He declares with some severity that this will not cover the ground, as acts which would be "dreadful" in fustian are quite proper in broadcloth. When Mrs. BROWN, a green grocer, who for displaying the play bill at her stall is entitled to tickets for the upper boxes, makes a little disturbance when told the tickets she presents are for the pit, Lady CLARA VERE DE VERE and Sir CARNABY JENKS of the Blues, on their way to their private box, sneer at the "wretched old "vulgar thing trying to push her way "where she had no right to go." But there is no sneer for the grand lady, who at a great review will order her coachman to drive near the royal standard, where she had no right to go, who roars out to the policeman opposing—"Fellow, how dare "you? I will have you discharged," and who by sheer impudence pushes her way into the forbidden fold. If anybody supposes the case to be merely supposititious, the writer bids him to inquire of men of the A division what they know about grand ladies pushing, about "tickets left "at home, dropped in the crush, blown "out of the carriage, and so on," when six must be squeezed where only four should go. It is admitted that it is horrible to tell fibs, but it is more than horrible not to be seen at ———, "when "the H's have cards." All pushing, physical or otherwise, is vulgar; but if "you wear feathers in your hair, and a "low-necked dress with a train to it, you "may use your elbows and go at your "crowd with a full head of steam "on like a royal yacht." You may also, it seems, in order to meet your own friends, contrive to get an invitation to a ball given by a lady whose wine you will drink, but whom you will cut to-morrow in the park.

A quarter of a century ago anything false, especially false jewellery, was vulgar. False tresses were only spoken of in whispers. Imitation fur or lace was vulgar, and worse than vulgar was an imitation complexion. Those things have come, however, to be ranked with permitted vulgarities. "The brass of "the base trinkets has entered the souls; "the falsity of the cheap finery has slopped over into their minds, and the paint "upon their faces corroded the bloom "of their lives." Our critic begins, he tells us, to believe that some ladies' dressing-rooms are without the indispensable looking-glass. Such is the power of fashion that the four-bottle English gentleman would be hiccoughing in drawing-rooms to-day had it not been voted vulgar to be tipsy, and it is suggested in view of the workingmen's horror of whatever is cheap that they might be made sober by selling beer at a penny a quart and gin at sixpence a bottle. Duelling, though always contrary to the laws of GOD and man and common-sense, did not go out until it became unfashionable, that is to say, was frowned on by "good society." Fashion and other causes are here mixed up. The high price of spirits in the United States has a considerable influence in the direction of making men drink beer, which is cheap and comparatively harmless, and it should be noted that the workingmen do not drink wines chiefly because they are dear, as was shown a few years ago by the enormous quantities of champagne drunk by miners in the mining districts when they were making exceptionally high wages. It is but fair to say too that the disappearance of the "four-"bottle" old English gentleman with his port wine face is due not to fashion but to the progress in intellectual culture and to the greater earnestness of the nineteenth as compared with the eighteenth century. The duel too disappeared partly before ridicule, but also before a greater sensitiveness on the part of the popular conscience, and still there is a point in what is said about the influence of fashion which should impress on "good "society" its responsibility, and the need it has to be careful to avoid what is vulgar in itself.

The generation is past which considered it genteel to be sickly, though a great lady in Montreal who still happily adorns her circle has been heard to cry out against "that vulgar health." To be dyspeptic was then the correct thing, and BRUMMEL would barely admit that he had once eaten a pea. It is an old story. "Did you know BROWN of ours?" "Ya-as." "He ate beef and pork." "And did he die?" "Why of course he "died," as the delicate hero could not fail to do once he had eaten anything so coarse. MOORE tells a story of BYRON's affectations in this direction. The noble poet scarcely ate anything at a dinner party. But MOORE found him afterwards at the club devouring beef steaks, and we ourselves when supposed too young to "take notes" have seen two young ladies who had scarcely touched a morsel at dinner go afterwards to the pantry and give a good account of a pigeon pie. In those days the hero was pale and consumptive with death as a constant companion; the heroine was interesting not so much because of her beauty as on account of spinal complaint or hereditary consumption. It was vulgar to have robust health, but the delicate dyspeptics were permitted to laugh. "The fashionable "defects were all physical. These were "the days of the wits, the tellers of good "stories, the sayers of good things." The men and women of that day were allowed to be mentally natural, and compelled to be physically unnatural; to-day the reverse is the case. "We may have the "muscles of a prize-fighter, the appetite "of a cormorant, near two-inch soles to "our brogues, and ulsters under which "fathers would have fainted; *but we may not laugh.* If a new SYDNEY SMITH "were to come amongst us he would hold "the position assigned to the jester of "the Middle Ages." The criticism on a second MACAULAY would be that he stood on his head all dinner time. To be amusing is vulgar, and it is "bad form" to be amused. It is the era of physical force. "In poetry, fiction, and on the "stage a gross sensualism reigns paramount," and the heroine of the stage is a splendid animal, full of coarse talk, and with a soul the reverse of pure. Kissing is as old as ADAM and EVE, but talking of it was a few generations ago vulgar.

It is evident that there are a good many things condemned by the critic which have not yet reached Canada, and we hope they never will. But some of his shafts hit. We have seen ladies well-placed and well-connected, in broad daylight on King street, with the signs of powder on their face. [illegible] has been converted into shining gold. We fear "jolly" and "awfully jolly" and loud talking have found their way here, and our golden youth are, it must be confessed, as solemnly dull and stupid as any London drawing room could require. We have specimens of even the pushing Duchess, and there have not been wanting instances of the glaring vulgarity of a grotesque self-assertion. We have—but why enumerate? It is enough to state the moral that we should in defiance even of fashion, be natural and sensible, and prefer good taste to "good form."

MAKING A MARKET IN ENGLAND.

AT an English agricultural meeting recently Sir MASSEY LOPES, M.P. for South Devon, gave warning to British farmers and drovers that serious competition must be expected from the exportation of fresh meat from New York. The journal in which we find mention made of this says that the new trade seems to be established on a firm basis, and that the American and Liverpool merchants engaged in it are determined to enlarge it, especially as the improved process for keeping meat sound and fresh renders longer voyages than that from the Hudson to the Mersey entirely practicable. "In order," it is added, "to "prevent a repetition of such fiascoes as "that which lately threw the whole "Smithfield supply into the hands of the "retail butchers of London at about a "penny a pound, to be re-sold to their "customers at the ordinary retail prices, "the importers intend opening shops for "the sale of American fresh meat in "Liverpool, Manchester, and other Provincial towns." Singular as it may appear, it is a fact, nevertheless, that all the additional supply of fresh meat poured in from America upon the English market has not yet reduced by as much as a halfpenny a pound, the enormously high retail prices which the butchers exact from their customers. Whole cargoes have gone at sacrifice prices by wholesale, but so far the purchaser by retail benefits not a penny. Evidently the large dealers, at the instigation and with the backing of the graziers and drovers, have combined to drive American fresh meat away from the English market, by refusing to purchase it except at prices ruinous to the importers. As the only means of meeting the combination against them, the importers have resolved to open retail shops and go to the public direct. This is strategy that will tell, for, if the American fresh meat be really sound and good when offered in the retail shops at prices much below those now prevailing, there will be no lack of customers. One penny per pound average difference, quality being the same, would draw customers by thousands to the new shops; but the probability is that American fresh meat would bear to be retailed at twopence per pound or more below the average English prices, and still leave a profit to all engaged in the trade.

The resistance of the large dealers to the introduction of American fresh meat into the English market is curiously similar to an experience of many years ago in the petroleum trade, as recalled only last week by our contemporary, the Petrolia *Advertiser*. It will be recollected by not a few of our readers that, ere yet petroleum had come into general use, "coal "oil" or "paraffin oil" was largely used in Britain, being manufactured under YOUNG's patent, the proprietor of which jealously watched all invaders of his legal rights. Among the first on the other side of the Atlantic to recognize the value of petroleum as an article of commerce was one ALEXANDER S. MACRAE, a Liverpool broker. He undertook to introduce the article upon the market, but was immediately confronted by YOUNG, who held that the new article was "coal oil," or "paraffin oil," and covered by his patent. The patent obtained by YOUNG vested in him and his agents or assigns the sole right to make or sell such oil, and he was determined to resist to the utmost the attempt to trench upon his monopoly. Several Chancery suits followed, much scientific testimony was heard, and at last it was established that petroleum was *not* coal oil, and YOUNG's claim to stop its sale in England was quashed. But, though beaten in the Courts, YOUNG and his allies tried other resources. They published it far and wide that petroleum was a dangerous article, the safest of it too explosive to be allowed in any house, and such was their power over the trade that not a retailer dared to keep it in his shop. Not a barrel of petroleum could MACRAE sell, until as a last resort he opened three retail oil stores in the best quarters in Liverpool for the purpose, and commenced selling to the public. The effect, as our contemporary says, was electrical, those who once tried the new article came for more, and soon the dealers who had refused to buy from MACRAE threw up their agencies for "paraffin" and supplied petroleum instead to eager customers. It will be something remarkable if American fresh meat can be fairly placed upon the English retail market only by the same means that had to be resorted to many years ago to make a market for petroleum.

In both cases we find illustration of the important economic truth, that commodities may be "slaughtered" or sold at sacrifice prices in the wholesale market, with little or no benefit accruing thereby to the actual consumer, or last buyer. Generally it is large operators chiefly who benefit by "sacrifice" sales, and small buyers are little profited thereby. And it is well to remember that there may be monopolies in buying and selling as well as in manufacturing.

The Great Shoshonees Remedy and Pills

The success that these medicines have met with since their introduction to the public some years ago, proves plainly to the most skeptical that they are medicines that perform what they are advertised to. The virtues of these medicines have been well tested, and have withstood their trial in a most satisfactory manner. For diseases of the blood, liver, lungs, etc., they are unsurpassed. We have testimonials of miraculous cures of these diseases, and of many others. If any one is afflicted, let him try a bottle or the remedy and a box of pills. No injurious effects will follow their use to the most delicate person, as they are purely vegetable; there being no mineral matter in them. The cost is small, while the advantages derived from their use will doubly repay you for your expense and trouble. The medicines are widely known throughout the Dominion, and are for sale by the principal medicine dealers. Try them, and be convinced that these medicines are no humbug. No one who has tried the Shoshonees Pills has ever pronounced an unfavourable opinion of them, no family where they have been used will be without them. Full information may be had on all particulars touching the use, and the experience of those who have used them, by securing the treatise or the circular from any druggist in the Dominion, free. Price of the Remedy in pint bottles, $1; Pills 25 cents a box.

Take every precaution, however, to prevent the accumulation of dust upon the plants; and above all endeavour to screen them from that terrible infliction, carpet-sweeping. It may be well enough to kill the old people by compelling them to breathe clouds of dust, but send the children into the fresh air to skate, or to snow-ball, and screen the plants if possible. The essential of success in plant culture are suitable soil, air, light, moderate and regular heat, a moist atmosphere, regular and moderate watering, and freedom from dust and foul gas.—*Vick's Floral Guide.*

THE LEGISLATURE.

APPLICATIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS.

The *Ontario Gazette* contains notices of application to the Legislature for Acts for the following purposes:—

To incorporate the Burlington Bay Ferry Company, with power to build boats, and to erect docks and other works, for a ferry between Hamilton and the Beach.

To incorporate the Metropolitan Street Railway Company of Toronto, to operate in the city and adjoining municipalities.

For extension of the limits of Fort Erie northerly and north-westerly, embracing Victoria and some adjacent lands.

To authorize the Pickering Harbour and Road Joint Stock Company to issue a limited amount of Harbour Debentures, and for other purposes.

Cobourg, Peterborough, and Marmora Railway and Mining Company. To confirm status of Company, authorize issue of preference debentures, disposal of surplus lands, and acquisition of lands in Cobourg for erection of furnaces, &c.

To qualify W. E. Idsardi, St. Thomas, as a Provincial Land Surveyor, without having to serve the three years under articles.

[illegible] Bothwell (C. W.) Land and Petroleum Company to William Colvin and others, to vest the Company's lands in James Muir, of Glasgow, Scotland, and for other purposes.

To incorporate the London Oil Tram Railway Company, operating from Bathurst street to different refineries lying to the eastward.

For consolidation of the debt of Port Hope Harbour, and for other purposes.

To extend the time allowed to the St. Catharines Street Railway Company for commencing operations.

To incorporate the Sisters of St. Joseph, Guelph.

To confirm and legalize an agreement made by the Hamilton and Northwestern Railway Company with the Township of Innisfil, to confirm the location of the line over Burlington Beach, and to authorize an alteration in the payment to be made by Trustees under by-law of the County of Simcoe, and for certain other amendments to the Acts relating to the Company.

To amend Acts relating to the Midland Railway Company, to legalize consolidation of debt, issue of new debentures, and to enable certain municipalities to give their aid.

To incorporate the Canadian Industrial Exhibition Company, to confer powers for erection of buildings, etc., either in the City of Toronto or in the Township of York.

By the Corporation of the Town of Barrie, to legalize by-law No. 2 6 of the County of Simcoe, guaranteeing certain debentures of the town.

To incorporate the Home Savings and Loan Company.

To extend the time for completing the Credit Valley railway, to legalize certain by-laws and debentures, and for amendments to former Acts.

To enable the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara to sell a parcel of land, ten acres, in the Township of Arthur.

To authorize the town of Cobourg to give to certain manufacturing companies, as a bonus, $5,000 in Harbour Debentures, and for other purposes.

To remove doubts as to the validity of Toronto corporation by-law for raising $263,250, voted upon 7th December last.

By the Corporation of Toronto, for certain changes in the Municipal Law—making electoral subdivisions to include four hundred voters instead of two hundred only, as at present; to make the office of Alderman tenable for three years; to make the Mayor elective by the Council—also to amend the Toronto Water Works Act by restricting the power of the Commissioners respecting the putting down of private services, to give the Commissioners power to enter dwellings for the purpose of erecting water meters, also more particularly to define in what manner and when the duties and office of the Water Commissioners shall cease.

By the Corporation of the City of Toronto, for extension of powers to enable the corporation to construct local improvements without a petition from the people therefor, whenever in the opinion of the Council the same are required, and to charge the costs of the same against the property benefitted, to give the corporation power to fix number of polling places to be opened for voting on a by-law requiring the assent of the ratepayers, and to legalize the assessment of certain properties now exempt; and further as to the service of assessment notices.

By the Corporation of the City of Toronto, for amendments to the Canadian Act 24 Vic. cap. 83, and Acts amending the same; for repealing sub-section two of section one 39 Vic cap. 63 Province of Ontario; and to provide for compelling the Street Railway Company to clean those parts of the streets under their control, and to keep them in repair, and to give the corporation power promptly to enforce the same.

To incorporate the Trinity School of Medicine, Toronto.

To enable any Court of Discipline, constituted under any Canon of the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto, to receive evidence on oath.

For amendments to Act incorporating the Toronto House Building Association, changing the name to the Toronto Land and Loan Company, increasing capital stock to Two Million Dollars, increasing facilities for lending and borrowing, &c.

To legalize certain by-laws of the village and county of Lanark granting bonus to the Huron and Quebec railway; and to enable the town of Peterborough and other municipalities to aid the said road.

To incorporate the Guelph Street Railway Company, to operate in Guelph and adjoining municipalities.

To enable the trustees of St Paul's church, Newmarket, to sell the glebe land belonging to the same.

By the municipality of Shuniah, Prince Arthur's Landing, for amendments of Acts relating thereto, and for extension of limits.

To incorporate the London Real Estate Association.

To extend the limits of the municipality of Sault Ste. Marie, and to empower the Council to make by-laws regulating and licensing auctioneers, transient traders, hawkers, and pedlars.

By the North Simcoe Railway Company, to amend laws limiting powers as to route, and to legalize changes in the same; also for legalizing certain township by-laws granting aid to the railway.

To incorporate the People's Gas Company, Toronto.

To incorporate the town of Belleville as a city, to provide for consolidation of existing debt and for the issue of new debentures, and for other purposes.

To incorporate "The Congregational Publishing Company," Toronto, capital $5,000, the objects being the publication of the *Canadian Independent* and other books or periodicals, the establishment of a Book Room, etc.

To incorporate the Dexter and Whitwam Manufacturing Company, St. Thomas.

To incorporate the St. Thomas Masonic Building Company.

To incorporate the St. Thomas Block and Tackle Manufacturing Company.

To incorporate the Canada West Land and Agency Company, Toronto.

NO RISK.

Thomas' Eclectric Oil—Worth Ten Times its Weight in Gold—Do you know any thing of it? If not, it is time you did.

Pain cannot stay where it is used. It is the cheapest medicine ever made. One dose cures common sore throat. One bottle has cured Bronchitis. Fifty cents' worth has cured an old standing cough. One or two bottles cure bad cases of piles and kidney troubles. Six to eight applications cure any case of excoriated nipples or inflamed breast. One bottle has cured lame back of eight years' standing. Daniel Plank, of Brookfield, Tioga county, Pa., says:—"I went thirty miles for a bottle of your Oil, which effected a wonderful cure of a crooked limb by six applications." Another who has had asthma for years says:—"I have half of a 50 cent bottle left, and $100 would not buy it if I could get no more."

Rufus Robinson, of Nunda, N.Y., writes:—"One small bottle of your ECLECTRIC OIL restored the voice where the person had not spoken above a whisper in five years." Rev. J. MALLORY, of Wyoming, N. Y., writes:—"Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil cured me of Bronchitis in ONE WEEK." Dealers all over the country say, "We have never sold a medicine that has given such complete satisfaction as this."

It is composed of six of the best oils that are known. Is as good for internal as for external use, and is believed to be immeasurably superior to anything ever made. Will save you much suffering and many dollars of expense. Is sold by one or more dealers in every place. Price 25 cents.

Prepared by
S. N. THOMAS, PHELPS, N.Y.
And NORTHROP & LYMAN, Toronto, Ont., Sole Agents for the Dominion.
NOTE.—*Eclectric*—Selected and Electrized.

M. Dubert, a French physician, in a paper read before a science congress, attributes the mortality of young children, in a great measure, to the ignorance of mothers who feed their children improperly, and to remedy this he suggests that a short appendix containing elementary precepts on feeding and rearing infants should be printed at the end of prayer books, missals, and religious books generally.

Recent accidental results have shown that when oats or rye are cut just as they are beginning to head, a new crop may spring up much quicker than the first, and come to maturity. Advantage should be taken of this to get several crops of green fodder from the rye and oats fields.—*Scientific Farmer.*

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Railway Train Wrecked and Burned.

Over a Hundred Persons Killed.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 29.—A terrible accident has occurred at Ashtabula, O. Train No. 5, Henry, conductor, on the Lake Shore, bound west, went through an iron bridge, down seventy-five feet to the river. It is reported that seven coaches, and all the baggage and express cars, were burned, and about one out of every five persons killed.

LATER.—The scene of the accident at Ashtabula is a few rods east of the depot. The Doon bridge spans the Ashtabula creek, seventy-five feet above the water. On both sides are high banks. Snow has been falling almost constantly for the past forty-eight hours, and now a driving storm is raging, making it very difficult to get news from the wrecked and burning train. The citizens of Ashtabula, with a competent corps of physicians, are doing everything possible for the sufferers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A special from Ashtabula, Ohio, says that the wrecked train had eleven cars, including one drawing room car, three sleeping, one smoking car, two first-class coaches, and four baggage and express cars. It was drawn by two engines. The seven passenger coaches altogether contained about 165 adults, besides a number of children. In the drawing room car, which was bound for Cleveland, were nine persons, all of whom are supposed to have perished by drowning or fire. In the two sleeping cars bound for Chicago there were thirty-five passengers, and most of those in the forward car are saved with injuries more or less severe. Within a very few moments after the crash the flames burst out simultaneously from nearly every car. Daniel McGuire, engineer of the forward engine, states that the train was running at a slow rate, and just as they had fairly crossed the high bridge, which is not more than forty rods distant from the depot, they felt a violent jar, and in an instant the coupling between the two engines had broken, and the whole train was precipitated, with the bridge, into the river, some sixty feet below. McGuire says that his engine was pulled back nearly to the edge of the broken span before the coupling severed, and it regained its forward motion barely in time to save itself. The bridge over the Ashtabula river was an iron truss bridge, and had been in use about eleven years. A crowd soon made their way to the burning debris, and with the aid of axes and ropes many were extricated, placed on stretchers and taken to the top of the hill, where the best of assistance awaited them. The hotels at the depot were soon filled, and private houses were thrown open throughout the town. The surgeons of the town rendered all the assistance in their power, but many victims perished, notwithstanding the best of care, during the night. Others are now lying in a suffering condition in the hotels and private residences. It is estimated that fully one hundred persons have been killed in this terrible disaster.

THE SCENE OF THE CALAMITY.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 31.—A correspondent at Ashtabula telegraphs at noon:—"I have just returned from the ruins, and have seen the remains of at least a dozen bodies, only one of which has any semblance whatever of a human body. By the side of another heap of embers was found a pair of scissors, also a tuft of grayish hair. No other means of identification could be found. The iron of the bridge is twisted in endless confusion with that of the cars, while the locomotive is a wreck in every part. By this time nearly all the woodwork is burned away."

The following special to the *Leader* is the latest received up to one o'clock:—"Chas. S. Carter, of Brooklyn, N. Y., says he was sitting in the palace car with three others, engaged in a game of cards, when suddenly he heard the window glass in the forward part of the car breaking and almost instantly the car began to fall. He was seated with his back toward the front, and as he went down he sat as quietly as he could and held on. When the car struck at the bottom of the ravine he found himself almost unhurt, although one of the gentlemen playing with him, whose name he did not know was killed instantly, while another, a Mr. Shephard, of New York, had his leg broken. It seems that the train just about covered the bridge when it fell, as fragments lie across the ravine touching the base of the abutments on either end. When one stands at the foot of the ravine and looks up it seems an utter impossibility that any man could take a leap from so great a height and live, yet a number escaped comparatively unharmed, and had it not been for the fire probably not one-third would have been lost. The water in the creek is only about three feet deep, and it is thought by some that when it is dragged a number of bodies may be found."

Among the sufferers by the disaster in the hospital at Cleveland last night were Chas. D Patterson, of Waterloo, N. Y.; Wm. Donor, of Niagara Falls. Up to six o'clock last night thirty-four bodies had been recovered. Few will be identified.

A special to the *Commercial* says the killed number not less than 100, and may reach 120 Only 54 out of 174 passengers have been found. Rev. A. H. Washburn, Rector of Grace church, Cleveland, is lost. Thirty wounded are distributed among the city hospitals. The mails and baggage were lost. The temporary bridge cannot be ready before ten days. The dead are mostly from New York, New England, and Illinois. The cars and most of the bodies are entirely consumed. The bodies preserved were saved by the water. The bridge was 150 feet span, built in 1865. The fall is attributed to the frost.

CLEARING THE WRECK.

ASHTABULA, O., Dec. 31.—During the entire day over 100 men have continued clearing the debris of the wrecked train and bridge in the Ashtabula river. Only two more bodies have been recovered and some burned pieces of flesh. The belief is that many passengers were almost wholly consumed. Scores of persons have arrived in search of information regarding missing friends. Little satisfaction can be given. Telegrams are also constantly received for news. The boxes in the freight house containing the bodies were numbered to-day for identification. There are thirty-six bodies, or masses of charred and blackened flesh.

THE INQUEST.

A. L. Stone, the brakeman in the rear car who miraculously escaped unhurt, was the first witness examined before the coroner's jury. He thought 160 persons were on the train. The express was going at the rate of twelve miles an hour, a little faster than ordinary when approaching a bridge. Owing to the snow, the cars were heated by bakers' heaters and stoves.

Conductor B. Hern, said the train consisted of a locomotive, a smoking, three ordinary cars, a drawing-room car, three sleepers, and the baggage cars. He thought 131 passengers were on board.

It is anticipated that the trains will be run regularly on the line to-morrow, the passengers and baggage being transferred around the chasm by sleighs.

The testimony of other witnesses does not differ from that of the conductor and brakemen. The jury will make an exhaustive investigation.

If there is one place more unlikely than any other in London where gardening would be pursued it is the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, yet there, at an elevation of somewhere about 200 feet, one of the officials tends his four small plots, the tenants of which are a fuchsia, a geranium, and two musk plants.

It is announced that the American Dairymen's Association will hold their annual convention at the Town Hall, Ingersoll, under the auspices of the Ingersoll Board of Trade, on the 9th, 10th, and 11th inst. Tuesday of next week will be the opening day, and the hour 11 a.m. Hon. H. H. Seymour is President, and Mr. L. B. Arnold is Secretary, of the American Association. The addresses are to be short, and opportunity will be given for general discussion on such subjects as are calculated to impart the greatest amount of useful knowledge to dairymen. The following gentlemen will be present, and will address the Convention on the subjects named:—Hon. George Brown, Toronto, subject not announced; Prof. E. W. Stewart, of the *National Live Stock Journal*, "Dairying and Fertility;" Hon. Harris Lewis, Herkimer, N.Y., "The Fitness of Things;" Prof. G. C. Caldwell, Cornell University, Ithaca, subject not announced; John Stewart, Esq., Manchester, Iowa, "Western Butter Making;" L. B. Arnold, Esq., Rochester, N.Y., "The Dairy at the Centennial;" J. J. Vandusen, Esq., of the *Husbandman*, Elmira, N.Y., "The Refuse of the Dairy, its uses and abuses;" H. Crosaly Green, Esq., of the *Meadville Republican*, Pa., "Progressive Butter Making;" Adam Brown, Esq., Hamilton, Ont., "Dairying in Canada—past, present, and future,—commercially;" Thomas Ballantyne, M.P.P., Stratford, "Cheese Making and the Handling of Milk;" C. L. Shelden, Esq., Lowville, N.Y., "Butter Making as also bearing on Cheese Making;" A. L. Fish, Esq., Cedarville, N.Y., "The application of Heat in the Dairy;" Prof. J. T. Bell, Belleville, Ont., "Experimental Dairy Station;" C. E. Chadwick, Esq., Ingersoll, Ont., "Progress of Dairying in Canada." From the names of the speakers and the subjects announced, we should say that the Convention can scarcely fail of being the most interesting gathering of the kind ever held in Canada.

AMERICAN NOTES.

A party of illegal voters in Cincinnati have been sentenced to a year in prison.

A thousand dollars has been spent in litigation about the ownership of a Cincinnati dog.

An interviewer writing from Washington incidentally says: "Here some one took Mr. Hewitt apart."

Mr. John B. Gough is so ill that he has been obliged to postpone indefinitely his western engagements.

Of a barber's shop that was formerly a law-office, the New York *Herald* says that people get shaved there just the same.

A Georgia negro stole ten cents from his brother, bought powder with it, and went hunting. On returning he was shot dead for the offence.

An obituary notice in a western paper contained the touching intelligence that the deceased "had accumulated a little money and ten children."

An Elgin, Ill., paper has this adv.:—"Found—A buckskin mitten. If the owner will leave the other one at this office, he will greatly oblige the finder."

[illegible] ardour of a troublesome talker by throwing cold water on his effusions the sooner he dries up.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Two hundred thousand barrels of kerosene oil are to be taken to Portland, Me., this winter for export, and the city authorities are troubled about its storage.

The Newark papers tell of a man who was "dangerously stabbed in the twelfth ward." That blow must have struck him "right where he lived."—*Alta California.*

If a poor, common woman walks up to an oil painting to examine it closely, do not laugh at her; she has as much pleasure as you have, and you do not detract from it.—*N. Y. Herald.*

One of the half-inch plate-glass windows in the top of the stone lighthouse at Oswego was shattered in a recent gale by a piece of ice cast up by the waves. The lighthouse is sixty feet high.

A boy in Columbia, Tenn., after working hard all day picking cotton, was sent to drive cows a distance of several miles. He regarded this additional task as an outrage, and hanged himself.

A man in Delphi, Ill., tried to kill himself the other day by filling his mouth with gunpowder and touching it off. He succeeded in blowing out four teeth and burning his tongue, but still lives.

The following conversation took place recently in a hotel:—"Waiter?" "Yes, sir." "What's this?" "It's bean soup, sir." "No matter what it has been, the question is—what is it now?"

Vermont's new liquor law provides that every place where liquor is sold as a beverage shall be declared a common nuisance; and the keeper shall be fined $200 or less, besides being forbidden to reoccupy the premises until he gives bonds not to offend again.

A negro recently eloped with and married a white girl in Campbell county, Ky., and officers were sent to arrest him. The negro shot two of his pursuers, and tried to shoot his wife's father and brother. That night he was found dead with six bullet wounds in his body.

The Utica *Herald* says that a young woman in that city who had inordinately big ears, but was otherwise pretty, came to New York and had them cut down by a skilful surgeon. The operation was successful, and now her ears are small, symmetrical, and not badly scarred.

The very latest and most ridiculous case of the "insanity plea" has occurred in San Francisco, where a member of a gang of professional bondsmen, indicted and tried for furnishing "straw bail," pleaded insanity as a reason for signing a $1,000 bond and swearing that he was worth $6,000.

The wife of a physician in Chanute, Mo., went away from home in anger, and in St. Joseph got employment as a singer in a variety theatre. She was pretty and talented, and at once became the chief attraction of the entertainments. Before the close of a week, however, she became so dissatisfied with her new life that she killed herself.

Science has its triumphs, but we believe it has never yet satisfactorily accounted for the existence of the middle-aged woman who attends all the donation parties with a present of a flannel pen-wiper, and eats four dollar's worth of food at supper, and subsequently leans up against the wall with her eyes shut and sings "Nearer, my God, to Thee."—*Norwich Bulletin.*

A man who had been acquitted of a charge of robbing an express company in Akron, Ill., attended one of Moody's meetings in Chicago, became converted, returned to Akron, and confessed his guilt. The law does not allow of a new trial after an acquittal, but he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for perjury in swearing, on the trial, that he was innocent.

The Indianapolis *Journal* reports an instance of unparalleled parental brutality. A little girl, three days old, and evidently suffering agonies, was recently left clandestinely at the Orphans' Home, and had been labelled as "Miss Centennial, born December 2, 1876." When the child was stripped it was discovered that both her shoulders were burned, in fact branded, with a red-hot iron, probably for future recognition.

A San Francisco young lady received an invitation to attend the theatre the other evening just as the Chinaman came for her wash. She hurriedly made out a list of the washing, and answered the invitation. Then she sent the list to the young man and kept the answer to his note. There was soon a very much confused young man, a very much mortified young woman, but no theatre going for either of them that night.

Two young attorneys were wrangling for a long time before Judge Knox of Virginia yesterday, over a point of law. His honour rendered his decision, and the sprig who had lost impudently remarked: "Your honour, there is a growing opinion that all the fools are not dead yet." "Certainly," answered the court, with unruffled good humour, "I quite agree with you Mr. Blank, and congratulate you upon your healthy appearance."—*Gold Hill News.*

The business of theatres throughout the country, says the *Dramatic News*, is unfavourably affected by the Brooklyn disaster. The same paper says: "Speculators are having a hard time at the city theatres. People who used to call on them with the greatest anxiety for seats in the front rows, now mainly want places on the 'last row near the door.' The speculators have had to change their base of operations, as the choice seats of a theatre have changed their location."

An iron stage curtain, it seems, is not an entirely novel idea. At the opening of the Federal Theatre in Boston, in 1798, a dedicatory address, written by Robert Treat Paine, Jr., was read, which contained this verse:—

How wise men differ! Water, some would think,
Would wash away the stain of tailor's ink.
But don't swoon, beaus, another mode we'll try
To save our lives and keep your ruffles dry.
From fire and water your escape is certain;
Your shield of safety is—our iron curtain!

John Davis was thirsty. There was plenty of water in the woods where he was at work, and the Ohio river was close by, but he desired a stronger liquid. He decided to cross to Virginia Point, Ky., and have his stomach's demand supplied. The ice ran swiftly, his boat was swamped, and he was washed on an island, where he froze nearly to death before he was rescued. He was carried to Virginia Point and revived with copious draughts of whiskey, so that the object of his trip was accomplished after all.

Several years ago W. E. Whitecar, only twenty years old and just from college, married Sallie Partington, the actress, aged forty. They soon parted, and last summer he gave her money with which to secure a divorce. After she had obtained the decree he married again, was arrested for bigamy, and was convicted in Philadelphia. He learned, however, that she had a husband when she married him, and on that ground, in a new trial, he has just been acquitted. He had been engaged for Wallack's Theatre.

One night last week Mrs. Doda Emens, M.D., physician and surgeon, lectured in Syracuse "to women only," and when she was about half through the shrill alarm was given, "Man in the room!" and Mrs. Mary Walker, M.D., was clutched by the indignant females and bounced out of the rooms, and down stairs, with her hat jammed down over her eyes, and her claw-hammer coat ripped from collar to bustle. The doctor picked herself up and called a hack, and as she climbed in she was heard to remark, "Another victim to circumstantial evidence."—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

This is presence of mind:—As Mrs. Devine was passing the corner of Lock and Sixth streets, Cincinnati, she noticed a seven-year-old on a sled, sliding down hill and heading for a large sewer-pool. The sled, with its freight, shot under the iron plate and fell into the pool below, breaking through the ice in its descent. She wasted no time in screaming for help, but unwound from her shoulders a heavy woollen shawl, and, lying face downward on the frozen ground, threw one end of the garment to the struggling boy. He managed to catch hold of it while paddling for life among the broken ice. Several bystanders sprang to the rescue, and a milkman was lowered by the ankles into the sewer, where he grasped the boy by the waist and drew him out. . . . This is imperturbability:—Michael Davin, of West Troy, while standing on a canal bridge and enjoying a clay pipe that was loaded to the muzzle, fell to the ice twenty feet below. The pipe did not leave his mouth during the descent. He took two or three whiffs and then rose with dignity and walked off like a philosopher, wreaths of blue smoke circling about his level head.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

The Parisian Fashions.

(From the Queen.)

December and January are the great months of the year for dinner parties in Paris. The season is a happy selection, both as regards apparel and food, for all sorts of gastronomic delicacies are possible in winter—fish from distant seas, game, truffles, and well-hung meats; and as for the toilettes, the richest and most costly fabrics can be worn. Velvet brocade, lace, and fur are infinitely more becoming and appropriate for a dinner dress than simple white muslin, however fresh and charming it may be. Habits or coats are the fashionable style of bodice for dinner dresses. I have seen a charming one made of Chinese material, écru in colour, with the pattern waves in gold and dark brown. The coat, which was of the form called Revolution, had two large revers of pale blue Sicilienne, the particular shade called "clair de lune." The revers opened largely in front over a clair de lune waistcoat; the front of the skirt was gathered, and the train was extremely narrow. The newest evening dresses are generally a combination of two colours, and from two to four materials; satin is much used as a trimming to silks, brocades, and gauzes that are dull-looking, and have no lustre on their surface. When the skirt is made of satin, it is almost concealed by the over-dress. A good example of a dinner dress of two colours is the following:—A train skirt of brown satin, bordered with a box-plaiting; a tablier of two scarves of *tilleul* (greenish cream) brocaded silk, edged with fringe. The bodice is partly *tilleul* and partly brown satin. Bright bows of double-faced ribbon down the front show the three predominant colours of the embroidery—gold, cardinal, and peacock blue.

Other dinner toilettes have brocaded over-dresses, trimmed with chenille leaves, shaded in natural tints. These leaves form a passementerie, to which chenille fringe to match is added.

The fringes used on evening silk dresses are those that are tied on to the edge of the tablier and tunic, instead of being made with a heading, and sewn on. They are, in fact, bunches of sewing silk passed through the hem, and tied in a close knot; if the silk is of good quality, the fringe proves most durable, and the effect is both soft and pretty. Fly fringes, with fluffy tassels of silk tied in rows on each strand of the fringe, are also light and effective on evening dresses.

The newest Chambery gauzes are either striped with velvet, or have narrow stripes of contrasting colour, with small embossed figures on the stripes. Lemon and straw are the fashionable colours, and the trimmings are kiltings, gathered frills, and silk frills pinked out at the edge. The gauze kiltings should be cut parallel with the selvedge, and when plaited be pressed flatly; the crosscut frills are turned up on the right side, hemmed with blind stitches, and then edged with pinked-out silk. These gauze dresses are generally made up over silk of the same colour; the over-skirts are merely long wrinkled tabliers, draw back closely, and draped higher on one side than the other. The bodice is a Louis Quatorze basque, long and square behind, quite short on the hips, and pointed in front; the neck is square, and there is a plastron of either silk, tulle, or lace; the sleeves are entirely of gauze, and there is a small bouquet of flowers on the left-hand corner of the square-cut bodice. When these gauze dresses are required for gala occasions, two rows of Valenciennes insertion are arranged down the back to outline the square of the neck, and frills of similar lace alternate with pinked-out silk frills on both skirt and over-dress. Very long looped bows of gros grain ribbon, of the two colours of the dress, are placed at the back of the neck, in front of the bodice, on each elbow, and on the sides and back of the overskirt. These gauze dresses are only appropriate to young ladies' wear. The dowagers who affect black for dinner and reception toilettes, wear black brocade over either a velvet or satin skirt, the sleeves and plastrons being made of figured lace; rich chenille fringe and lace are the chief ornaments. Glimpses of Cardinal silk, as lining to the edge of the plastron, the cuffs, tabliers, and bows on the skirt, render these black dresses appropriate for more youthful wearers.

Opera jackets fitting the figure, and made of white Indian cashmere, are worn to brighten up dark evening dresses. They are trimmed with bands of India embroidery of many colours, worked on cardinal cashmere, and edged with black lace. The jacket is bordered with Valenciennes lace, headed with a ruche of black thread lace.

The larger wraps for evening wear are Dolmans, of white basket cloth, trimmed with white fringe, headed by a band of peacocks' feathers; but the long circular is by far the most convenient sortie du bal, as it is easily taken off and put on without disarranging the rest of the toilette. Two large box plaits at the back is the novel feature about these circulars; they give extra fulness over the tournure; a hood, lined with gathered silk of a contrasting colour, is added at the back. The most elegant circulars are made of cream matelassé, lined with cardinal silk; white camel's hair with threads of blue and silver in shell pattern, and lined with pale blue, are very stylish; the trimming is fringe, with crimped tape heading.

There is such a furore for the coat form of bodices, that they are now worn with black faille skirts; and when they are made of embossed velvet they look exceedingly rich. The only objection to the coat is the difficulty of finding a mantle to wear above it. There is the large pelisse, made of vicugna cloth and bordered with fur, which is always left in the antechamber when there is a ceremonious visit to pay; and there is the Marie Antoinette mantelet, which looks well. As I have before described, it has large square ends in front, and is cut in the form of a scarf at the back, not reaching below the waist (although the ends fall very long), and it is bordered all over with fur. It looks particularly well in bronze-coloured plush, trimmed with either sable or skunk to match, or in slate-grey plush, bordered with Labrador. The form of this mantelet, with its simulated sleeves, is useful as an opera cloak

The Breton costume is much adopted for street wear; for ordinary occasions it is made of serge, and trimmed with white braid; but for a better costume cloth, trimmed with stamped velvet is used; in black faille with velvet bands, embroidered in the Louis XIII. style, it is also stylish. The plain undecided colours used in the embroidery and the intermixture of chenille have a pleasing effect in a work of this kind.

Under-clothing is now trimmed with the new linen lace called Torchon & Smyrne, and nothing can be more durable and appropriate for the purpose. Rows of torchon insertion are let into the flounces of trained petticoats, and the edge is finished with lace to match. Percale drawers, of the Turkish style terminate with a narrow muslin frill, edged with torchon lace over an inch in width. The lace is stronger than the muslin, and does not yield readily to the mercy of the laundress.

The sleeves to chemises are made entirely of torchon insertion and lace, and narrow velvet is sometimes run in and out of the lace that edges the top. Silk Smyrna lace is costly, and is used on plush and velvet bonnets. Dentelle de Raguse is a new lace, something like Bruges lace, but with rounded meshes. The newest neckties consists of Japanese embroidery, worked in quaint colours on either white or black grenadine. The cravat bow of linen, edged with lace to button on the collar, is a most popular addition to a morning parure.

ELIANE DE MARSY.

Robert O'Hara, the other day, went into a San Francisco police station, said that he had swallowed poison, and asked for a place to die. He was not believed, whereupon he offered to bet ten dollars that he would be dead within an hour, the money to be given to his family if he won. The wager was not made, but O'Hara died before the end of the hour.

A gentleman of Lunéville, France, recently sought to leave a world of which he was weary by converting himself into a mess of pottage. At 9 a.m., M. D——, carefully dressed, presented himself at the bath of St. Peter, ordered a bath, and sent off a boy with a ten franc piece to buy him a supply of cayenne pepper, a bottle of white wine, and a bottle of whiskey, carrots, turnips, tomatoes, onions, and cloves. He received his purchases a quarter of an hour later, and, having dismissed the boy, he emptied the bath, refilled it with boiling water, threw in the white wine and the whiskey, the vegetables carefully sliced and the condiments, and finally jumped in himself, crying aloud so as to be heard outside, "Adieu, all of you, I'm going to cook myself *à l'Américaine!*" The door was instantly burst open, and he was dragged out and taken to the hospital, but, as might be expected, returned somewhat incoherent answers to all inquiries on the part of the police and the authorities of the hospital. His condition is pronounced to be desperate.

M. Leverrier, the great French astronomer, who kept the star gazers of the world on the *qui vive* for the appearance of his new planet "Vulcan" in October, has undergone a great change since the death of his wife. He withdrew to his little house, and only emerges at night to proceed with his studies in the National Observatory. His whole existence is now devoted to science. He desires neither to see nor to know any one. If he is wanted he either escapes to the Observatory or shuts himself up in his strange den, and the old housekeeper is just superstitious enough to refuse admittance lest he practise on her some *diablerie*. Napoleon III. made him a Senator, but, owing to his bitterness, Ollivier removed him in 1870. He went to Italy for a year, and was called thence by M. Thiers, who saw that the Observatory was being grossly mismanaged, and placed it again in his charge. With a simple "I knew it," the old man resumed his stool and looked through the glasses as if nothing had happened.

THE OBJECT OF A LIFE.

To eat, drink [illegible], because to-morrow we die;
The [illegible] talent laid idly by;
To scrape with grim persistence, the grains of a golden store;
To dig for a bare subsistence, that keeps the wolf from the door;
But whether in purple and riches, we feed on the fat of the land,
Or up to the middle in ditches, live hard by labour of hand,
To wrestle for ease and pelf, in a hunger of great and small,
Where it's "every man for himself, and God, if He will, for us all,"
With greed that carries pollution of base and pitiful strife,
Can this be the true solution, the end and aim of a life?
No. [illegible] sparks celestial the seraphim share with us,
By instincts coarse and bestial can never be stifled thus;
And, surely within the portals, that bar their brighter sphere,
They yearn for fellow immortals, though grovelling worm-like here.
The helping hand to reach us, that guides with tender care,
The loving lesson to teach us, of a holier future there;
To whisper how fair and ample the field we husband below,
To tell of the great example, the Man of compassion and woe;
Of footprints left behind Him in the earthly path He trod,
And how the lowest may find Him, who straitly walk with God,
Who bend their backs to labour, and bend their knees to pray,
In honest love for their neighbour, His one command obey;
Who freely bear for others the burden sorrow hath laid,
Accepting all for brothers that need a brother's aid—
Rejoice in the gain resulting from every milestone passed,
And travel the road, exulting, that brings them home at last.

G. J. WHYTE MELVILLE.
—*Temple Bar.*

NEWS OF THE WORLD.

Mercedes de Montpensier, the future Queen of Spain, is now sixteen years old, and very plain indeed.

John and Ann Murray, an old married couple at Wolverhampton, swallowed a quantity of petroleum in mistake for gin, and both died.

A lady in the country, who recently wrote to a friend to send her a book of riddles and conundrums, received by return mail Greg's "Enigmas of Life."

The largest sail in the world has been made in Dublin. It is a rectangular, and measures 180 feet by 60. It is to be used in raising sunken vessels.

A singular marriage procession was seen in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris, recently, the parties being mounted on velocipedes, each gentleman having a lady behind him, and the leading man playing a violin.

The British Government has just closed a correspondence with foreign powers on the subject of firing mutual salutes. A code will be issued, which will in future save much waste of powder and money.

At the inquest over the bodies of two constables who were recently murdered on an English highway by four poachers, the coroner censured the police for not letting loose their bloodhounds and tracking the fugitives.

A Kentish paper announces the death of the "Swanley Fat Boy, Richard Beenham." He was 12 years and four months old, stood five feet in height, weighed 25 stone (14 lbs. to the stone), and measured 69 inches round the waist.

The late George Dawson collected for the public library of Birmingham, Eng., over 400 editions of Shakespeare's works, consisting of translations in all languages into which they had been rendered, and the various English editions.

A Belgian jury has done a facetious thing. A man named Brin had murdered both his first and his second wife. They found him guilty, but recommended him to mercy on account of his wooden leg. Hard labour for life was substituted for death.

A cousin of Eugene Sue recently shot himself in a cemetery in France. He held a position of trust, and was labouring under a delusion that he had misappropriated moneys and was to be prosecuted. An examination of his accounts showed them to be correct to the last sou.

The Imperial hunt, which takes place in a tract of country to the north of Corea in China every three years, for the purpose of supplying the Imperial table with dainties and of exercising the whole of those who take part in it, is to be abandoned for the present on account of the impoverished state of the exchequer.

A childless old soldier in Germany, a grandson of Schiller, is the last bearer of that illustrious name. Another grandson of the great poet, but on the mother's side, who wears the imposing title of Freiherr von Gleichen-Russwurm, has, in order to perpetuate the poet's name in the family, given his eldest son the pronomen Schiller, and directed that the same thing shall be done to one of the male offspring in all future generations of the house of Gleichen-Russwurm.

A Mexican, having wooed in vain a young woman in Santa Monica, California, attempted such an exploit as is not often successful outside of printed romance. He swooped down on her on horseback as she was walking alone, lifted her to his side, and rode away. This young woman was more muscular than most heroines in novels, and she scratched and kicked in a vigorously romantic way. The Mexican was glad to drop her at the end of half a mile.

There were recently exhibited in London, previous to their despatch to India, three state chariots, destined to be used for the first time on the occasion of the forthcoming proclamation of the Queen's new title. These have been built for the Begum of Bengal, the Maharajah Dhuleep Sing, and Sir Salar Jung. The carriage for the Begum eclipses in splendour the chariot latterly built for the Mikado of Japan, and is capable of carrying twelve persons.

In the environs of Nice, recently, a duel with swords took place between the Marquis Contazzi of Palermo and an Austrian cavalry officer, defined as M. V. de B. The latter was the challenger on account of the Marquis having instituted inquiries in verification of a statement he had made. As his word was doubted, he considered himself insulted. The combat was very long, but M. V. de B. finally received a severe gash which laid open his stomach, and he was carried from the field.

When Count Von Moltke was a Prussian Major, he wrote an exhaustive account of the campaigns in Turkey. The work was translated into English and published by a well-known house in London. But the English people were too busy reading three-volume novels and sentimental journeys to peruse a military book, so it fell flat and the entire edition was dumped into the junk-shop. When the Count was reminded of the circumstance the other day, he said:—"It was a pity, for I was very poor then and should have been glad of fifty pounds."

In the final scene of "Richard the Third," the other night, Mr. Barry Sullivan sustained an injury of a severe and alarming nature. The fight between Richard and Richmond had proceeded for a few moments only when Mr. Sullivan fell, and made a gesture towards his antagonist signifying that he had been struck. It was then quickly apparent that Mr. Sinclair, in recovering his sword after a downward blow, had cut or ripped one side of Mr. Sullivan's face, the eye narrowly escaping. The curtain was instantly dropped and after some minutes the audience were informed from the stage of the extent to which Mr. Sullivan was hurt.

Frau Muhlbach, the novelist, is a very fat woman about sixty years old, possessing a rubicund visage most plentifully bedecked with pearl powder. She is fond of talking about her "dear friend the Queen," and is, on the whole, as self contented a lady as ever lifted nose. An American who speaks German as well as he does English, was complimented by her upon this proficiency and replied, "I am very glad that I do, because—" and was here interrupted by a flourishing courtesy and a candied smile from the good woman, who was perfectly certain that he was going to say "because I am thus enabled to read your books in the original." Of course, after this demonstration, the poor fellow was obliged to finish that way, whereas he had intended to say something quite different.

There is in Scotland, as well as at American watering-places, a close connection between fishing and matrimony. The failure of the herring fishery this season has had a most depressing effect upon the matrimonial market. The decrease in the marriages in the three months ending Sept. 30 last, is considerable. In the Island of Lewis, with upward of 25,000 inhabitants, there were only two marriages, and in Wick, with a population of 13,000, the number of marriages was only thirteen, being rather more than half the usual total. In Ross and Cromarty, with about 83,000 inhabitants, there were only thirty marriages. The fishermen, as the *Pall Mall Gazette* puts it, seem to be displaying the same kind of wildness as the herrings.

A French officer who has served many years in Algeria writes an interesting account of a dying lion. Fangless, covered with mange, and blind, is the king of beasts on approaching the close of his reign. When not lying mournfully prostrate and alone in some sheltered nook, or behind some friendly mound overgrown with shrubbery, he feebly skulks within a small circuit of his lair in quest of a morsel of prey, which in his decrepitude he rarely succeeds in obtaining. At this stage of his career, if his scent does not utterly fail him, his sole resource for nutrition is an occasional nest of field mice. Inferior animals smell at him fearlessly, and paw him with insolence, for the forest monarch, dethroned by disease, is incapable of resistance. Often the rustic Arab comes upon his majesty in his utter helplessness, and ends his troubles with a blow of a club.

Sir Charles Dick, who died in Brighton, England, a few days ago, was for some years custodian of the Brighton Museum, and on losing that post sank in poverty. One of the late baronet's ancestors, Sir William Dick, warmly espoused the cause of the Royalists in the time of Charles I., and, besides indirectly losing thereby a fortune of about £200,000, actually advanced for the service of the King a sum of over £50,000. An Act was subsequently passed making this a State debt, but the amount was never repaid. After much exertion a pension of £132 per annum was granted to the family in the reign of Charles II., "until such time as his Majesty should take course with the principal." "His Majesty never did "take course with the principal," and in 1845 the pension itself was struck off the list. Frequent efforts were made to induce Parliament to restore the annuity, but without result. Sir Charles leaves a widow, two daughters, and a son, Henry Page Dick, who is a clerk in one of the local banks, and who succeeds to the title.

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