Coun. Freeze be allowed to withdraw his resolution, which he did accordingly.

PAUPER PETITION BLACKVILLE.

Coun. Schofield presented a bill for expenses of a pauper in the Parish of Blackville amounting to $28, praying the Council to order an assessment on said parish for said amount.

It was moved that the matter be referred to a committee of three and in amendment that it be referred to the Committee on Parish Accounts.

The Sec. Treas. said it was a matter for the Almshouse Commissioners, and that the overseers should not have meddled with it. If it was the case of a settled pauper they could, but not otherwise. The overseers had only power to act in cases of temporary relief, and this was not such a case.

Coun. Crocker said the overseers had no right to take the woman mentioned in this case to Chatham, and if they had done wrong they must suffer.

Coun. McLaughlin explained that the woman had been suddenly left destitute and without clothing by a fire, and that it was imperative that something should be done.

After some further discussion on an amendment of Coun. Brown, that the bill be rejected and referred back to the Overseers of the poor of said parish, the bill was so referred with instructions to present the same to the Almshouse Commissioners.

The Council adjourned at 1 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SETTING—TAVERN LICENSES.

The following tavern licenses were granted for six months:—

R. Flanagan, Chatham.
Dennis McCarthy, "
George Traur, "
James Clowrey, "
James Doyle, Newcastle.
James Wheeler, "
John Curry, Chatham,
Patrick Farrel, Newcastle.
Michael Brennan, Chatham.
John McGowan, "
John Donalds, "
Dan. Desmond, "
John Fraser, "
Michael Hickey, "

THE 6 MONTHS LICENSE QUESTION.

On the petition of James McMurray, of Chatham, for a tavern license for 12 months, some discussion arose. The Warden stated a motion for reconsideration of the previous resolution of council on this subject would have to be made by some one who voted in the affirmative, and finally decided that the application could not be entertained.

Alex. Martin, Alnwick, 6 mos.
And. Matchett, Northesk 12 do.

Coun. Brown said that the reasons for wishing to refuse this application for license for 12 months, was the previous resolution of Council in favor of granting licenses for six months only, but since that time he had been talking to several parties, and it appeared that the new Temperance Act could not come in force for 12 months. In view of this he was unwilling to bear hard on the outlying parishes and would like to have the resolution in question reconsidered.

Continued on third page.

General Business.

COPYING INK.

—:o:—

—A LOT OF—

CARTER'S COPYING INK,

THE BEST IN THE MARKET, IN

QUARTS,
PINTS,
HALF PINTS.

JUST RECEIVED AT THE

MIRAMICHI BOOKSTORE.

Bowditch's FLOWER SEEDS.

For	$ 1 you buy	$ 1 10	worth of Seeds or Plants.
"	$ 3 "	$ 3 45	" " Seeds or Plants
"	$ 5 "	$ 6 00	" " Seeds or Plants.
"	$10 "	$12 50	" " Seeds or Plants.
"	$20 "	$26 00	" " Seeds or Plants.

My New Catalogue for 1879 is the best and most comprehensive work issued. It contains numerous ENGRAVINGS, illustrating thousands of the best FLOWERS and VEGETABLES, and also descriptions of all the BEAUTIFUL PLANTS. Mailed for a 3-cent stamp. To customers free. Seeds or Plants by Express or Mail. (Safety guaranteed.)

WM. E. BOWDITCH, 645 WARREN ST., BOSTON, MASS.

CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS!! CHRISTMAS!!!

COME ONE! COME ALL!! AND SEE THE GREAT STOCK OF

X'MAS PRESENTS,

Also, TOYS, DOLLS, GAMES VASES, just opened out at

STREET'S DRUG STORE,

Viz:—

Glove and Handkerchief Boxes—in Shell, Leather and Wood;
Work Boxes,
Card Boxes,
Perfumery Stands,
Jewelery Cabinet,
Silver Thimbles—in stands,
Ink Stands,
Paper Weights,
Etc, etc.

Also, Games, consisting of
The Wolf and the Hippopotamus,
The Elephant and the Bison,
The Magic Mirror,
Grandall's District School.

Also—A variety of Card Games—such as Authors, Old Maid, &c., &c. All of which will be sold cheap for Cash.

☞ Remember the place—

The Newcastle Drug Store,
E. LEE STREET, - Proprietor.

Newcastle, Nov. 19, 1878.

LARGE TABLE CODFISH.

NOW LANDING:—

80 Qtls. LARGE CODFISH.

For Sale low by

HARDING & HATHEWAY,
17 and 18 South Wharf.

Teacher Wanted.

A THIRD CLASS, female Teacher wanted for the School in District No. 2, in the Parish of Hardwicke. Apply to the Trustees.

MICHAEL CARROLL,
PATRICK WALSH.

Escuminac, Jan 15, '79.

Southwest Boom Company.

SEALED Tenders will be received at the office of the Secretary of this Company at Newcastle until

Friday, the 7th of February,

next, at 10 o'clock, a.m., for the leasing of the Booms with the appertenances, for the term of two or three years. Full particulars &c., in reference to the Boom and what is required to be performed by the party tendering, will be made known on application to the Secretary at Newcastle.

ALEXANDER MORRISON, President.

Newcastle, 17th Jan. 1879.

Southwest Boom Company.

A DIVIDEND of three per cent. will be paid to the Stockholders on their paid up Stock in this Company, on the 1st of February, on application to the Treasurer, in Newcastle.

By order of the Directors,
ALEXANDER MORRISON, President.

Newcastle, 18th Jan. 1879.

20 Cards. All lovely Chromos, Mottoes, Flowers, &c., with name 10cts. NASSAU CARD CO. Nassau, N.Y., U.S.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, - - - - JANUARY 30, 1879.

Reorganization of Intercolonial Railway Management.

The St. John *Sun* of 23rd inst., published a telegram from its Ottawa correspondent embracing the following in reference to proposed changes in the management of the Intercolonial Railway:—

"It has been made plain by investigations into the business of the Intercolonial Railway, that the management of that great intercolonial highway needs change in the direction of economy.

"It has been found that the aggregate deficiencies of the operations of the road during the past two years—that is, the excess of expenditure over revenue—amounts to over eleven hundred thousand dollars ($1,100,000), and that in spite of the fact that the winters have been open and prices and wages lower than ever before.

"It is also found that the result of the operations of the first quarter of this year shows an excess of expenditure over revenue of some twenty one thousand dollars ($21,000) over the same period last year.

"I understand that the Minister of Public Works, finding these results most unfavorable to the public service and interests, has recommended to the Cabinet a reorganization of the staff, with a view to a large reduction in the expenditure, and that the Government have decided to adopt his proposals, made after the most careful examination and consideration.

"It is proposed to adopt a new and more economical system of management, of which the following is a general outline:—

"The office of General Superintendent is to be abolished, and a Chief Superintendent, with headquarters at Moncton, is to be appointed, who is to be directly responsible for the efficient management of the road.

"The agencies at Halifax, St. John, Montreal and Toronto are to be abolished, and the sale of the tickets at the these points will be made on commission.

"A travelling agent will be appointed whose duties will include the visiting of all points, the instructing of officers, and the watching and directing of the general freight and passenger business of the country, with the view of securing for the Intercolonial all possible traffic.

"In the Paymaster's department there will be but one cashier, one paymaster and one clerk.

"The Chief Superintendent will be also the auditor responsible to the Government for the proper auditing of all accounts.

"The bridges will be inspected by the engineering staff; the office of Bridge Inspector will be abolished.

"The Superintendent's and four Assistant Superintendents' offices will be abolished, and a Chief Superintendent, with two District Superintendents, will take their places.

"There will also be some changes in the Train Despatchers' offices.

"It is expected that the saving to be effected by this careful re-organization—the chief points only of which have been indicated—will not be less than $40,000 or $50,000 per annum."

Commenting on the above the St. John *Globe* says:—

The air is full of rumors to-day regarding the proposed changes. It is said that Mr. Pottinger, who is General Storekeeper, is to be made Chief Superintendent, and as confirmation of this report it is pointed out that he has only returned from Ottawa during the last few days.

It is said that Mr. T. B. Hanington is to have the agency for the selling of tickets,—receiving a commission, however, instead of a salary of $1500 as paid Mr. W. H. Olive.

By the change in the paymaster's department, one cashier, one paymaster and one clerk will be left out in the cold.

Mr. Henry A. Case is the Bridge Inspector whose office, it is stated, will be abolished.

There are many conflicting rumors as to who will be appointed District Superintendents. Government supporters declare that Mr. Luttrell will be removed; that Mr. James Coleman is likely to Superintend the district from St. John to Halifax and Mr. Archibald from Moncton to Riviere du Loup. In that case another vacancy will be created, for Mr. C. is at present general passenger agent. On the other hand, it is stated that Mr. Coleman's duties are to be enlarged, and that he is to be the "travelling agent" referred to in the *Sun's* despatch. At the present time there are four district superintendents,—Mr. Busby, having charge between Riviere du Loup and Campbellton; Mr. Price from Campbellton to Moncton; Mr. Pitfield from Amherst to St. John, and Mr. Archibald from Amherst to Halifax.

It is also rumored that Mr. Lewis Carvell is eventually to take charge of the P. E. Island Railway.

But all these reports of "slaughtering," etc. must be taken with due allowance."

Respecting the excess of expenditure over income of the road it seems evident, from the experience of the past two years, that it will be difficult to make the account balance by any changes that may be made, either in the *personnel* of the staff or in the way of abolishing and creating offices. The country will, however, approve of any action that may be taken by the Government in the direction of economy, provided that the experiments resorted to are not such as will weaken the efficiency which has characterised the working of the Railway since it was opened. The objection to the Superintendent's office being in Moncton is not a new one, and its removal to Moncton, Halifax or St. John is a step in the right direction. If the road extended to Quebec we believe it should be in that city, because it is more central from a trade point of view than either of those named in the Maritime Provinces. If Montreal were the Western terminus, then that city should be the head quarters, but so long as the road ends at Riviere du Loup the Superintendent should have his offices at some point east of that and there are many considerations which suggest Halifax or St. John as the most advantageous.

The proposed change in reference to the auditing of accounts commends itself to the practical mind. Respecting the proposed changes in the mode of remunerating ticket agents there is little to be said and little, doubtless, to be saved. It is probable that it is a sugar coating for the administration of the pill known as "to the victors, etc."

There has been a most determined effort made ever since the elections to oust Mr. Brydges from a position to which, perhaps, no other man in Canada can bring so much experience, coupled with a desire to manage the great work in his charge so as to secure the best possible results to the commercial interests involved. It was not to be expected that his administration would meet with everybody's approval or promote everybody's immediate interests, but it is a matter of regret that a strong political coloring has been given to many things which he has done simply in the way of his duty as the responsible manager of a great national work, whose interests ought to be considered as much as possible outside of party politics. We had occasion, some four years since, in referring to Intercolonial Railway affairs, to protest against the unfair treatment which Mr. Carvell was receiving at the hands of the Dominion Government with a view of finding a pretext for his dismissal. We might now make use of almost the same words in connection with the treatment of Mr. Brydges, although it is evident that the latter gentleman's chief offence, unlike that of Mr. Carvell, has been his pretty successful avoidance of the pitfalls into which various political and semi-political coteries have desired to entice him for the advancement of their own particular interests. We observe that a Montreal press despatch states that Mr. Brydges asks for an investigation of the implied charges against his management of the Intercolonial. Public sentiment will require that his request be granted.

HAWKERS AND PEDDLERS.—Councillor Scofield's resolution relating to Hawkers and Peddlers was a move in the right direction.

THE MAGISTRATE MANIA has led to the appointment of several gentlemen in Northumberland who had already been gazetted.

MR. J. L. STEWART, of the *Sun*, made a hit on Monday night last with his lecture on "Sentiment in Life and Literature" at Mechanics' Institute, St. John.

EXPENSIVE:—The "McCarthy Mystery" trial cost Westmorland $5,819 99, and the Province about $3,500. The Municipal Council of Westmorland wants the Province to pay the whole bill.

OUR REPORT of the proceedings of the Municipal Council being quite full, we are obliged to hold over the portion of it relating to the business and discussions of Thursday night, Friday and Saturday, until next week.

SHOCKING:—At Montville, Maine, on Saturday evening of last week, John McFarland, a respectable farmer, his wife and grandaughter were killed by one Rowell, an insane man. The lunatic was afterwards shot and killed by a neighbor whom he had attacked.

THE ST. JOHN "SUN" is very much afraid that the *News* will continue to get some Government patronage in the way of advertising, so it devotes nearly all its energies to the work of proving that the *News* said a good word for the late Government. Isn't there patronage enough for both the *Sun* and the *News*?

THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE will, it is said, meet on 27th February, which is a little later than usual, but rendered so partially on account of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor having accepted the invitation of His Excellency, the Governor-General, to be present at Ottawa during the ceremonies of opening Parliament.

HEAVY FIRE.—We regret to learn that St. Stephen has met with a heavy loss by fire, $50,000 worth of property having been destroyed there on Saturday night. Among the losers are Geo. F. Pinder, J. McElroy, A. Johnston, Smith and Murray, DeWolfe, Jas. W. Clarke, C. O. Barker, Miss Cavanah, C. H. Smith and G. W. Sloat.

DRAWING ROOM:—The Governor-General's Military Secretary publishes the following advertisement:—

His Excellency, the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, will hold Drawing Rooms in the Senate Chamber at eight-thirty (8.30) p. m., on Friday, the fourteenth (14th) and Saturday, the fifteenth (15th) of February. In order to avoid inconvenience and fatigue to ladies who propose to attend, it is suggested that all persons whose names commence with the initial letters A to L, inclusive, should be presented on the first day, and those from M to Z, inclusive, on the fifteenth (15th) of February.

THE "PROTEST":—Several correspondents have written us to enquire why we do not give them more information about the protest entered by Messrs. Whitney, Sadler, Call and Crocker against Mr. Snowball's election. We can only say, in reply, that His Honor, the Chief Justice, has the preliminary objections made by Mr. Snowball against the Petition under consideration. Nothing can, however, prevent Mr. Snowball from taking the seat to which he has been elected, a privilege of which he will avail himself though "the heathen may rage" to their hearts' content.

THE ALMS HOUSE.—Coun. Freeze's proposition to so change the organization of the Alms House management as to give the County a greater control over it, is a move in the right direction. We think, however, that it is not well to enlarge the Board. Now, that we have the County incorporated it seems absurd that the Government should exercise the power of appointing the Commissioners. The institution is entirely a County one; none but the poor from within the County are sent to it and none but the people of the County are asked to contribute to its maintenance. What the pretext is on which the Government claims the right of appointing the Commissioners, therefore, is not apparent.

ON THE "QUI VIVE"!—John Covert Esq., M. P. P., who led the Opposition in the Local Legislature for the last four years, was on a visit to Chatham and Newcastle from Saturday until Tuesday morning. He is said to have interviewed some of our local representatives—if not all of them—and if we may judge from his appearance his mission has not been in vain. But, then, Mr. Covert, while he is a handsome man, has the faculty of preventing his face from reflecting what the state of his mind may be and, in this instance, appearances may deceive. Besides, after the political gymnastics performed by Mr. Adams in entering a Government with those whom he had denounced as deep-dyed traitors, we must be prepared for anything, and one does not feel like attempting to even conjecture how parties will stand when "the special head of all the land" assembles.

CHILDISH WORK.—It is not an encouraging thing to find a Municipal Council so fickle-minded as ours was last week in its treatment of the six months License Petition. The more reasonable members—strong temperance men as well as others—showed that nothing was to be gained, but injustice done by granting the request of the Petition. Still, it was carried, one Councillor—Scofield—voting for it in the face of his own arguments against it. Next day when a neighbor of Councillor Brown wanted a license for a year, that gentleman, who the day before could not see any fault in the injustice in a general way, was willing to see things in a different light when brought where it might affect a vote, and so with others, who were willing, at first, to shut their eyes and go with the tide. Men who are charged with the responsibility of acting for the public should show that they know their own minds.

THE METROPOLITAN:—His Lordship, the Bishop of Fredericton, was elected Metropolitan Bishop of Canada by the House of Bishops at their recent session in Montreal. The St. John *Globe* says:—

"The Most Reverend the Metropolitan of Canada, chosen yesterday, has been Bishop of Fredericton nearly thirty four years, and has had therefore a colonial experience connected with the Church greater than any of his peers. A scholar of England's greatest University, a man of energy, talent and unaffected piety, he will worthily preside over the Angelican branch of the Church in Canada. His Metropolitan See will be in Fredericton, where there is a Cathedral worthy of the Church. The Most Reverend John Medley is by birth an Englishman, and in his 75th year, but is as active as a man of sixty. He was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1826 with high honors. For some years he was vicar of St. Thomas, Exeter, where Rev. Mr. Swabey now is, and was prebendary of Exeter Cathedral. He was consecrated first Bishop of Fredericton in 1845.

HOW IT WORKS: There were fifty-three separate charges of bribery and corruption brought in the recently decided South Ontario election case, all of which were "not proven." The gentleman petitioned against retained his seat and the petitioner was obliged to pay some $2,500 expenses for the luxury of not being able to put up with the decision of the people of the polls.

"*Grip*" has a very clever cartoon in the last issue which he calls "Paying the Shot." It is an archery scene with an effigy of Glen, the elected condidate, seated on a stool labeled South Ontario. At his back is a canvass in which fifty-three arrows are sticking, each representing a point in the "particulars" which were to unseat him. Hon. T. N. Gibbs appears in the character of an Archer and is placed with his arrowless bow in hand in front of a stand and while he is thrusting his hand in his pocket, Glen at the stand is gleefully calling upon him to pay $2,500 or so for his shots. Glen also says "Very sorry you missed it every shot, Sir, better luck next time." Dalton McCarthy, as counsel for the petitioner, is in tears, while the *Whitby Chronicle* man asks him "Well Sargeant Buz fuz, how do you feel now." The Cartoon has a moral of local application.

About Smelts.

The St. John *Sun* has, for some time, taken an abnormal interest in the Miramichi smelt business, its editorial and correspondence departments both giving evidence of an inspiration from a quarter which we have, in the past, found a prolific source of discontent for our fishermen. It is a fact that the catch of smelts has been larger on the Miramichi river during the present winter than ever before—notwithstanding the prophecy on the part of the Inspector for the Province that the bag nets would destroy and exterminate them. It is also a fact that as a result of the success of this fishery, a considerable amount of money has been circulated among a class of our people who needed it very much, while owing to injudiciously large and general shipments to Boston, New York and Philadelphia, those markets were glutted and, in a few instances, comparatively speaking, the shippers received nothing in return. The latter fact was seized upon by the *Sun* and its correspondent as a pretext for war upon the smelt fishery and the cry of that paper was faintly echoed by its satelites, the *Times* and the *Advocate*, while the *News* and *Telegraph*, without any adequate independent enquiry also showed symptoms of smelt fever. One generous-souled correspondent whose proposition savored of "Roving specialism" proposed to have his imaginary piles of smelts, which were to be stumbled upon all over the ice of the Miramichi, gathered up by the agents of some charitable institution and distributed to the poor of the Dominion, and we have no doubt that the genius who furnished the "facts" to his friend in St. John would be quite willing to act as such agent and, for a consideration, change the fish-diet by throwing in a few of those "powerful horses" which one "Wipl" was stated by the *Sun* to be purchasing in Chatham last fall for his enterprising principals. Other correspondence galvanized the Inspector's old cry of threatened smelt extermination in our river and paraded all the adverse reports of the markets named that certain parties could obtain, to put as discouraging a face on the industry as possible. In fact, the *Sun* and its friends acted as full-fledged agents for "hard times' in the smelt trade.

The object of all this was to create a public sentiment in favor of what has so long been threatened—the prohibition of bag-nets in the capture of smelts. Whatever guise the attacks upon this interest may come in, we have little difficulty in tracing it to those who effected the prohibition in Bathurst and would have succeeded in doing the same thing on the Miramichi but for the efforts put forth against them immediately upon their threatening it upon our fishermen, but it is to be hoped that the Department of Fisheries, under its present head, will not be so easily led into ordering unnecessary prohibitions at the caprice of those who make their recommendations and base their arguments on but a small part of the truth, not to say intentional distortion of the facts.

Since writing the above we have come upon a short article in the Ottawa *Free Press* of 22nd, inst., from which we take the following:—

The *Sun*, of St. John, N.B., says the smelt fishers at Miramichi are glutting the American markets and ruining trade. Smelts are so abundant and cheap that nobody buys them for food, and holders must sell them for manure. The *Sun* blames the late Government for making the fish so plentiful and the markets so scarce. It also expects the present Government to curtail the supply and improve the demand. Other industries in the country have suffered from over-production and slim sales, but this is the first time we have heard of its being the business of anybody else besides the producers and sellers. Instead of making itself utterly ridiculous, why doesn't the *Sun* advise trying the markets of Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto and Hamilton, instead of sending all their smelts to Boston and New York. The Intercolonial Railroad can surely carry them as cheaply in this as they are carried in any other direction. We give our contemporary this hint for the benefit of its friends.

"The article referred to is replete with charges against the Fisheries administration of "the late Government." The complaint that the fishery laws are not enforced at Miramichi is not, however, very consistent. There is, we believe, an Inspector at St. John, who has a number of assistants under him. Why do not they enforce the fishery laws? This is the business for which they are paid—not for petty squabbling in the newspapers, and abusing the Department under which they serve. It may be quite in order for Conservative subordinates to fling dirt at their late chiefs, now that they can hope to gain nothing by whining and fawning. Meantime let the *Sun* advise its informants to send some of the superabundant fish up this way. Smelts are well-favored; in winter time they smell of cucumbers, and are not then tabooed by the Board of Health.

The *Free Press* appears to have struck the chord which has produced much of the "music" we have had on the smelt question and we hope the Inspector will take the hint. There is also a practical hint for the smelt fishermen who, we think might, with some advantage to themselves, send some of their shipments to the cities and towns of the Upper Provinces.

Special Correspondence of the MIRAMICHI ADVANCE.

Letter from California.

SAN FRANCISCO—"JOHN"—SUNDAY IN "FRISCO"—VALLEJO—MARE ISLAND NAVY YARD—THE *Herald* POLAR EXPEDITION ETC.

SAN PABLO BAY, CAL. Jan. 10th, 1879.

MR. EDITOR:—It was my intention, after I had "made my bow" to your readers, to have given them something descriptive of the Pacific Coast metropolis, but as, shortly after arriving in San Francisco, I took my departure therefrom, I am not in a position to give any detailed description thereof, but I may say, briefly, that the city is situated on the eastern side of the peninsula, its buildings extending almost from the entrance of the harbor, and presents a fine appearance from any of the avenues of ingress, and particularly so when approached by the route and at the time the writer did—by steamer and at night—the whole city covering its many "hills and dales" appearing to the beholder brilliantly lighted up. The plan of the streets generally stated is thus:—Market Street, the principal, running east and west, off which run to the south, streets numbered, and to the northwest Montgomery, Kearney, etc. The principal business streets are Market, Kearney, Montgomery and California, of which Kearney is also the one on which the youth and beauty of the female persuasion exhibit their loveliness to the admiring gaze and all that kind of thing. The city contains some very large and massive looking edifices, they being pecuniarily emblematical one might say, but Architecture does not seem to have been invoked to exhibit much loveliness in its effects, in many cases. The Palace Hotel, for instance, one of the great objects of the city, is certainly large enough and cost $7,000,000, or in the vicinity of that bagatelle, but is discounted for beauty internally and externally by the "Windsor" of Montreal.

The pedestrian in the streets of San Francisco is jostled by and jostles representatives of many nationalities, impressing him with a sense of the city's cosmopolitan character. Forming a not insignificant number of these, John Chinaman appears, which fact gives "Our Dennis" much apparent annoyance and causes him to give vent to his twaddle *ad infinitum*. The presence in such large numbers of the Chinese in this city certainly has given rise to much discussion and able writing *pro* and *con*. They can and do fill the place of other laboring men, domestic servants and different tradesmen and living much more frugally than white men, they scrape together what is to them a competence at a salary on which a white man would starve, and when this is acquired leave the land of the "Melican man" for the Flowery Kingdom. But they are very generally employed and are certainly immensely useful to a large class, and as the question now stands they are in a position to say to the agitator and his friends "What are you going to do about it?" A visit to the quarter of the city peculiar to them, however, inclines one to the opinion that Dennis is right, even if he doesn't express his sentiments in the choicest English.

SUNDAY

in San Francisco sees Wordwards Gardens (the big popular amusement place of the coast) crowded, trains and steamers from the city to all points filled with excursionists, saloons, etc., open, theatres running and even more of amusement offered to the public than on any other day. There are churches in the city, though, and ministers too, and people who go to hear them, but to the casual observer it does not seem so.—Even if one likes to take it mixed, we can go to see Brother Kalloch's show at the Metropolitan Temple (Baptist) where if a sentiment of the preacher's prayer particularly pleases it is applauded, as when he once made use of the expression "the Chinese must go," "or words to that effect,"—instrumental solo "by the ablest talent," vocal solos and duets, presumably sacred, sung to "Auld lang Syne" and airs of that ilk, are some of the items on the programme of what is supposed to be worship of the Deity.

But I must ask your readers to be content for the present with this short sketch and touch as briefly on Mare Island Navy Yard and Vallejo. Vallejo is remarkable for nothing, so far as I know, except its dullness and the profanity of the corner loafers. It is a town of some 7,000 population situated in Solano County, on Mare Island Straits, and is about an hour and a half's trip from San Francisco by the fine Steamer *Yosemite*. The only importance that attaches to Vallejo is on account of the Navy Yard on Mare Island on the other side of the Straits. This is the only naval depot of the coast (one of the five (?) government yards) and generally presents rather a bustling appearance. The grounds, streets, etc., are beautifully kept and with the tasteful residences of the officials, in the back ground, gives the impression that one has stumbled on a model manufacturing town. Floating in the Straits are hulks bearing names made familiar by pages of American history. A sectional floating dry dock is one of the features of the institution.

THE N. Y. "HERALD" ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

A visit to the yard the other day gave me an opportunity of visiting the steam Yacht *Jeannette*, now lying at Mare Island fitting out. This is the enterprise of James Gordon Bennet, who, not content with the lustre reflected upon him *via* Stanley, now seeks to settle that vexed question of the open Polar Sea, and it would be a little singular if these two great questions should be settled by the enterprise of 19th century journalism. The expense of this Expedition is borne by the *Herald* people, nearly altogether, the Government supplying a Navy crew. The *Jeannette* was formerly a despatch boat in the English Navy, and has already been North on some scientific expedition; she was bought by Mr. Bennett and her name changed to the present one. She is a steamer about 140 feet long, nominally of 115, tons but really of about 250, bark rigged and is very narrow, evidently built to attain great speed. She has been sheathed with four inch American elm and strengthened internally with iron knees. Even in the state in which she now is—in all the confusion and disorder of preparation—she presents an example of immense strength and, presumably, she will need it all when undergoing the affectionate embraces of Polar ice. Her commander, Captain DeLong, U. S. N., is now on board, but leaves for the East in a few weeks to return in time to join his vessel ere her departure in June. Other officers and the crew will, probably, be secured here. The time of engagement is for three years, rather a lengthy period of time for a man to shut himself out from the conveniences of civilization, but, probably, there are adventurous spirits who will snatch at the opportunity of hunting for the North Pole, but the average man will be apt to allow he hasn't lost it and consequently is not particular about hunting it up. I should like to have been able to give your readers a more full description of the vessel, but the preparations are not at all forward yet and there is, consequently, nothing to write about.

Speaking of the Navy Yard reminds me that about 8 miles up from Vallejo or Carquine Straits, between Suisun and San Pabelo Bay, is situated the pretty town of Benicia, *vis a vis* to the little town of Martinez on the opposite side, nestling down among the hills at the foot of Suisun Bay, in Contra Costa Co. At the former is situated the Arsenal and various work shops, presenting a sad scene of uselessness, for although so large and doubtless adapted to their several purposes, the working staff at them is extremely insignificant.

SAN PABLO AND SUISUN BAY.

These bays extend in the order named, from San Francisco harbor, the Sacramento River emptying into the latter. As the last few months have been spent by me on these bays I have had opportunities in thus being "out of the hurly-burly" to study the beauties of nature as exhibtied on brown hills during a California winter, and to cultivate that truly æsthetic taste in nature only to be acquired by intimate acquaintance, as the p. p. might say, but rising at five o'clock these chilly mornings and dressing and breakfasting by lamplight, is apt to take much of the poetry out of it, though you may witness a fine sunrise. Speaking seriously, however, some of the sunrise and sunset views, as seen on these bays are beautiful indeed. Hill scenery, though bare, assists greatly in the general effect of sunset views. A fine sunset view taken in the vicinity of Suisun Bay with Mount Diablo, a prominent feature, has been "immortalized on canvas" by one of our artists.

I have succeeded in shaking together a few "facts and fancies" that may or may not prove interesting to your readers, but if they will kindly bear in mind the fact that this country has only been enlightened with my presence some three months, two of which I have spent on the "ocean wave" they will understand why "this is thus". If any of your present readers survive say five or six of these epistles perhaps, then I may try to give them something to atone for thus torturing them and earn their good-will.

Yours, etc.,
W. T. C.

Taking a Mean Advantage.

A remark made at the meeting of the Municipal Council last week by a Councillor from one of the upper parishes—Mr. Cameron—showed that notwithstanding all the avenues of enlightenment which are open to the people of the present day, some persons are slow to appreciate the fact that this is, under the laws by which we are governed, a free country. It seems that Mr. Shaw, a lumber Surveyor by profession, has been, for four or five years, a resident of the Parish of Derby where he has been employed by leading lumber merchants. He has made every reasonable effort to have his name, placed on the Assessors' List, but the Assessors have, neglected doing so. The reason why he has been so treated, is evidently, because the Assessors, at the instigation of some other Surveyors, are desirous of preventing him from being appointed by the Municipal Council, as said appointment would remove disabilities to which he is subjected at the present time. So unjust have the Assessors been in the matter that in order to surmount the difficulties they placed in Mr. Shaw's way, a bill was introduced in the Legislature some three years ago to provide that a Surveyor appointed by the Sessions or Municipal Council of any County might, by application to the Provincial Secretary, be a Surveyor in any County of the Province. It was argued against the bill that it was brought in to make Mr. Shaw a Surveyor without his going to the trouble of becoming a Ratepayer of the County and the measure was defeated. The matter now stands in such a position that while the law requires that a person must be a Ratepayer of the County before he can be appointed a Surveyor, the Assessors refuse to assess Mr. Shaw and he is, thus, arbitrarily, deprived of his rights as a citizen of the country. Mr. Cameron blurted out an expression of the unworthy sentiment that has encouraged this injustice, when he said we have "plenty of men for "Surveyors without *outsiders*."

Mr. Shaw is nothing to us. We do no business with him whatever and have but little acquaintance with him, but we feel that the treatment he receives is discreditable to the Derby Assessors and to the other Surveyors, who by their numbers and influence in the Council have managed to handicap him in his business. We fancy that if the poorest and meanest one among them were so treated in St. John County he would think the course pursued towards him a narrow, prejudiced and cowardly one and so it would be. Our Surveyors, like our other business men, should show the manliness that is not afraid of competition on equal terms and that does not ask for or accept privileges which it would deny to others. We confess that we are ashamed of the parties to this Surveyor business, let them be who they may.

Exported Leprosy.

The provincial papers refer to a case of leprosy discovered in Prince Edward Island and to the fact that the leper formerly belonged to Caraquet. We regret to know that the report is but too true. The person referred to is the wife of a Frenchman who, in some way, managed to have her released from the Lazaretto at Tracadie after she had been placed there as a leper. Her maiden name was Pluid, her father being a Lower Canadian Frenchman and her mother one of the Gionets of Lower Caraquet, and now married to her second husband, Thaddy Gold, who is said to be somewhere in Prince Edward Island. We believe the woman claims that she contracted the disease by sleeping with a girl named Commeau at Tracadie before her marriage. The matter is one that should have the attention of the Dominion authorities, who ought, long ago, to have taken the leprosy under their charge, instead of imposing the duty upon the Province of New Brunswick.

A MOST UNCONSCIONABLE LITERARY PIRATE.—The most systematic and unprincipled literary thief we know—and we know a good many of them—is the *Canadian Gentlemen's Journal and Sporting Times*, a semi-sporting sheet published at Toronto, Canada. To prove our assertion we need only refer to the scores of articles taken from our own columns without the slightest credit being given for their source. A paper so utterly devoid of honor and unsupported by brains should suspend.—*N. Y. Forest and Stream.*

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COMPOUND EDGER AND SINGLE EDGER, AND MY RESAWING MACHINES

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