BUSINESS NOTICE.

THE TRIBUNE Counting Room is the southern half of the Office of Mr. George Philps, Broker, Prince William street. It is centrally situated, being near the City Hall, the Banks, News Room, Express Office, Chubb's Corner and the Ferry landing. Advertisements for the TRIBUNE should be left at the Counting Room before 11 A. M.

The Daily Tribune.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 9, 1872.

The Civic Accounts and Civic Expenditures.

The middle of March is at hand, and the Corporation Accounts for 1871 are not published. The Civic elections are approaching, but we have no account of the stewardship in 1871 of members who now seek re-election at the hands of the citizens. Numerous measures for increasing the City debt and adding to taxation have places in the ever fertile brains of Common Councilmen, and some of these may be lobbied at Fredericton within a few days; yet we have no authoritative statement of the present City debt, no information in regard to maturing liabilities, and no method by which we can thoroughly test the extent and value of recent additions to Corporation burthens. It is quite too bad that such necessary information is invariably with-held until the Civic Elections are over, or, if published, is published after such delay that the Elections are virtually decided before the Accounts can be thoroughly examined. One not a Councilman would suppose that these officials would insist upon having the Accounts in the electors' hands in good time for the elections. We can imagine a scene in which the Ward politician would proudly point to his record for the year as exhibited in these published Accounts, challenge an examination of the various expenditures which he had sanctioned, and exultingly claim the reward of faithful service and economical administration in his return for another year. Alas! no such pleasure is permitted either to the elector or the would-be elected. The practice of the City is against it; there are evidently a majority of members opposed to it,—else they would see that the audit and publication were hurried forward; and the old style of re-electing members, and *afterwards* reading the history of their past year's transactions and misappropriations, will be continued.

It is too late in the day to construct an argument in favor of the fullest and earliest possible publication of the Corporation Accounts, especially of an intelligible statement of the City's liabilities and the Corporation's scheme, if any is proposed, for meeting such as mature at an early date, without adding to the Civic burdens. It is a notable fact that year after year while the volume of taxation increases there is still but little to show for it. The constant changes that are made in the Wards is probably accountable for a good deal of the reckless expenditure that is known to exist, and the re election of tried men seems desirable for this reason. Yet we can not help noticing, and we shall again and again call attention to the fact, that considerable alarm exists in financial circles in reference to the Civic Debt, and that it is incumbent on those in whom the electors place their confidence to do something at an early day towards reducing the Debt, and nothing towards increasing it at present. Civic taxation already presses heavily upon a large body of the tax-payers; it is bearing hard upon property; and is known to decide many to prefer a residence without the City limits than to share the debt and taxation of St. John proper. Our Street Department has grown into a gigantic affair; with its many teams, its stables, its Stone Crushers, its host of laborers, its huge pay rolls, its respectable debt in the shape of Debentures. The Fire Department has swollen in similar proportions, with its Engines, and paid firemen, and Engine houses requiring constant disbursements; its ever increasing hydrants, and expenditures for other purposes, including the Alarm Telegraph; and the expenses under this head go on increasing with a persistency that never falters. In the Police Department the annual disbursements also keep increasing all the time, and the Council may safely calculate on being compelled to increase not only the number of the Force but the pay of those already employed. To all necessary expense there should be no demur,—these items must be met:—it is well known, however, that in the face of the constant enlargement of necessary expenditure, many Councilmen never cease to cast about for new methods and excuses for swelling the City debt. The Council's public works have been notoriously mismanaged; the Breakwater in their hands has been an eye-sore and a nuisance to the Harbor. The extension of Dorchester Street is a huge job,—a very elephant of a job of which we shall not hear the last for many years to come. Reed's Point wharves have been a constant burden and drain on the City, having been both improperly built and improperly managed. And it remains to be seen whether the Council's later investments in wharf property prove to be more remunerative, or any more fortunate than those of earlier date. For a time the Carleton Ferry was declared to be a most valuable piece of property, not to be parted with on any account. Gradually it leaked out that under Corporation management it was swallowing up its earnings and a great deal more; and finally the Corporation was only too glad to get rid of it and its disastrous accompaniments. Had we the Civic Accounts for 1871 before us we might point out numerous other sources of loss, and help to explain the origin of the existing mountain of Debt which now towers above our City. We have said enough, however, to show that the delay in publishing the Accounts pending the Elections is really a public wrong, but we shall hope that whoever are responsible for this outrage, on the electors will see the error of their ways and make amends by urging forward the work.

The Legislature and the Factions.

No business has yet been transacted in the Legislative Council,—a circumstance for which we should be duly thankful. Nothing done means no harm done. In the Assembly, several bills of local interest have been discussed, and two or three passed through the final stages. But if there has been little actual business put through in this branch there has been no lack of talk. Both the Government and Opposition seem to have been hungering for a grand pow-wow; and the annual "Want of Confidence" motion affords an admirable opportunity for a display of third-rate oratory. As there will be no full report of the Debate published, the country will never know the good things its representatives have perpetrated. The speaking will probably go on for the next fortnight, without having the slightest effect on the votes of the members themselves. At the end of that time, the leaders of the opposing parties will be exactly where they started as regards the division, so far as the impress of their eloquence is concerned. The question will still remain open, "Will the River du Loup Company outbid Gough for the loose fish, and secure the Government a majority?" Quite a number of active fishes are swimming around loose this session, and the party must bait high who nets them. Some authorities place their number at six, and others at eight members,—it is, at all events, large, and the disbursements will be "*no joke*," as M. DuChaillu would say.

The other most noticeable circumstance of the Session thus far is the change in the so called "Leadership of the Opposition." When the first Session opened last year, Messrs. Hatheway, Gough and Hibbard aspired to the position. Mr. Hatheway, passing over to the other side of the House, left Messrs. Gough, Hibbard and McQueen to settle "the Leadership" among them, the latter gentleman having signed a second "round robin," declaring that he would not act with his present colleagues. Mr. McQueen having passed over to the enemy in due course, the "Leadership" remained with Messrs. Gough and Hibbard alone; and now we find they have handed it over for safe keeping to other hands. The importance of the gift may be estimated by the cheerful alacrity with which the last holders abandoned it to inexperience; and the capacity required to fill the position may be inferred from the fact that Mr. Willis is "Leader of the Opposition." The humor of the whole proceeding is irresistible.

As it may interest our readers to learn how the House stands as between the Government and Opposition, we append a division which meets the approval of some knowing ones. It may be taken to represent only the present view of several members who are always open to conviction. The "loose fish" are all placed on the Government side, as they will nominally remain there until the last moment, or until Mr. Gough, by hook or by crook, has secured a bare majority, when they will calmly swim over to Opposition waters in a body. Reversing the Scripture order, we have placed the sheep on the *left*, and the goats on the right:—

Government.	*Opposition.*
Philps,	Montgomery,
Napier,	Blanchard,
Kelly,	Gough,
Caie,	Adams,
Girouard,	Gillespie,
Humphrey,	Landry,
McQueen,	Hanington,
Ryan,	Palmer,
Crawford,	Otty,
King,	Alward,
Coram,	Willis,
Stevenson,	Maher.
Donald,	Wedderburn,
Bailey,	Hibbard,
Williams,	McAdam,
Covert,	McPherson,
Harrison,	White.
Hatheway,	
Robinson,	
Beckwith,	
Lindsay,	
Tibbits.	

According to this calculation, the Government would have twenty-two votes, and the Opposition seventeen, the Speaker being in the Chair and Mr. Therriault absent for the Session. It does not follow that the actual division will show so large a majority on either side. If Mr. Gough converts only three of those who are here assigned to the Government, he will have a majority; and once having secured a majority, the undecided ones will naturally hasten to his side. The situation, therefore, though not exciting, is somewhat interesting.

— An anxious bridegroom in Cleveland kept the wedding-ring in his mouth during the first part of the ceremony, so that he could not find it when the proper moment arrived. He mumbled along all right until the minister winked at him, as a hint to produce the ring, when in his nervousness he swallowed it, and there being no stomach pump on hand, he was stood on his head by three groomsmen to recover the "golden pledge."

The School Question in the Legislature.

It is most gratifying to find that in both Branches of the Legislature, the members formerly opposed to the School Act have "accepted the situation." In the Legislative Council, Mr. McInerney alone (like the *Freeman* among the newspapers,) maintains his Sectarian attitude. In the Assembly, Messrs. Hanington and Landry, from Westmoreland, "bow to the decision of their constituents," and the few other friends of Sectarian Schools will, doubtless, do the same. As Mr. Hanington's remarks on the subject were quite explicit, we quote freely from the part of his speech delivered on Thursday:—

"In the course of the Want of Confidence debate, Mr. Hanington said he was sorry no answer had been made to the specific charges preferred by the Opposition, and just replied to by the Hon. Mr. Stevenson. He thought some refutation would have been made by some prominent member of the Government. He felt glad to be in a position to state that he had no confidence in this Government. It was conceived in fraud. The persons who went into the Government last year did not make it a new Government; it was the same Government in which the House at the opening of last Session had no confidence. He said he would wage an honest opposition to the Government, though, if by chance, they should initiate a good measure, he would support them. The Government would try to impress upon this House that the School bill will be in danger if the Opposition get into power. Now, I wish to say that greater men than myself have accepted the expression of opinion of their constituencies, and I wish to inform the members of this House that I have accepted the situation. I don't want any misapprehensions as to my position. I am not looking for any office, and the insinuation that I am seeking the Attorney Generalship is untrue. If I erred last year I bow to the decision of my constituents. In 1870 I came out in favor of Direct Taxation for Schools and was defeated, but not on that question. We have in my district a free school which was at first opposed by the very persons who now cry out that Free Schools are in danger. In last evening's paper, the *Reporter*, the cry is again raised that the Free School Bill is in danger. I want it go abroad that as a member of this House or in whatever position I may be, I will honestly endeavor to carry out the present School Act, which is now the law of the land.

Now, I charge this Government that some of the worst enemies of the School Law are in the present Government. As to the religious issue in Westmoreland, in answer to the Provincial Secretary I will say that I believe the Government organs the *Morning Telegraph* and the Moncton *Times* raised the issue, and I regret that it was raised, as I believe the people of this country should live in harmony.

The Provincial Secretary says I bow to the pressure.—I bow only to the pressure of the noble County I represent. Talk about pressure! Will he think of the pressure brought to bear on the Attorney General when he had to withdraw his School Bill under the pressure of the opposition of the Hon. Commissioner of the Board of Works, Mr. Kelly? This I do know that when men who were in Opposition last year went into the Government and took lucrative offices without assigning any reason, they should be opposed by every honest man. I believe the members of this House should be an example of honesty, honor and integrity to the country. I do not oppose them because I want office. I do not seek the office of Attorney General. I have not asked for it, and I will support any Opposition that may turn out the Government though I hold no office in it. There is no member of this House who has gone through the ordeal I have this year. The whole power of the Government has been hurled at me and hounding me down with Scrutinies, and they had to appoint Kay a Magistrate to get him to turn against me, and the Attorney General's partner came into my County and helped to hound on the Scrutiny persecution.

His remarks of yesterday forenoon were briefly stated in yesterday's TRIBUNE:—the telegraphic synopsis of its conclusion we take from this morning's *Telegraph*:—

After dinner he again took the floor. He claimed that a reduction in the travelling expenses of the members of the executive, an expenditure voted against at the last Session of the House, should have been put into operation by the Government. The Fishery Delegation was useless, and was only undertaken to give a pleasant jaunt to certain members of the Executive. The Government did not provide lithographed plans of School Houses to suit the people. They took the late Joseph L. Moore into the Government first, instead of McQueen. The Government is the same rotten concern it was when the Legislature met last year, and had a majority against it. The travelling expenses of the Executive were $1400, while those of the Nova Scotia Government were only $500. In reply to Surveyor General Stevenson, he said the Opposition would carry out the School Law as honestly as the Government intended doing it.

The *News* report adds that Mr. Hanington claimed that the Government had neglected their duty in not printing the Law Bill, when ordered to do so by the House. He said the different denominations were not fairly represented in the Government. He dared them to prove the charge that he had offered to divide the salary of Attorney-General last year, and said he was not afraid to go back to his constituency for re-election. He said he was in favor of the River Du Loup Railway.

Mr. Landry, in his speech, according to the *News*, said:—

On the School question he said he would bow to the majority in the House, who are opposed to Separate Schools. He said that it is useless to agitate that question now.

According to the *Telegraph*, he remarked:—

It was unfair to say the School Bill would be in danger in the hands of the Opposition. He was convinced from the spirit evinced in the country and in the House, that agitating that question for the present would be useless. It made little difference now which party was in power, as the strong majority in favor of the Bill in the House makes it safe.

☞ The Rev. J. R. Lawson will preach in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, tomorrow evening, at 6 o'clock.

A FLORENTINE BALL.

The Masks and the Maskers.

The "Arabian Nights" Outdone!

ERMINE, DIAMONDS, PEARLS AND GOLD LACE!

[Correspondence of the Evening Post.]

FLORENCE, Feb 5, 1872.

Few European capitals have this winter enjoyed a season of such extraordinary brilliancy as the one now drawing to a close at Florence. The city is in a perpetual festival. There is one continual round of merriment and display. Balls of every sort and all kinds of entertainments are held nightly, with the addition of sumptuous repasts (supper and breakfast), brilliant illumination, fountains and floral decoration.

There was given last Monday night, at the palace of the Strozzi princes, the most splendid ball in fancy costume that Florence has seen for several years. The palace itself is one of the most notable edifices in the city, and at the same time one of the most historic. The foundations were laid by Filippo Strozzi on the 16th of August, 1489; and the great massive walls, broad and high, are composed of many enormous projecting blocks of granite, all of great length and thickness. Within those walls have been entertained Leonardo da Vinci, Michael Angelo, Guicciardim, Macchiavelli, Filippo Lippi and a multitude of others, all greatly distinguished in the walks of science, art, literature and politics. The magnificent saloons are adorned by the productions of such artists as Titian, Paul Veronese, Perugino, Leonardo da Vinci, Mino di Fiesole, Giovanni di Bologna, Andrea del Sarto, Murillo, Lorenzo di Credi, Salvatore Rosa, Carravaggio, Benvenuto Cellini, Pollaluolo and Guercino.

DRESS AND DIAMONDS.

The ball Monday night was conducted upon a scale of such extravagant splendor that even a faint description, one which should fall below the truth, would appear greatly exaggerated. The scene presented seemed indeed too strange to be real; and, were an accurate description possible, an account in the "Arabian Nights" would appear tame in comparison. Many came from great distances, even from Sicily, merely to be present. It is scarcely too much to say that every epoch, every nation was represented in the costumes. These costumes were composed of material so rich and so precious, and were so sumptuously ornamented, that they seemed as though created by the stroke of an enchanter's wand. The rarest silks, finest velvets, heaviest satins, choicest laces, a profusion of the most precious jewels—there was, in short, such a lavish outpouring of wealth, beauty and elegance that the eye was dazzled and the mind confused. One lady alone was arrayed in diamonds to the value of more than a million and a half lire. The dancing continued without visible decrease of animation until 8 o'clock the following morning; the strength and spirits of the participants being sustained by a service of the most delicious refreshments, established in permanence in an apartment (the *Sala Bianca*) reserved for the purpose.

THE DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

Among the Florentine patrician families represented at the ball there were more than forty of the most ancient and most illustrious. Some of their ancestors occupied distinguished posts in the state nearly seven centuries ago. There had been among them 332 Gonfaloniers of Justice, or Supreme Heads of the Government of the Republic, 1433 Priors of Liberty from 1285 to 1532, a period of two hundred and fifty years, and 300 Senators of the Medicean Principality. Three families had produced five Popes (Leo X, Clement VII, Leo XI., Urban VIII. and Clement XII); fourteen families 34 Cardinals, and twenty five more than 60 Archbishops and Bishops.

The Princess Antoinetta Strozzi, of the Genoese family Centurione—consort of Don Ferdinand Strozzi-Majorca-Renzi, Prince of Forano, Duke of Bagnolo, Senator of the Kingdom—received the guests near the entrance to the first *salon*. She was attired in the historic costume of Donna Luisa Strozzi, celebrated in the fifteenth century. Her purse or reticule was of golden thread, "tempested" with the most precious pearls. Among the characters assumed, those especially remarkable were: Queen Maria de Medici (the Princess Salviati), Francis I. of France, an Indian warrior, a Mexican, the Rebecca of Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe," Henry IV. of France, the Samian Sibyl, Firenze, or the City of Flowers; a Lady of Turkestan (the Marchioness Tailleland, with jewels to the value of more than a million and a half); two Auroras, several Marguerites, two Starry Nights (the Marchioness Lajatico and the Marchioness Giovagallo; the skirts were ornamented with graceful landscape views, and the entire forms were covered with brilliant stars.

There was also an Arab, Spring, Dame Blanche, Mephistopheles, Lohengrin, Duke of Guise, (white and blue costume, trimmed with gold, creves blue, mantle of narrow velvet and cap of the same material, with white feathers); a Gentleman of the Court of Henry VIII. of England, a Pigeon Voyageur, a Peacock, (the Marchioness Basponi), a Pilgrim Swallow, a Florentine Lady of 1600 (the Princess Corsini; "she wore upon her head, breast and belt so many diamonds that nothing richer or more elegant could be seen"); a Circassian (the Countess Rucellai *nee* Rossi); Louise of Lorraine (red and white satin, white pelisse trimmed with gold lace, diadem of pearls, wreath of natural lilies and diamonds, belt and chatelaine of diamonds; Lady Jane Grey—the Marchioness Gerini—with a dress of red and green velvet, ornamented with silver and ermine, with pearls—chatelaine of pearls, with clasp of diamonds attached to a belt ornamented with diamonds; Water, Fire, Dinrade Bardi, Odalisca; two Dominoes; two Huguenots, of the time of Charles IX; a Florentine prince of remote times—the Prince Corsini—dressed in satin, black velvet and white lace: the cross of Saint Stephen, in diamonds, suspended from the neck; a Florentine gentleman of the sixteenth century—Don Audrea Corsini, Marquis of Giovagallo; Marguerite of Navarre, a lady of the court of Louis XV.; several Spanish cavaliers, of various epochs, a Figaro and three Rosinas (from the "Barbiere di Siviglia"), Morning Star, Evening Star, Folie, Bice Visconti, Vivandiere, several in toilette Pompadour, Giselda dei Lombardi, Garde Francais, many mediæval Florentines, several French costumes of different epochs, Indian military officers of the present day in uniform of the various departments of the service (among them was Gen. Count Menabrea, ex-Premier of the ministry) several in Greek costume (among the most elegant were the Countess Raffo and the Marchioness Panciatichi, the latter robed in most delicate veils that partially concealed the countenance but left exposed a magnificent diadem of diamonds), a Cascade (the Princess Chigi), a Turkish warrior, Brazillian costume, a Mazus Agnolo Pandolfini, Luna Pandolfini, two court jesters, Polish lady, three Manolas, Day, Twilight, Night (the Princess Carolati), German costumes of 1700 (the Baron and Baroness Lagotellerie), two Venetian gentlemen of the sixteenth century, lady of the Court of Marie Antoinette, lady of the Venetian republic, gentlemen of the time of the Directory, gentlemen of the time of Carlo Goldoni.

At Easter, a magnificent album will be presented to the Princess Antoinette Strozzi, with the photographs in costume of the nine hundred guests present at the ball. The cost of this testimonial is estimated at about twenty thousand lire.

S. W. H.

GOVERNOR HOFFMAN AND THE BOOT-BLACKS.

Shine 'em up—A Good Boot-black better than a Poor President—How Newsboys may become Editors—How are ye, Governor?

The newsboys and boot-blacks of Albany were given a dinner on Thursday evening, and among the distinguished persons present to speak encouraging words to them was Gov. Hoffman. He was received with great applause by the enthusiastic audience, and is reported by the Albany *Evening Times* as speaking as follows:—

"Boys," said he," "I'm right glad to see you, and you seem glad to see me. I saw by one of the newspapers I was going to make a speech to the newsboys and boot-blacks. It's no such thing. I am just going to talk to you. (Cheers.) I think so much speaking on such an occasion is not according to Gunther. Here are the newsboys and boot-blacks, and that's all right. Boys, this is a 'first edition;' it a regular 'shine 'em up' sort of an affair. Now, I like boys; always did like boys; haven't forgot I was a boy myself. Sometimes I go out in the morning and go over to the Capitol, and a gentleman comes in bowing, hat in hand, and says, 'I am glad to see you, Governor, that was a splendid message you sent in yesterday,' and I don't know whether he meant it or not. Then I go out into the street, and the boys say, 'How are ye, Governor,' and I know they mean that Now, Dr. Clark has said to you, newsboys and boot-blacks are in the same business, both have something to do with the understanding, and that is all right. There is nothing in this world like a good, clear head, and newsboys help to make that, that is if they sell the right sort of papers. The next thing to a clear head and easy conscience for a man's comfort is a clean and easy pair of boots. You are pretty much all the same size and age, though it is pretty hard to tell how old boys are now-a-days. Some boys in New York used to sell a first edition for a second. Now, that isn't right, boys. No matter whether you are blacking boots, or keeping store, or in the State House, always be right on the square. Never try to get the best of anybody, except in the right way—by getting up a little earlier in the morning, or using a little more energy, but never in any dishonorable way. Now, I know sometimes men get boys together and tell them if they only do so and so they will all be great men. Well, they may. Some one of you may become the President of the United States; but I would not try for it if I were you, for two reasons; first, if you try too hard, you will be pretty sure not to get it; and then if you get it, it is doubtful if you would give very good satisfaction. I had rather be a good bootblack than a poor President. Any boy, if he works hard, saves his money, takes opportunity to improve himself, may become an editor or publisher of some great newspaper. From selling newspapers he may get to be a newspaper man, and make newspapers for other boys to sell. So if is with bootblacks. Some of the biggest hotels in the country are run by men who began life as bootblacks.; then they got to be porters; then something else about the hotel, and finally got to be owners. I only speak of these positions as connected with your daily surroundings. You can get along well in the world if you only try hard in the right way, and now the right way to get along to-morrow is to get a good stomachful to night. There will be only one other speech, which will be the best of the evening, and then, boys, for supper. I have said this is a first edition, but if you are good boys, there will be a second and a third. I may not be here, but others will. And now I wish you all a good evening, assuring you I am always glad to see you, and to hear you say, "How are you, Governor?"

An English Sensation!

A RARE CHANCE FOR WILKIE COLLINS!

One night, just before the date named, some of the dwellers in Harringay Grove, Hornsey, were alarmed by a swift succession of piercing shrieks. A gentleman ran to the spot whence the sounds seemed to come. Following them, he found himself on the banks of the New River, close by a railway station; and here, standing in the water, but only immersed to her waist, was the woman who was screaming. A man was holding her up; and the inference suggested by the relative situations of the two was that the woman had tried to drown herself, that the man had prevented her, and that the excitement had brought on hysterics. The man, too, appeared somewhat unsettled by the novelty and nervous strain of the situation, for he cried fiercely to the gentleman who ran up, "Who are you?" and "What do you want?" Without replying, the other, aided by two or three more who arrived, dragged the woman out of the water, and managed to carry her to the Police Station. The next day she was taken before Col. Jeakes, J. P., and charged with attempting to commit suicide, and was thereafter remanded to a day beyond that of the departure of our last mails.

Now, in all this, so far, there is nothing very odd. Women often try to drown themselves in London, and are often taken before Magistrates and charged with the crime. But, on the primary investigation, something came out which is not common at all. In the first place, it appeared that the man Preston, who was found apparently striving to rescue the woman, was found in exactly the same spot trying to rescue another woman, who also sought to drown herself, last October. Next, this last-named woman proves to have been the sister of the girl who attempted her life in the same way just now. Lastly, the man Preston declared that he had missed his train, was walking home, and met the woman. She asked him, as a stranger, the way to Westgreen; and soon after he saw her jump into the water. From this it is to be gathered that a single person, by extraordinary coincidence, rescued two sisters from drowning, within three or four months of each other, one, at least, of the two being quite unknown to him; and, that, a by still more extraordinary coincidence, the two women attempted suicide by drowning on exactly the same spot. The natural conjecture that the two might be in fact identical is met by the production of both sisters, and the admission by each of having made the suicidal attempt. The occurrence is altogether most remarkable, and would furnish a fine complication for one of Mr. Wilkie Collins' stories.

LOCALS.

The "Empress" left this morning at her usual hour for Digby, having on board a number of passengers.

For Mayor.

Mayor Reed's Card will be found in the advertising columns of to-day's TRIBUNE He again offers himself for the suffrages of the people, and assures them his best exertions will be given to advance the interests of the city.

Sleighing Party.

Invitations were issued during the early part of the week for a party to be held at the Claremont House last evening. Fearing to be snowed up the Committee thought it advisable to postpone it till next Friday evening. The party will then go by special train at 8 sharp.

Iced up.

The Schooner "Gipsey," which arrived here this morning from Boston, with a general cargo, and now lies at the North Wharf, presents more the appearance of a floating iceberg than a vessel, her sides, masts, rigging, running gear and deck being one mass of ice. The crew, though none were frostbitten, suffered severely on the passage.

Notman's Photograph Establishment

is now open and Mr. Notman would be much obliged if all who intend to appear in the Carnival Pictures would call and arrange for sittings. In cases where costumes were arranged to form a sett, Mr. Notman would like if those comprising each sett would arrange to come together. Parties interested will therefore take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Not heard from.

The ship "Denmark," which left Rio Janeiro on the 7th January, for this port, has not since been heard from. She is now 62 days out.

The ship John Black 60 days out from Liverpool, with iron and steel, for this port, is also among the missing.

Large Clearance Sale of Dry Goods.

John Armstrong & Co. are selling off their heavy stock of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods at a large reduction in price, in order to effect a thorough clearance before retiring from the Retail Trade. Some leading articles are enumerated in the advertisement in the TRIBUNE; but a thorough inspection of the stock and personal application at the establishment can alone inform intending purchasers of the Bargains to be obtained.

"Reason versus Rum."

Mr. John O'Brien will lecture to-morrow evening in St. Malachi's Hall, on this subject, under the auspices of the Father Matthew Association. We have been frequently called upon to record the increased interest taken in Temperance matters by the Roman Catholics of our City and Portland.

Valuable Cargo of Lumber,

One of the largest and most valuable cargoes of lumber that has ever been shipped from this port, its value being estimated at $31,000, is that of the ship "Cambria," which cleared to day for Valparaiso. She carries 790,405 superficial feet of pine boards and plank. The cargo is purchased by a New York house from E. D. Jewett & Co., of this City. The "Cambria" is owned by Messrs. Prichard & Son.

Mr. Boyd and M. du Chaillu.

Mr. Boyd's lecture last evening, in the Vestry of the Germain street Baptist Church, on "The Crop that Never Fails," was a great success. The Vestry was comfortably filled by a highly respectable and appreciative audience. As usual Mr. B was peculiarly happy, both in his serious and humorous moods. Towards the close the lecturer introduced Free Schools, and said he was never more pleased than at the sight he had witnessed in the afternoon of yesterday at the Institute, where 2,500 rosy boys and girls from the Public Schools were gathered to hear that distinguished and intrepid explorer Paul du Chaillu. He declared that he felt proud of St. John.

Monsieur du Chaillu being present, Mr. Boyd suggested that he should come forward, show himself, and make a few remarks. Rev. Mr. Carey then invited that gentleman to take the platform, which he did; he was well received, and he seemed to like it. M. du Chaillu said he was much pleased with Mr. Boyd's lecture, especially the last part. He was a great admirer of Free Schools; he believed a good School system to be the hope of a country. Last year he visited Norway and Sweden for the purpose of looking into the School system of those countries; he pronounced it perfect; every child was educated, and was bound to learn two Foreign languages, the French and English, or German. He visited 400 schools, and testified to the high civilization and the honesty of the people. There was not a boarding school in the land.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Boyd and Monsieur du Chaillu.

Conductor Decker's Re-instatement

in the Railway employment has caused some talk. In order to do justice to all parties it may be well to explain that Mr. Decker was entirely in the wrong in refusing to go on his train, having acted under an erroneous impression in supposing that any regulation of the service was violated in reference to the transportation of the corpse, which caused the difficulty. Mr. Decker subsequently saw his error, admitted it, and applied to the Superintendent to be re-instated. He had been many years in the service, and, notwithstanding sundry crotchets, was a faithful officer. His offence against discipline was accordingly overlooked, and he was again employed, though the conductorship of his old train,—an express train,—was not restored to him. It had been kept open for five days, pending his reflection on the subject, but had finally to be filled by a permanent appointment. Mr. Decker has therefore been placed in charge of a freight train, as the best that could be done under the circumstances.

International S. S. Co.

The I. S. S. Company purpose, everything being favorable, putting another boat on the line, on or about the 15th inst., when through trips will be made to Boston.

THE LEGISLATURE.

[*Special Telegram to the Daily Tribune.*]

TO-DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

FREDERICTON, March 9.

The Bill to enable the York County Council to aid in paying off the debt of the Fredericton Branch Railroad was agreed to.

Crawford introduced a bill to amend the Act to remove the Shiretown of King's County.

Robinson's bill to give power to Commissioners to be appointed by Governor-in-Council to expend money raised by tax on wild lands, was agreed to, with an amendment by Wedderburn that the Commissioners give bonds.

At 12.30 Crawford rose to defend the Government policy. He said there were no charges made to defend, but he must say something in reply to slanders hurled at the Government.

He said the three hours' speech of Willis was a miserable failure, and the Opposition were responsible for the expense to the country.

The School Bill worked as satisfactorily as could be expected, and the appointment of a Superintendent was a good one.

He said better terms and other delegations were required.

Hibbard and Gough could not take the leadership of the Opposition, and taking up Willis was a blind.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

In the Legislative Council, the House went into committee on the New Brunswick Masonic Hall Company, and amended bill by limiting property to be held by the Company to two hundred thousand dollars.

The Railways.

The train that left Shediac, (No. 5) at 11.40 a. m. yesterday, was over 4 hours reaching Painsec, and was 5 hours getting through Reed's cutting west of Moncton. It arrived in St. John this morning at 6.30 o'clock.

The train that left St. John at 2 o'clock p. m. yesterday proceeded along all right to Salisbury, where it had to wait until 11 o'clock for No. 5; it afterwards moved along on good time to Dorchester Road where the Engine and plow ran off the track; the plow ran clear of the track, so that the Engines ran past it, and, with the train were buried in the snow. At noon to-day the engine had been got on the track again. The plow will soon be on, and the train is expected to leave for St. John to day.

The express train for Shediac did not leave St. John until 12-15 o'clock, p. m., this day, to give the train men and engine drivers a chance to get some sleep, as they have been constantly on the road this week. They report a fine day all over the Eastern lines.

On Eastern Extension, at Dorchester the train has at last commenced to move towards Sackville. It is expected to get thro to Amherst to day.

If the weather continues fine, engines and men will be sent from Shediac tomorrow to clear the line from Painsec to Dorchester.

No. 1 train from Sussex arrived this morning at St. John on time.

Quite a number of passengers left by the train for the East at 12.15.

WESTERN EXTENSION.

Two engines, a plow and a gang of men left Fredericton Junction at 8.30 this morning for McAdam; they had not arrived at Harvey at noon. The snow drift at Harvey Station is huge, being 4 to 8 ft. deep and 400 feet in length. Eleven men have been shovelling there "for ever so long."

On the Fredericton Branch two engines with a plow, left the Junction for Fredericton at 9.20 this morning. No train has left Fredericton.

The road is again free between Carleton and Fairville.

The Engine "Jones," with a car and snow plow, left between noon and 1 p. m. to-day to clear the road up to Fredericton Junction. This part of the track is also considerably drifted still. The train took no passengers.

It is supposed that a train will leave Carleton at six this evening for Fredericton.

The train from Bangor got to Vanceboro last night; but is not expected to reach McAdam before to-night, the few miles intermediate being frightfully drifted. Between the border and Bangor there has been a great deal of trouble.

The train which left St. John yesterday for Fredericton Junction stuck at Image Brook, below Blissville, and a number of the passengers walked several miles to the Junction.

A Fancy Dress Party

was held last evening at the house of a prominent King street dry goods merchant. Most of the costumes were very handsome, and the whole affair was one of the most enjoyable of the season. Below are the names of some of the characters assumed; Corsican Brothers, Mercutio, Don Carlos, Chicot—French soldier, Brigand, Sailor, Maccaroni, Courtier, Touchstone, Militia Officer, Elder Knapp, Dundreary, Russian Peasant, Flower Girl, Swiss Peasant, Red, White and Blue, Flower Girl, Morning, Night, Spanish Lady, Gipsy, Dutch Countess, Mrs. Partington, Mrs. Scott Siddons.

The Post Office To-morrow.

A number of leading merchants suggest that the Post Office be opened for half an hour or more to-morrow for delivery of mails which have been detained on the Railways for the past week. This would be very convenient and most important to many.

Barnes' Hotel.

The painting of this popular Hotel has been thoroughly renovated, and now presents a very fine appearance.

Freights.

It is currently reported around town that freights at Liverpool for Guano have taken a considerable jump, being now from 70s a 72s. 6d.

The Bishop's Sermons To-morrow.

His Lordship being still weather bound in our city, has consented to preach in the Stone Church to-morrow morning, and in St. Paul's in the afternoon.