come. Charlie rushed to the bedside, and carrying his face among the clothes, sobbed piteously. Again the mother tried to speak, but the half uttered words were unintelligible. The last moment had come. The eyes grew fixed and glassy, and the right hand which still held that of John grew clammy and rigid. One gasp for breath, one convulsive throe, and Jenny Livingstone had crossed the dark river and entered the 'better land.'

The town clock chimed the hour of twelve. The old year was passing away. The chimes ceased, and somewhere up the quiet street could be heard the 'Hurrah!' of youthful voices welcoming in New Year's morning; but to the mourners in that humble cottage there was no joy in the sound.

CHAPTER III.

A soldier fully accoutred in heavy marching order, with musket shouldered and bayonet fixed, was not a very common sight in Gowanburn. It therefore caused considerable surprise and consternation in the little town, when, on the afternoon of the following day a corporal and two privates of the —th Regiment marched in from Ladyhill in 'battle array.' They came in search of a deserter. The warlike visitors soon discovered where the missing man was to be found, and bent their steps towards the house of James Livingstone. John Livingstone had not yet got over the shock of his mother's death. He was seated in the kitchen, with his head leaning on his hand, brooding over the events of the previous night. He was thinking, too, how strange it was that neither Grace nor her father had come to visit them, nor sent to inquire after them all the day. Mr. Paton's last words to him had been that 'he would see him in the morning, and maybe perhaps be able to help him out of his difficulty.' His father and his brother were both beside him. The latter had spent a wretched day. John had confided to his father his own unfortunate position, but he had not said a word about Charlie's exploit of the previous night.

The noise of an approaching crowd was heard. It came nearer and nearer, and gathered round the door of James Livingstone's house. Suddenly John started up. He had seen the red coats pass the window, and he at once divined their errand. He had not time to speak when the door opened, and the soldiers, without much ceremony, entered. The Corporal advanced to John Livingstone, and, placing his hand on his shoulder, said—

'I arrest you as a deserter from Her Majesty's—th Regiment.'

'I am no deserter, Corporal Jackson,' was the reply, 'and you know it.'

'I know nothing about it further than the fact that I have been sent to convey you back to barracks.'

'I am certainly absent without leave, and there lies my excuse,' continued the sergeant, pointing to the bed on which lay the dead body of his mother.

'I have not come here to listen to excuses, so make ready to accompany us. We cannot wait long.'

It was a bad omen for John Livingstone that Corporal Jackson had been selected for this duty. The man was his personal enemy. A pitiful sneak was Jackson, who had toadied his superiors till he was promoted to the rank of corporal, and now he looked forward with no small assurance to the possession of the sergeant's stripe which would be taken from Livingstone.

John took a last look at his mother's face and announced himself ready to go.

'Now, then, Ramsay,' said the Corporal to one of his men, 'whereare the handcuffs?'

'For God's sake, Jackson, don't handcuff me.'

'I must do my duty, sergeant.'

'I shall go with you quietly. There is no necessity for your inflicting such a disgrace upon me in my native town.'

'Will you put these handcuffs on, men?' shouted the irate corporal.

Meantime, the news of what was going forward had spread rapidly through the town, and the crowd round the door was fast increasing. As the manner in which the soldiers were executing their errand became known, murmurs, not loud but deep, were heard, and it seemed doubtful whether Corporal Jackson would be able safely to leave Gowanburn with his prisoner. Inside, the last preparations had been made to start. James Livingstone had told Charlie to stay beside the corpse, while he would accompany John. The soldiers shouldered their muskets, when suddenly a cheer was heard outside, and the crowd opened, leaving a clear passage to the door. Trembling with excitement, her face flushed, and her dress disordered with rapid walking, Grace Paton rushed in. She looked round at the scene and tried to speak, but her strength gave way, and she fell on the floor in a swoon. At the same moment a paper dropped from her hand, and, while James Livingstone and Charlie rushed to her assistance, one of the soldiers picked it up, and, unfolding it, exclaimed—

'A fortnight's furlough for Sergeant Livingstone, signed by the Colonel!'

'Then release your sergeant, my men,' said John.

The soldiers at once removed the handcuffs, while the crest-fallen corporal looked on in mute surprise.

John Livingstone took Grace in his arms, and placed her in his father's arm chair. In a few minutes she was quite recovered. At first she would not say how she had obtained the furlough; but at length she acknowledged that she had received it from the hands of the Colonel himself.

Grace knew the unfortunate position her lover was placed in, and the fact was that the heroic girl had got up early in the morning, and without informing any one, had taken the first train for Edinburgh. With the courage and tact of a true woman, she had sought and obtained an interview with the Colonel of John's regiment. Grace told her story in such an irresistible way that the stern old martinet was wacted, and at once granted the sergeant a furlough. He told his fair petitioner that a corporal and a file of men had already left the barracks to fetch him back, but if she returned at once, she might reach Gowanbank in time to prevent her lover's arrest. And Grace had not tarried on her way home. If she had not arrived soon enough to prevent the arrest, she had at least succeeded in triumphantly releasing John Livingstone from the hands of his captors.

The crowd outside was uproarious with delight, and some wiser head suggested that as there was a corpse lying in the house, it would be more seemly to retire, and the noisy youths quietly separated. The soldiers met no hinder—Jackson pale with rage and mortification. John Livingstone's mind was now at ease, and his love for Grace stronger than ever. When the soldiers had gone, John tried to stammer out his incoherent thanks, but Grace rose and said quietly that she must go home now.

'You'll let me go with you, Grace?' said he.

'Oh, yes, my father will be happy to see you.'

'Mi's Paton,' said John's father, 'I canna let ye gang awa' without thankin' ye for what you're done this day. May the Lord bless you for savin' my son frae disgrace. I thocht he wad hae to leave us the nicht, but noo I can look forward to a hale fortnicht o' his company.'

'A fortnight, did ye say?' cried the voice of Mr. Paton, who now appeared in the doorway. 'What wad you think if he never gaed back to the sodgers ava? Johnnie, my man, I've ta'en the first steps the day to buy you off. Hoo wad you like to bide in Gowanbank a' thegither, to tak' charge o' my business an' to marry my dochter?'

This was too much for John. He bent his head on Grace's shoulder, and, taking Mr. Paton's hand, fairly burst into tears. Tears of joy they were, though chastened by sorrow for his departed mother. Brighter days were coming now, and we may drop the curtain on this New Year's Night.

* * * * * *

Next New Year's Day, John Livingstone and Grace Paton were made husband and wife. Trade had improved during the bygone year, and everything smiled on their prospects of happiness. One of the principal wedding-guests was a soldier, and his name was Charles Livingstone. Charlie had left Gowanburn, and with his father's consent enlisted in John's regiment. As a soldier he was becoming a credit to his native town, while his quondam associate, Jack Kinlay, had at last got into the grip of the law, and was amusing himself on the tread-mill in Perth Penitentiary. Last time we saw Mr. Paton, he was Provost of Gowanburn and his goodly girth was a credit in the magisterial bench.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, MAY 26th, 1870.

EDITORIAL NEWS SUMMARY.

☞ A rather peculiar revolution has taken place in Portugal. Duke de Saldanha put himself at the head of the army, stormed the palace in Lisbon and got the consent of the King to form a new ministry; which was all the object he had in view.

☞ The Atlantic Bank of New York has cashed a forged cheque.

☞ A bridge to Staten Island is to be begun at once to cost a million dollars.

☞ The Buffalo *Express* estimates that the 15th amendment has put the ballot into the hands of about 800,000 blacks; 700,000 of whom reside in the South.

☞ Espartero has written Marshal Prim declining to become a candidate for the Spanish Crown.

☞ Civil marriages are now sanctioned by the Spanish Cortes. A great step in religious freedom for that country.

☞ 'Christadelphians' is the title of the latest new sect. The members live at Sefferson, Indiana.

☞ Sir John A. Macdonald was so much better on Friday, that he was able to sit up and partake of food.

☞ The House of Representatives at Washington has appropriated $100,000, as a reward to the crew of the *Kearsage* for destroying the *Alabama*.

☞ Prince Arthur is making preparations for leaving Canada.

☞ The House of Lords has refused, by a majority of four, a second reading to the Bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

☞ Gen. Doyle sailed from Halifax for England on Friday last.

☞ A horrible fratricide has occurred in the County of Lanark. Two brothers, James and George Doran, were drinking and quarrelled. James beat George's brains out with a pitchfork handle

☞ Several detachments of troops are now at the Sault on the way to Fort William. Among the arrivals we notice the name of our townsman, Capt Cooke at the 1st Red River Company.

☞ The government shows its economy in a remarkable way. Oxen were bought at Collingwood to the value of $400.00; and "red tape" would not allow the matter to be arranged like ordinary business. A man is sent from Ottawa to pay the $400 at an expense of $75, while a Bank would have done the business for a single dollar.

☞ Ottawa business is at a "dead-lock" for want of small change.

☞ 200 men of the 60th Rifles left Ottawa on Friday, en route for Fort Garry.

☞ The *Courier de St. Hyacinthe* reports that Mr. Dunkin is to be made a Judge and Mr. Cauchon a Minister.

☞ The neighborhood of Montreal is obscured with smoke from burning woods in the vicinty.

☞ The Rev. R. Stewart Patterson, of Strathroy and the Rev Father Marie Joseph Royer, of Ottawa, are gazetted as Chaplains to the Red River expedition.

☞ Colonel Gray, of mileage celebrity, is suing the *Globe* for libel.

☞ The Rev A. E. Griffith has been appointed to the Seaforth Station of the M. E. Church.

☞ The *Telegraph* says Berlin is to be proclaimed a town in a few days.

☞ London, the less, is given to swearing the *Advertiser* says.

☞ Riel and O'Donohoe are getting unpopular at Red River and never venture outside of Fort Garry.

☞ Sir John A. Macdonald is recovering very slowly and is still in a precarious condition.

The *Christian Guardian* denounces horse-racing and regrets to hear that Prince Arthur, the Governor General and Lieut-Governor Howland have accepted invitations to the Whitby races.

☞ The General Assembly, of the Canada Presbyterian church, which meets at Toronto, during the first week of June, is to be favored with the presence of Drs. Edmond, Arnot, Blaikie and McLeod, four disunguished Scotch divines. We hope an effort will be made to give us the privilege of hearing some of them in Goderich.

☞ The *Advertiser* says brine has been struck at Warwick, at a depth of 1300 feet, containing 50 per cent of pure salt.

☞ The Pope is going to make Christopher Columbus a saint. We hope he has been so already many a hundred years.

☞ Hon. Mr. Archibald has been appointed Lieut. Governor of Manitoba. The *Minerve*, Sir George Cartier's organ, says the appointment is made in the interests of the French and the priests.

☞ Photographs of the martyred Thomas Scott are sold in Toronto.

☞ The town of Henderson, North Carolina, has been destroyed by fire.

☞ Government is said to intend to increase the Red River Contingent to 2000 men. 6000 would be nearer the proper mark.

☞ *La Minerve* an official paper states that Sir George E. Cartier has made arrangements for a Catholic priest to accompany the expedition to Red River, but we do not hear that any arrangements have been made for an accompanying Protestant clergyman. There should be fair play in this matter of chaplaincy.

☞ The news from St. Paul that Fenians were mustering at Duluth proves to be, as the *Star* says when it is short of argument, "a base and wilful fabrication."

☞ The Halifax *Express* urges a combination of the politicians of the Maritime Provinces to counter balance the influence of Ontario in the Parliament of the Dominion.

THE GLOBE is now out in a complete suit of new and beautiful type, with the advertisements lucidly arranged in alphabetical order. The daily circulation claimed is over 20,000! to run which of expeditiously a cylinder press has been expressly built by Hoe & Co. at a cost of $8,000, in greenbacks. We are glad to see the *Globe* keeping ahead of its contemporaries.

Vanderbilt is said to be distributing his property to his heirs. After the manner of John Jacob Astor, he has lately transferred $5,000,000 to one of his children for the nominal consideration of $1.

Western Texas is said to be fast becoming a timber country. Within the last ten years the whole face of the country has changed, and young forests are now growing on what was formerly a naked prairie.

THE LASH.

The use of the lash as a means of punishing those who are not capable of feeling or fearing anything short of the cat-o'-nine tails, has been revived in England, where a few days ago a batch of garrotters and other ruffians were put through in regular orthodox fashion. It was also established in Canada by the Act of 1869, with regard to a certain class of offences, but its moral and physical effects were not tested until a few days ago when one John Radford, convicted of a gross outrage upon a little girl of 13, was tied up in the yard of London gaol and received 20 lashes on the bare-back. John took his flaying with much firmness, but we think it highly probable that he will, in future, give little girls a wide berth. In this day of morbid philanthrophy it is probable that a great many of the "unco guid" will lift their hands in holy horror at what will be considered a resuscitation of the practices indulged in during the feudal ages; and yet it is quite possible to carry such sentimentality too far. The fashion is now-a-days on this Continent to regard the criminal as more of a state-pet than the hardened wretch he really is. Hence, capital punishment is abolished in some of the neighboring States, while in others the condemned—who may have murdered a whole family in cold blood—is duly prepared for Heaven and then dropped off quietly under the influence of chloroform. Such mawkishness is entirely out of place, as calculated to foster rather than diminish crime. The people of the Western States, understanding this, have established a Court of their own, presided over by Judge Lynch, and woe be to the culprit who falls into the clutches of his officers: It is a stout rope, and the nearest tree.—This is rather summary justice, but it is far from being ineffectual. Arguing from this stand-point, the *Lash* may yet prove a more potent moral persuader than a comfortable prison. At least that is the view we take of it, harsh as it may seem.

"The gunboat *Prince Alfred* left Port Colborne yesterday for Collingwood. The *Rescue* arrived at Goderich on Thursday, where she received her stores, and took on board a battery of volunteer artillery. She then sailed for Sault Ste. Marie, where she will remain until further orders to protect our transport from attack by Fenians."

We have often to go *from* home to receive home news, and this time we are indebted to our enterprising friend the *Telegraph* for a piece of extraordinary intelligence. The *Rescue did* arrive at Goderich, but in such a condition that she is likely to become a permanent local institution. Her smoke-stack lies in Runciman & Co.'s foundry yard, and her boiler may as well be sold for old iron, while her crew are fretting and fuming to be off. If the authorities wait until *she* conveys stores they may as well postpone the expedition till next summer.

We wish it, however, to be distinctly understood that we do not blame Mr. Wyatt, the inspector, for dereliction of duty. He is straining every nerve to make the best of a bad bargain, and any censure must of course fall upon those who purchased such boats in the first place.

FRENCH LIBERTY.

Liberty, in France, is to-day as great anamomaly as it was in the days of Madame Roland, *almost*. We say almost because the guillotine is not doing so much of its bloody work. However, there is a sort of guillotine at work just now which kills out the free expression of opinion, and liberty of speech quite as effectually as the sharp implement of Robespierre nipped off the heads of the *noblesse* of the old *regime*.

The *plebiscitum*, what was it? A vote of the people to perpetuate the dynasty founded by the *coup d'etat* of Napoleon III. That vote was by ballot, and *such* a ballot! At the point of the bayonet.—the press gagged—liberty of speech denied—Government agents busy everywhere! And on the strength of such a vote the result is received in the Corps Legislatif with enthusiastic *vivas*. Bah! What about Paris, the pulse of French sentiment? It refused to accept the dictum of the Emperor. To any intelligent person who has read French history this is a most significant fact.

Now, by way of contrast, let us suppose that a vote was to be taken in our own *free* Canada which would decide its future destiny. The governing power sends the editors of the *Minerve, Gazette, Globe* and *Telegraph* to the Penitentiary, and the editor of the *Signal* on the Red River expedition—prevents the public expression of honest opinion, and dictates what course shall be pursued by the masses.—Verily, we, in this happy land do not fully appreciate the liberty we enjoy under the constitution and flag of our glorious country.

LATEST NEWS.

Associate Press Despatch.

The *Star* says cord-wood is not imported into the County of Huron.

STRAIT LACES.

After running about loose for several years, talking at random on all sorts of subjects, the *Star* has suddenly resolved to wear corsets and walk softly and not even tell in whispers any of the naughty things that are being done and said in the world. This tight-lacing has hurt our contemporary's liver and made him bilious so that he is now extremely averse to extra exertion and prefers clipping with the scissors to writing with the pen, and is very wroth with the *Signal* because it is not content, when racy home—news is to be had, to prefer reprint to manuscript. We don't object to the *Star* lacing itself as tight as suits its notions; but the *Star* will please excuse us if we do not take our idea of the newspaper's 'form divine' from its stunted proportions. We would also remind the *Star* that it is not fair, in its desire to honor us, to rob the Toronto *Telegraph* of the title of the *Police Gazette of Canada*, so justly its due. Keep your own monotonous road Mr. *Star*, and let us walk as we please.

INTERIM SESSIONS.

Before his Honor, Judge Brough, on Friday, 20th inst.

QUEEN *vs.* JOHN O'GRADY, assault, Lewis for CROWN, Doyle for defence. Mrs O'Grady alleged that her husband made an assault upon her and choked her. Her evidence fully sustained the charge. Verdict—Guilty. Sentence, one day's imprisonment.

QUEEN *vs.* EDWARD FOLEY, assault, not Guilty.

The Salt Question

We print elsewhere two articles on the American Salt question which will be read with interest by many of our patrons.

☞ J. Whitehead, Esq., M.P., was in town a few days ago looking hale and hearty.

Runnin' awa' wi' the Harrows.

The *Star*, in its latest issue, is guilty of logic which throws Sir William Hamilton into the—do, we were going to say shade—we mean the sunlight. It has an article proving that M. C. Cameron and Jos. Whitehead were perfectly right in voting as they did on the tariff question, (which we had done before by-the-bye), and then follows it up by another article headed, "A most unfortunate party," in which we notice a number of very queerly jumbled-up ideas. It says that the reform party not satisfied with the *just* representation of Wm Cayley made a cats-paw of John Holmes. The representation of Cayley, what was it? He was a prominent member of the government, and yet all he ever did for us was to appoint a batch of magistrates some of whom could not sign their own names, and the securing of a grant of $12,000—can the *Star* tell for what. Our present reform members as we have proven, have in one session done more for the county than has ever been accomplished before, although we are bound to say Mr. Dickson did much good service.—As to Mr. Holmes everyqody was deceived in him. He passed an act for the protection of *wild geese*, and there his legislation began and ended, if we omit his subservient voting for any of the government measures which came up. If John Holmes had been in Parliament for forty years, he alone would have been the only man in Huron who would have profited by his legislative efforts.

The *Star* says that a famous telegram was sent to the Post Master General when the Goderich office was declared vacant, as follows; "A vacancy in the Goderich Post Office,—make no appointment till you hear from us.' No such telegram was ever sent to the Postmaster General. If we are wrong let the *Star* set us right.

The fact of the matter is our Kingston street friend takes the utterances of the Seaforth paper as the voice of the Reformers of Huron, which is an absurdity on the face of it. In a former article we have shown conclusively we think, that the course pursued by Messrs Cameron and Whitehead is consonent with the feelings of nine-tenths of the people of Huron. By way of contrast, let us ask the *Star* what its pet man Isaac Carling has ever done in the local legislature? When did he ever utter a word in the house? What was it about?

Cameron and Whitehead *did* speak and work, and the results are now, in dollars and cents, before those whom we confidently believe would re-elect them to-morrow. The *Star* will do well, in future to make a distinction between the sentiments expressed by the Seaforth *Expositor* and those of the Reformers of Huron.

"Three Wise men of Gotham went to sea in a bowl. If the bowl had been stronger my story'd been longer.'

The Dominion tub boat the *Rescue*—our "devil" has substituted *tub* for *tug*—arrived here on the evening of the 19th, and a precious affair she proves to be. In fact the only thing about her worthy of admiration is the Union Jack which floats at the mast-head. The smoke stack is burned out—the boiler is ready to burst, and in short, she is pronounced *perfectly unseaworthy*. The consequence is that she will have to lie here for some time. The Prince Alfred is not in a much better condition, and the only conclusion we can arrive at is that there has been gross Jobbery *somewhere*. The idea of buying up a lot of old rotten tug boats and transforming them into war vessels is perfectly absurd, in view of the fact that any number of smart spicy little British gunboats could have been bought at half the price paid for the tubs.

And then, what a farce we are paying for! Here is a Mr. Wyatt getting some $5.00 per day as tub-inspector, Col. Taylor comes up at say $12.00 per day to see twenty brave fellows duly shipped on a boat that is not fit to steam from here to Bayfield, 'and so on *ad infinitum*. The long and short of it is that if all the Red River expeditionary arrangements are like what we have pointed out—and we have spoken the honest truth—the sooner our much-abused volunteers go home and to work the better. An immense sum has been granted for this expedition, and surely the *people* who pay the money have a right to demand something better in the gunboat way than such hulks. Let's have less snobograt inspection and more real value for cash received. What say ye. Volunteers?

The January Minutes.

Long looked for come at last. The *Expositor* has managed again to break through his contract by delaying the publication of the January minutes of the County Council, for three months, from February till May. We are in receipt of a copy of the same through the courtesy of the County Clerk; the printer being too much ashamed of his handiwork, to send a copy to any paper in the County. No wonder if he was ashamed. In the first place, the minutes are spun out to about double the necessary length. Then, the vaunted paper which he was wont, in his early youth, to boast about has disappeared and a wretched quality is substituted. Then, before being printed, the proof-reader, to be charitable, has been asleep—for over a thousand typographical errors of the worst description deform the pages of the pamphlet; which must be very galling to our respected County Clerk, the written pages of, whose Minute Book are models of orthography and neatness. But the gravest of all are the errors of fact. Will the County Councillors please turn up the Book and say how they reconcile the differences between the totals on pages 76, 78 and 80? Where and what is the account which raises the total on page 80 nearly $1200 above that on page 78?—We see it nowhere. How does the total of page 90 re-appear on page 102 after having in the intervening pages been altered by the addition of an item. If these figures that can be checked at a glance are in correct how can you trust to the other figures that cannot be checked without being compared with original documents?—On page 110, we observe a heading running thus:—"REPAIRS COUNTY PRINTING." We were not aware before that the County Council had such a department; but, in view of the printing of the minutes now before us, we admire the far-seeing wisdom of the arrangement, and presume that it was invented, in consequence of our exposure of the past misdeeds of the *Expositor*, to enable the Council to take some action in reference to our accusation, at the coming June meeting, and to give the Treasurer a place in which to credit the amount which will have to be refunded by Friend X. Truly the 'County Printing' is much in need of 'repairs.'

SHADE-TREES.—We are not paying half enough attention to the planting of shade-trees in Goderich. We can appreciate the fact now that the maple has put on the full glory of its leafage. A row of maples such as that in front of Dr McDougall's residence, along every street would render Goderich the handsomest town in Canada.

Second Thoughts.

The American government has apparently thought better of its ungracious and despicable decision to keep the *Chicora* from going through the Sault and is even to permit the passage with stores on board; Mr. Thornton the British Ambassador giving the assurance that the expedition is a peaceable one. Such at least is the purport of the latest telegram from Washington, and we hope, for the sake of the good name of the United States among civilized nations, that the news is true. Certainly the errand of the troops is a peaceful one, unless rebellious subjects make it the contrary; and we hardly think the United States would say that the sending through their territory of a hangman and a rope to execute a murderer, on our own soil, could be construed into a breach of international law. We trust the American government will continue in this sensible frame of mind and not compel us to retaliate.

WEEKLY OPEN-AIR PROMENADE CONCERT.—Mr. Hosker, in connection with the 33rd Battalion Band, has arranged to continue weekly a species of out-door amusement which will be very acceptable to the community especially the more youthful portion of it. The Band will play in the Maitland Hotel grounds and all can amuse themselves in their own way. The "grave and reverend signiors" with their ladies can walk and talk, the youth can dance on the green, and the juveniles can swing. Other kinds of sport are also provided. The first evening will be on Thursday 26th May if the weather is favorable. Particulars can be seen from the hand-bills which are being circulated.

THE STANDING JURYMEN OF GODERICH.—The *New Era* of 19th, publishes a letter of which the above is part of the heading. The writer has neither name nor *nom de plume* but the last two words of the effusion "Grand Humbugs" describe very forcibly the heresy-hunting *genus* to which he belongs. The charge he makes is that Mr. Samuel Pollock appears more frequently than some other people as foreman of Grand Juries. So much the worse for Mr. Pollock and so much the better for the cause of both civil and criminal justice. It shrewd common sense, large business experience, a well-balanced mind and a desire to do every duty fearlessly and without favor are qualifications much needed by Grand Jurors, Mr. Pollock has them all in a pre-eminent degree.

BARON DE CAMIN'S LECTURE, in Crabb's Hall, on Tuesday evening was attended by a large and respectable audience. The subject was "The present political aspect of Europe" with which the lecture appeared to be thoroughly familiar.

☞ Mr. Donaghy of the Star Book Store has on hand any amount of Fireworks, &c., for the 24th, as will be seen by advertisement.

LUCKNOW.—Dr. Garner very properly animadverts, in to-day's issue of the *Star*, on a letter which appeared in a previous issue of the same. That letter was offered to us for publication before it was to the *Star* and we refused to give it publicity.

☞ Several fine brick buildings in town are being rapidly pushed to completion.—When finished they will be a real ornament to the town.

☞ Fruit prospects in this town and vicinity are really splendid. It is a remarkable fact insect pests have thus far, been more rarely seen than for years before. We hope we shall escape them altogether.

WESTMINSTER REVIEW.—We are in receipt from the Leonard Scott Publishing Co. of N. Y. of the April No. of this celebrated Review. The articles, which embrace several treating upon the leading social and political problems of the day, are written by finished scholars with a breadth of tone and exhaustiveness of finish such as is not attained by any other work of the kind in Britain. Hence the Westminister is eagerly looked for by intellectual persons everywhere. The contents are:—Unpublished Letters written by Samuel Taylor Coleridge; American Socialisms; The Paraguayan War; The English Parliament and the Irish Land; The Imperial Library of Paris; Pauper Girls; Prostitution: How to Deal with it; The Action of Natural Selection on Man; Contemporary Literature.

The Canadian and American companies organized to build a railway bridge over the Niagara at Buffalo have united their capital, and formed the Buffalo Railway Bridge Company, with Mr. C. J. Brydg a as President. Mr. C. S. Gzowki has been awarded the contract to build the bridge, which must be finished by the close of 1871.

☞ The *Beacon* relates the following touching incident: The vicissitudes of life were illustrated last week in the return of a well-to-do inhabitant of Stratford, with the modest request to be sent to gaol.—His feet were bound in bundles of rags, and he painfully made his way on crutches through the back streets, to prevent recognition by his early acquaintances, to the office of the Reeve, to beg committal as a vagrant. On enquiry it was found that he was once in good circumstances in Stratford. After leaving Stratford, he had the misfortune to have his feet so badly frozen as to incapacitate him for employment of any kind. He appeared to have lived frugally for a considerable time on his previous earnings, but was at last compelled to come back and seek admission to the gaol. Previous he had vainly attempted to obtain relief in one of the adjoining townships, where he had lived before coming to town. He was in a deplorable condition, and the charity by them was done of turning him over to the care of Mr Key for a month.

THE UPAS TREE.—A careful investigation has revealed the fact that the Upas-tree is perfectly harmless, and that the destructive power is due alone to fumes of sulphate and carbonic acid gas coming from volcanic openings in the region. There is a famous "Valley of poison" at the foot of the volcanic Rapandeging, in Java, where scientific travelers have found a great number of dead animals of various kinds, as dogs, cats, birds, tigers, rhinoceroses, squirrels, and snakes. The soft parts of the animals, as the skin, and muscles, and hair, and feathers are preserved, while the boneseramble and disappear. No living thing is found in the vicinity save the Upas-tree, and it is not surprising that superstitious noticers of its malarious power should have been wide spread. The true cause of death in this case is very obvious, as there are many crevices and openings in the side of the mountains, from which carbonic acid gas and sulphurous fumes are emitted in great quantities. It was by such emissions that the elder Pliny and his companions were suffocated, at the time of the destruction of Herculaneum, though they were miles away from Vesuvius.

SALT FOR MANURE—FOR CROPS—FOR LIVESTOCK.

Alexandar Graham of East Kilbride, Glasgow, has been observing the effects of salt as a manure, and writes to a Scotch paper on the subject the following communication, which deserves attention by farmers, as containing some suggestions as to the use of this substance on the farm, which may prove economical. He says:

"For some twenty years, on my lands of Capellie, in Renfrewshire, I have used salt, year after year, in growing all kinds of crops, with the effect of making Swedes and turnips certain to grow, and to grow healthily, the roots becoming firm and solid, so as to be split by a hatchet or spade like whinstones by a hammer—of causing potatoes to yield plentifully, and of good quality—of saving cabbages from vermin, and making them, luxuriant—and of strengthening the straw, and giving weight to the grain, of white crops.

Since coming to reside here, some three years ago, what with the marked success witnessed in my garden and the conversations I have been having with farmers, hundreds of tons of salt have been brought to this parish, in which, till then, salt was never applied to the soil. I find that some farmers have been using salt in growing potatoes differently from what I suggest. They put the manure in the drill, the salt on the manure, and the potato seed on the salt, to the destruction of the seed. What ought to be done is to plant the seed on the manure, and, when the earth is put over it, to sow salt broadcast over the drills, and there let it lie till the ground is being worked.

As to white crops, I have this very week been treating an oat stubble field of 19 acres thus, instead of green cropping it. It had been ploughed deeply in the beginning of winter, strongly harrowed lately, a good quantity of farm-yard manure spread on it, then salt sown over the dung at the rate of 4 cwt. per imperial acre, and then ploughed. On being moderately harrowed it was sown thinly with oat seed, then slightly harrowed with a common harrow, next harrowed with the Norwegian harrow the grass and clover seeds sown, then harrowed with the disc or quoit harrow, and last of all sown over with salt at the rate of 2 cwt. per acre, the roller being to go over the field afterwards. My object in salting the dung is to assist the decomposition of vegetable matter, to fix the ammonia, and to destroy grubs, flies, worms, and any pests generated by dung when not treated with salt, thus rendering the dung in every way more effective; and my object in top dressing with salt to kill vermin which may be on or near the surface, and by attracting moisture from the atmosphere, to make the crop very much independent of rain.

I am aware that land near the sea is said not to require salt, the spray and breezes being fancied to supply salt enough. But compare the analysis of soil near the sea, and of soil at a distance from it. The one contains as much salt as the other. Somewhat in the same manner scientific men tell you that soil resting on whin rock did not require lime, because whinstone contains a good deal of lime, but my experience satisfies me that such land and even soil resting on limestone rock itself is greatly benefitted by lime in the production of crops of every description. In regard to lime, if it is mixed with salt, it takes effect the first season, but, if not mixed, it scarcely tells on the first crop. My practice is, when lime shells are being slaked, to have salt thrown among them at the rate of 3 cwt. to the ton of lime, and I think it might be better to give 5 cwt. instead of 3. The result of the mixture is that muriate of lime and carbonate of soda are formed. Muriate of lime is a manure, and it is more attractive of moisture even than salt itself. Carbonate of soda is a manure, and possesses the power of dissolving, for being imbibed by the roots of plants, the magnesia, potash, phosphates, and other nutritious alkalies in the soil, as well as silica for giving strength to vegetation, firmness to straw, and weight to grain.

"Let me suggest to your agricultural readers that they may save much of the most valuable portion of Peruvian guano if they were to mix equal weights of guano and salt. The salt would combine with the ammonia of the guano, forming muriate of ammonia, and carbonate of soda. Ammonia, as it presents itself in guano, is volatile, being a carbonate, but the muriatic acid of salt arrests the ammonia proper, making it a fixed salt—the muriate of ammonia—and thus preserving it for the use of plants, while the carbonate acid, driven from the ammonia of the guano unites with the soda of the common salt. How much less guano would be required—what a saving would there be—if mixing salt with a manure is at all guano were universally practiced! And then as to soot. Soot by itself generally gives an offensive taste to herbage, but mix it with salt and it does not do so, to say nothing of the greater ease with which it can be sown. And, be it remembered, that guano, and soot alike should each be mixed with salt in a dry place under covert, and remain so for weeks—the more the better—before being used. I may just add that pastures are greatly improved by salt, sour pasture being sweetened by it even as it is sweetened by lime after the land on which it grows has been drained, and dry, spindly, unnutritious grass being rendered succulent safe and nourishing. When hay is cut and gathered, salt the land, and the second cut will be richer in quality than the first.

'Will you allow me to say a few words about giving salt to animals. This is too much neglected in this country, and perhaps to this neglect much disease may justly be ascribed. But I shall say little to the close of so long a letter. Let a horse have salt in his cooked food, and always a bit of rock salt in his crib. Salt, say 4 oz a day to a full-grown cow assists fattening, and promotes the production of milk; and say 3 or 2 oz. a day each to younger cattle according to age, and say 1 oz, to a calf, contributes to health and growth. Salt, sprinkled over successive layers of green cut clover prevents hoven. And, as to sheep, salt preserves from braxy, and is a specific for rot. Where there are dry stone dykes in a sheep walk put bits of rock salt on projecting stones here and there and otherwise on stones or rocks, and the flock will soon find them out, to the saving of many a life.'—*The Michigan Farmer.*

The Salt Monopoly.

ITS UNFAVORABLE EFFECT UPON THE FARMERS.

To the Editor of The Detroit Tribune.

A Wisconsin correspondent of the *Free Trader* remarks that it opens the eyes of the farmers when it takes six bushels of wheat to buy a barrel of salt. Let this statement be an introduction to an extract from a Congressional speech of the Hon Thomas H. Benton (30 years a U S. Senator) in 1837, preceded by a statement of the existing salt tax by the Special Revenue Commissioner:

"The amount received into the Treasury from salt was about $600,000, and that upon an article costing $650,000. One-half of the tax received, goes for fishing bounties and allowances founded upon them, so that what upon the record was a tax of about 100 per cent, was in reality a tax of 200 per cent, and that upon an article of prime necessity."

This is nearly as bad as the Onondaga salt monopoly of to day, concerning which the faithful Commissioner, David A. Wells, says, that if the tax was collected in the form of tithes it would require that each vessel arriving with a cargo of foreign salt should be accompanied by another of equal size, and a third smaller craft of from eight to fifty per cent, to convey the duty. We can only give at present a statement concerning the damage this salt monopoly has been to the farming interest both of Great Britain and the United States. "Every practical man knows that every description of stock requires salt—hogs, horses, cattle, sheep; and that all the prepared food of cattle requires it also—hay, fodder, clover, shucks etc. In England it is ascertained, by experience that sheep require each a half a pound a week, that is 28 pounds, or half a custom house bushel per annum; cows require a bushel and a half per annum, young cattle a bushel, draft horses, and draft cattle a bushel, colts and young cattle from three pecks to a bushel each per annum and it was computed in England before the abolishment of the salt tax there, that the stock of the English farmers for want of adequate supplies of salt, was injured to an annual amount of far beyond the product of the tax.'

"Dr. Young, before a committee of the British House of Commons, and upon oath testified to his belief that the use of salt free of tax would benefit the agricultural interest, in the increased value of their stock alone, to the annual amount of three millions sterling, near fifteen millions of dollars. Such was the injury of the salt tax in England to the agricultural interest in the single article of stock. What the injury might be to the agricultural interest in the United States on the same article on account of the stinted use of salt occasioned by the tax, might be vaguely conceived from general observation and a few established facts. In the first place, it was known to everybody that stock in our country was stinted for salt, that neither hogs, horses, cattle, nor sheep received anything near the quantity that experience found to be necessary in England; and as for their food, that little or no salt was put upon it in the United States; while in England 10 or 15 pounds of salt to the ton of hay, clover, etc., was used in curing it. Taking a single branch of the stock of the United States, that of sheep, and more decided evidence of the deplorable deficiency of salt cannot be produced. The sheep in the United States were computed by the wool growers in 1832, in their petitions to Congress, at 20,000,000; this number, at half a bushel each, would require about 10,000,000 of bushels. Now the whole supply in the United States, both home made and imported, barely exceeds 10,000,000: so that, if the sheep received an adequate supply, there would not remain a pound for any other purpose! Of course the sheep did not receive an adequate supply, nor perhaps the fourth part of what was necessary; and so of all other stocks. To give an opinion of the total loss to the agricultural interest in the United States for want of the free use of this article would require the minute, comprehensive, sagacious and peculiar turn of mind of Dr. Young; but it may be sufficient for the argument, and for all practical purposes, to assume that our loss, in proportion to the number of our stock, is greater than that of the English farmers, and amounts to 15 or 20 times the value of the tax itself!

"In England the tax was denounced by the tariff reformers as little less than impiety and an attack on the goodness and mercy of God, who had filled the bowels of the earth and the waves of the sea with salt for the use and blessing of man, and to when it was denied, its use clogged and filtered by vile, odious and abominable taxes. They demanded the whole repeal, and when the ministry and the manufacturers offered to give up three fourths of the tax, the friends of reform bravely resisted the proposition, stood out for total repeal, and carried it."

It would be curious to see the perfect identity of arguments and almost of words by which the salt and other monopolists of England sought to perpetuate their legal injustice. At the risk of unduly extending this article I will quote from the testimony of Mr. Wm. Horne, the agent of the British salt manufacturers, who being duly sworn said:

"I will commence by referring to the evidence that I gave upon the subject of rock salt, in order to establish the presumption of the national importance of the salt trade arising from the large extent of British capital employed in the trade, and the considerable number of persons dependent upon it for support. I at the same time stated that the salt trade was in a very depressed state, and that it continued to fall off. I think it cannot be doubted that the salt trade, in common with all staple British manufactures, is entitled to the protection of Government, and the British manufacturers of salt consider that, in common with other manufacturers of this country, they are entitled to such protection, in particular from a competition at home with foreign manufacturers, and in consequence they hope to see a prohibitory duty on foreign salt."

Let this suffice to show that the Pennsylvania and Michigan prohibitionists are following in the footsteps of the monopolists of England, and that the misnamed American system is but the once potent but now exploded system of Great Britain. R. H.

Sailings of the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company.

	From Liverpool.	From Québec.
Scandinavian	5th May	28th May.
Peruvian	12th "	4th June.
Moravian	19th "	11th "
Austrian	26th "	18th "
Prussian	2nd June	25th "
Nestorian	9th "	9th "
Scandinavian	16th "	9th "
Peruvian	23rd "	16th "
Moravian	5 th "	23rd "