

the Hudson's Bay Company's Sheriff, both parties to the insurrection, are said to be preparing for flight to the States. Riel had surrendered the Hudson Bay property on the payment of a ransom by Governor McTavish; and it is said that his men, some fifty or sixty troops, all the rest being disbanded, are now subsisting on supplies belonging to the Canadian Government. It is also reported that Bishop Taché had caused the insurgent flag to be hauled down, and the Union-Jack run up in its stead. The *New Nation* newspaper has been suspended or suppressed. No word has been received from the Settlement since the news of the excitement in Canada had reached Fort Garry.

The preparations for the military expedition, as mentioned last week, are going actively forward. Dr. Schultz goes in advance to make arrangements for the assistance of the Indians at the Portages, &c., on the route beyond Fort William; and Mr. Simpson, M. P. for Algoma, who is intimately acquainted with the country through which the Expedition will have to pass, has already left Ottawa to make arrangements for his accompanying the troops as guide.

On Tuesday last Sir John A. Macdonald stated in Parliament that he had the fullest confidence that the whole difficulty would be very speedily arranged. The *Leader* of the same day has the following among its Ottawa despatches: "Judge Black and Father Ritchot had a long private interview to-day with the Premier, lasting more than six hours. It is stated on trustworthy authority that considerable progress was made towards a thorough understanding and settlement of all matters connected with the North-West question. There are several rumours afloat here to-night, some of which may find their way to Toronto; however, they are all destitute of foundation, and should be discredited. Nothing has been determined upon between Sir John A. Macdonald and Judge Black, but progress has been made towards the adjustment of the difficulties. In the meantime, arrangements for sending an armed force into the territory will go on, and I have no doubt that the original intention in this respect will be fully carried into effect. Scott was not present at the interview, which will, probably, be continued to-morrow."

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

On the feast of their patron saint the members of the St. George's Society of Montreal met at the new St. George's Home on St. Antoine Street. The minutes of last meeting having been read, three new members were admitted. The portrait of the late president of the society, Mr. Leeming, was then presented to the Society by Mr. Pell, on behalf of certain of the members. After the presentation H. R. H. Prince Arthur arrived, and an address having been read and duly responded to, the Prince was shown over the building. His Royal Highness expressed himself heartily gratified at his reception and took his leave at half-past three. The members of the Society then proceeded to Christ Church Cathedral where a sermon was preached by the Metropolitan.

In Ottawa the Englishmen assembled at an early hour at Salomon's Hotel and marched in procession to Christ's Church, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Pollard. After service a lunch was given at the rendez-vous, and in the evening a concert was held in the theatre, the audience being previously addressed by Dr. Sweetland, President of the St. George's Society.

In Toronto the day was celebrated by a religious service held in the afternoon in St. James' Cathedral. At half-past three the members of the St. George's Society assembled at the school-house, and marched in procession to the Cathedral close by, where, after a finely rendered choral service a sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Holland, of St. Catherine's.

The St. George's Society of Quebec celebrated the anniversary by a service held on Saturday evening in St. Paul's Cathedral, followed by a collection in aid of the funds of the Society. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Thorndyke.

The day was observed in a similar manner throughout the principal towns of the country.

AN OCEAN RACE.

SIX BRITISH SHIPS TO RACE FROM SAN FRANCISCO HOME.

(From the *San Francisco Alta*, March 8.)

There is considerable excitement among shipping men and sea captains in reference to the relative sailing qualities of six British iron vessels, which will leave this port during the coming week for Cork and Liverpool. It is seldom that so many vessels of the same class have left so nearly at the same time, and there is considerable betting on the result. The following are the names of the vessels to sail, and the records of their last trips:—Ship *Poseidon*, arrived Jan. 24, eight days from Sydney, 115 days from Newcastle; ship *Beringa*, arrived Jan. 24, ninety-five days from Sydney; ship *River Mersey*, arrived Jan. 23, from Glasgow, 199 days, via Lamlisch 191 days; barque *Kentworth*, arrived Jan. 21, 155 days from Liverpool; barque *Cerastes*, arrived February 3, 114 days from Glasgow, via Greenock 110 days; bark *Galatea*, arrived Feb. 15, from Glasgow, 158 days. There have been several heavy bets made in regard to the *Cerastes* and *Poseidon*, the latter allowing the former one and one half day's time for the difference between Cork and Liverpool. No finer fleet of grain-laden vessels has ever left this port, and the hour of their arrival will be looked for with interest. On such occasions there is considerable "driving" of vessels, and it will be a matter of congratulation should each arrive in port without having lost a spar.

THE MARKINGS PRODUCED BY LIGHTNING.

Dr. B. W. Richardson has been making some experiments with the monster induction coil of the Royal Institution. He is satisfied that the markings produced are not always ecchymoses, as he had previously maintained, but may be true metallic lines, when the metal on the body is thin enough to be fused by the current. Several lecture experiments were performed in proof of this. We quote:

"We will take a foot which has been removed from a young pig immediately after the animal was killed and dressed. The skin is beautifully white and delicate. Around the foot we will lay a thin gold wire or chain, and then discharge from the large Leyden battery through the wire. This done, I pass you round the foot, and you will see distinctly, not only a line marking what was the position of the wire, but the metallic gold, inlaid as it were in the skin. Here is a feather of exquisite whiteness; I have woven through it some thread of gold; here is another similar feather through which I have

woven thread of silver. I will ask Mr. Pepper to pass the Leyden discharge through these metals interwoven with the plumage. He does so, and now you see the feathers are entirely changed in colour, variegated in wavy lines. The feather interwoven with gold is of a purple tint in the coloured parts; the feather interwoven with silver is of silver gray, like the feather of a gray parrot, and so firmly is the metal implanted it could not readily be removed except by chemical action, which would break up the structure."

In these times, when a cotillon is the usual complement to a ball, it is curious to read the description in a French magazine of one danced at a Berlin ball, and which leaves all the Parisian artifices in utter darkness. The ball was given by a Mme. Hoffmann, in honour of the pupils of her husband, an eminent chemist, and the fête was organised in most brilliant style by the students of the laboratories of the Berlin University. The cotillon was, in the first place, original from beginning to end. When figure after figure, as new as they were complicated and graceful, had been danced, a table heaped up with bouquets of white flowers and piles of spotlessly white favours was placed at one end of the great room, while at the other was a fountain spouting jets of perfumed water, which fell sparkling into a crystal basin adorned with flowers. The waltz was now resumed, and as each couple approached the table the lady took a bouquet, and the cavalier a knot of ribbons; on went the waltzers towards the fountain, where the danseuses held their flowers, and the danseurs their ribbons, beneath the sweet-scented spray; and instantaneously the bouquets became of every brilliant hue—red, violet, blue, gold, and some uniting several colours in their variegated petals; while the favours became of every colour of the rainbow. The bouquets and ribbons of the same shades now sought each other, and "the new couples formed by the influence of the magic colours whirled in merry surprise through the room." A word for the uninitiated: the aniline colouring matters, reduced to the finest powder, had been sprinkled over the flowers and ribbons, in no way impairing their whiteness, and the contact of the alcoholic liquid, prepared and perfumed, instantly produced the richest aniline dyes.

A curious scene was to be seen the other day in one of the fashionable quarters of Paris. A great *nouveauté* house held a grand exhibition of spring materials—of course of all novelty, beauty, and cheapness—and, moreover, every lady received a small bouquet of Parma violets, 25,000 of which had been sent from Nice for the purpose. Large bouquets of roses, camellias, and violets bloomed at the entrance, and over the whole establishment, outside beneath its portico, on the pavement, down the street, poured and pushed a number of customers such as few shops have dreamed of in their most golden dreams; while the now plaintive and now shrill and imperative demand of the ladies to be served, the excitement of the assistants, and the frequent downfalls of pyramids of stuffs produced a glorious scene of confusion, the description of which is fairly embodied in the assertion of an assistant, who avowed that his and all his colleagues' coats bore ruinous testimony to the supplicating grasps of the lady customers.

It is really terrible to find out every day some new danger to which we are exposed. If there is one thing which people have hitherto confided in it is a pill-box: it is allowed to lie about anywhere, it is shut up in a drawer or a cupboard, or is carried in the pocket. A general panic will therefore be caused in many a household by the account given in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of what recently befell a lady for whom a doctor had prescribed twenty-four pills, each containing two grains of the oxide of silver, a twenty-fourth of a grain of muriate of morphia, and "a sufficiency" of extract of gentian; the pills being coated with silver in the usual manner. The pills, it is stated, were delivered to the patient in an ordinary pill-box, but the lady, being in her nursery and having no pocket in her dress, placed the box in her bosom, probably next the skin. Little did this unfortunate lady know the deadly peril which awaited her. In three-quarters of an hour a severe explosion occurred; her under-clothes were reduced to a tinder, she was seriously burned, and but that she had the presence of mind to extinguish the flame with her hands, would probably have been destroyed. Oxide of silver being reduced by contact with vegetable extracts is, it seems, in the habit of exploding. It is really as well people should be made aware of the danger they run, in order that they may have magazines for pill-boxes attached to their dwellings. We should also be glad to know if pills of this nature are liable to explode after they are swallowed. No information is given on this point, which is of some little importance; but the *Lancet*, for our consolation, under the head of "Things not Generally Known," says that a similar occurrence has been known in compounding the extract of colocynth with the oxide of silver, and that with creosote or oil of cloves this salt is reduced to the metallic state with the production of heat, amounting often to an explosion. In fact, there are some pills which are nothing more nor less than infernal machines, and people with volcanic temperaments and undermined constitutions, for whom they are prescribed, should be careful to take them in secluded spots, where no one but themselves can be injured in the event of the explosion.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

The duel between the Duke de Montpensier and Don Henri de Bourbon is another instance of Bourbon history repeating itself. On the 12th of March, 1370, Henri de Transtamarre killed his brother, King Peter the Cruel, in a field at Monteuil. On the 19th of March, 1778, a duel took place between the Count d'Artois (afterwards Charles X.) and his cousin the Duke de Bourbon. The parties met in the presence of six noblemen, and the two princes, drawing their swords, attacked each other with such fury that they would soon have put an end to the contest had not some of the parties present interfered. The Count d'Artois was slightly wounded in the sword-arm, the Duke de Bourbon being a much better swordsman than his antagonist. The occasion of the quarrel was owing to the Duchess de Bourbon's having had the imprudence, at a grand masquerade, to lift up the mask of the Count d'Artois, who was *incognito* with a lady whom she had dismissed from among her dames of honour. The young and spirited lover was so much incensed with this act of presumption, that, forgetting all the consideration due to her sex and rank, he straightway wrung the duchess's nose, and threw the whole court into confusion. Other days, other manners—wringing a lady's nose—and a duchess's nose. Oh, France!

Leotard, the celebrated acrobat, recently won a velocipede race at Toulouse, going over the course, thirty-eight miles, in three hours and forty-four minutes.

An Ohio town proposes to give its women the right to vote, provided they will become responsible for their husband's debts, and turn out and mend the roads.

The Tyne crew, who are to row the St. John crew at Lachine this summer, will leave Newcastle on the 24th of June. They will be prevented from leaving earlier as the annual Newcastle race meeting takes place the preceding week. They may be expected here the second week in July.

At a fancy ball held in Toronto last week the Press was ably represented by the belle of the city, who appeared in a dress composed entirely of city daily papers. The effect of this new material is said to have been admirable, resembling, when seen at a distance, the finest pearl-coloured satin.

A new word has been introduced into the French political vocabulary. At a recent meeting at the Salle Molière, one of the speakers said that efforts were being made, not to enlarge, but to curtail ("rétrécir") the national liberties. "Should we not," he added, "now change our title of 'Irréconciliables' to that of 'Irrétrécissables'?"

Preparations are being made for erecting a palace in London, Ont., for the reception of Bishop Walsh. Plans of the edifice have already been made, and work will be commenced immediately. The building is to cost \$12,000. Dr. Walsh, it will be remembered, was bishop of Sandwich, but the see being transferred to London, the bishop will reside in that city. It is to be hoped that the architect of the palace at London will turn out something better than the ugly paste-board castle at Sandwich.

The St. John *News* says that there are at present on inspection in the News Room of that city, three Pelican eggs, which were dug up on the Guanape Islands from a depth of 30 feet below the surface. One is about the size of a hen's egg, is petrified, and resembles a piece of granite. The other two are a little larger than turkey's eggs. From the depth at which they were found, it is estimated that they were deposited there upwards of a thousand years ago.

A murder trial has just taken place in Belgium which has excited great interest in that country. Dessous le Moustier, of Hornu, was charged in the court of Mons with five murders, namely, those of three brothers, wealthy graziers, named Thirion, of his wife, and of his father-in-law. After a trial which extended over several days, the jury found Le Moustier guilty of murdering the three graziers, and of the murder of his wife by poison, but did not convict him of poisoning his father-in-law. He was at once sentenced to death, and received his sentence with a smile. On being removed from the court, however, he displayed all the signs of the most abject terror. The crowd in and outside the court, on hearing the verdict and sentence, gave way to what might be termed unseemly bursts of delight that the murderer was to meet with his due punishment.

Two useful novelties in the postal department have recently been introduced in Europe. In Austria, cards are sold at post-offices, each bearing on one side a two-kreutzer stamp (about one-third of a penny) and space for an address; on the other side, which is left blank, there is room for any message which the writer does not care to protect from the curiosity of letter-carriers. The facility for using these cards at any moment, without the trouble of folding up or fastening, makes them especially valuable to travellers, who can at once deposit the card in a post-office van or in the letter-box, which is, or should be, found at every station. The second novelty comes from Italy. In a few of the great towns a room has been opened at the post-office where materials for writing, including a sheet of note paper and envelope, are supplied for the uniform charge of one penny, to the very great convenience of foreigners and other persons receiving at the post-office letters to which an immediate answer is required.

The composition of the hair tonics, washes for the complexion, and others cosmetics has been investigated by Dr. Chandler, chemist to the New York Board of Health, and he has made upon it a report full of interesting information. It appears that nearly all the so-called hair restoratives contain lead in solution, in quantities varying from one to sixteen grains to the fluid ounce, rendering them sure and deadly poisons. The lotions for the complexion are mostly free from injurious metals. Enamels for the skin are composed sometimes of white lead, in which case they are poisonous, but usually of oxide of zinc, or some other white substance in the form of a powder, mingled with water. The dry powders for the skin are chalk, carbonate of magnesia, and white clay. It is hardly necessary to add that persons who use these preparations do so at great risk to their health.

Temperature in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending April 26th, 1870, observed by John Underhill, Optician to the Medical Faculty of McGill University, 387 Notre Dame Street.

	9 A.M.	1 P.M.	6 P.M.
We'nesday, April 20.....	46°	46°	42°
Thursday, " 21.....	44°	48°	46°
Friday, " 22.....	44°	55°	52°
Saturday, " 23.....	50°	54°	55°
Sunday, " 24.....	56°	60°	53°
Monday, " 25.....	52°	55°	57°
Tuesday, " 26.....	48°	58°	56°
	MAX.	MIN.	MEAN.
We'nesday, April 20.....	48°	35°	41° 5
Thursday, " 21.....	52° 5	34°	43° 2
Friday, " 22.....	61°	36°	48°
Saturday, " 23.....	65°	43°	54°
Sunday, " 24.....	66°	44°	55°
Monday, " 25.....	57°	35°	46°
Tuesday, " 26.....	60°	40°	50°

Anemoid Barom-ter compensated and corrected.

	9 A.M.	1 P.M.	6 P.M.
We'nesday, April 20.....	29.80	29.84	29.86
Thursday, " 21.....	29.90	29.96	29.95
Friday, " 22.....	30.04	30.04	30.02
Saturday, " 23.....	30.10	30.11	30.09
Sunday, " 24.....	30.02	30.05	30.05
Monday, " 25.....	30.24	30.24	30.26
Tuesday, " 26.....	30.18	30.14	30.14