

The Black Hills Country.
Where General Custer's expedition has found the rich stores of precious minerals, is a range of rather a circular group of mountains, situated in the south western part of Dakota Territory and extending westerly into Wyoming. They cover a district of country supposed to be about one hundred miles in diameter, encircled by two large rivers known as the branches of the Shuyuen or Cheyenne, whose tributaries take their rise in these hills. This part of the country is less known, perhaps, than any other, owing partly to the slow approach of the population through the uninviting districts to the south and east, and to the assumed difficulties of exploring it, which late events have proved to be in a great degree imaginary. Several attempts have been made to invade it, but they have been mostly in the interest of speculators in search of gold, and have failed for the lack of organization and force to withstand a long campaign among hostile Indians. This newly discovered region is described in the most glowing colors, it being extremely fertile as well as rich in minerals, and the reports from the expedition reads like stories from fairy land. Although this region has been set aside for the Indians, its riches will inevitably draw thousands of adventurers there in search of wealth, and doubtless lead to serious trouble with the tribes who claim it as their own.—[Portland Press.]

REPORTED BREACH OF NEUTRALITY.
The following extract from the Paris edition of the London Pall Mall Gazette of the 4th inst., is important, if true. It is, however, curious that the telegraph cables are silent, and that the first information of the alleged breach of the neutrality laws should come from Bayonne, and not from Paris. It is quite possible that there is no foundation for the story at all, but we give it for what it is worth:

"According to a Bayonne paper, an American skipper, Captain John Jefferson of the London, played a trick in the Bay of Biscay the other day which will cause irritation both at Berlin and Madrid. He appears to have sent a telegram from Bilbao to the Spanish government to the effect that the United States had ordered a cruiser to see that no American ships landed arms for the Carlists. Marshal Serrano immediately wrote a letter of thanks to the Minister of the sister republic, who replied at once that he knew nothing of the cruiser in question. However, before the matter could be inquired into, Captain John Jefferson had accomplished his nefarious purpose, and, while playing the part of the United States vessel of war alluded to in the telegram, he had, under the nose of the Spanish fleet, landed twenty-seven guns, &c. for the Carlists. After this, the London quietly left the port of Borneo and vanished in the horizon. It is to be hoped that this affair will not engender claims like those of the Albatross."

The Reciprocity Treaty.
A Washington despatch states that the pending reciprocity treaty between the United States and the Dominion of Canada is undergoing some modification, which will make it somewhat more acceptable to the United States. The chief of the Bureau of Statistics has just returned from a conference with the Commissioner of Customs of Canada, where all the details of the free list proposed by the latter were discussed. At Chicago, Lord Dufferin made a speech to the Board of Trade in which he said his government did not imagine that on any agreement or treaty, a one-sided bargain was desirable or possible, and he believed our people were actuated by the same honorable sentiments in regard to Canada. It would ever be his most earnest wish and endeavor to promote the joint interests of the United States and Canada, and bring the two countries into closer relations.

FROM SABLE ISLAND.—The Dominion steamer "Lady Helen," Capt. Matson, arrived at this port (Halifax) from Sable Island. He brought up the shipwrecked crew of the Arctic bark "Nashua," with such materials as were saved from the wreck. The Capt. of the Nashua makes the following report:—Left Port George, (St. John, N. B.), on the 16th ult., with a cargo of seals, bound to Ayer, Scotland. On the 28th ult. experienced foggy weather, and on the same day struck on the east end of Sable Island and became a total wreck. With much difficulty we managed to save running gear and stores, but lost all the ship's gear. One of the ship's boats on going to the wreck to save the remainder of the stores, when nearing the bark, capsized, and two of the men nearly lost their lives, but through the exertions of the mate, Joseph Earl, who was on board the wrecked vessel, and the people on the shore, they would have been drowned. Soon after the vessel went ashore, the Captain saw a bark steering towards the North West, which course would bring her on the island, and he immediately blew his fog horn and fired a gun, which attracted his attention and he changed his course and passed the island in safety. Capt. Matson reports that health of the island is good.—Halifax Colonist.

A Panama letter says Commandant Gonzales, of the Magee outrage notoriety, and his accomplice Bulnes, have been tried by court martial and sentenced, the former to five years penal servitude, and the latter to two years. The sentence awaits the sanction of the government of Guatemala. Is it probable that the British government will rest satisfied with this light sentence—will not demand an apology and payment of damages?

It is rumored that Hon. Mr. Annand has gone to England on a mission in connection with the Parratoro Railway, and if successful the Road will at once be proceeded with.

We learn that W. F. C. Robinson, Esquire, lately Lieutenant Governor of this Province, has been appointed Governor of the Leeward Islands. He takes the place of Sir Henry Irving, who has been made Governor, Trinidad.—[Charlottetown Examiner.]

The locomotive is running over the first section of the Lunenburg Railway, and fully one half of the earth and rock cuttings are completed throughout the line. It is beyond all odds the most rapid performance of a contract yet experienced in this country and we should be pleased to learn that Mr. Gibson had an Eastern Extension contract to the Strait in hand also. We believe that he could finish it within a twelvemonth of such a contract being entered into.—[Cape Breton Times.]

Goldwin Smith has been elected the teacher representative in the Council of Public Instruction, Ontario, by a vote of 1,612 to 1,335 for Dr. Sangster.

The Standard.

SAINT ANDREWS, AUG. 26, 1874.

The Lumber Ring.

Is the Province controlled by a Lumber Ring? has been a question answered in the negative by the Government, by the firm and manly stand taken by them at the recent land sales. Their policy recently adopted, of placing a moderate stumpage duty on timber, has been fiercely assailed by the great lumber operators, who demand that these regulations be repealed or so modified as to suit them. Has it come to this, that a combination of men who have "axed" all upon the earnings of hardworking men—who have become rich from stripping the public domain, at a mere trifle for the privilege of doing so; desire to control the Government in a policy to make the public Timber Lands of the Province more productive, as a source of revenue? They have attempted so to do, but failed.

The fact is, that the principal lands have been locked up by Railway companies and large Timber operators, and the Government in obedience to the wishes of the people have adopted an improved system for making the vacant forest lands more remunerative, which meets with the approval of the people, if we except the lumbermen referred to. The Government is faithfully endeavoring to carry out the wishes of the people in a reasonable and fair policy, without injuring any interest, and will, as they deserve to be, sustained. There can be no question that timber is becoming scarcer every year, that valuable lands have been stripped and timber wasted; that the forest heretofore have not yielded that revenue to the Province which they were capable of, and that stumpage on private lands, has given a far larger return than on Government lands. The very fact of a moderate stumpage being imposed, will protect the lands from being operated upon, when the trees are too small, and be the means of preserving the forests. The whole Press of the Province was unanimous in condemning the management of the Public domain, and now that a better policy has been adopted, the Government is entitled to its support.

When will the disgraceful "Beecher-Tilton Scandal" terminate? Each new development makes matters so confused, that we have come to the conclusion a diabolical attempt has been made to ruin the character of one of the ablest clergymen on this continent, and silently at the same time bring religion into contempt. No doubt there is a class of persons whose prurient taste desires to have Mr. Beecher admit some gross act, or that he should be found guilty. The publication of such statements as Tilton's and Moulton's, are injurious to virtue and morality, and promote infidelity.

THE CROSS.—It is gratifying to learn from reliable sources through the "Colonial Farmer," that the crops throughout the Province look well and give promise of an abundant yield. From the same source we are informed that in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, like gratifying reports are received. In the United States, and on the continent of Europe, the wheat crop is represented as abundant. Surely such bounties call for a Day of Thanksgiving at the close of harvest.

WHAT NEXT.—We are fast overtaking in this fine Province of ours, the worst phases of our neighbors; assaults, robberies, incendiarism, murders, and other heinous crimes—even on a smaller scale "scandals," we don't particularize, as it might involve our "mutual friend," as that rascal Moulton is sarcastically termed in our United States exchanges. Is such "progress" to be admired or extenuated? Are we drifting away from our primitive purity, morally and politically. Is it necessary in order to keep pace with older and larger communities, we should adopt their very worst practices? We hope not. New Brunswick has hitherto been noted for its conservatism, and love of integrity and morality. We do not all see with the same eyes, or hear with like ears, but let us preserve our puritan simplicity.

EUROPEAN TROUBLES.—From the tone of the English papers and the utterances of her leading statesmen, there appears indications of a deep seated attempt, and agencies at work to involve that continent in a bloody struggle for principle. A dethroned temporal and spiritual sovereign has these "agencies" at work to establish, if possible, by any means,—his power. But happily, the day has passed away forever, when a foreign usurper can govern an intelligent and free people.

The English Cricketers at Halifax were defeated in one inning by the Americans. The next

game England against Canada was begun, and it is probable will result disastrously to England.

Pic Nic and Tea Meeting at Chamecock.—A Pic Nic and Tea Meeting will be held on the beautiful grounds of Geo. S. Grimmer, Esq., at Chamecock, on Tuesday afternoon, 1st September. A special train will leave the Depot at 2 p. m., for the accommodation of all who wish to attend. We are assured that arrangements are in progress to make the affair one of a most agreeable and pleasant description. We learn that the object is to raise means to pay a debt incurred in repairing and adding to the Church at Chamecock, and trust that there will be a large attendance.

BOOKS, STATIONERY, &c.—We direct attention to the advertisement of H. R. Smith, 14 King Street, St. John. Persons here requiring any Standard English or American work, or other articles in his line, will find at his establishment an excellent assortment, and at reasonable prices.

THE NORTH WEST.—We have received the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons on the causes of the difficulties in the North West Territory. The pamphlet is one of 200 pages. It is plain from this report, that neither the British nor the Dominion Governments promised to grant an amnesty to the murderers. No doubt his sympathies in the Dominion will endeavor to make people believe that he was promised an amnesty; but no amount of sophistry nor bluff will induce any loyal mind to admit any such nonsense.

The Baptist Convention held at St. John, was largely attended, and the reports show a large addition to the Church during the past year.

The Annual County Rifle Competition, was held at the Range, Indian Point, yesterday. The day was fine and the shooting good.

NEW ENGINE HOUSE.—Tenders are issued for building a Engine House on the Market Square. Tenders are to be received up to the 31st inst.

The Timber berth sales have been carried on, and purchasers are anxious to avail themselves of the liberal terms offered by the Government. The lumbermen are desirous to obtain the berths.

Rat Science vs. Alligator Strength.

A certain wholesale drug store is the happy possessor of a young and domesticated alligator. This little crocodile has become quite the pet and plaything of the establishment; he is of an amiable disposition, fond of music and dinner, and quite submissive, shedding tears and showing respectance whenever it is found necessary to correct him. It was resolved by the clerks in the establishment—as the alligator had reached his third birthday and increased to three feet in length—to utilize him, to put him to some other employment than that of a mere pet. It was concluded to make use of Crocky, the alligator, as a cat, and it is well known that alligators have a special and inextinguishable hatred toward rats. A rat to practice on was caught the other day.

Rat and alligator were put together in a box, and a numerous audience crowded around to get the front place. The two enemies soon awoke to an appreciation of the case. The rat satily and snugly reposed himself in a corner. The alligator hesitated a second, scratched his head (metaphorically), and, having made up his mind as to the mode of attack, advanced slowly towards the rat with wide open jaws. The rat trembled; there was no escape, nothing but the wide open mouth of the alligator before him. Without hesitation, like Curtius, he jumped straight into the yawning gulf, and, getting a good hold on the lower lip of the alligator, swung himself to the ground. The 'saurian' gave a squeak and swung himself around, the rat finally letting go, victor in the first round.

The alligator, however, was not daunted, and advanced with the same tactics. The rat this time, by a most agile movement, leaped entirely over the alligator. Getting behind him, he now proceeded to chew and gnaw away. The unwieldy animal could not get around to defend his hind legs. By a good use of his tail, the alligator again got free and advanced desperately, though with flagging courage, at the daring rodent. With equal success the rat again sprang into the air, alighting on the alligator's back. The fight was over then. The alligator could not shake his enemy off, could not dislodge him; and finally gave up the fight, lying himself down on his belly in a submissive attitude. The rat was set at liberty and given the run of all the drugs and medicines, while the poor alligator was doomed to disgrace and ridicule.

A SQUIRREL'S LEAP.—Recently, says the Bangor (Me.) "Whig," a little red squirrel, having been pestered considerably by the lads above the saw mill of Eben Webster & Co., on Marsh Point, Orono, took refuge for life by running up the large brick chimney near the mill. By clinging to the corner, he kept foothold so well that he succeeded in reaching the very top. Here he found himself upon the iron cap, 1054 feet from the ground. As more and more of the waste stuff from the mill was added to the furnace, the chimney grew hotter and his situation became more and more disagreeable. He tried to descend upon the side of the chimney, but after getting down a few feet gave it up, turned about and went back. By this time the chimney top had become so hot that he must leave it; so after looking about carefully for a few minutes, he evidently made up his mind that he must leap to save his life, and this he did, spreading out his legs and balancing himself so that he struck the ground about fifty feet from the base, uninjured, and immediately scampered off.

and secreted himself under a pile of boards a little distance away.

DANGERS OF ELM TREES.—It is a character of some trees, of the species of elm in particular, to drop large branches during the hot months without any external warning beyond, perhaps, a preliminary crack or two. An accident of this nature lately occurred in Kensington Gardens, London, when an immense branch, about twenty yards long, fell with a crash like thunder, and more than a score of children had a narrow escape for their lives. Three, who were sitting below the bough, alarmed by the second crack, ran away, and thus saved themselves from almost certain death. The branches that thus suddenly snap are as veridical as any of the others, and there seems to be no other defence than to avoid "the elm tree's shade" as much as possible. It was from just such an accident that the Queen was saved by the promptitude of her attendant; and there have been several very narrow escapes recorded, from a similar danger.

SUMMARY.

The Wesleyan Sabbath School Pic Nic will be held to-day, at Joe's Point, near the grounds on which the Camp was held.

We are indebted to T. T. Odell, Esq., for late English papers. Mr. Odell was to return on the 20th, having purchased his Fall & Winter Stocks in the European markets.

Ex-Sheriff Raymond, of Kent County, died on Sunday last.

Mrs. Bist, with 82 children from England, arrived this week at Halifax.

The English Mail was received here last evening.

St. Stephen Mill owners purpose closing their mills for the season about the first of next month. The present low price of manufactured lumber, and the markets being glutted, is one of the principal causes it is said for closing so early.

—Pile takes an early start in San Francisco. When a lad breaks loose from his mother's apron strings and secures a position at three dollars per week, the first thing he does after that is to hire a Chinaman to run errands for him.

MR. HAZEN'S WILL.—By the provisions of the will the property of the deceased, valued at \$150,000, will be administered by the executors for a period of four years, in the interest of the deceased's only son and heir, Mr. F. B. Hazen, to whom it then reverts. The estate is subject to an annuity of \$400 to Mr. Charles Hazen, brother of the deceased, and to two small legacies to servants of the deceased.—[Tel.]

The ship "William Wilcox," of Boston, from Havana, for St. John, N. B., put into Deboy's wharf, on the 19th, with captain and mate dead, and several of the crew sick with yellow fever.

Masked Balls have been revived in the fashionable circles of England, and some of the religious journals are drawing sad conclusions therefrom. The Prince of Wales recently gave an entertainment of this character, at which everything was on a magnificent scale.

—A young woman of Middleforn, Conn., is engaged in the endeavor to collect a million postage stamps in two years. She is now on the last three months of her time, and has 900,000.

—Valley View factory, Lawrence-town, N. S., has produced a cheese weighing 1000 lbs.

Telegraphic News.

New York, Aug. 24.

An abstract of the forthcoming report of the Beecher Investigating Committee is published. It reviews the evidence at length, and concludes with the complete exoneration of the pastor. The report was unanimous. Gold 1094.

London, Aug. 24.

The King of Denmark has returned to the capital from his visit to Iceland. He was accompanied from England by the Princess of Wales.

Russia refuses to recognize the Spanish Republic.

An explosion occurred in a colliery near Mauley, Staffordshire, this morning, killing 8 miners.

By the burning of Mosley's Stocking Factory at Nottingham, 500 persons were thrown out of employment. Loss \$500,000.

ARRIVAL OF AN ENGLISH YACHT.—A pretty yacht, called the "Dracena," property of Mr. Barrowes, of Teignmouth, Devon, arrived on Friday evening from Sydney, C. B. She left England four months ago; visited St. John's, Nfld; then proceeded through the Straights of Belle Isle to Bay of Islands; and from thence to Sydney. Her owner intends to remain here several days, and then proceed to the Southward to winter in the West Indies. The vessel registers 61 tons, and belongs to the West of Ireland Yacht Club.—[Colonist.]

DIED.

At St. George, on Friday last, 21st inst., Mrs. SARAH KNIGHT, wife of Gideon Knight, Esq., in the 75th year of her age, an old and respectable inhabitant, universally beloved and esteemed by all who knew her, for her many virtues and universal charity, leaving a husband and numerous connections to mourn their loss. Truly a mother in Israel has departed. Her funeral took place on Sunday, attended by many friends from various parts of the County.

At the Asylum, St. John, on the 20th inst. Ann, relict of the late Mr. John Doughterty of this place. The remains were brought here, by train, and interred in the Roman Catholic cemetery on Friday.

Ship News.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

ARRIVED.
Aug. 18 Ringlesder, Soars, Boston, ballast.
20. Nellie Clark, Craig, Boston, Hope, Canvas.
Dairy, Maloney, Portsmouth, ballast.
21. Macdill, Stinson, St. Stephen, mlze.
22. Utica, Maloney, Boston, Hides, Pork, &c.
24. Julia Clinch, Maloney, ballast.

DEPARTED.
Aug. 20. Harrie, McQuoid, St. Stephen, ballast.
22. Albert, Williamson, Portsmouth, 2250 sleepers, R. Ross.
25. R. Ross, Clark, Sydney, ballast.

Boston, Aug. 21, arrd. William Lancaster, from St. George. 20th, old. Sabine, Holmes, for St. George.

LOST. On Friday, a new GOLD PEN AND CASE. The finder will be rewarded on leaving it at the STANDARD OFFICE.

HENRY R. SMITH,

No. 14 KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.

BOOKS,

STATIONARY & FANCY GOODS.

All the Standard English and American Publications, Magazines, Periodicals and Literary Papers.

Foolscap, Letter, Note, Account, Blotting and Tissue Papers.

FANCY AND INITIAL NOTE PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

NEW BRUNSWICK SERIES OF SCHOOL BOOKS.

Blank Memorandums and Pocket Books, Fancy Goods—consisting of Opera Glasses, Fans, Purse, Ladies' Traveling Trunks, Games, Croquet, Base Balls and Bats, Stereoscopes, Paint Boxes, &c., &c.

Sunday School Union Depository.

Sunday Schools supplied with Libraries and other Sun Day School requisites at the very lowest price that can be imported for.

St. John, Aug. 25, 1874. 6m

VALUABLE FARM,

STOCK, PRODUCE, &c.

—AT—

AUCTION.

THE Subscriber will sell at Public Auction on the premises, commencing on

Tuesday, 15th September,

at 10 a. m., the FARM formerly occupied by the late

ROBERT EASTMAN.

The Farm contains about 50 Acres, is pleasantly situated at Bay Side, about 4 miles from St. Andrews, on 1 front on the Highway and River St. Croix, is mostly cleared and under good cultivation. A comfortable Dwelling House, two good Barns, and two wells of excellent water, are on the premises.

ALSO.—At same time a quantity of valuable Stock, consisting of—1 Mare, 4 Mch Cows, 2 Heifers, 4 Sheep, 2 Pigs. Also—11 tons Hay, and all the standing crop of Cuts, Potatoes, Hay, Buckwheat, Barley, Turnips, &c.

ALSO.—All the Farming utensils, Plows, Harrows, Hay-cutters, &c. 3 good Waggon, 1 Sleigh, 1 Sled, and 2 sets Harnes.

ALSO.—AT THE SAME TIME,

All the Household Furniture.

Terms at Sale.

C. E. O. HATHEWAY,

Auctioneer.

St. Andrews, Aug. 26, 1874.

House to Let.

THE SUBSCRIBER will let his House and Lot to taste on the corner of Frederick and Carleton Streets. Possession given immediately. S. J. MASTERS.

St. Andrews, Aug. 26, 1874. 4

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

MARITIME BLOCK,

ST. JOHN, N. B.

Head Office, -- Halifax, N. S.

W. C. MENZIES Cashier.

Authorized Capital, ---- \$1,000,000

Subscribed and Paid Up, --- \$750,000

Agencies at Amherst, Kentville, Pictou, New Glasgow, Sydney and Yarmouth.

FOREIGN AGENTS.—DOMINION OF CANADA, Canadian Bank of Commerce; Union Bank of Lower Canada; New York; Bank of New York, National Banking Association. BOSTON; Merchants National Bank. LONDON, England; Williams, Deacon & Co.

The Bank of Nova Scotia grants Drafts on New York, Boston, and through out the Dominion of Canada; buys and sells Sterling Exchange and American Currency; collects Bills, &c. throughout the Dominion of Canada and United States of America; grants interest on Special Deposits, and transacts a General Banking business. The Bank's notes are redeemable in St. John, W. L. FUCHS, H. V. AGENT.

Aug. 19.—1y