

The Government and the Indebted Municipalities.
(From the Quebec Mercury.)

debted Municipalities.
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"What course has Mr. Sandfield Macdonald's Administration pursued towards the indebted municipalities?" The inquiry is propounded by a leading Opposition journal, which proceeds to answer itself as follows:—
"It (the Administration) has never taken the ground that the debts ought to be forgiven or assumed by the Province; but has, on the contrary, uniformly announced that they ought to be collected. More than once it has caused notifications to be made that the process of collection by legal means, was to commence forthwith. Some of the municipalities received notifications that they would be required to pay up by a certain time. London was one of those on which this notice was served; but the Government never seriously entered on its de-

The true reply was somewhat different. An immediate collection of all arrears due by municipalities is rendered difficult by the terms of the law, and hence delays in some cases have been inevitable. Besides, it is on many grounds undesirable to press in a manner that might be, if only in appearance, harsh, until milder means shall have been exhausted. The notifications should to be compulsory as having been "given for our contemporaries at having been given for our contemporaries."

out effect; several Upper Canada municipalities having paid the amount due for

The Upper Canada municipalities which had been established prior to these years, under the arrangement of Mr. Galt, are London, St. Catharines, Dundas and Port Hope; together with the following, whose liability is a question yet pending before the Court of Chancery—Woodstock, Woodhouse and Smith's Bay, Simcoe. Their liabilities as at London for the year ending 1859-60 amounts to about \$50,000; St. Catharines, \$17,104, Dundas, \$8,572, Port Hope (\$86,704), \$4,525. With regard to these four municipalities, we understand that the sheriffs in whose hands the arrears have accumulated, have been instructed by the Attorney General Westforth to enforce the collection of the arrears to the extent we have stated. Steps are being also taken to collect for the indebted municipalities generally arrears due from the several landowners who have lands confined to one section. There will be no discrimination in favor of this or that locality owing money to the Province under

Bush Ranging in New South

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The state of the interior of many districts is still very unsatisfactory. Since our last monthly summary several crimes of a very atrocious character have been perpetrated in the Southern and Western districts. One of the worst of these cases was the murder of Mr. Barnes, a storekeeper in the Burrangong district. This gentleman (formerly in business in Bread street, Cheap-side London, was attacked on the highroad by bushrangers, and on endeavoring to escape by a flight was shot by the accomplices of the thief until his body was almost riddled with shot. He fell from his horse, and when found shortly afterwards was quite dead. His murderers got clear off, and although rumors of their arrest have reached Sydney, nothing definite had been ascertained. It is believed that the crime recently perpetrated is the attempted murder of Mr. Baylis a magistrate. This gentle-

man was shot while out on an expedition after bushrangers. He had gone out on hearing footsteps outside a hut where he was watching, and was shot almost immediately afterwards, without having seen his assailant. The wound was supposed to prove mortal, the wound did not prove mortal, and he is now said to be in a fair way of recovery. Another victim was a shepherd; and a fourth, a youth named Cammermus, who having been taken by the police after a desperate resistance, was shot, it is supposed, by his own brother, who, it is believed, intended the bullet for his captors. The brother has since been taken and committed to the same gaol as the bushranger. The road was traced by the police to a small public house in the Gorbun district, where by a man named Vardy. In a conflict which ensued, Lowry was shot in the throat, and the next day he died of his wound. He proved to be one of the robbers of the Mad-

A man named O'Neil did a good business recently with a recruit in Boston: First he got him to enlist, and received two hundred dollars bounty. He then induced him to desert, shaved off his whiskers, and enlisted

him again, getting two hundred dollars more. He got the soldier to desert a second time, put a wig on him, and enlisted him in another company, pocketing an additional two hundred dollars. The fourth time, while

THE CONTRABAND CARRYING TRADE
A number of fashionably dressed women were detected at Memphis with their stock

The lumbermen of Maine are making preparations for an extensive business in the

In Congress there being no longer any opposition in the South, a competition is springing up between the West and East. The Western men object that New England has too much influence; and asked to have the committee

Several Buffaloes and three Elks have recently been added to the stock of wild beasts in the New York Central Park, where there is quiet a menagerie of strange beasts.

A family were recently poisoned in Missouri, and came near death, by eating hog head cheese made in copper kettles.

What is the difference between the pro owner of a cracked span of bay horses and an honorable gambler? Ans.—One pays his bets, and the other pays his bets.

Six Lunatics Driven

Man's body burned to death
A melancholy catastrophe has just taken place in the life of a young man, who had been in the Lunatic Asylum of Monteville-sons-Lyon his life long. He had been destroyed by fire. His body was burned to death. The establishment was full of lunatics of both sexes. Among them was a young man about 25 years of age, who was usually kept in a separate cell, and was a straight waistcoat on. On the day before yesterday he was visited by some of his relatives, who requested the Director to let him leave him from that moment, and so he he then appeared more tranquil, and more cheerful. The following morning he by some means, or other got possession of a chemical matchstick, and at night set fire to the bed, which was made of straw. The fire spread rapidly, and the man burst, and the fire afterwards caught the other inmates, who were all killed.

With which all the cells
the lanterns are lit, and next
through the ceiling to the
Once getting vent, the flames rapidly extend
to the right and left, and spread through
the room, and the keepers and others there
assisted to the different cells to get out the
inmates, which was a work of great diffi-
culty, as many of them were strapped down
to their beds, and after they had been set free
they had to be carried out by main force.
The work was at length accomplished, and
the guard and others were congratulated for
saving themselves and the others from a
making another round among the cells.
They found that six of the females had rushed
back unobserved into the flames, where
they met a horrible death. The madmen
who had caused the catastrophe was at last
found running through the flames and
singing, and appearing highly delighted
with what he had done.—*Gaiety*.

New Bottom Trick.

On a recent Sunday morning, a publican residing in Paisley received a visit from a fisherman, who produced a common ale bottle and asked him to fill it with his best whisky, and at the same time to put a cork in for himself. The half-gallon was at once supplied, but, as the man was a stranger, the publican was afraid of a trap, and declined to fill the bottle. The urgent entreaties of the fisherman, who said it was for his wife, who was lying very ill, and backed by the landlady, overcame his scruples, and he filled the bottle. He drank off the half-gill, and then placed the bottle in his pocket, and on being reminded that he had not paid for it, he commenced searching his pockets for the cash, but on rummaging the whole, he was disappointed, but with a hole in it, and declared that his money must have slipped down his leg. He drew off a shoe, and therein he got a

ence, which was all he could find of fact, and that he left the house with, at least so he said. The landlord took the price of the bottle and gave the girl back the bottle. The bottle was empty on return, and peremptorily ordered him to get it filled. He reluctantly drew forth the bottle and placed it on the bar counter, and asked the policeman to let it remain while he would go home for more. While the altercation was going on, the landlord called out the police coming, and on hearing this a back door was opened, and the old fellow unceremoniously pushed out. Some few hours after this the girl found a bottle of whisky in the counter, which she implied he had put there to examine, and she found the bottle full of water. It was the bottle the old Kristian had left, and the landlord came to the conclusion that he had been "done," his morning customer having doubtless had two or three bottles, and that the pretended loss and search

to the money had only been a subterfuge to throw him of his guard, and allow the fox to substitute a bottle of water for a bottle of whisky.—*Glasgow Herald.*

Mashed Potatoes.

How few know how to prepare good mashed potatoes? Those who are ignorant of the secret may learn from the following recipe:

"Boil them perfectly tender quite through, pour off the water, and steam them very dry, peel them quickly, take out every speck and while they are still hot, press the potatoes through an earthen colander, or bruise them to a smooth mash with a strong wooden fork or spoon, but never pound them in a mortar, as that will reduce them to a clay heavy paste. *Let them be entirely free from lumps.* No addition can be more important than to add a little butter and salt."

part of the cook, then mashed potatoes are added to table full" of these. Melt in a clean saucepan a pound a slice of good butter with a few spoonsful of milk, or better still, of cream; put in the potatoes after having sprinkled over them a fine salt upon them, and stir the whole over a gentle fire, with a *wooden spoon*, until all the ingredients are well mixed and the whole is very hot. It may then be served directly to the table upon a platter, or poured into a bowl, and set upon a high foot in a dish, left rough on the surface, and browned before the fire; or, if desired, may be pressed into a well-buttered mould, and of handsome form, which has been tried with the finest bread crumbs, and shaken free of the loose ones, then turned out and browned in a Dutch or common oven. More or less liquid will be required, according to the moistness of the potatoes, and moisten sufficiently, potatoes of various kinds.

Three years ago not a pound of salt was

The entire coast line of Texas is said to be in possession of the Federals. The State is filled with slaves brought from other States.

The small-pox has carried off, at Aguila, on the Panama Isthmus, in 15 months, 1,600 persons out of a population of about 9,600. Very few Americans died.

The Quebec Mercury states that the sailing affected in the Finance department in the present year, on printing and stationery alone has amounted to \$10,960.

On the 8th inst., a young man named Myrre, was in Madoc, C. W., severely wounded with buck shot through the chest, accidental discharge of the gun of a companion.

Near St. Crystostome, C. E., a wagon

returning from church on the 8th ult., which contained several persons, came into collision with another and was overturned. A young woman named Catherine Costello was instantly killed.

At Peterborough, C. W., on the 11th ult., the work-shop attached to Mr. A. Sturges's tin and hardware store, was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$300.

A witty doctor says that tight lacing public benefit inasmuch as it kills off all foolish girls, and leaves the wise ones to go to bed to be women.

TAKING THE VEIL IN A PROTESTANT CHURCH.

We presume that all our readers have heard of the celebrated London church—All Saints, Margaret-street—which was built as a model church by certain leading and wealthy ecclesiologists, and which every Sunday is besieged by a multitude of worshippers double the number that can by any possibility find their way within its walls. It is not generally known, that attached to it is a nursery for the reception of ladies who choose to take certain vows, and withdraw from the world. This week a new sister had been received, and the proceedings attending her reception are, we should think, unparalleled in the annals of the English Church. The ceremony took place in the private chapel of the clergy house connected with All Saints. A few friends of the new sister were admitted as spectators, otherwise the congregation was confined to the sisters, clergy and officials connected with the church. The chapel, which is built by some magnificent stained glass windows, contained an altar adorned with a cloth of white satin, embroidered in the most elaborate manner. The sisters entered first, and knelt down, and continued kneeling through the whole service, which lasted more than two hours. The clergy then entered, and after lighting candles on the altar, proceeded to celebrate the Holy Communion. A sermon was preached, in which the "sacrament" of monastic vows was highly eulogized, and seemed to be preferred above baptism, the Eucharist, "Penance," and the "other sacraments." After the communion service, the new sister, dressed in black, proceeded to answer a long series of questions, from which it appeared that she was taking the vows voluntarily, and that they were to bind her for ever. And at the end of that time, which, as in the Roman Church is considered the novitiate, she was, if so disposed, to assume the black veil, and become bound for life. After the ceremony, the habit of a novice was displayed, and the officiating clergyman, or "father," as he was termed, blessed the various garments, and the novice withdrew, put off her bridal dress and assumed the habit. The other sisters then knelt in turn, saying, "Bless thee, sister," and then followed deep silence to the Lady Superior, and to "Father," who had conducted the service. It was now considered that the novice had been married to Christ, and therefore the whole party adjourned to a wedding breakfast, provided with the orthodox wedding cake, and waiting only the rather essential constituent of a bridegroom. The bride party seemed very merry, though we doubt whether the "father," would be so were the Bishop of London aware of these proceedings of a clergyman of the Church of England.

Failure of the Monitors at Charleston.

The attack upon Charleston by the monitors under the command of Admiral Dahlgren proved the worthlessness of his class of vessels. The following are extracts from reports by the fleet commander, which have just made public in congressional documents.

Captain Drayton of the *Panama*.—At the fourth shot from 11-inch gun, I was struck in quick succession in the lower part of the turret by two heavy shots, which bulged in the plates and bulged and forced together the rails on which the 11-inch carriage worked, rendered it wholly useless for the remainder of the action, several hours being necessary to put it again in working order. Soon after it was discovered that there was something the matter with the turret itself, which could not be moved, and on examination it was found that the lower part of the turret had been broken off, and being forced inward, had jammed; on clearing this the turret could again be moved, but for some time irregularly. A little after a heavy rifle shot struck the upper edge of the turret, broke all of its elevating and depressing upward took the turret, yet with such force as to make an indentation of two and a half inches, extending nearly the whole length of the shot. The blow was so severe as to smash in the pilot-house, bend it over, open the plates and squeeze out the top, so that on one side it was lifted up three inches above the top, which it rested exposing the inside of the pilot-house, and rendering it likely that the next shot would take off the top itself entirely.

Captain Rogers of the *Weehawken*.—Two or three heavy shots struck the side armor near the same place. They have so broken the iron that it remains in splintered fragments upon that spot, much of it can be picked off by hand and the wood is exposed. The deck was pierced so as to make a hole through which water ran into the vessel, but it was not large. Thirty-six bullets were broken in the turret, and a good many in the pilot-house; but a good many are concealed by an iron lining, I have no means of knowing how many.

At one time the turret revolved with difficulty in consequence of a shot upon its junction with the hull, and it worked well again after a few turns had been made with higher steam.

Captain Worden of the *Montauk*.—I desire to say that I experienced serious embarrassment in maneuvering my vessel in the narrow and uncertain channel, with the limited means of observation afforded from the pilot-house, under the rapid concentration of fire from the forts, the vessels of the fleet close around me, and neither compass or buoy to guide me. After testing the weight of the enemy's fire, and observing the obstructions, I am led to believe, that Charleston cannot be taken by the fleet force now present, and that, had the attack been continued, it could not have failed to result in disaster.

Commander Ammen of the *Patapasco*.—Forty-seven projectiles of the enemy struck the vessel. No damage was done which disabled her in avoiding collision, as it is out of the question for one person to observe properly from the various light holes. I think a want of vision one of the most serious defects of this class, making it impossible to fight them advantageously, to avoid dangers, or to make a satisfactory reconnaissance.

Another question of great importance as relates to their efficient employment is the character of the battery. If it proposed to batter down forts with a 15-inch gun then it is quite plain that we have to come within distances at which heavy ordnance, if employed in heavy batteries against us, could not fail in the end to injure or perhaps disable us.

Commander Rogers of the *Catkill*.—I was surprised to find even with this severe fire, that these vessels could be so much injured in so short a time, two or three heavy shots during the action, which disabled some of the vessels. This vessel was struck twenty times, but without any serious injury except one shot upon the forward part of the deck, which broke both plates, the deck planking and drove the iron stanchion sustaining this beam about one inch across the deck to look.

Commander Fairfax of the *Nantuxet*.—

Our fire was very slow, necessarily so, but so observable upon the walls of the forts as the rate of their rifle-shot and heavy shell upon this vessel. After the third shot from the 15-inch gun the port stopper became jammed, several shots striking very near the stopper having in the planking; it was not used again.

As the fleet withdrew the forts materially slackened their fire evidently not wishing to expend their ammunition without some result. Certainly their fire was excellent throughout; fortunately it was directed to the rear of the fleet, yet the want of more guns together with that of their heavy rifle-shot, which one vessel could not long have withstood the concentrated fire of the enemy's batteries. The obstruction being at a considerable point of fire from the three forts, showed that they must have been of some character. Our fire also had been of some amount on four or five heavy rifle-shots aimed at our ports. Our rifle-shot struck within less than six inches of the 15-inch port; several struck very near. I am convinced that although this class of vessels can stand very hard work, yet the want of more guns will render them comparatively harmless before formidable earthworks and forts. I must say that I am disappointed beyond measure at this experiment of monitors overcoming strong forts. It was a fair trial.

Lieutenant Beardslee, of the *Nantuxet*.—Our rifle-shot struck on the lower corner of the 15-inch port, denting the outer plate about one and a half inch, and bulging the whole thickness, so much as to prevent the port stopper from swinging. This shot was received after the third fire of the 15-inch gun, and was the first of the rest of the fight, we not being able to open the port. A 10-inch shot struck directly opposite, and near the top of the turret, and starting a number of bolts, and breaking the clamp ring inside. During the action the turret became jammed. Upon examination we discovered that seven bolt heads and nuts that had fallen into the recess about the bottom of the turret, rendering it necessary to key the turret higher in order to clear them. Upon attempting to revolve the turret again to day, found that another had fallen since the first were removed. The pilot-house was struck once a square hit, but did no damage. The side armor was struck nine times—once below the water-line. A number of the side plates are started so much that another shot in their vicinity would in my opinion knock them off. One bolt was driven through the iron, and was buried in the oak. One of the deck plates is started from below the side armor. The smoke stack was riddled in the upper sections, and received five shots in the lower sections—once, a solid 10-inch, fell, after striking upon the deck, and was secured.

The steam whistle was cut off. The deck plates were in two places. One shot cut through the iron and about two inches into the beam, starting the plate, several bolts, and the planking for some feet below. This was right over the Andrews' pump, in the engine room. The others are not serious. The first discharge of the 15-inch gun is started from below the side armor, securing the muzzle box. The discharge of the 11-inch gun, or else the blow of a shot in the turret, lifted one of the perforated plates on top. These plates are not properly secured. The other turret plate, in the 15-inch port, is started about one foot of an inch—the next layer is a few degrees. Two of the "gun-decks" to the 11-inch carriage were carried away through the gun not being properly compressed. Some of the gear to the engine room bell was disabled at the first fire, causing trouble and confusion in getting orders promptly conveyed from the pilot-house to the engine room.

Captain Downes of the *Nahant*.—We soon began to suffer from the effects of the terrible and, I believe, almost unprecedented fire to which we were exposed, and at 4:30 the turret refused to turn, having become jammed, and the effects of the three blows from heavy shot, two of them on the pivot ring, about the base of the pilot-house, (one of these breaking off a piece of iron weighing seventy eight pounds from the interior that assisted to keep the house square on its bearings, throwing it with such violence as to break the side of the house, and bending and disarranging steering gear in its course, that it bounded from the inside curtain and fell back into the centre of the house), and the other on the outside of the turret, bulging it in, and driving off the 18 inch apron and in place of the gun-rails, and down the main track of the turret. The bolt heads flying from the inside of the pilot-house, at the same time struck down pilot, Mr. Sofield, twice struck and senseless, and the quartermaster, Edward Cobb, helmsman, fatally injured with fractured skull, leaving him alone in the pilot-house, the steering gear becoming at the same time disarranged. We were within five hundred yards of Fort Sumter, unmanageable and under the concentrated fire of, I think, one hundred guns at short range, and the obstructions close aboard. But fortunately we got the turret steering gear in working order in time to prevent disaster. And getting my vessel once more under command, I endeavored to renew the action, but after repeated futile efforts to turn the guns on to the fort, I concluded to retire for a time from close action and endeavor to repair damages.

We received the following injuries to the vessel and fittings besides those already enumerated:—The plates on side armor broken badly in several places, and in one were struck by two shots in close proximity, partly stripped from the wood and the wood backing broken in, with edging of deck plates started up and rolled back in places. On port-quarter side armor deeply indented, and started from side and extremely of stern. The deck is struck twice damagingly—one shot near the propeller well, quite shattering gratings inside and breaking seven bolts. In the turret there are marks of nine shot, fifty six of the bolts are broken perceptibly to us, the bolt heads flying off inside of turret, and the bolts starting almost their length outside, some of them flying out completely, and being found at a considerable distance from the turret on the deck. Doubtless many others are broken that we cannot detect, as by trying them we find others loosened. One shot struck the upper part of the turret, breaking through every plate and parting some of them in two three, and four pieces. In pilot house there were marks of eight shots, three of them 11-inch; twenty one of the bolts were broken perceptibly, and others evidently started. The plates are also much started, and the pilot-house itself I think, much damaged, and wrecked; indeed it is my opinion that four more such shots as it received would have decided it. One shot at the base broke every plate through, and evidently nearly penetrated it.

On Monday last David Wilson, Esq., Reeve of Harriet, was severely injured by receiving a violent kick from a cow, which broke his jaw in three places. *Chatham News.*

The Great Prize Fight.

(From Bell's Life in London.)

This long-looked-for battle of "the giants" came off on Thursday last, at a capital spot near eastward, under as brilliant circumstances, both as regards weather and travelling arrangements, as could possibly be desired. The sun shone beautifully the whole day, the company was exceedingly select, and there was not the slightest appearance of interruption from the moment of landing, to that of departure. Gentle and simple, and noble and plain, were present in large numbers, over 1,000. The appearance of that great audience on one of the Sussex hills, as exponents and supporters of thorough English manly pluck and bottom all over the world, brought back as if upon the stage of history, the traditional glories of the snail days of the ring, glories which, we trust, have not altogether departed, but which, judging from the well-thought content and well-contested business of Thursday, may again shine upon this yearning generation of our country.

At a quarter of five a fast train arrived at the station, a few minutes before five in the morning, we found the "rasping" division had dwindled away to an insignificant few. Fact is, busy town of Madam Rumor had sent them so often to various stations on the Will-o'-the-wisp errand that they were completely tired out, and after the lesson of Tuesday and Wednesday night, without anything turning up, they blew up the whole affair, and quietly stayed at home. Never was a secret of such a kind better kept, and the wide-awakes, who "knew the exact spot to a yard," found themselves neck deep in the mire after the lesson of Tuesday and Wednesday night, without anything turning up, they blew up the whole affair, and quietly stayed at home. 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