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A Pope's Property.

Sale of the Effects of the Late Pius IX.

[Rome Correspondence of the London Standard.]

Three apartments are appropriated to the sale. Anywhere else they would be vast saloons. Measured by the scale of the Vatican, they are ordinary sized rooms. In the central one, to which visitors are first admitted, is a large quantity of the most intolerably wretched oil-paintings which it was ever my lot to see gathered together in one place. They are all sacred subjects with the exception of a series of pictures representing the Pope going in procession to various points of Rome—St. John Lateran, the Via Sacra, the Colosseum, &c.—and they appear to be copies of copies for the most part. In particular, I observed a version of Raphael's "Madonna della Seggiola," the well-known picture in Florence, which was enough to make the spirit of the great artist—if he haunts the scenes of his earthly triumphs—flee away in horror from those walls he has made glorious with beauty. All these pictures are catalogued and numbered. But I saw no one make the faintest approach to asking the price of any of them. In the same room are two magnificent pieces of Gobelin tapestry hung on the wall. These are not for sale, but they are very precious just now to the visitor, as affording a rest and relief to the eye, after the exhibition of works of art (?) ranged below them. After a brief period of waiting, Monsignor (who had been detained in consequence of having to wait on his Holiness) appeared, and ushered the assembled company into a second room. The said company was not very numerous, and consisted almost exclusively of ladies, and almost entirely of foreigners. A great many heretic bank notes have had the honour of being exchanged for memorials of Pope Pius IX. during these latter days. His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Sweden, has made one or two handsome purchases, and numerous other Protestants of non-regal rank have done the same. At present the bulk of the most precious objects have been disposed of. There are still, however, some handsome things to be had. The collection is of the most curiously varied sort. Among the articles which recur to my memory, I may take at random several pairs of embroidered slippers, an Indian carved casket, a jar full of rice, some common muslin antimacassars, a diamond cross with gold chain, coloured binding for furniture, a set of silver gilt saltspoons, and some blankets! I had been told beforehand that the articles were priced remarkably low. This I did not find to be quite accurate as regards all the things. But I am inclined to believe that the really precious objects, such as gold and gems, &c., were cheaper in proportion than the commoner ones. There has been some fine old lace to be had, but that is now nearly all gone. I remarked, too, a crimson velvet scapulary, magnificently embroidered in gold; a pastoral ring, containing an emerald of large size, and several surplices, for one of which 400 francs was demanded; but the lace which trimmed it was neither antique nor valuable. Perhaps some of the most available articles for the general public were a collection of fragments of marble from the various catacombs, polished and inscribed in red letters, as follows: "*Fragmentum Lapidis e Cœmeterio Callisti*, (or *Domitillæ*, as the case may be,) *Pio IX. Pont. Max. Sacri. Princ. Ann. XXVIII.*" These are not expensive, and form nice little memorials; but they are nearly all disposed of. One feature of this sale, which agreeably distinguished it from any other species of commercial operation I have ever witnessed in Italy was the impossibility of bargaining. The price of each article is plainly marked in a catalogue, which Mgr. Pericoli keeps in his own hands, and from which, when you tell him the number affixed to the object you wish to purchase, he reads out the cost. Thus it is; so many francs, no more and no less; and if your purse be not long enough to afford it, you gracefully retire and hold your tongue—that it is all. Altogether, the scene is a curious one, and one not likely to be repeated in the same fashion. To behold a reverend Prelate of Holy Church with his purple silk mantle on his shoulders, politely telling you the price of 20 yards of binding or a pair of old shoes, and receiving your money for the same with a courtly bow, is a spectacle not to be seen every day. And then the surroundings and associations of the spectacle do not detract from its strangeness. Anywhere else in the world it would be still more wonderful. But in Rome we breathe an atmosphere of marvels, and whatever the future may have in store for the Eternal City, she does not at present threaten to become prosaic and commonplace, whether in adversity or prosperity.

Pet Words.

(From the Saturday Review.)

It is but a few weeks since we heard of a father writing to his son at school to ask him whether he was so hard worked at school that he had not time to write "examinations," but cut it down to "exams." The lad modestly enough answered that the master always spoke of the "exams," and so he thought it was the proper word to use. "Awfully nice" is another of the expressions which the young reader is warned We fear that nothing can drive awfully, and terribly, and tremendously, and frightfully back to their proper uses. We were present a week or two ago when a fond mother lamented that her child would say "awfully jolly." "It is," she pathetically said, "so tremendously exaggerated." We are surprised, by the way, to find included among these vulgarisms such phrases as "currying favour," and "they fell out." To "curry favour," is not, we admit, an expression which we much like. It can, however, as we see by Johnson, plead the authority of Hooker and L'Estrange, while "to fall out," in the sense of "to quarrel," is so good a piece of English that it needs no dictionary authority to uphold it, though plenty could be produced. Most writers, as has been often noticed, have certain words to which they give an unfair preference. But beyond this, each age also has its favourites. Thus "factor" and "outcome" have shot up in a most wonderful way within these half-dozen years; and the barbarous affectation of "cultured" has grown to the dimensions of a common nuisance. Again, a hundred years ago, those whom we now call clever were all "ingenious," while "respectable" held a position far above those who keep a gig. It was very widely applied, and was, in fact, in high favour. Madrid was described as a respectable city, the aged Lord Mansfield as a respectable visitor, while Chesterfield in writing of the hour of death said, "That moment at least is a very respectable one, let people who boast of not fearing it say what they please." A writer of the present day would perhaps contrive to make "notable" supply most of the senses in which respectable was used by our forefathers. He would write of a notable city, a notable visitor, and the notable moment of death. This word and its adverbial form, notably, have indeed shot up into favour in the last few years with astonishing rapidity. The rise of "tender" has been sudden, but it is chiefly confined to people who criticise art and poetry.

The Arrest of a Princess.

In Paris the other day a young lady went into one of the great drapery houses to shop with her maid. They keep watchers there; and one of these, making sure he had seen something, presently tapped the young lady on the shoulder, and asked her to follow him to the searching-room. "You have just put a pair of new gloves in your pocket, mademoiselle; don't deny it." "I know I have," said the young lady, quietly, "and if you will be good enough to look inside them you will see that, as they were bought at another house, they could hardly have been stolen from them." "That was so," as our cousins say. The watcher had simply made a mistake, and he and the whole gang of searchers began to grovel in excuses. "Now," said the lady, turning to her maid, "go to the nearest Commissary of Police, and tell him that the daughter of Prince O—— requires his protection." It was the very awkwardest of blunders; her father was an ambassador. The concrete drapery company is offering thousands to hush it up.

A NOVEL system of lightning conductors has been placed on the Hotel de Ville, at Brussels, by M. Melsens. On the roof, instead of numerous single points, he has a number of groups or bunches of points. These are connected with conductors extending over various parts of the building, but all running into a single solid block of iron. From this block three series of wires are carried down into the earth; one of them leads to a well, while the others communicate with iron pipes containing gas tar, which joins the water and gas mains under the city.

"WHAT," said an inquisitive young lady, "is the most popular colour for a bride?" We may be a little particular in such matters, but we should prefer a white one.

Listowel Standard.

A FLOWER IN A BOOK.

BY J. J. PIATT.

A withered flower shall raise
A ghost of vanished days;
From crumbled leaves a rose,
All fragrant-souled shall rise
Within the heart and eyes
Of one who, dreaming, knows
The dust that was a rose!

Shepherds All and Maidens Fair.

BY WALTER BESANT AND JAMES RICE.

CHAPTER IX. [CONTINUED.]

FATHER AND SON.

"Your true name, John?"

"Yes, dear. My name is not Ashton at all. What it is I will tell you in a few minutes. Is Mr. Pomeroy in his office, do you think?"

"I believe so. He seldom leaves it during the day."

"Then wait for me, Lettice, a few minutes only. I am going to bring him here, and tell him in your presence what I have to tell him."

Mr. Pomeroy was sitting at his desk, engaged I believe, in the soul-elevating work of making out bills of costs. Nothing so develops the best and most generous side of a man's character as that form of labour. I believe that lawyers who have a good deal of this work to do always employ for this branch of bills young men of broad benevolence and philanthropic aims, whose object in life is to advance the name of humanity by an example of private generosity. Mr. Pomeroy, no doubt with the noblest of motives, kept the department entirely in his own hands, and this morning he was engaged upon it. There was no doubt in his own mind that his banker's book would shortly show a very large increase—a sweet and lofty thought in itself.

"Can I interrupt you for a little while, sir?" asked John.

Mr. Pomeroy looked up from his work. His white stubby hair stuck up all over in a more determined manner than ever—perhaps because he was insisting in his bills on more than a usual amount of generous consideration—and his sharp, keen eyes were sharper than ever.

"Interrupt me?" he replied. "Yes, if it is a matter of business; not otherwise. These are business hours."

"It is a matter of very important business. Not a money transaction, but much more important."

"Now that's nonsense, Ashton," Mr. Pomeroy replied, good-humouredly; "only a very young man, like yourself, would say that any transaction could be important which is not connected with money. Love and affection, I suppose you would say. Stuff! no one loves anybody but himself in the world. If they pretend otherwise, make the proper deductions—the largest deductions—and go on your own way."

"Well, sir, you will see. First of all, you will be glad to hear that young Langton has been found. He did not steal the money, which was stolen from him, and it has all been recovered."

"Why did not he pay it into the bank?"

"He stopped talking in the street till he was too late. Mr. Halkett has very kindly promised to inform the servants of the firm of his innocence. But he will not go back there, and I want your sanction to his going home with me."

"To Arcadia? Well, it would take him out of the way."

"You do not like the boy?"

"I dislike all boys. Remember, Ashton, these two children of my old friend Langton—who, as perhaps you know, got into a mess with his accounts and cut his throat—have no claim whatever upon me. Because he was my friend once, and because he once did me a great service, I have educated his orphans. The girl behaves well; she never talks, and gives no trouble. The boy I mistrust."

"Why do you mistrust him?"

"Because I like to know what is the private life of my people, and I find that he has got into bad company."

"It is true, Mr. Pomeroy. He has got into the worst possible company. It is to save him from more trouble that I propose to take him with me. Do you agree?"

"Take him by all means. He is now about seventeen. I have been allowing him forty pounds a year. I will give him—no, I will give you for him, which will be better—that amount paid in advance for four years. I never intended doing anything for him after he was one-and-twenty. So that is settled."

"Then you do trust me, sir? Remember, you know very little about me. You have only known me a fortnight."

"I do trust you, Ashton. At least I trust that you are what the world calls honest. Of course you have got your own purposes to serve, else you would not have come over and forced yourself upon me. Well, I have taught you something, and you have pleased me with your talk. It is not often that one gets a man unspoiled by town life. It is refreshing, I confess, though I am not a soft man. You have found out——"

"At all events you are never tired of saying so."

"No; I warn people beforehand. There is nothing soft about John Pomeroy." He banged the table with an air of decision. "Nothing soft in this office, young man. You come here, state your business, pay your money, and go. However, we waste time. Come to the important point—important—without money being concerned in it. Ho! ho!"

"It is so important, sir," said John, hesitating, "that I must ask you to come with me into your private room, and to hear what I have to say—out of this office. I have a reason for this request. What I have to say has nothing to do with business—nothing whatever. It belongs to your private life."

"Well, well, you are a persistent lad. Have your own way."

Mr. Pomeroy locked his office door very carefully and followed John into the little room at the back—the room which was Lettice's cage, and his own dining, breakfast, and only sitting-room.

"Lettice," said Mr. Pomeroy, "we have to talk business, Mr. Ashton and I. Will you leave us alone?"

"No, Lettice," said John, "do not leave us; my business very nearly concerns Lettice, Mr. Pomeroy. And to show you that it does, I must first tell you that she has this morning promised to be my wife. Will you let me take her away, with her brother, to Arcadia?"

"This was your important business, was it?" asked Mr. Pomeroy. "Well, you are young. You think that marriage is the only business worth anything in life, I suppose. Ah, what enormous deductions! Only an episode at best, and an unpleasant one. Well, Lettice," his voice was not unkind, though it was cold, "what do you say?"

"I have promised," she said, "to go with him."

"Well, then, you will go, of course. You understand, Ashton, from what I have told you, that neither Lettice nor William Langton has any expectation from me—none whatever. My money will not be left to either of them."

"I quite understand that, sir; and in Lettice's name I thank you for the kindness you have shown both to her and to her brother——"

"There—there—gratitude—professions—deductions. You will not have any wedding-guests; no bride-maids or nonsense, you know, Lettice. You can go and get married any morning you like. If I have time I will give you away. If not, the clerk can do that just as well. Wedding bells, indeed! If most people knew what was before them, the bells should be a knell, a mourning-coach should be the bride's carriage, and the priests should all be dressed in black, with crape gowns and hat-bands. Wedding-cake and rejoicings! Pah!"

This was not encouraging, but John only laughed, and put his arm round the girl's waist.

"We shall do our rejoicings across the pond, Mr. Pomeroy. Our wedding bells shall be the bells of the sleigh in which I shall take my bride home, the snow shall be the white cover of our wedding cake, and the maples in the forest our wedding guests. Cheer up, Lettice dear, there will be rejoicings enough in the new country over you and me, and songs and dances, too, and joy for all our lives."

"Poor things!" sneered the man of experience. "When do you propose to begin this—pilgrimage of sleigh-bells and snow?"

"We will be married as soon as we can," said John. "But that, too, will depend upon you."

"I will have nothing to do with it, I tell you."

"Wait a moment, sir, I have other business. Sit down and listen." They had been all then standing. "You said, when you first saw me, that my face and my voice reminded you of some one. Of whom, sir?" He bent down, looking into Mr. Pomeroy's eyes.

"Of—of one I lost many years ago."

"Of one you loved many years ago, and whom you—drove away!"

"She left me, in her guilt."

"She left you, in her innocence."

"Who are you, sir?" cried Mr. Pomeroy, springing to his feet. "Who are you? and what do you know?"

"I know nothing but that fact, that she is innocent. Whose is my face?"

"It is hers," the man murmured,

"And yours," said John. "I am her son—and yours. Yes, father, it is true. I have come to tell you that you have a wife living who has long since forgiven you, that you have a son who stands before you, and that I bring with me papers which I have not read, because that would be to think of my mother what is impossible, but papers which will prove to you what I have said. She left you, driven away by you, in her innocence, and a few months later I was born. Lettice, that is my deception. In marrying me you will marry the son of your benefactor."

Mr. Pomeroy, as he listened, trembled. For four-and-twenty years he had been alone, brooding over an imaginary wrong, feeding an insatiable wrath with thoughts of revenge which might have been a man-hater and a woman-hater.

"Prove your words," he said—"prove your words. How do you know you are my son?"

"You might know," replied John, "by my face and my voice. These letters will tell you more than I can prove. If they are not proof, I have no more to say; I shall leave you, as I found you, a stranger. If they are proof, you have a son and a wife."

"Give them to me."

"Before I give them, think. I am here asking nothing, claiming nothing. As regards your money, I do not know whether you are rich or poor. And as I ask nothing of you, so I owe you nothing. For the care of my childhood, for my education, for my farm, I owe you nothing, and mother everything. Remember, then, that I am on her side, whatever you think of these letters."

"You are frank, young man. Before I was your age I had learned to pay respect to my father."

"You forget, sir; I have never had one."

Mr. Pomeroy took the bundle and tore it open. It was tied round with green tape, which was hastily untied, and began to read them one by one. There were four of them altogether.

John stood watching him.

Lettice sat beside John, waiting for the end.

When Mr. Pomeroy had read them through he began again, and read them all over more careful y.

"I know the handwriting of each," he said. "These are no forgeries. These may, however——But, no; that cannot be. What is your name?" he asked, suddenly.

"John."

"John Pomeroy. My name, too. You are my son."

"And my mother?"

"I will write to her myself. There are things to say which no one but myself can say. She has been—deeply—wronged," he added slowly. "You do not know the contents of these letters?"

"No, sir."

"You do not know the cause of our estrangement?"

"No, sir."

"Better not. There are four documents here. The first is from Eli Ramsden, the Quaker, to your mother, stating what he knew; it is not much, but it is something. the second is an account drawn up for her by her brother, Stephen Burdacomb. The third is your mother's own account. And the last is a letter, written on the morning of the day when he died, by the man who—Ah!"

He almost shrieked as he uttered the last word, and his eyes fell on Lettice.

"The man who—the man who did the mischief—who lied, and calumniated, and made up a story against the woman he had wished to marry; the man who ruined my home out of revenge; that man—that man"—his face grew purple, and his eyes shot fire—"that man is your father. Do you hear, you girl—your father?"

John laid his hand on Lettice's shoulder and kept it there.

"Patience, Lettice dear," he whispered.

"You, whom I took out of the gutter and have brought up, do you hear? Daughter of a bankrupt, swindler——"

"Stop, sir! This is my future wife—your son's future wife."

"Never!" said his father. "Go; leave my house within a quarter of an hour; starve; beg your bread, or steal it, for what I care. Go from my house."

"If Lettice goes, it shall be with me," said John.

"Oh, John, John," cried the poor girl, "I told you we were disgraced; but I did not know of this. Yes, sir, yes; I will go. It is not right that I should stay any longer under your roof, nor that I should think of marrying your son. Forgive me, sir. I did not know. Indeed, indeed, I did not know."

"My Lettice!" cried her lover, catching her in his strong arms as she rose in her agony and terror, and holding her tight to his heart. "Do you think I would let you go? Is this by-gone history to part you and me?"

"John, I cannot. Think of your mother."

"Yes," said his father. "Think of your mother, if, in the headstrong stream of passion, you can think at all. How will it be to go out to your mother and say, 'Here is your new daughter; the girl whose father ruined your happiness?'"

"That is not what I shall say to my mother. I shall say, 'Lettice is the innocent daughter of a man who wronged you and died repentant.' Lettice you do not know my mother, or you would not let that be a plea. You, sir, have forgotten her."

"You are my son," said Mr. Pomeroy. "I did not think I had a son. I hardly knew—I did not care—if I had a wife. But hear me. Choose between me and the girl. Henceforth I shall think of her with the hatred that belongs to her father. Take her and leave me, never to see me again. You shall be dead to me. I give the same choice to your mother as to you. Choose between me and this girl."

"I choose not between you and Lettice," said John, still holding the girl round the waist, "but between revenge and love. And I choose for my mother as well. Come, Lettice, we will go. You shall stay with your brother till we can be married. Cheer up, my darling, it is not you who shall suffer for your father's sin."

"Yes, and for the third and fourth generation," cried his father. "Scripture authority for you."

"There is yet another Scripture," said John, solemnly. "'The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father.' Think over that. We leave you, your son and the girl to whom you have been a protector for so long. In the solitary winter evenings, when you sit here alone, night after night, with your thoughts, you will remember sometimes the wife and son whom you have thrown away in wild revenge. The very chairs will cry out to you aloud of the innocent girl you have driven away in wrath—the second woman whom you should have loved. And when you think of the things you have thrown away, remember that across the ocean we shall be all together, waiting only for the day when you will write and bid us come back to you."

"Never!" said his father. "Never! Henceforth I sit alone and trust no man again. Go."

"Shake hands, sir. Let me tell my mother that you have given your hand to her son."

"Never!" he replied. "You have chosen. I have no wife and no son—I never had—I will never have. Take that girl out of my sight, lest I do her, or you, or myself a mischief."

They went out together, Lettice weeping. The door closed behind them, and Mr. Pomeroy was left alone. Down the stairs into the court, noisy with hurrying footsteps; out into the busy and hurrying world, away to the hotel where Will Langton, dressed and in his right mind, which was a penitent one, was waiting for his sister.

Clients came to see Mr. Pomeroy that day, but they could not gain admission to his office. It was empty, and the tenant was in that back room alone, looking out on the wall. In his hand was the packet of letters. His lips was set tight, and his eyes were angry and fixed. There was no repentance yet in old John Pomeroy's face, whatever might come later.

Two days later his son wrote to him:

MY DEAR FATHER—We are to be married to-morrow in the church of Moulsey Priors, by special license; we shall be at the church at eleven. I hope that we may see you there, and that you will give away the bride.

Your affectionate son,
JOHN POMEROY.

"And so, you see, Lettice," says John, when Will has told his tale and John his all over again, and he and Lettice were sitting side by side, her hand in his, while Will looked on marveling, "and so it was not my doing at all; and you have not me to thank, but our friend the Frenchman."

"I should like to thank him," Lettice replies. "Do you think you can find him?"

That was not difficult, and the hero of "L'Affaire Kugel" the account of which made so great a sensation when it appeared in Paris—was the same day captured by John and brought to the hotel, to be introduced to the young English "mees," whose charms he so graphically described in his letter.

M. Henri de Rosnay—his real name was Francois Langlois, which he exchanged for the more aristocratic territorial title—received Lettice's congratulations in the grand style. John asked him to dinner, and they all four dined in great state and ceremony. It is an evening in which the young Frenchman loves to delight; it was that part of the conclusion of his drama which one does not put upon the stage, but imagines—the timely happy part, Who cares to read about other people's happiness! Who wants to see murderers content upon the stage? He wrote very nicely about it in a subsequent letter, called "Conclusion of the Affair Kugel," speaking of the boy's modest demeanor after his united misfortunes; his sister's happiness innocently sparkling in her eyes; the tall young Arcadian, in whom, he said, ignorant of the circumstances, the existed still the traces of his French ancestors in his bravery, his strength, and his chivalrous devotion to the ravishing "mees."

"At the same time, my friend, I must own, has one great, one very great fault. He does not appreciate the wines of our country. He is a teetotaler,' in the language of England. The bottle of champagne in which I drank health and happiness to the young lady, was placed upon the table for my use only. I am invited to visit his estates in Arcadia. In the interests of your readers I will flinch from nothing. I will even, if that is necessary, brave the voyage across the perilous ocean, and risk my scalp among the savage Hurons among whom Atala roved, and of whom Voltaire wrote. Expect therefore, if I survive, to hear of travels and dangers in the Arcadian wilds."

The sentiments of M. de Rosnay were, it may be seen, superior to his geography.

"And are you quite sure—quite, quite sure," asked Lettice, when their guest was gone, "that your mother will welcome me?"

"As sure," said John, "as I am that she is a Christian. And now, my darling, there is only one more thing to do. And that is to be married. Where would you like to be married? Here, in the close and stifling city, or away where we can see green fields and fields and breathe fresh air?"

"If it could be in the country," said Lettice.

"Then it shall be. We will go away to-morrow morning to Moulsey Priors, where Eli Ramsden will take us in, and we will be married among our own folk—at least among their graves. There, my dear, before the altar we will forgive the past, and make the old wrongs impossible to be ever spoken of again. And then, by the very next ship that sails, we will go back to the dear old place beyond the sea."

"And your father, John?"

His face hardened a little.

"I had forgotten I had a father almost. Lettice, I cannot pretend. I wish it had been otherwise, for my mother's sake, but I have not the feeling for him that I have for her. Remember that I have grown up with her alone, and that I have known him but a short three weeks. I am sorry, but I shall not make myself miserable over what cannot be helped. And he used cruel words to you, my Lettice——"

"John," she said, "you must forget them. Promise faithfully that you will forget them. They must be as if they had never been spoken." Another kiss. "Oh, John! And you have only known me for three weeks. And suppose, John—suppose I should not turn out what you think?"

They were married two days afterward in the little village church of Moulsey Priors, whose holy acre holds all the buried Pomeroys, and Langtons, and Burdacombs. There were no bridesmaids and no wedding bells. But Eli Ramsden the Quaker was there, and Will Langton gave away his sister.

In Great St. Simon Apostle Mr. Pomeroy sat drawing out his bills, and making no deduction at all, either small or large.

CONCLUSION.

"SHEPHERDS ALL AND MAIDENS FAIR."

We are back again two months later, in Clear Sky Land. It is autumn no longer, but the very heart and middle of winter. Snow everywhere; rivers frozen up; lakes frozen up; the scarlet and crimson leaves of the maples fallen and buried in their white covering; the pines standing up black against the white pall which wraps the sleeping world.

It is afternoon, too, which makes the silence deeper; yet in young John Pomeroy's farm there are signs and sounds of work, if you were there with me. He is in the farm-yard, among the cattle; beside him one man is cutting wood, and another vigorously clearing and sweeping; everything in the open has to be done with vigor in Clear Sky Land. There are no idle days on the farm, and when work is scarce, there is play almost fierce as work. You may make a rink one night, and skate all next day; you may go to the Dee Bank Falls, and run a toboggan down its slopes of ice and snow, till the exercise, and the rush of the air, and the shouting and laughter, make you warmer in your wrappers than any pedestrian on the roads of old England, where, to-day, the first snow has been followed by a quick thaw and a soft rain, so that everything is enwrapped in a cloud of steam and haze, and men's breath is drawn quickly. Or you may bring out a sleigh and drive along the silent highway beneath the splendid trees, on a road far smoother than in any midsummer—a road which covers up all the soft places in the corduroys, and substitutes the easy run of the sleighs for the jolting of the wheels.

Presently, John Pomeroy shuts up work for the day, and goes home.

The house is warm and bright. Two faces brighten when he comes in stamping the hard snow from his feet. They are the faces of his wife and mother. It needs but a look to see that Lettice is happy.

"I shall be ready for supper," says John, "soon as the clock strikes six. Kiss me, Lettice dear. This is better than Carmel Friars, isn't it?"

Then a sleigh drives up. Stephen Burdacomb and his wife.

"Happy Christmas to all!" he says. "Girls are coming along presently."

Then a young fellow steps in. Heavens! can this be Will Langton—this boy, filled out in the shoulders, set up and strong, his handsome face flushed with health and strength? No late evenings here; no gas and billiard-rooms; no drink and tobacco.

Light the lamp—close the curtains. It is Christmas-eve and we are going to have a pleasant evening.

Another sleigh with tinkling bells.

"Why," said Stephen, in his slow way, "it's full early for the girls, isn't it?"

Not the girls. A man's step in the passage. John went to see who it was.

Not his father?

Yes, old John Pomeroy himself. He was rubbing his nose with a handful of snow.

"It'll come off," he said; "I know it'll come off. Look at it, John."

John examined the feature.

"It is all right, sir," he said, "and how are you?"

"How are you, John? Shake hands. Glad to see you."

All in the most matter-of-fact way, as if he was just come in from a week's journey. No falling into each other's arms at all; no asking for forgiveness on either side. Not a bit. There was nothing soft about old John Pomeroy.

And as they heard that voice within, the elder and the younger lady sprang from their chairs, and caught each other by the hands.

"Mamma," says Lettice, "it is Mr. Pomeroy."

They both tremble and shake.

"Take off those furs, John," says the voice outside. "Ah, and now I'll go in. All well, eh?"

He opens the door. Before him stands his wife, the woman he has not seen for four-and-twenty years.

Stephen Burdacomb comes between them.

"I stand by my sister——" he began.

"Nonsense, Stephen; how are you? how are you?" replied the man of business, and pushing him aside, holds out both hands to his wife, who falls upon his breast weeping and sobbing, while he whispers something in her ear.

"Kiss me Lettice, my dear," Mr. Pomeroy goes on, holding out one disengaged hand to the girl. "Hope you find marriage a happy condition of life. Hope your husband treats you well. How are you, Will? And now we will sit down, and talk, and be comfortable. Seasonable weather, Stephen."

Lettice and Will looked at him with furtive astonishment. This Mr. Pomeroy? He to propose that people should sit down, and talk, and be comfortable? Was he transformed, then?

"Surprised to see me, eh? Well, Lettice, my dear"—he called her for a second time "my dear"—were things real?—"when you went away, the home grew uncomfortable. After six or seven years of you about the place one grew lonely. That's the reason. That's all. How's your farm getting on, John?"

All the time he held his wife's hand in his. No sentiment at all about the man. Nothing soft in old John Pomeroy.

"Let us all sit down," he repeated, "and be comfortable."

"I think there is something more, sir," said John, quietly.

"What a persistent boy that is of yours, my dear," he remarked to his wife; "he must have been a sad trouble to you all these years. Well, there was something more. And what that was, John, your mother knows already, and that's enough. He's a fine boy, too, wife, and, on the whole, just the son I should have liked. Well, what next? How do you like Lettice, my dear?"

His wife lifted her tearful face and smiled.

"I will answer you as you answered John," she said. "Lettice knows, and that's enough."

"Ah; anything else!" He looked in his quick comprehensive way at Stephen, as if perhaps that worthy man might have an objection or two in his mind.

"Supper," said Stephen.

"That's business-like. That's to the point," said Mr. Pomeroy. "John, my son, I believe I told you, when I last saw you, that I should never forgive you. Kiss me again, Lettice, my dear. You made a most sensible observation about choosing between love and revenge, for which I am much obliged to you. You also quoted a very remarkable passage from the Bible, for which I am more obliged to you. Said I should never forgive you; said I had no wife and no son. Well, you must make deductions—large deductions.

THE END.

His Coal Stove.

Coming down on the car the other morning they got to talking about their coal stoves, and one man said:

"Well, I don't want to brag, but I think I've got the boss stove. So far this winter I haven't burnt but three tons of coal, and the stove has kept three rooms warm."

"You must have a poor stove," remarked the second. "I haven't burned but two tons of coal yet, and my stove heats parlour, dining-room, two bedrooms and a hall."

"Well, when you come to stoves," quietly remarked the third "I claim to have the best coal stove in Detroit. I have burned but a ton and a half of coal, so far, and we have to keep all the dampers shut and a back door open all the time.

Some men looked out of the windows and some down at the straw, and no one seemed to doubt any of the assertions. At length a heavy sigh was heard from the rear end of the car, and a clerical-looking man arose and said:

"Gentlemen, there goes a fire alarm. It strikes the box in front of my house. I have no doubt that my residence is at this moment in flames, and the lives of my family in peril. It is all owing to my coal stove. I set up the stove last November and put in one peck of coal. Every room has been so hot ever since that the baseboards have warped off, and we finally had to move down into the basement. This morning the water in all the pipes in the house was boiling, the shingles on the roof hot, and I just hired four men to form a snow-bank around the stove. Too late—alas! too late! That stove has accomplished its fiendish purpose, and I no longer have a home. It may not, however, be too late to save the baby. Good-bye, gentlemen!"

He opened the door and got off the car, and not a passenger spoke again for four blocks.

A Benefit Ninety Years Ago.

(From All the Year Round.)

It is quite evident that benefits often form an important element in the terms of engagement between the manager and the members of the company. Many of the humbler folk have a sort of partnership interest in the receipts on certain evenings, in the form of a percentage on the proceeds of all tickets sold by them. On one occasion we are told that "tickets will be taken this night for the benefit of Mr. Franks, hair-dresser; Mr. Nightingale, gallery doorkeeper; Mr. Bamford, box check-taker; Mr. Tiffing, box lobby-keeper; Mr. Ridings and Mr. Beswick, musicians." On another evening the public were entreated so to arrange that the advantages should go to those for whom they were intended, and not to outside schemers and tricksters: "Tickets will be taken this night for the Benefit of Mr. Barker, box-keeper; Mr. Ludlow, pit office-keeper; Mr. Peile, musician; Kitty Harvey, fruit-woman, [this reminds us of Nell Gwynne, in the time of the Merry Monarch;] and Mr. Horrocks, stage-door-keeper. As several people have been imposed upon [here's the rub] by buying tickets on these Nights in the Avenue and about the doors of the Theatre, which were forged; this is to give notice that proper people will take Notice of the sellers of Tickets, and all those purchased that way will not be admitted."

SMOKE is not, as many persons imagine, lighter than air; it is, however, carried up by the heated air, which, being lighter than the surrounding atmosphere, is pressed upward. Smoke ascends because it is intermixed with vapours, gasses and warm air.

AN old Danish treaty gives France a monopoly of the cod fishing off the Iceland coast, which is valued at $15,000,000 a year.

Loans and Liars.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

Do you want to borrow five dollars for a day or two—till that check comes—till the bank opens—till you can see a friend of yours who has offered you five hundred if you want it?

Perhaps you don't, but there are plenty in Detroit who do. Jones, for instance, becomes suddenly possessed of the idea about 10 o'clock a.m., that he must have five dollars. He is just that much short, for some reason or other, and as he must have it, and as his only recourse is to borrow it, he steps across the hall to Brown who has been his friend for years.

"Brown, will you do me a great favour?"

"Why, yes," slowly replies Brown, having a suspicion of what is coming.

"Well, I'm short five dollars and I want to borrow that much until to-morrow, when I'll have a check for $300 from Chicago."

"Sorry—very sorry; but my grocer's bill came in as I left the house, and I'm cleaned out," replies Brown, who has at least fifty dollars in his wallet.

Jones goes down on the street, and the first man he sees is a neighbour who has always favoured him in every way, and he halts him and asks him for the loan of a "V" for twenty-four hours.

"Five dollars!" exclaims Smith with great promptness, "why, you had better ask for my wife and children! I never carry a dollar with me—never."

Jones walks over to the City Hall. He remembers that it was pay day only the day before, and hunting out an employe of the city, whom he knows right well, he states his case again.

"Why didn't you ask me yesterday—if you only had!" was the swift reply. "You see my wife wanted $30 last night, and as I had no particular use for it I gave it to her."

Jones is somewhat discouraged, but going out he meets a man who once promised to do him a favour if he ever had an opportunity. The friend is reminded of this fact, and Jones adds:

"I lack just $5 of enough money to pay a note, and if you will let me have it until to-morrow I shall be forever obliged."

"Good gracious! but I just paid a note myself, and I'm cleaned out of everything but this nickel," is the reply.

Jones gets along without the money. He has to. He may tramp the city from end to end and meet with just such answers. There are reasons for it. Men in all grades of life have found to their cost that lending money is not only losing it, but it is, in many instances, making an enemy. The man who is worth lending to can get money at the bank. Good men, who would pay borrowed money, never borrow. They raise it in a business way. It is the liar and beat who wants to borrow, and there can't be a business man in the city who has not been stuck.

"Lend me five dollars and I'll return it to-morrow," most always means that the borrower will never return it, unless forced to by law. As soon as he gets it he begins to dodge the man who lent it to him, and if asked to return it he becomes highly indignant and goes about slandering the man who aided him.

"I have kept my friends by refusing to lend them money," said a Detroit business man the other day, and there are plenty to agree with him. Five dollars is but a small sum, and yet there are scores of men who would sell out for it. They will borrow that sum of a friend and not return it, preferring his contempt ever after to making restitution. One such was last fall beaten out of a fat political office by the vote of a man whose five dollars he had never returned. Another might be named who lost a clerkship from the same reason. Another, who had neglected to repay a loan of three dollars, lost a situation a bank as his reward. Beware of the man who wants a loan "for a day or two."

The Land of Easy Divorce.

The people of Switzerland who possess so great a variety of political institutions and have tried so many experiments in social economy, sanctioned some years ago the introduction of what is virtually unlimited facility of divorce. Dissolution of matrimony is decreed for the most trivial of causes. The result of this state of things, as disclosed in a return just issued by the federal statistical bureau, is rather curious than satisfactory, and does not speak well for the experiment on the domestic happiness of the Swiss people. The figures set forth in the report in question refer to 1877. In that year the various courts of the confederation decreed 1,036 dissolutions of matrimony and 194 temporary separations, being at the rate of 4.74 for every 100 marriages; while the rate per cent. in the grand duchy of Baden is only 0 64, in Wurtemburg 1.71 and in Saxony 2.19. The proportions varies greatly in the different cantons, and, as might be expected, is lower in Roman Catholic than in Protestant districts. In Uri, Oberwalden and Unterwalden divorces appear to be unknown, the rate per cent. in these cantons being; Schwiz, 0.05; Luzerne, 1.50; Freiburg, 1.64, and Zug, 2.07, Glaris it rises to 7.32; in Zurich to 7.08; in Berne to 4 97, and in Geneva to 5.52 per cent. It is a curious fact—and one that may be useful to some future Buckle—that divorced people marry more readily than celibates, the case being in the proportion of about two of the former to one of the latter; that two widows or widowers are married for one divorced person, and four for one celibate. Of 1,000 celibates of the age of 30, 99 marry; of 1,000 divorced men, 248 marry, and 1,000 widows, 430 marry a second time. This is the experience of Switzerland, and from it is drawn the conclusion that, despite the great number of divorce cases in that country, marriage is a happier state than single blessedness, inasmuch as those who have tried it once, even though they may have undergone the unpleasant experience of a suit for dissolution of matrimony, are anxious to try it again.

How Offenbach Improvised a Successful Opera.

(From London Truth.)

Offenbach, who has just scored another great success with his new opera comique, "Madame Favart," although in a line slightly different from his former works, is probably the most prolific composer in existence. His abundance of musical ideas is wonderful, and the following instance of it was once given to me by M. Cantin, one of the authors of his present libretto. The maestro had agreed to write the music of an operetta under the title of "l'Apothicaire et le Perruquier." When called upon to fulfill his promise, however, he did not care much to do so, and the young author had to remind him more than once of the treaty between them. Some coldness ensued, and finally matters came to a hot discussion, which took place in Offenbach's study. "Well, sir, you want your music, do you?" the maestro said at last in a fit of passion. "You shall have it, too, and all at once. Please to sit down there. Here is a newspaper and a cigar for you." He jumped at ruled paper, pen, and ink, and began to write away for an hour or so. Then turning round to his foe: "Here is the music; you can take it away with you and have it played if you like." "You cannot mean it," objected the author, "for the sake of your own fame." "I tell you, sir, you can take it, as you shall have no other." Seeing that he could gain nothing more, the author went away with the manuscript. He took it to some friends, and on examination it was found that there were five or six charming melodies in this musical scribbling—quite enough for a one-act operetta. Offenbach was prevailed upon to revise it, and within a month the work was presented. It proved a complete success.

AUSTRALIA is likely soon to have another cable, to be heavily subdized by the Australian colonies. Government messages will be transmitted at 50 per cent., and press messages at 75 per cent. under the usual rates.

GENERAL.

IN Europe steel and iron rails are now nearly the same price.

A Bremen anti-collisive steamer carries an electric light at the prow while threading "the thousand-masted Thames."

THE forts around Rome, for the protection of the capital, are fairly under way; and new ones, not originally contemplated, are being freely ordered by the War Department.

A NAPLES journal asserts that there are members of the parliament at Rome who literally do not know how to read or write, and that corruption and mediocrity are the characteristics of the entire body.

AUSTRIA has only $200,000,000 worth of paper money afloat on

LISTOWEL STANDARD.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1879.

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL.

Brilliant Opening of the House—The Speech from the Throne a Pointed Document—The Address passes the House without a Vote being taken—Mr. Mackenzie left without a Corporal's Guard—The National Policy forthcoming immediately.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—For the first time in history an English princess has been deputed to add political importance and social dignity to a dependency of the British Empire. The imperial policy which dictated this course was deep and far-seeing. Coterminus with a great people ruled by the principles of the broadest republicanism, revelling in the possession of immense resources, possessing a freedom to our minds bordering on political licentiousness, inclined to absorb all neighboring powers, and unremitting in their efforts to disseminate their Democratic ideas; it became of great importance that these favors so well calculated to produce disintegrating effects on the people of Canada should be kept in subjection by all proper appliances. It was a happy thought which suggested that the daughter of a ruler so wonderfully popular and so deeply beloved as her Majesty would, by her presence and example, form the required barrier against the levelling propensities of our neighbors. The fact that Princess Louise was known to possess the very qualities which have enshrined her great mother in the hearts of her three hundred millions of subjects emphasizes the wisdom of selecting her husband as Governor-General of Canada. When I saw her Royal Highness take her seat this afternoon by the side of his Excellency on the Vice-Regal throne prepared for her, having on her right side his Excellency, and surrounded by the ablest men and most cultivated women of the Dominion, representing its civil and its ecclesiastical dignity, and its social elements and military power, I could not help thinking that a new era had opened in the government of the colonial system of the Empire, and that no step had ever been taken by the Imperial authorities better calculated to strengthen the ties which bind us to the great country beyond the sea. Three thousand miles of intervening space weaken the feelings of love and veneration which should distinguish the people of a colony for the Mother Country. But here we now have the living impersonation of Royalty; here we now see, converse with and enjoy daily personal and intimate relations with the lady whom her Majesty has deputed as her social representative. It was such feelings, no doubt, that moved the thousands who thronged in and about the Parliament buildings when his Excellency the Governor-General and her Royal Highness the Princess Louise entered the stately hall for the purpose of opening the Session.

His Excellency was to open the House at three. At half-past one the main hall of the building was simply impassable; the corridor was crowded to its utmost capacity. The people were swaying backwards and forwards, shouting, pulling, hauling and striving to force their way to the galleries. The police had actually to use their clubs to keep the noisy crowd back. By a good deal of diplomacy I managed to obtain a footing within the sacred precincts of the Senate corridors. Even at this early hour ladies in the fullest of evening dress were pouring in, and the galleries so soon as opened were virtually filled to overflowing. So great was the crush in that part of the chamber that several ladies fainted. Mr. Wilmot, the Speaker, states that notwithstanding the care which had been taken so great was the demand for tickets that he thought double as many had been issued as the Chambers would hold, and the crush proved the truth of his surmise. It is asserted by those who have attended all the openings since Confederation, that never before were there so many distinguished people gathered together in Ottawa, and never before was there so great a crowd in or about Parliament House. In they came, softly stepping on the rich crimson carpeting of this very beautiful part of the building, with their long trains of the richest silk, satin and velvet rustling with a subdued murmur in the deliciously warm atmosphere. By half-past two the floor of the House was crowded, the seats on the sides being set apart for the ladies. Of these there were four rows rising above each other, as in an ampitheatre. The centre of the room, or the floor proper, was kept for the officers of the House, who occupied their seats at the table all in full dress, and the privileged classes, such as the Judges of the Supreme Court, the County Judge, the Sheriff and the clergy of all denominations. By this time all but the Vice-Regal party and the Commons had entered, and a buzz of conversation from at least three thousand people fell pleasantly on the ear. Soon the doors in the rear were thrown open. The Speaker of the Senate rose and called order. In an instant the immense collection of people were as silent as the dead. The Usher of the Black Rod advanced from the corridor in full costume. Following him were the A. D. C's, the Hon. Mr. Harbord and Capt. Harvey leading the way for his Excellency and the Princess, who were followed by the suite, Sir Edmund Selby Smyth, Capt. Smyth (his A. D. C.) and the officers of the Foot Guards. A few minutes previously Lady Sophia Macnamara, the Hon. Mrs. Moreton, Mrs. DeWinton and Miss De Winton had taken their seats on the left of the dais.

The Ministers, headed by Sir John Macdonald, all in rich Windsor uniform, took their places at the right of his Excellency. He and the Princess were shown to their seats by Mr. Kimber amidst breathless silence.

His Excellency and the Princess took their seats. Not a whisper was heard throughout the vast audience; the gentle rustle of silk even had ceased when the Speaker of the House, a fine looking and dignified gentleman, rose and in a clear musical voice directed the Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and command the attention of that Chamber. Mr. Kimber took his way to the Commons Chamber when, after rapping three times at the door, he was admitted and delivered his message. The Sergeant-at-Arms now took up the mace and led the way to the Senate, followed by the Speaker, the clerks and the members who came trooping in. In a few minutes the mace is seen slowly approaching, its bearer evidently having difficulty in forcing his way through the crowd. It reaches the bar when the Speaker, Mr. Blanchet, a very fine looking man by the way, takes his place on a small dais, and bowing to his Excellency, delivers the usual address. The prescribed formula was gone through, when his Excellency and the Princess rising and bowing to the audience left the room.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Honorable gentlemen of the Senate and gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In meeting the Parliament of Canada for the first time I desire to express the gratification I feel at having been selected by Her Majesty for the high and important office which I now fill, and to assure you of the great satisfaction with which I now seek your aid and co operation. In acknowledging with profound gratitude, the reception which has been accorded to myself as Her Majesty's representative, I am also commanded by the Queen to convey through you, the people of Canada, Her thanks for the loyal, generous and kindly manner in which they have welcomed her daughter. The contribution of the Canadian products and manufactures to the great national exhibition at Paris last year attracted much attention, and it is believed will have a beneficial effect on the trade of the Dominion with Europe.

I congratulate you on the success which must in no small degree be attributable to the kind and unceasing exertions of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as President of the British section. The report of the Canadian commissioners will be laid before you when received.

I am pleased to inform you that the amount awarded for the fishery claims, under the Washington treaty, has been paid by the United States, and that Her Majesty's government has arranged with Canada and Newfoundland for their respective shares of the award. The papers on the subject shall be submitted to you.

The important and rapidly increasing trade between Canada and England in live cattle has been seriously threatened by the appearance in various parts of the U. S. of pleuro-pneumonia. In order to prevent the contagion from spreading in Canada, and the consequent interruption of the trade, I have caused an order to be issued under "The Animal Contagious Diseases Act of 1869," prohibiting the importation or introduction into the Dominion of American cattle for a short period. It is hoped that the disease will be ere long extinguished in the U. S. and the necessity for continuing the prohibition removed.

Your attention will be invited to an amendment of the act I have just referred to.

My government has commenced negotiations, with Her Majesty's sanction, for development of the trade of Canada with France and Spain, and with their respective colonies. I hope to be able to lay before you the result of these negotiations during the present session.

It is the purpose of my government to press for the most vigorous prosecution of the Canada Pacific railway, and to meet the reasonable expectations of British Columbia in carrying out this intention due regard must be paid to the financial position of the country.

Communication by rail has been effected between Manitoba and the United States system of railways by the junction at St. Vincent of the Pembina branch of our railway with the St. Paul and Pacific railway. That portion of the main line which extends from English River to Keewatin is now being placed under contract and will be energetically pushed to completion in order to secure as rapidly as possible the connection between Lake Superior and the great north-west.

A bill for the amendment and consolidation of the acts relating to stamps shall be submitted for your consideration, as well as a measure amending the act relating to weights and measures.

The decennial census must be taken in 1881. I think it expedient that a measure for the purpose should be passed during the present session, in order to give ample time for the preparation of all the preliminary arrangements and to ensure the census being taken accurately and inexpensively as possible. In connection with this subject it may be well to consider the propriety of providing some means for the collection and collation of vital, criminal and general statistics.

A bill will be laid before you for the re-arrangement of some of the departments of the government, and also measures relating to the survey and management of the Dominion lands, to the mounted police, and to the post office department, and also for the amendment in some particulars of the laws relating to Indians.

A measure will also be submitted to you for the vesting in Her Majesty for the use of the Dominion of certain ordnance and admiralty lands in the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you at an early day. They have been prepared with as much regard to economy as compatible with the efficiency of the public service. I regret that the receipts into the treasury from ordinary sources continue to be inadequate to meet the charges against the consolidated revenue. You will, I doubt not, agree with me in the opinion that it is not desirable that our finances should longer remain in this condition. By the application of the strictest economy to the public expenditure, and by the re-adjustment of the tariff with the view of increasing the revenue, and at the same time of developing and encouraging the various industries of Canada, you will I trust, be enabled to restore the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, and to aid in removing the commercial and financial depression which unhappily continues to exist.

I have directed that the public accounts of the past financial year shall be laid before you.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

Parliament has recognized the importance of providing for the safe deposit of the surplus earnings of the people by arranging for their being placed with the Government at a fair rate of interest. It may be well for you to consider how far it is practicable to give a like security and encouragement to persons who may desire by an insurance upon their lives to make provision for those dependent upon them.

Your best attention will, I doubt not, be given to the important subjects I have alluded to, and to the general interests of the country.

THE RECEPTION.

The scene in the Parliament grounds in the neighborhood of the main building and in the building itself this evening was a brilliant one. The gas lamps in the grounds were all alight, and the glare they cast around displayed a scene of wondrous activity. Hundreds of sleighs were dashing too and fro, some filled with occupants on their way to the drawing room in the Senate chamber, and others empty, after having discharged their precious freight. Inside the building was another immense crowd, similar to that of the afternoon. Thousands were gathered around the entrance to the Senate chamber, a large majority of whom were in full dress for the presentation. It would perhaps be unfair to say "there was a sound of revelry by night," but certainly the lamps shone bright o'er fair women and brave men—for here again were assembled the wealth, the grace and the chivalry of our fair Dominion. The reception was unquestionably the most magnificent ever seen in Canada. The military officers were clad in their gayest uniforms, while in noble contrast stood Sir John Macdonald, surrounded by his ministers and several of the Lieutenant-Governors in their handsome garb.

THE ADDRESS.

The great event of to day (Monday) in anticipation, at least, was the debate on the Address. It was generally anticipated both by the public and the members on both sides of the House that there would be some show of life. The galleries were thronged with an expectant crowd but the entertainment was a very tame affair indeed, not that the speeches delivered were unattractive, but they were few, and the contest of eloquent declamation did not take place. The Opposition is lamentably weak, but few thought its weakness would be so apparent on what was really the opening day, as it proved to be. The speech of Mr. Brecken, the mover of the Address, was a highly creditable maiden effort, and it was received with marked attention. Mr. Tasse, the seconder of the Address, who spoke in French, judging by the frequent and hearty applause with which he was greeted by the French members, also made an excellent effort. Her Majesty's loyal Opposition was represented by Mr. Mackenzie, but not the Mackenzie of former days. All the old fire appeared to have vanished, and the fierce denunciations of days gone by were not heard to-day. He spoke quietly and temperately, and at no time did he evoke any enthusiasm. His supporters sat as the representative of a lost cause among whom the silence of despair held sway. There was a vast difference when Sir John rose to reply to his old-time foe. There was a burst of applause as the old war horse took the floor, which continued for several moments. Sir John was in one of his happiest moods. His tone was confident, his remarks were pointed and effective, brilliant in repartee, and, withal, kindly to the men who have spent years in trying to drive him from political life, and whose sole object appears to have been to heap odium on the head of the first statesman in the Dominion. Mr. Mackenzie's face showed that he appreciated the change in his position. Mr. Cartwright sported the peculiar sneer for which he is distinguished. Honest Joe Rymal looked as if his faculty for joking had departed for ever. Patterson of South Brant, showed no disposition to roar, while the general expression of the lesser lights of the once powerful party of "Reform" was one of blank resignation to the inevitable. As Sir John resumed his seat there was a final ring of applause, and then all was silent. Everybody looked towards the Opposition benches but there was no one to reply. The ball was over, the usual formal motions were passed, and the address was adopted without a division being taken.

Hon. Mr. Tilley, Minister of Finance, has given notice that the Budget would be brought down to-day (Friday). This means that the fiscal policy of the Government will be announced immediately.

THE PUPLIC ACCOUNTS FOR 1878.

The Public Accounts for 1878 were laid on the table of the House by the Finance Minister yesterday. They are of an unusually interesting character. The total funded and unfunded debt on the 1st July, '78, was $149,587,912.93 as compared with $117,626,107.38 on the 1st July, 1874. The total liabilities of Canada on the 1st July, 1878, were $174,957,268.96 as compared with $141,168,551.33 on the 1st July, 1874. The total interest on the total public debt was on the 1st July, 1878, $7,100,033.17 as compared with $6,122,844.30 on the 1st July, 1874. The average rate of interest on liabilities on the 1st July, 1878, was 4.73 per cent., but this rate has been further reduced by the late negotiations of Mr. Tilley in substituting a 4 per cent. loan for liabilities bearing interest at 6 per cent. The total expenditure on capital account up to the 1st of July, 1878, was $6,657,200.36. The increase of public debt in 1878 was $7,126,760.88. The receipts from Customs in 1878 were $12,782,824.35; from Excise, $4,858,671.63; from Bill Stamps, $200,442.21; from other quarters, $4,533,073.69; total receipts Consolidated fund, $22,375,011.88. The total expenditure as compared with the receipts was $23,503,158.25.

The deficit for the past year, therefore, is $1,128,146.40. Hence Mr. Cartwright's account with the electors of the Dominion stands as follows:

Surplus 1874-5		$ 935,700
Deficit 1875-6	$1,900,700	
Deficit 1876-7	1,460,000	
Deficit 1877-8	1,128,000	
		$4,488,700
Net deficit		$3,553,000

We do not, it will be seen, give Mr. Cartwright the benefit of the surplus which occurred in 1873-4 because inasmuch as he has always washed his hands of the expenditure that year, he has no right to claim the balance over and above that expenditure. From 1874-5 to 1877-8 he was, of course, wholly responsible for the accounts; and the result, as shown above, is certainly not flattering to his ability as a financier. This country did not relieve him of his duties an hour too soon.—*Mail.*

ORANGEISM.

ANNUAL MEETING OF GRAND BLACK CHAPTER.

Guelph, Feb. 18.—A large number of prominent Orangemen of Western Ontario arrived in town yesterday to attend the Provincial Grand Black Chapter and Grand Orange Lodge. The following officers were elected for 1879-80: J T Jones, Toronto, Grand-Master; J. McKenna, Hamilton, Deputy Grand Master; J. Mullock, Parkhill, Deputy Grand Master; Rev Hugh Cooper, Listowel, Grand Chaplin; Rev Alex Sanson, Toronto, Deputy Grand Chaplain; Rev Sylvester Smith, Parkham, Deputy Grand Chaplain; R H Cosbill, Toronto, Grand Registrar; J S Williams, Toronto, Deputy Grand Registrar; J Brownlee, St Catharines, Grand Treasurer; J L Wilson, Petrolia, Deputy Grand Treasurer; J Graham, Toronto, Grand Treasurer; W Partis, Paisley, Assistant Grand Treasurer; T C McEveri, Pickering, Grand Standard Bearer; A F Lustig, Listowel, Grand Standard Bearer; A Robb, Stratford, Grand Censor; Fallis Johnston, Toronto, Grand Censor; J Bryan, London, Grand Pursuivant. Committee—J Barker, Toronto, W Roy, L L B, Barrie, C. Willis, St Mary's, R C Irwin, Streetsville, W Little, Listowel, W Cooper, Petrolia, and James Young. The several committees brought in their reports showing the institution to be in a prosperous condition.

ORANGE GRAND LODGE.

The Orange Grand Lodge was also in session at Guelph this week. About 300 delegates were present, among whom were Rev H Cooper, Grand Chaplain; S S Rothwell, County treasurer, North Perth; W D Coghlin, 677, Elma; James Beaty, 656, Wallace, and others from this neighborhood. On Wednesday morning the Grand Lodge attended service in St. George's church; the sermon was preached by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Cooper, of this town.

DARING ROBBERY IN DAYLIGHT.

A Residence Broken Into, and $2,060 Stolen.

Neustadt, Ont., Feb. 18.—On Sunday forenoon, while the family of Mr. John Wiegand, near Mildmay, were attending divine service, butglars entered the dwelling house and broke open a chest, and took from a cash box $2,060, which sum Mr Wiegand had the previous day received. No trace of the robbers can be yet found, although some parties are suspected. No arrests have been made. This robbery is the largest one ever perpetrated in this neighborhood, and caused quite a sensation. Tramps had better steer clear of this part of the country, as every farmer will be on the *qui vive* after this.

DONEGAL.

It is said that a special Providence watches over small boys and sailors. If this is true the guardian angel of the Donegal youths must have for a time deserted his charge, for the other day, as two boys, aged about twelve years, were wrestling, one of them, a son of Mr. Jas. McNichol, met with a painful accident—the other boy falling across his leg, causing a double fracture of the shin bone. Dr. Rutherford set the limb and he is now doing as well as could be expected. Result—Wrestling at a discount at Donegal school.—Com.

MORNINGTON.

Church Festival.—The congregation of North Mornington Presbyterian church purpose holding their annual soiree on Friday evening next, 28th inst. The following talented speakers have been invited: Revds. P. McFarlane McLeod of Stratford, J. W. Bell of Listowel, J. Boyd of Crosshill, J. E. Croly of Millbank; also James Fisher, T. M. Daly, James Fahey, J. Kilpatrick, D. D. Campbell, Esquires, and others. The musical contribution will be furnished by the choir of the Listowel Presbyterian Church. Tea will be served at seven o'clock. An excellent entertainment may be anticipated.

MOLESWORTH.

Soiree.—A soiree was held at Molesworth in the Presbyterian church on Wednesday evening, 12th inst., and was largely attended. After helping themselves to a rich repast of victuals in Mr. McElveney's shop, the assemblage proceeded to the church, when Mr A G Campbell was appointed to the chair. Addresses were delivered by the following gentlemen: Rev. T J Johnston, pastor of the church; Mr C W Watson of Molesworth, Mr Brown of Wroxeter, and Rev Mr McGregor of Listowel; our worthy chairman also gave an interesting address about old Scotland. Splendid music from the choir added much to the pleasure of the evening. The sum of $49.85 was realised. There were sufficient edibles for a social on Friday night following, at which there was a large attendance, considering the weather. Several speakers were present. The social netted $6.—Com.

MILLBANK.

The usual annual missionary services in connection with Grace Chuch, were held last Friday evening, when an able and interesting address on the state, progress and importance of the mission work, home and foreign, was delivered by Rev. H. Cooper, of Listowel, one of the deputation appointed for this portion of the diocese. The unfavorable weather caused the attendance to be much smaller than otherwise would have been, but those present seemed to take a commendable interest in the cause.

WALLACE.

This seems to be a remarkable time for colds; nearly everyone is complaining, and different families in the neighborhood have been obliged to call in the services of a doctor.

Social.—A social in connection with the S. S. in section No 6 was held in Zion church on Friday, 14th inst. As the day was excessively severe it was thought there would be a poor turn out, but contrary to expectations the house was filled to overflowing. Being St. Valenine's Day it was decided that the young ladies should bring valentines, which were put in a bag and the gents had the privilege of drawing, and thus securing a partner for the rest of the evening. The edibles were provided by the ladies of the section and were apparently just such as those present relished, as they rapidly disappeared on being passed round. When this part of the programme had been dispensed with, Mr. A. Allan was called to the chair, a position which he is eminently suited to fill. The entertainment consisted of dialogues and recitations. The choir under the leadership of Miss Allen, gave a number of choice pieces, which added much to the enjoyment of the evening. At the close a beautiful story cake, the gift of Miss M. A. Brand and Miss Creighton, was contested between Miss Robb and Miss Johnston. It was won by the latter by a majority of three votes. After the usual votes of thanks had been given the meeting dispersed, well satisfied with the result of the social. The proceeds amounted to $23.25.—Com.

Council.—The municipal Council of the township of Wallace met at the Dominion hotel, Gowanstown, on the 15th inst, pursuant to adjournment. All the members present, the Reeve in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Communications from McIlwraith & Austin, bill for road scrapers, $40.50; J. M. & A. Climie, lumber, $5.19; Schaefer & Witzel, hemlock plank, $8.19; Edwards Bros., hemlock lumber, $4.19. Thos Speers moved, seconded by John Willoughby, that the account of Schaefer & Witzel, $8.19, be paid, and the Reeve issue an order—carried. John Mills moved, seconded by Wm Ferguson, that Ferguson & Elliott be paid $14 for printing and publishing, and the Reeve issue an order—carried. John Willoughby moved, seconded by Thos Speers, that Edwards Bros. be paid $4.19 for lumber furnished for bridge—carried. John Mills moved, seconded by Thos Speers, that Wm McKee be paid $13 for repairing a bridge on the 8th concession—carried. Thos Speers moved, seconded by John Willoughby, that James Bishop be paid $1.45 for gravel, and the Reeve issue an order—carried. Wm Ferguson moved, seconded by John Mills, that Thos McGaffin be paid $96 for crossway and covering 64 rods on sideroad 42 and 43, concessions 3 and 4—carried. Thos Speers moved, seconded by John Mills, that Matthew Poole be paid $3 for 60 yards of gravel, and the Reeve issue an order—carried. John Willoughby moved, seconded by Thos Speers, that the Council extend the time for the return of the Collector's Roll until the 1st of March next, and that the Roll be then returned—carried. Council then adjourned to the 15th March. R. G. Roberts, Clerk.

GREY.

Council.—Council met at Tuck's hotel, Cranbrook, members all present, Reeve in the chair; minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Duncan Campbell applied for aid to go to the Toronto Infirmary, he and family being in indigent circumstances; on motion $30 was granted to enable said Campbell to go to the Infirmary. Petition of John Stewart and 38 others, asking aid to send Allan McQuarrie, an indigent and epileptic person, to Cape Breton, the residence of his father—petition granted; Reeve to pay said indigent's passage. The taxes of widows Wilton and Steele were refunded. Ed. Garrow's dog tax refunded. In the matter of L McNeil's application for an East road, it was moved by John Hislop, seconded by S Slemmon, that lot 19, con. 15, be detached from S S No. 7 and added to S S No. 8, and that lot 17, con. 14, be detached from S S No. 8 and added to S S No. 7—carried. Application of Alex Stewart at last meeting re change in s sections—no action taken, as Council contemplates having road repaired. Application of John Stewart and Alex Stewart to be detached from S S No 8 and added to S S No 2—Trustees to be notified to attend at next meeting of Council. In the matter of application of John Smalldon re injuries sustained by his wife—Messrs. Keffer and Slemmon reported that having investigated the circumstances, they find that the road was considered out of repair and somewhat dangerous, but by careful driving an accident might have been avoided, but as Mrs Smalldon's injuries had disabled her some compensation should be made. John Hislop moved, seconded by Walter Oliver, that the sum of $50 be paid to John Smalldon in full compensation for injuries received by his wife in falling out of a wagon at lot 15, con 9, through bad repair of road—carried. The collector's time was extended to 25th inst. Accounts paid: James Lynn, repairing scraper, $1.50; Donald McLauchlan, collectors salary, $80; Jas Forsythe, work on gravel roads, $10. Council then adjourned to meet again at Dames' hotel, Cranbrook, on the 22nd prox., for the appointment of pathmasters, &c., and transaction of general business.

A. Hunter, Tp Clerk.

MARYBOROUGH.

Council.—Pursuant to adjournment, the Council met this day (February 10th, 1879,) in Terrill's hotel, Moorefield; all the members present. The minutes of previous meeting having been read were approved and adopted. The minutes of a meeting of Trustees and other ratepayers (residents of school sections Nos. 6, 7, 10 and 14,) held in the village of Rothsay, in regard to the suit entered in the Division Court by the corporation of Maryborough vs. the Trustees of school section No. 15, for the purpose of compelling the Trustees of said section to refund school taxes, said to have been illegally collected by them, were read by the Clerk. The result of the meeting was a resolution, in the form of a petition, presented to the council, praying them to have the suit withdrawn. The members of the Council having expressed their views in the matter at considerable length, it was moved by Wm Long and seconded by John Robinson, that this Council cannot entertain the request of the Trustees of school sections Nos. 6, 7, 10 and 14—carried, Messrs. Corbet and Ogden voting against the motion. Wm Long moved, seconded by John Robinson, that Geo Funstead be allowed to remove the timber (for his own use only) from off the sideroad between lots 12 and 13, in the 1st and 2nd cons.—carried. Orders were drawn on the Treasurer for the following amounts, in favor of the parties respectively named: Chas Mannell, for three days' work on centre side road, $3; Wm Loughran, for overpaid taxes refunded, $1.70; Frederick Wolf, for repairing Moorefield bridge, by order of the Council of 1878, $10; Alex Preston, for repairing Hollen bridge, $1.50; Thos Boothe, on account of taxes overpaid in the year 1877, $4; John Law, as taxes overpaid in the year 1877, $2.40; Mrs. Drury, arrears of taxes charged against lots in Moorefield village, $2.76; James Kyle, for charity to an indigent family living on the 8th concession, $5; in favor of the Reeve, for redeeming Wm Rennie's land on the 15th con. wrongfully sold for arrears of taxes, $84; in favor of Edward Dynes, for the following sums: Balance of salary for the year 1878, $35; registration of births, marriages and deaths, $12.20; telegraphing connected with municipal elections, as shown in account rendered by Crittenden & Jamieson, $2.59; drawing deed of Geo Kidney's property, conveyed to the corporation of the county of Wellington, and map adhibited to the same, $3; for express charges on parcels, $1.10; Jno D Johnson, for digging a ditch on the 8th con, $5; Jas Robb, taxes refunded on storehouse built on the land owned by the Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway Company, $3.40. Wm Long moved, seconded by John Robinson, that the Clerk be instructed to procure a map of the village of Hollen for the use of the assessor—carried. John Corbet moved, seconded by Alexander Maxwell, that the Reeve be instructed by this Council to settle the case now pending in the Division Court between this municipality and the Trustees of school section No. 15—carried, Messrs. Robinson and Long voting against the motion. Council adjourned to meet again in the British hotel, Moorefield, on the last Monday in February.

Edward Dynes, Tp Clerk.

F. Chaplix has a large stock of choice hams and breakfast bacon at his Pork House on Main street. He also deals in pure leaf lard, beautifully rendered, sweet, and cheap.

Glass, Glass.—I have just received spring stock of window glass, all sizes, which will be offered at very low prices. Call and see. J. A. Hacking.—21

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The repeal of the Dunkin By-law has been carried in Northumberland and Durham by 1,046.

Chesley is to submit a by law shortly granting $10,000 to the Stratford and Huron railway.

It is probable that Lord Napier of Magdala will be given the command of the Zulu Expedition.

It is reported that pleuro-pneumonia is spreading among the cattle in North and East Yorkshire.

The Cattle Disease.—New York, Feb. 18.—The *World* reports the cattle disease as spreading along the Hudson River.

John McDonald, of Elora, is to get $190 for performing the combined duties of assessor, collector, and constable for 1879.

O'Kelly, the last of the Fenian prisoners, was discharged from prison on Spike Island on Friday, and immediately left for New York.

A missionary and forty tons of cartridges arrived in South Africa lately by the same ship. Those savages have got to be Christianized.

The recent magnificent Conservative victory in Charlevoix points powerfully to the great Reform reaction—on its march to the deep, deep sea.

It is expected the Pacific Railway contract for the portion of the line between Thunder Bay and Fort Garry will be awarded during the present week.

Guelph, Feb. 18.—John Grey, of Moorefield, has been arrested on a charge of taking away the boiler lately seized by Collector McLean at at illicit distillery.

Despite all efforts to the contrary, small-pox continues spreading at Albert, P E I, and the residents of that place are much alarmed for fear the infection may become general.

It is said that Lord Dufferin has telegraphed to Ottawa for the sleighs and other trappings remaining unsold at the sale of his effects last summer, to be forwarded to St. Petersburg at once.

Centre Wellington.—The Court of Queen's Bench will not deliver judgment in the Centre Wellington election case until March 8. The seat will therefore be vacant until that date if not longer.

A by-law was submitted to the electors of Waterloo Friday for the purpose of ascertaining their views as to the propriety of granting a loan of $2,000 to a button factory. The by-law was defeated by forty-two votes.

English Scull Championship.—A boat race for £400 and the championship of Great Britain, between Higgins and Elliott, took place at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Monday, resulting in a victory for Elliott, who beat Higgins by about three lengths.

The Ministry have received a communication from the French Government, announcing that the propositions made by Canada for reciprocal trade between the two countries have been received with approval. The negotiations are regarded as highly satisfactory, but details have not been given yet.

Definitive Treaty Ratified.—The official manifesto has been issued announcing that the Czar has ratified the definitive treaty of peice with Turkey, and that orders consequently have been given the troops to return home. The manifesto closed with thanks to God for Russia's glorious victories.

Toronto *Mail:* When the indemnity is reached in supply in the Legislature, will those members who recently voted against the decrease, and declared they would not accept less, stultify themselves and consent to the vote? Now, Messrs Robinson, Deroche, Hay, *et al*, assert your boasted independence.

Died of Grief.—Mrs. Davis, residing in East Zorra, died on the 12th inst., at the advanced age of 91 years. Her sister, a Mrs. Smith, 85 years of age, also of East Zorra, hearing of her death, was so overwhelmed with grief that she herself expired in a few hours afterwards. The sad event shows the great affection that existed between the two sisters, both of whom were highly respected in the neighborhood.

The Credit Valley Railway Company are reported to have completed arrangements for the advances required to complete their road. The company has ordered a first class iron bridge from a firm in Montreal for the crossing of the Grand River at Galt, to be finished by the first of September, and it is understood the railway will be finished from Toronto to Ingersoll and Elora before the close of this year.

Elmira.—A new lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows was instituted here recently by D. D. G. M. Bro. A. Bowman, and other officers of Waterloo Lodge. Brother Jaffray, P. G., Berlin, acted as installing officer and installed the following members elect: Bro. Minkler, N. G.; Bro. Dr. Wamsly, V. G.; Bro. Cressman, R. Sec.; Bro. Dunkie, P. Sec.; Bro. Levan, Treas. The new lodge will be known as "Elmira Lodge No. 212."

Square up.—This is the imperative duty of the hour—not only with the man who owes the printer, but with every man who owes anybody. And it is a duty that should be discharged just at this particular season. We say on behalf of business men of all classes—square up! Dont let that old account run any longer. Get it off your own mind and the mind of your creditor at once. It will be a relief to both. Not only so, but it will help to make better times, for if everybody had his own in this world bad times would soon disappear. Square up!

Furs selling at cost, at Bean & Gee's.

The Enterprise Sad Irons, patented by Mrs. Potts, are the best, cheapest, most perfect and practicable ever invented. They have a cold detachable handle made of polished walnut, which does not burn the hand. For sale at S. Bricker & Co. hardware.—46.

Dress Goods! Dress Goods! In end less variety, and at the very lowest price, at Climie, Hay & Co.

For a fashionable hat go to D. D. Campbell's store on Wallace street, the leading business street.

Come along with your money and get stoves at your own prices for the next thirty days. Smith Bros.—Schneider's old stand.

First-class chopping axes, only 75cts, at S. Bricker & Co's new hardware.

LISTOWEL MARKETS.

February 20, 1879.	
Wheat, fall, per bush.,	$0 85 to 0 90
Spring Wheat, "	0 75 0 80
Barley, "	0 35 0 40
Peas, "	0 50 0 55
Oats, "	0 25 0 30
Flour, per cwt.,	2 00 2 25
Oatmeal, "	2 25 2 50
Cornmeal, "	1 75 2 00
Butter, per lb.,	0 09 0 13
Eggs, per dozen,	0 00 0 15
Pork, per cwt.,	4 50 5 00
Beef, per cwt.,	4 00 5 00
Geese,	0 25 0 35
Ducks, per pair,	0 25 0 40
Chickens, per pair,	0 20 0 30
Turkeys, each,	0 40 1 00
Potatoes, per bag,	0 45 0 55
Apples, per bag,	0 70 0 80
Hay, per ton,	7 00 9 00
Wood, per cord, long,	1 50 1 75
Wood, " short,	0 75 1 00
Hides, per cwt.,	5 50 6 00
Sheepskins, each,	0 40 0 80
Wool, per lb,	0 00 0 00

STRATFORD MARKETS.

February 20, 1829.	
Wheat, fall, per bush.,	0 85 to 0 87
Wheat, spring, "	0 75 0 80
Barley, "	0 40 0 55
Peas, "	0 57 0 62
Oats, "	0 29 0 30
Flour, per brl	4 00 4 50
Potatoes, per bag,	0 75 0 80
Butter, per lb.,	0 14 0 15
Eggs, per dozen,	0 15 0 16
Hides, per cwt.,	0 00 6 07
Hogs,	4 50 5 00
Hay, per ton,	6 00 7 50
Wool,	0 00 0 00

TORONTO MARKETS.
PRICES AT FARMERS' WAGONS.

February 20, 1879.	
Wheat, fall, per bush.,	$0 85 to 0 96
Wheat, spring, "	0 75 0 86
Barley, "	0 40 0 84
Oats, "	0 30 0 32
Peas, "	0 55 0 61
Rye, "	0 50 0 50
Dressed hogs, per 100 lbs.,	5 50 6 00
Beef, hind qrs, "	5 50 6 50
Mutton, by carcase "	5 00 5 50
Butter, lb. rolls,	0 18 0 20
Butter, large rolls,	0 00 0 00
Butter, tub, dairy,	0 13 0 15
Eggs, fresh, per dozen,	0 25 0 28
Potatoes, per bag,	1 00 0 00
Hay, per ton,	7 00 12 00

Guelph.—The *Herald* tells the following story: "Wednesday there occurred an event at the G. T. R. passenger station here, which demonstrates the strength and endurance of true love. A young fellow living up north, loved a maiden who lived in the far west. By correspondence their mutual desire to be united in the holy bonds of matrimony got to such a high pitch that they determined to meet at Guelph and have the ceremony preformed. He came from the north, she came from the west, and the divergent points of their lives terminated at the G. T. R. passenger station, Wednesday. After an affecting and osculatory meeting, an up-country clergyman was produced, and then and there on the platform they were hitched for life.

Parties owing me small accounts will take this as a notice to call and pay up, and save costs. J. A. Hacking.

Don't forget to call on D. D. Campbell in his new shop next door to Scott's bank, wallace street.

Agency.—Mr. John Page has been appointed as agent for the Galt Nursery for Listowel and vicinity, and all orders sent in, and all moneys paid to him for trees, shrubs, &c., will be acknowledged by us. D. Caldwell & Son, Galt. 29c

Coal oil, 20 cts.; 5 gallons 90 cts.; medium sized crimp top chimnies, 5 cents; good burners, 10 cts., at Hacking's drug store.

Paints, Oils and Colors.—For the largest stock, best material and lowest prices at Hacking's Drug Store.—21

Thorley's food increases the flow of milk in cows. Try it; at Hacking's.

A splendid line of Flannels at less than cost, at Bean & Gee's.

If you want a good cup of tea buy your tea from D. D. Campbell, Wallace street.

Prints! Prints!—Over 300 pieces to select from at Climie, Hay & Co's.

At Climie, Hay & Co., you will find their stock of gents' furnishings complete.

A full line of Skates, at rock bottom prices, at S. Bricker & Co's new hardware.

Remember that D. D. Campbell has moved from Main street to Wallace St., where he is selling goods cheaper than ever.

Coal Oil.—Go to S. Bricker & Co's for your coal oil, 20 cents per gallon.

A large variety of mottoes, also motto frames, very cheap, at Dr. Michener's book and drug store.

Woollen Scarfs and Clouds at cost, at Bean & Gee's.

For boots and shoes, ready-made clothing, and suits made to order, go to D. D. Campbell, next door to Scott's bank, wallace street.

FENNELL & DINGMAN,

BARRISTERS,

Attorneys, Solicitors, &c. Offices—Over Messrs. Climie, Hay & Co.'s store, Main Street, Listowel.

T. E. Fennell. D. B. Dingman.

SMITH & GEARING, BARRISTERS, Attorneys, Solicitors, &c. Office opposite Grand Central Hotel, Listowel, Ont.

R. Smith. J. Grayson Smith.
F. W. Gearing. 1-6y

J. H. MICHENER, M. D., Physician Surgeon and Accoucheur. Office at his Drug Store, Osborne's block, Main Street, Listowel. Residence—that lately occupied by Mr. D. M. Gordon, Main St. east. 23

DRS. DILLABOUGH & DINGMAN,

PHYSICIANS, &C.

Offices: Over Livingstone's drug store. Dr. Dillabough's residence, corner Main and Livingstone streets. Dr. Dingman, Main street east, opposite the late residence of Mr. Donald Gordon. 20

W. M. BRUCE,

SURGEON DENTIST,

late of Toronto. Graduate of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons. Office—Over Bean & Gee's Store, Main street, Listowel.

Teeth extracte without pain by the use of Nitrous-Oxide Gas. 15

THOS. F

LISTOWEL STANDARD.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1879.

TOWN AND COUNTRY.

THE lenten season begins on the 26th inst., which will be Ash Wednesday.

AN adjourned meeting of the town Council will be held on Monday next at the Council chamber.

RE-LEASED.— John C. Henry, of the Queen's hotel, Gowanstown, has re-leased the same for another year.

LICENSES.—The Stratford town Council have resolved to increase the hotel licences in that town from $125 to $150.

T. C. PATTESON, late proprietor of the *Mail*, has been appointed to the postmastership of the Toronto post office.

BEAR in mind the temperance entertainment that is to take place on Monday evening next in the new temperance hall in the Masonic block.

MR. JACOB LARGE was the purchaser of the grocery and provision stock of Mr. Donald Brown, insolvent. The stock realised 80 cts. on the dollar.

SPRING ASSIZES.—The Spring Assize Court is appointed to be held at Stratford, on Monday, 10th prox., before the Chief Justice of Common Pleas.

SPRING EXHIBITION.—The spring exhibition of seed grain and potatoes, of the North Perth Agr'l Society, will take place at Stratford on Thursday next, 27th inst.

ARM BROKEN.—On Friday of last week, while Mr. George Holmes, who resides in Wallace, was engaged in chopping in the woods, a limb fell from a tree breaking his arm.

Go to Winter's new grocery, two doors east of the Grand Central Hotel, for fresh oysters, at Baltimore prices. XXX oysters 15 cts.; Tower's 20cts.; Prime 25 cts., and N. B. 30 cts. Tub oysters only 35 cts. per quart.

COMING AGAIN.—The celebrated Sheppard Jubilee Singers will give an entertainment in Osborne's Hall under the auspices of the C. M. Church on Friday evening, 28th Feb. Doors open at 7.30, to commence at 8 o'clock.

EXCHANGED PULPITS— Last Sunday Rev. Mr. Cooper of Christ Church exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Caswell of Millbank. The latter gentleman conducted both morning and evening service here, preaching an excellent sermon on each occasion.

JOSEPH HARRIS, seedsman, "Moreton Farm," Rochester, N. Y., has issued a descriptive catalogue of field, garden and flower seeds, a copy of which has reached us. It contains the usual information to be found in such publications, and is illustrated with numerous cuts of vegetables, flowers, etc.

New patent medicines, King's new Discovery and Strong's Lung Syrup, for colds and consumption; Hamburg Root Oil and Carboline, for the hair; Indian Blood Syrup, Allan's Anti-fat, St. Jacob's Oil, Sandford's Sage and Constitutional Catarrh remedies, at hard pan prices, at Hacking's drug store.

PROFESSOR HILLYER.—This celebrated magician is billed to give one of his marvellous exhibitions in the Osborne Hall on Thursday evening next, 27th inst. From the flattering opinions of the press, a magical and mirthful entertainment of a high order may be expected. The price of admission is only 15 cents.

AUCTION SALES.—On Wednesday next, 26th inst., the farm stock and implements of Mr. Robt. Mills, lot 29, 8th con. of Elma, will be disposed of by auction. T. E. Hay, Auctioneer.

On Friday, 28th inst., the farm property of Mrs Jacob Reech, lot 8, 14th con. of Elma, will be sold by public auction. R. L. Alexander, Auctioneer.

THE property on Main street in this town belonging to Messrs. Watt of Brantford, was put up at auction on Tuesday last, but was bid in at $45 per foot. Just at the present time there is a feeling in town, which may be partially wa rantable, against speculating in property of high values, and this no doubt had something to do with the scarcity of bidders at the sale.

TEACHERS' CONVENTION.—The teachers of North Perth meet in the Listowel Central School to-day and to morrow to discuss educational matters. An entertainment in connection with the teachers' association will take place this evening in the Osborne Hall, which will partake of a literary and musical nature. We understand that a Glee club is to be present. The public are invited to attend.

I. O. G. T.—A musical and literary entertainment, under the auspices of the above order, will be given in the Caledonian Society's room, on Monday evening, 24th inst., the templars having secured the above rooms for their meetings. An efficient staff of singers are in preparation; readings and recitations are also expected. A cordial invitation is extended to all. No admission fee will be charged.

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—Conservatives throughout the Riding will please bear in mind the annual meeting of the North Perth Association which takes place at Gibson's Commercial hall tomorrow (Saturday) at 1 o'clock. A special train will be provided by the Stratford & Huron Railway to convey those who attend from points along the line back again. The train will leave Listowel station at 5 p.m.

WEST WARD TO THE FRONT.—Mr. P. Collison has kindly consented to furnish a want that has been long felt in the West Ward, by building a large hall for the accommodation of ratepayers and the public in general, for the purpose of holding public meetings. The public will have the use of the hall *gratis*. May his shadow never grow less.

A RATEPAYER."

LICENSE COMMISSIONERS AND INSPECTORS.—The following appointments have been made under the provisions of the Crooks License Act: Perth (North Riding.)—Commissioners—William Mowat, Jacob Kollman, William Smith Bolger. Inspector, George S. Climie. South Riding.—Commissioners—Patrick Whelihan, Registrar of the county, Hugh Campbell, William N. Ford. Inspector—John Coppin.

COUNTY L. O. L.—The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the County Orange Lodge of North Perth recently held at Palmerston: C M, Bro. R L Alexanner; D C M, Bro Wm Little; Chaplain, Bro. Thos. Miller; Treasurer, Bro. S S Rothwell; Secretary, Bro. James W Magwood; D C, Bro. Wm Waugh; L C, Bro. James Carson. Next year the lodge will meet in Listowel, on the first Tuesday in February.

PITCH-HOLES.—The pitch holes in the gravel road to Listowel are being promptly attended to by our Council. That portion within the corporation of the town is in rather a bad state, and unless the vigilant officials look to it at once the consequences may be serious. Some two weeks ago Mr. Edward Brand, farmer of Wallace, was thrown from his sleigh into a pitch hole and seriously injured. He has not yet recovered.

MR. EDITOR.—Has your cotem. of the *Banner* thrown up the sponge, or is he so much engaged in curling lately that he cannot devote a minute space of his paper to the news of the day? Have the politics of the Ontario Parliament become so distasteful thy past week that he ignores its doings entirely? Does *Orange* peel feel better in his mouth, or what is the matter. Hoping that this will resuscitate him and cause the prickles to stand once more, I remain, PASQUIN.

RIGOROUS WEATHER.—Another "cold dip" set in on Thursday of last week. It was accompanied with the usual storm which blocked the railways and retarded travel generally. Trains on the P. D. & L. H. R. were several days in reaching here; the G. W. R. also suffered from the effects of the storm, and caused a disarangement of the mails. The frequency of snow blockades this winter is somewhat remarkable, and the actual loss which they have entailed, especially upon the railways of the Province, must amount in the aggregate to an enormous sum. No one in this latitude will be apt to dispute the "genuineness" of the winter of 1878-79.

GRAVELING.—A considerable section of Main street has received a good coating of gravel within the past ten days. When labor is cheap and pits are accessible, graveling in winter can be done to advantage. The system being adopted in town is to first clear the road bed of snow and ice, then place the gravel in the excavated trench, afterwards covering it with the material removed. We would judge that by the time spring opens the gravel will have become cemented into a hard and well formed road bed.

BRUCE'S SEED CATALOGUE.—Our thanks are due to Messrs. John A. Bruce & Co., of Hamilton, Ont., for a copy of their elegantly illustrated and descriptive Seed Catalogue for 1879. The present number is the 28th annual catalogue that these gentlemen have issued, and we can congratulate them on presenting to the public such an amount of useful information as their latest edition contains. In order to ascertain the variety of seeds which Messrs. Bruce & Co. are dealers in, a copy of their catalogue should be procured. They are mailed free on application.

P. O. REMOVAL.— The Listowel post-office has again been removed. It is now located on the south side of Main street and about a hundred yards east of the Grand Central hotel. Its new position may be a slight improvement on the old one, but it is a matter of regret that a more central location was not available. We are inclined to the belief that were the large community which is served through the Listowel post-office to urge upon the Department the necessity of better postal accommodation that at least an adequate rental allowance would be granted to provide an office commensurate with the requirements and importance of the town.

ANOTHER Railway deputation. This time it is the Toronto, Grey & Bruce that is applying for Government pap. The Company want $250,000 from the Provincial chest to aid them in widening the gauge of their line from 3 feet, 8 inches, to 4 feet, 8½ inches, the standard gauge of the country. The Attorney-General gave the deputation to understand that he was favorably disposed towards aiding that road, but—election day is too near at hand to do anything just now, you know. Reinstate me and my Government, and then we will see what can be done for you. And the deputation withdrew.

ROBIN'S POLITICAL CHART.—Mr. Wm. Clayton of this town has been appointed agent for the sale of Robin's political chart in this neighborhood. This chart presents the political complexion of the Dominion after the general election in 1874, and again after the memorable 17th of September, 1878. The constituencies are colored—blue designating the Conservative, and red the Reform. By a glance at the chart the wondrous change of political sentiment in the short space of five years may be comprehended. To those desirous of preserving a memento of that which must form an important chapter in the country's history, we would recommend the procuring of a chart. Price $1.

LAST CHANCE.—As Mr. L. S. Zoeger is compelled to leave town in a few days, he finds it necessary to bring his business to a close almost immediately. He therefore is offering the balance of his stock, which contains a fine assortment of watches, clocks, jewellery, musical instruments, etc., at greatly reduced prices. If any one wishes to invest in a first-class chronometer or in jewellery of any quality and description, now is the time to do so while these articles can be obtained at about one-half the usual prices asked for such goods. Mr. Zoeger is also anxious to dispose of his fine residence and grounds, on Main street. Persons contemplating purchasing should call on him at once.

DEATH OF REV. S. R. MAGAHY.—We regret to record the death of the Rev. Samuel R. Magahy, late incumbent of the Episcopal Church in Hanover and Chesley, which took place at the residence of his brother, Rev. T. W. Magahy, in Lucan, on Sunday night last. His brother is well known in this town, having labored here for some time. Deceased was a native of the county of Monaghan, Ireland, and was born August 15th, 1852, thus passing away before he was twenty-seven years old. He studied in Hollmuth College, London, and by too close application to his studies impaired his health to such an extent that last summer a bleeding of the lungs set in, from which he never rallied.

BAND CONCERT.—We understand that it is the intention of the town Band to give a promenade concert for the benefit of the poor of the town sometime next month. Our excellent band has always been generous in providing musical entertainment for all in town, without distinction. The forthcoming charity concert will be conducted on the same principle, only with a slight difference—the band volunteers its services, the townspeople will have the privilege of contributing a small entrance fee, and the poor will receive the benefit. As the object is praiseworthy and the method decidedly pleasing, there should be no difficulty in obtaining a very large audience. Further particulars will be given in a future issue.

LISTOWEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.—Result of an examination on History held in the senior department of Listowel Public School on last Friday evening; maximum 100:

Richard Lillico,	83	P Brown,	58
W A Rothwell,	83	A Wilcott,	58
Wm Kay,	79	R Climie,	53
W Osborne,	75	M Tolman,	51
A Vellie,	75	H Whitfield,	48
E Martin,	73	L Hay,	47
R Robertson,	73	Clara Kells,	45
F Ferguson,	72	W Hay,	45
J Cartmell,	71	W Climie,	43
E Hess,	71	R Bird,	40
M McPherson,	71	L Dodd,	40
J Robertson,	71	E Tilt,	40
E Poole,	69	W Culbert,	39
T Watson,	69	B Armstrong,	38
Jno Nichol,	69	P Watson,	31
Geo Morsolf,	68	L Bognes,	28
C Sarvis,	67	A Forbes,	28
A Dewar,	65	F Michener,	25
S Reid,	65	Jos Large,	23
Jos Robinson,	65	Jno Green,	19
Wm Freir,	63		

RECOVERED.— Mr. B. Faulkner, who had his horses stolen from the shed at Carthage two weeks ago, succeeded in the latter part of last week in recovering his property after much trouble and expense. It appears that the thief, who gave his name as Wilson, had on the same evening taken a horse from a widow woman near Dorking, and coming to Carthage, also appropriated Mr. F.'s horses, and then drove as fast as possible to Fullarton, where he traded off two of the animals. He then made for London, where he sold the balance of his booty. Here Mr. F.'s telegrams had preceded him, and the property was taken in charge by the Police, who allowed the criminal to escape. After more than a week's hunt, Mr. F. succeeded in recovering all his lost property, except his overcoat. The whole affair cost him over seventy dollars.

LISTOWEL FIRE BRIGADE.—The annual meeting of the Listowed Fire Brigade was held on Friday evening last in the new firemen's hall on Mill street, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chief, B. F. Brook; assistant chief, Henry Goddard; Treasurer, Thos. E. Hay; Secretary, Albert Robinson; Captain, W. T. Stewart; 1st Lieut., W. H. Dunham; 2nd Lieut., H. Steele; 3rd Lieut., John McConnell; Engineer, A. Austin; 1st assistant Engineer, J. M. Climie, sr.; 2nd assistant Engineer, J. M. Climie, jr. A vote of thanks was tendered to the retiring Chief, Mr. T. E. Hay, for his valuable assistance to the brigade. The following gentlemen were appointed Branchmen: W Bond, H. T. Thrift, J. W. Gray, F. Wolfe, R. Climie, jr.; T. E. Pethrick. In answer to a communication from Mr. A. Block, of Orillia, the Secretary was instructed to inform that gentleman of the strength of the Listowel Brigade, also that the Brigade is favorable to the formation of a Firemen's Mutual Benefit Association for Ontario. It was resolved to adjourn aud call a special meeting for this (Friday) evening, when the advisability of forming a hook and ladder company in connection with the Brigade, and other important business will be discussed. A full attendance of members is desired.

P. D. & L. H. RY. MEETING.—The annual meeting of the P. D. & L. H. Ry. Co. was held at Woodstock on Tuesday last, and attended by over three hundred share and londholders. The Treasurer's report for 1878 showed an increase in revenue of $28,056.58 over 1877. The General Manager's report stated, amongst other things, that the road-bed had been put in a good condition during the last year, and that the equipment of the road had been satisfactorily completed. Hopes were also expressed that a much larger and lucrative business would be done during the present year. The following gentlemen were nominated and elected Directors for the ensuing year, viz:—Col. Tisdale and John Jackson, of Simcoe; Gilbert Moore and Dr. Cook, of Norwich; Henry Parker and T. J. Clarke, of Woodstock, and S. S. Fuller, of Stratford. At a subsequent meeting of the newly-elected Directors, Col. Tisdale was re-elected President, and H. Parker Vice-President.

AN OBLIGING RAILWAY.—On Thursday morning of last week the regular down train from Kincardine had to be cancelled on account of the storm. There were five passengers waiting at the Listowel station to be conveyed eastward. They were very anxious to proceed, but as their train had been cancelled, they considered their prospects slim indeed, and so they would have been had not the always obliging station agent, Mr. Little, been even more accommodating on the present occasion than the most obliging agent is wont to be. Reporting the state of affairs to the officials at Palmerston, a special train was obtained, and in a very short time the five passengers from Listowel were going on their way, rejoicing at their good fortune and calling down benisons on the head of the worthy agent of this great railway corporation. Actions like the above speak for themselves. The Great Western Railway Company are not likely to lose anything by thus generously accommodating even such a small portion of the public.

SLEIGHING PARTY.—On Wednesday evening last a number of ladies and gentlemen, consisting of about twelve couples of the elite of the town, left here in three large handsome pleasure sleighs for Harriston. Starting from the residence of D. D. Campbell, Esq., about 7 p.m., with bright, happy faces, they seemed on pleasure bent and determined to enjoy themselves, in spite of the stormy weather. They reached Harriston about 10 p.m., where they were met by a number of ladies and gentlemen of Harriston, and after exchanging greetings, all repaired to the ball room, and at once commenced to "tip the light fantastic." At one o'clook mine host, John Collison, seated over twenty couples before tables groaning with the weight of the splendid supper that he had prepared for his guests. Full justice having been done to the ample viands by the merry gathering, dancing was resumed and kept up until the "sma' hours of the morn," after which the sleighs formed line, and one after another bore off their freight of youth and beauty homeward bound. We are creditbly informed that no damage was sustained except such as was incurred from flashes of bright eyes and gentle pressures from delicate hands. All enjoyed themselves thoroughly and speak very highly of Mr. Collison and the welcome they received from the Harristonians.

A MUSICAL TREAT.—On Tuesday evening next the celebrated Cantata of the "Haymakers" will be rendered in the Osborne Hall. We have already presented our readers with an outline of this magnificent musical production. It only remains to state that all the preliminary arrangements are completed in a manner which portends a most successful rendition of it upon the stage of the Osborne Hall. Professor Tanney and Mr. Holmes have been unremitting in their efforts to prepare a large class of singers and performers to take the numerous parts in the Cantata. They have secured the best local talent available, and now that the class has been in training for several weeks, nothing short of a complete success is to be anticipated. We would advise our friends from the country to come in and enjoy an evening's entertainment such as is their very rare privilege. The title of the Cantata—the Haymakers—suggests rural life. When coupled with the romance of song and mirth and praise, a halo gathers round farm life which makes it altogether enchanting. The rendition of the Cantata will occupy about two hours and a half, during which the toilers of the farm in their varied garbs and employments in the hay field, will be impersonated by the performers, their labors being made a delight with grand choruses and sweet solos. No doubt Mr. Osborne's hall will be filled with an eager throng of spectators, such as it has not contained before. In order to secure immunity from crowding, reserve seats, numbered on diagram of the hall, can be secured any time previous at the bookstores in town.

HIGH SCHOOL BOARD.—A meeting of the Listowel High School Board was held at the Grand Central Hotel on Saturday last, at which all the members were present with the exception of Mr. Watson. The meeting had been convened in order to confer with Mr. M. Sheard, architect, Toronto, whose plans for the proposed High School board were conditionally accepted at the last meeting of the Board. The Trustees in company with Mr. Sheard, visited the site recently donated by Peter Lillico, Esq., after which a conference of considerable duration was held with the architect in reference to modifications suggested by the Board. Mr Sheard agreed to furnish plans and specifications for the school building for the sum of $100; he also agreed to come to Listowel and spend a day at any time required by the Board. After an adjournment at noon, the Board again assembled at 2 p.m. The chairman of the Public School Board and Mr. Fennell, P. S. trustee, were present to confer with the High School Board about the transfer of the High and Public School grounds on Elma street to the Town Council for a public park. It was moved by R. Ferguson, seconded by A. D. Freeman, that the Council be requested to submit a By-law for the sum of $6,000, for High School buildings, and that the Board, on condition of such grant being made by the town, hand over to the Council the old High School property. It was moved in amendment by D. D. Campbell, seconded by A. Hemsworth, that the Council be requested to raise the sum of $6,000 for High School buildings without any condition being attached. The amendment was carried on the casting vote of the Chairman. The Board then adjourned.

BIRTHS.

MCPHERSON—In Stratford, on the 16th inst., the wife of George G. McPherson, Esq., (of Woods, Fisher & McPherson, barristers,) of twin daughters.

MOYER—In Listowel, on the 20th inst., the wife of Mr. Abraham Moyer, of a daughter.

KIRKWOOD.—In Listowel, on the 15th inst., the wife of Mr. Kirkwood, of a son.

TWAMLEY—In Elma, on the 15th inst., the wife of Mr. Peter Twamley, of a daughter.

FAWCETT—On the Minto boundry, Jan. 29th, the wife of Robert Fawcett, of twin-daughters.

PELTON—In Listowel, on the 11th inst., the wife of Wm. Pelton, of a daughter.

BINNING—On the 10th February, at No. 220 East Ninth-street, St. Paul, Minn., U. S., the wife of W. J. Binning, of a daughter.

GEIZLE—In Elma, on the 19th inst., the wife of Mr. Geizle, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

STEEL—MCARTHUR—On the 14th inst., at the residence of John King, Esq., brother-in-law of the bride, 12th con. Maryboro', by Rev Daniel W. Cameron, Mr. James F. A. Steel, Teacher Central School, Guelph, to Miss Annie McArthur of Beckwith, Ont.

COATS—FARREL—By the Rev. J. G. Scott, on the 13th inst., at the Methodist Parsonge, Listowel, Peter Coats, Esq., to Ellen Farrel, all of Huron County.

COULTER—BRYERS—On the 12th inst., at the C. M. Parsonage, Wingham, by the Rev. Wm. Bryers, uncle of the bride, Mr. James Coulter, of Newry, to Miss Hester A Bryers, Wingham.

ANDERSON—STOKES—At the residence of the brides father, Paris, on Feb. 13, by the Rev. W. H. Allworth, Mr. J. M. K. Anderson, of the Paris *Transcript*, to Miss Annie E., daughter of J. H. Stokes, Esq., of Paris.

LAWRENCE—ZUBER.—On the 15th inst., at the residence of the officiating clergyman, by the same, Henry Lawrence, 2nd con. Minto, to Mary Ann Zuber, of Woolwich, Waterloo Co.

MCDONALD—INGRAM.—At the manse, Listowel, on the 19th inst., by Rev. J. W. Bell, M. A., Mr. Robert McDonald, to Miss Mary Ingram, all of Morris, county of Huron.

DEATHS.

KIDD—In Listowel, on the 13th inst., the infant son of W. C. Kidd, aged three weeks.

O'HANLEY—In Galt, on Friday evening, Feb. 7th, at ten o'clock, John O'Hanley, aged 100 years.

NOYCE—At Fordwich, on the 18th inst., Mr. Thomas Noyce, aged 61 years.

HARRIS—In Elma, on the 18th inst., Fanny J. Harris, wife of Mr. Thomas Harris, aged 65 years.

HOUSE TO LET.

Good frame dwelling on Inkerman street west, one and a-half stories, with large and comfortable rooms, hard and soft water and other conveniences. Within three minutes walk of the centre of the town. Will be rented cheap. Apply to

C. H. ROBINSON.

Listowel, Feb'y 19, 1879. 4

RED CROSS Temple Royal Black Preceptory, Royal Black Knights of Ireland, encamped at Listowel. Regular night of meeting—last Monday in each month.

T. G. FENNELL, Registrar. 4

NOTICE.—The public will take notice that I have not received consideration for a Promissory Note, covering $21, made by me in favor of W. C. KIDD, or bearer, dated 1st January, 1879, payable three months after date; and that I will not be responsible for the payment of the same.

WILLIAM OPPER.

Listowel, 12th Feb, 1879. 3

NOT DEAD YET!

JAMES LEE

Has not succumbed to the late fire, but has taken possession of the building two doors east of the Montreal Telegraph office, where he is ready to meet with his old customers and all comers. He has purchased a new stock of goods, and is now prepared to sell

FIRST-CLASS HARNESS, of all kinds, COLLARS, WHIPS, TRUNKS, SATCHELS, ETC., marvellously CHEAP FOR CASH.

Don't forget the stand, north side of Main street.

JAS. LEE.

Listowel, Feb. 12, 1879. 2-3

J. VANSTONE

Is prepared to give the very best bargains in

Gold and Silver Watches, AND JEWELLERY,

Consisting of Brooches, Earrings and Finger Rings.

WEDDING RINGS A SPECIALTY.

Also plated Jewelry in great variety.

He would also invite public attention to the fact that his shop is the place to buy SPECTACLES of every description. Lazarus & Morris' Spectacles always on hand.

PRICES TO SUIT THE HARD TIMES.

☞ Special attention given to repairing.

DRY GOODS STORE IN CONNECTION.

Remember the place—Corner Main and Dodd streets, Listowel.

2-3 J. VANSTONE.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, a contagious disease affecting cattle prevails in certain parts of the United States of America, and it is expedient in order to prevent the introduction of the same into Canada, that the importation of cattle from that country into Canada be for the present prohibited.

His Excellency, on the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture, and under the provisions of the Act passed in the 32nd and 33rd years of Her Majesty's reign and entitled:—"An Act respecting contagious diseases affecting animals," has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the sixth day of February instant the importation or introduction into the Provinces of—

Ontario,
Quebec,
New Brunswick,
Nova Scotia, and
Prince Edward Island,

of cattle from the United States of America, be and the same is hereby prohibited for a period of three months.

W. A. HIMSWORTH,
Clerk Privy Council, Canada.

2-3

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

All parties indebted to the undersigned, either by open account or overdue note, are hereby warned that immediate settlement must be made, or expenses will be incurred. As our term of partnership has expired, settlements are absolutely required towards settlement of partnership affairs.

McILWRAITH & AUSTIN.

N. B.—Parties who have been hauling in wood to the Foundry are requested to take up receipts for delivery, so as to avoid future complications.

Listowel, Feb. 6, 1879. 2-2c

NORTH PERTH

Conservative Association!

The annual meeting of the NORTH RIDING OF PERTH CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION will be held in the TOWN OF LISTOWEL,

—on—

Saturday, 22nd day of February, 1879,

—at—

GIBSON'S HALL,

AT 1 O'CLOCK, P.M.

As business of great importance will be transacted, a large attendance of Conservatives from all parts of the Riding is requested. Several prominent members of the Party will be present to address the meeting.

H. T. BUTLER, Sec'y-Treas. JOHN READ, President.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Stratford, February 5, 1879. 2-2c

REMOVED!

W. McMILLAN

has removed to the

MASONIC BLOCK,

One door east of Bricker's Hardware store, where he has opened out a new and extensive stock of

FINE GROCERIES, WINES & LIQUORS, ETC., ETC.

He is determined to SELL CHEAP.

Call and inspect his new premises and stock.

W. McMILLAN,

Masonic Block, Main Street, Listowel.

TO RENT—CHEAP.

A Comfortable Dwelling House

on Victoria street, in excellent condition, containing six large rooms, kitchen, pantries, closets, wood shed, hard and soft water, and other conveniences. Apply on the premises to

WM. BINNING.

Listowel, Jan. 30, 1879.

FARM FOR SALE. OR TO RENT.

THE undersigned offers for sale his farm, being lot No. 10, in the 4th concession of the Township of Maryborough. The land is of excellent quality, nearly all cleared and in a good state of cultivation. There is on the premises a good frame house and a log barn. For further particulars apply to

SAMUEL DAVIDSON, Listowel.

53

The London House Still Ahead.

BEAN & GEE

—ARE STILL TAKING THE LEAD FOR—

CHEAP GOODS.

They are selling the balance of their Winter Stock of Dry Goods VERY CHEAP in order to make room for

SPRING IMPORTATIONS.

They also keep constantly on hand a large and well assorted stock of

GROCERIES!

Selling at prices to suit the hard times. Please note some of their prices:

30 lbs. of good Currants for	$1.00.
12 lbs. Sugar for	1.00.
A good Tea, worth 75 cts., selling at	50c. per lb.

An early call is solicited.

BEAN & GEE.

GO TO THE

New Hardware,

(Osborne's Block,) to buy your

ELECTRO PLATED WARE, TABLE AND POCKET CUTLERY, SKATES (Bamey and Berry.)

Best Canadian and American CHOPPING and BROAD AXES.

SAWS: Cross-Cut and Machine—Best in the Market.

HORSE SHOES AND NAILS.

In fact we have everything in the

HARDWARE, STOVE AND TINWARE

Line required.

We have also a full Stock of

PAINTS AND OILS,

Which we offer at ROCK BOTTOM PRICES.

No blow—Goods will speak for themselves.

S. BRICKER & CO.

LISTOWEL, December 12th, 1878. 43

REMOVAL.

D. D. CAMPBELL

Has great pleasure in notifying his customers and the public that he has removed to his own premises, lately occupied by Mrs. MAYNARD, and next door to Scott's Bank, on

WALLACE STREET.

NEW FALL GOODS!

IN ENDLESS VARIETY AND CHEAP.

GROCERIES

Of the freshest and purest. His stock of TEAS is particularly good.

READY-MADE CLOTHING AND BOOTS & SHOES

are a specialty. Any one in need of a good fitting Coat or Boot should buy them from him If you require a

First-class Suit of Clothes made to order,

Go to D. D. CAMLBELL'S and get the best in town. No matter what you are told, don't buy till you examine my goods and prices.

Wallace Street is Determined to take the Lead

in good goods and cheap goods, and keep it too. Come along with your butter and eggs or with anything else you have worth money and we will give you great bargains. Don't put it off till the roads get better, come right away.

D. D. CAMPBELL.

WALLACE STREET, LISTOWEL, Ont. 1

FOR 30 DAYS

YOU CAN BUY

COOKING STOVES
PARLOR STOVES,
COAL STOVES,
Of all kinds.

AT COST. AT COST.

AT COST FOR CASH.

We have an immense stock on hand, and mean what we advertise.

SKATES, AT LOW PRICES.

LIME-LIGHT COAL OIL FOR SALE.

G. S. CLIMIE & SON.

SIGN OF THE MAMMOTH MORTAR, WALLACE STREET.

LISTOWEL, ONT. 46

GREAT CLEARING CASH SALE

AT THE

ONTARIO HOUSE.

ON MONDAY NEXT, 25TH INST.,

I will commence to

SELL OFF AT AND UNDER COST PRICE

(FOR CASH ONLY,) the whole of my stock of

MILLINERY GOODS.

My whole stock of Men's and Boys

READY - MADE CLOTHING,

And a large stock of men's and boys

BOOTS AND SHOES.

I am determined to clear out the whole of these Goods

WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS,

And cash buyers may rely on getting the

GREATEST BARGAINS EVER OFFERED IN TOWN.

GEO. DRAPER.

LISTOWEL, November 20th, 1878. 1

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHEAPER THAN EVER.

B. B. SARVIS

Is prepared to supply the public with the

Best Organs Manufactured.

Organs of all Patterns and by all the leading makers, to choose from.

SUPERIOR FAMILY ORGANS AT BOTTOM PRICES.

Call and see his list of prices before dealing anywhere. It will be to your interest.

B. B. SARVIS.

Listowel, Ont. 46

R. MARTIN,

AGENT FOR

Selling Lands, Lending Money,

doing a general FIRE INSURANCE BUSINESS.

Deeds, Mortgages, Leases, Agreements, written at low rates. Legal Documents registered and Abstracts of Titles obtained.

Apply to R. MARTIN.

MONEY.

Money to lend on Farm and Town Property at 8 per cent., with the privilege given to the borrower to repay a part or the whole loan at any time, without any additional expense.

Apply to R. MARTIN.

MORTGAGES.

The highest price paid for good mortgages.

INSURANCE.

The best Companies represented, such as the WESTERN, LANCASHIRE & RELIANCE.

Apply to R. MARTIN.

Office on Main St.,

LISTOWEL,

Opposite the Grand Central Hotel. 51

HARDWARE,

STOVES AND TINWARE.

Latest Styles and lowest prices in Stoves

The leading

STOVES

for the season:

GRAND DUKE, NORTH-WEST, ATLANTIC, WEST MINISTER, (Cooking Stoves.) *QUEEN, SULTANA,* (Base Burners.) *ANTELOPE, New WILD ROSE* (Parlor Cook.)

Parlor Stoves, Box Stoves,

HARDWARE

at prices to suit the times.

Splendid assortment of

AXES, COW TIES, CHAINS,

PAINTS, OILS, GLASS, &C.,

IMPROVED DIAMOND CROSS CUT SAWS, guaranteed to cut 30 cords hardwood without refitting.

LANCE TOOTH, ECLIPSE, AND IMPROVED CHAMPION, at rock bottom prices.

When in want of HARDWARE, TINS OR STOVES, give me a call before buying elsewhere.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

GEORGE ADAM.

HARDWARE STORE

Opposite Hess Bros. Factory, Main Street.

Listowel, Nov. 7th, 1878. 41

WAR! WAR! WAR!

Come to JOHN A. TREMAIN

For Good Building Lots, and save fifty per cent.

CLOSE TO THE P. D. STATIOI.

14 JOHN A. TREMAIN

HARDWARE EXCLUSIVELY.

The largest and best assortment of

HARDWARE,

In Listowel, is to be had at

TATHAM & CO'S.,

where nothing but Hardware in all its branches is kept.

CALL AND INSPECT OUR STOCK.

TATHAM & CO.

Listowel, Ont. 1

TEA! TEA! TEA!

The best TEA at J S MILLS. For the next 2 months with every lb. of Tea, the purchaser will receive a beautiful chromo.

With every 3 pounds of Tea the purchaser will receive a beautiful steel engraving, size 22x28 in.

Buy your Tea at J S Mills, and combine your housekeeping expenses with the beautifying of your homes.

REMEMBER THE PLACE,

J. S. MILLS,

TEA DEALER AND GENERAL GROCER

MAIN STREET, LISTOWEL.

L. O. L. No. 617. The members of this Lodge meet in their Lodge Room on Razian Street on the 1st Thursday of every month, at 7.30 p.m.—Brethren from other Lodges are cordially invited to visit us whenever convenient

WM. LITTLE, Master

1y

COUNTY OF PERTH.—The Warden will be in attendance at the Clerk's Office on the first and third Tuesday in each month, from ten to three o'clock.

The Clerk will be in attendance at his Office on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week, from one to three o'clock.

The Treasurer will be in attendance at his Office on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week, during same hours. WM. DAVIDSON, County Clerk.

County Clerk's Office, Stratford, 1878. 38

EXECUTORS SALE.

The Executors of the

LATE JOSEPH PEFFERS

offer for sale the south half of lot four, in the ninth concession of Mornington, containing

NINETY-NINE ACRES.

There are eighty-eight acres cleared and in a good state of cultivation. There are on the premises a good bank barn, 36x56, nearly new; also a small frame house; there is also a number of fruit trees bearing. The farm is situated on the S. & H R R., eight miles from Listowel. There is likely to be a station on the corner of the place. For further particulars and terms, etc., enquire of the undersigned,

J. E. TERHUNE, Barrister, &c., Listowel, or to WM. L. KELLS, Listowel.

Listowel, Sept. 3, 1878. 31

LISTOWEL MARBLE WORKS.

A. M. MORROW,

Dealer in American and Foreign Marble

GRANITE MONUMENTS IMPORTED AND FINISHED TO ORDER.

English and American Grave Stones, Mantle Pieces, Table Tops, Counter Tops, etc.

☞ Satisfaction guaranteed. Shop—Opposite the Commercial Hotel, Listowel, Ontario.

31 A. M. MORROW.

MONEY TO LOAN.

THE ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH

INVESTMENT COMPANY

OF CANADA.

CAPITAL, - - £500,000 STERLING.

HEAD OFFICE, EDINBURGH.

ADVISING BOARD IN CANADA:

The Hon. T. N. Gibbs, Chairman; Wm. H. Howland, Esq.; Fred'k Wyld, Esq.; General Manager, Hon. Jas. Patton, Q. C.

The Company loan on improved farms, and productive property in cities, towns and incorporated villages.

Loans made on periods to suit applicants, upon

THE MOST REASONABLE INTEREST.

For further information apply to

D. B. DINGMAN, Listowel, or to WM. LITTLE, Valuator, Listowel.

43

MONEY TO LOAN.

IN SUMS FROM $200 TO $20,000,

AT 7½ PER CENT.

ON FARM AND TOWN PROPERTY.

FIRE INSURANCE AGENCY

in connection.

The highest price obtainable paid for good mortgages.

Deeds and mortgages drawn up, and general conveyancing done. Apply to

ADAM HUNT, Agent, &c.,

12th con. Wallace, Teviotdale P. O. 48

CUTTERS & SLEIGHS.

The largest stock, best seasoned timber and first-class workmanship, which we will sell cheap.

First-Class Horse Shoer!

Particular attention paid to Horse Shoeing and Jobbing of all kinds.

See our CUTTERS before purchasing elsewhere.

LITTLE BROS. & CO.

Listowel, Nov., 29th, 1878. 8

EXCELSIOR PLANING MILLS

—AND—

SASH, DOOR, AND BLIND

FACTORY,

LISTOWEL, ONTARIO.

The new Firm of

DUNHAM, WILSON & CO.,

BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, ETC.,

Respectfully intimate that they are prepared to furnish all descriptions of Building Material on the shortest notice.

DRESSED LUMBER, SASHES, DOORS, BLINDS, MOULDINGS, FENCING MATERIAL, Etc.,

Constantly on hand and sold cheap.

Contracts taken for the erection of all classes of Buildings.

Repairing promptly attended to.

The firm is new and practical; the Factory is fitted up with the latest improved machinery; first-class workmen are employed; moderate charges will be the governing principle, and satisfaction is guaranteed.

ORDERS SOLICITED.

Factory—Corner of Elma and Mill streets.

W. H. DUNHAM, H. D. WILSON, R. J. CRAIG.

November 20, 1878. 46

NEW JEWELRY STORE.

C. J. GUNDRY, having purchased Messrs. Diggins & Sellin's stock, would invite the inhabitants of Listowel and surrounding country to call and inspect his stock of

Gold and Silver Watches,
Gold, Silver and Plated Chains,
Gold and Plated Brooches and Ear Rings and Sets,
Plain and Fancy Gold and Silver Finger Rings,
Gold and Plated Studs,
Plain and Ornamental Clocks,
Fancy

Companions.

Smile farewell to Sorrow;
Give to Joy good-morrow,
And charge him to continue
His quiet reign within you.

Smile farewell to Gladness;
Take the hand of Sadness,
And wistfully beseech her
To be your tender teacher.

So shall both befriend you,
And to the grave attend you;
There Sorrow from you sever;
Joy go with you ever.

DROLLERIES IN REASONING.

When railways were projected about half a century ago, all sorts of whimsical reasons were given why they should not be tolerated. They would seriously lessen the number of horses; the noise made by the trains would so greatly terrify sheep and cattle in the adjacent fields as to lessen the breeding of these animals and enhance the price of butcher-meat; they would ruin small towns; country gentlemen would have their peace awfully invaded, and their estates would be next to worthless. We remember all these and many other absurdities being uttered. How the fears apprehended by small-minded persons have been signally falsified! Horses are more in demand and dearer than ever. Sheep and cattle have learned to pay little or no attention to passing trains. Small towns are everywhere growing and becoming prosperous. Country gentlemen—who once did all in their power—sometimes in a shabby way—to prevent railways coming near their properties, are now glad to have them in their neighbourhood, and have become quite alive to their value in raising the rent of land.

It is amusing to recollect that the learned authorities of Eton went the length of instructing Sergeant Merewether to oppose the passage of the Great Western Railway bill, on the ground that if the railroads were made, the Thames would be choked up for want of traffic, the drainage of the country through which it passed would be destroyed, and Windsor Castle itself left unsupplied with water; while London would pour forth its most abandoned inhabitants to pollute the innocent minds of the Etonians, and the boys would run up to town in play-hours to mix in all its dissipations, returning before their absence was discovered. The bill only passed by its promoters inserting a clause providing that no station should be built near Eton, and that men should be specially detailed to warn the schoolboys off the line. Even so lately as 1871 a Frenchman petitioned the Corps Legislatif to refuse its sanction to the construction of any more railways, because the smoke from the engines killed the roses and neutralized the perfume of the acacia and the jasmine.

Paltry fears, real or pretended, concerning progressive improvements have been demonstrated, we suppose, since the beginning of time. In all ages there are certain weak, captious-minded individuals, eccentric in their notions, who seem to take a pleasure in differing from everybody else, and in opposing everything, no matter how advantageous it is likely to be to society. The opposition to railways was matched by the opposition to the use of carriages a hundred years earlier. The luxurious indulgence of keeping a coach was inveighed against as being destructive of good housekeeping and conducive of all manner of evil; and especially to be reprobated by reason of the new vehicles shattering the casements of the house they lumbered by, and making such a confused noise that dwellers therein could neither sleep, speak, hear, write, nor eat their meals in comfort; to say nothing of their propensity for toppling their occupants down hill and over the bridges, breaking arms and legs, and running over the old, the young, and the crippled. The appearance of stage-coaches on the king's highway caused tradesmen and inn-keepers to unite in petitioning the Crown to put down the monstrous innovation, on the plea that the new mode of travelling would lower the value of farm produce; and, alarmed by there being as many as half a dozen stage-coaches on the road in 1762, John Crossett of the Charter-house insisted upon their summary suppression, arguing that they caused gentlemen to visit London upon every small occasion; nay, the convenience of the passage often made their wives come to town—who, rather than dare such a journey on horseback, would stay at home, instead of rushing to the capital, where they must don fine clothes, go to plays, and get such a habit of idling, and such a love of pleasure as to make them uneasy ever after.

In all the juries we happen to have been upon, one or two persons have taken a pleasure in seeing things quite differently from the others, and been a great plague in arriving at a unanimous verdict. Such cross-grained individuals usually hit upon some small point on which they say they are not clear, and appear to be really incapable of judging from the leading and really important facts in the evidence. People of this obstinately eccentric nature are often seen to explain events by far-fetched causes, instead of by the plainest deductions of commonsense. We once heard a crotchety individual observe that there had been no good weather since the passing of the Reform Bill. That measure finished the good old English weather. Just as wisely did the journalists of Vera Cruz lay the rising of the red men to the account of the government for permitting freemasons and spiritualists to live in the state. But reasoners of this sort are common everywhere. The fetish priests of the Gold Coast looked upon the small-pox as the outcome of the people persisting in cracking palm-nuts in order to extract oil from the kernels, as some folks in England believed the cholera was invited there by the issue of the so-called godless florins; and the old Scotswoman insisted that the grouse disease was heaven's retribution on the lairds for letting their moors to the Southrons.

An inconsequent reason has the advantage of being unanswerable. The lady who preferred sculpture to painting because it took a better polish; the old captain, who was content of experiencing nasty weather because one of his male passengers parted his hair in the middle; and the stage-carpenter who declared they might talk of Henderson, Kemble, and Kean, but give him Bannister as Hamlet, "he was always done twenty minutes sooner than any one of 'em," as effectually precluded contradiction as the Detroit, butterman, who, upon a fair customer inquiring how he could have the conscience to charge her thirty-two cents a pound for butter, replied: "Well, ma'am, you see the grocers can't carry much of a reserve, and we can't turn our collaterals at a sacrifice. If the government calls in the bonds this year, and the imports of bullion tend to ease the money-market, butter must find its level, like everything else. It is very panicky just now, but I think the worst is over." The lady was satisfied. That is more than could be said of Captain Speke, whose complaint that his servants were charged more for tobacco than any one else, was met by Sheik Said with the remark that his friend was a big man, and therefore ought to pay a big price.

The Sheik thought the compliment would make amends for the robbery, as did Captain Burnaby's Osman in a similar predicament. Reproached for charging his master shillings for what he had paid pence, the artful rogue said: "The Effendi's horses are not like other horses; they eat more and work more. We, and he too, like large chickens. The Effendi is rich and he pays; he is big and he eats a great deal. I give the people what they ask; it would not do for me to be mean with my lord's money!" Upbraided respecting the consumption of sugar, Osman replied: "Effendi, I like tea, I like sugar; but what I like most is to hear my lord's liberality praised. Whenever I am drinking tea, and the village people see me putting much sugar in my glass, they honour me; in this manner they honour my lord." Your Eastern Christian is not easily disconcerted. "How is it," asked Mr. Kinglake of his servant—"how is it that you, a Christian, lie to me, ane rob me on every occasion, while my Turkish servants neither lie nor steal?" "It is probably because their religion does not permit them those advantages," was the prompt reply of the unabashed rascal.

Men, and women too for that matter, never want for reasons, more or less excellent, for perpetrating matrimony when they have a mind that way. But of all reasons ever given for entering the holy state, the oddest is that given by "A Sufferer," who thus airs his particular grievance in the columns of a country paper. "My first wife," says he, "was a worthy member of the Church of England; she died, and was buried in the consecrated portion of our public cemetery. My equally worthy second wife was a Roman Catholic; and of course I laid her remains in the Roman Catholic portion. I am neither a Churchman nor a Romanist, yet I would like to lie in the grave with my first or second wife; but our local authorities say no, unless I agree to the religious ceremony. Must I buy a third grave, and lie buried alone in a cemetery where I have already purchased two graves, and in which are my two deceased wives? I would be thankful for a silent burial in either of my wives' graves. If there is no relief I must marry a Dissenter, and then in our deaths we shall not be divided." This worthy, who so strongly objects to lying alone, makes sure apparently of surviving his third venture, and would scout the possibility of the lady perversely frustrating his pretty plan, by burying him instead, and electing to share the grave with her second choice.

An Irish member opposed the Peace Preservation Act of 1875, on the ground that it encouraged murder, by granting compensation to the relatives of the murdered man. Not much better at argument was the Scotch gentleman advocating the abolition of marriage by banns because the practice prevented people marrying, and proved his case by telling of a couple dispensing with all ceremony because the man could not raise sufficient cash to pay the fees any give the usual entertainment. That the impecunious pair might have foregone the usual entertainment instead of the marriage ceremony seems not to have entered his head. He proved too much; like the Brooklyn boy who inveigled another to go fishing, and then sent a letter to the schoolmistress a-coming from the truant's mother, running: "Miss Day. Pleas excuse Sam as he has a stummick cake, thought I would keep him home to mind his little sister who is awful sick with the kolera infanticide, and he has to taik her to the dokter to be vaxinated, besides i don't feel well myself, i hardly kno what ails me 'cept it's worrit about Sam who sais ha has a awful pauc."

When the good people of Slickville proposed to raise their minister's salary, the honest man would not listen to the proposition, saying: "First, you can't afford it, nohow you can fix it, and I know it. Secondly, I aint worth it, and you know it. Thirdly, I am nearly tired to death collecting my present income; and if I have to dun the same way for that, it will kill me"—silencing his would-be benefactors as effectually as the Icelander silenced an inquisitive traveller, who, not satisfied with the information that there were no carriages because there were no roads, asked why they had no roads. "Because," replied the badgered man, "we have no carriages." The Icelander would have held his own with the lady clerks of the Treasury at Washington, whom General Spinner declared to be ten times as acute in detecting bad notes as the male clerks. "A man," said he, "always has a reason, forty maybe, for pronouncing a note bad, and is wrong half the time. A woman is always right, but never has a reason for it. She says it is counterfeit because it is counterfeit; and couldn't tell how she knows it if she were to be hanged for it."

Suggestions about Serving Dinner.

The table should be carefully laid,—folds of the table-cloth in line, two large napkins placed at the head and foot of the table with corners to the centre, every plate wiped before being set upon the table, the glass clear, the silver polished, the salt-cellars filled with fresh-sifted salt. (A little stamp upon the salt improves the appearance.) When the plates are laid, two forks should be put on the left hand, a knife and a soup-spoon on the right, large spoons crossed at each salt-cellar, and salt-spoons on the top; tumblers and wine-glasses on the right hand at each plate, a napkin folded with a piece of stale bread within its folds, the soup-plates placed in the plate at the head of the table, and the napkin in the upper one. Soup-ladle, gravy-spoon, and carving-knife and fork go before the mistress; fish-trowel (if there is fish for dinner), gravy-spoon, and carving-knife and fork before the master; if there is no soup, no ladle; if no fish, no trowel; if but one dish of meat, but one carving knife and fork. If you have neither fruit nor flowers, a bowl with bits of ice makes a pretty centre.

The side-table should be laid with a white cloth, the silver, plates, finger-bowls, that will be needed during dinner, arranged tastefully upon it; the castors, a pat of butter with ice upon it, and one or two spare napkins, making it a pretty object.

When the soup is on the table, let the waitress come quietly and say, "Dinner is served." A good waitress makes no noise. She will stand at the dining-room door till the family has passed in, and then take her place by her mistress to hand the soup. When the soup course is over, the waitress takes off the plates, one in each hand, and takes them to the pantry, or to a tray outside the door. Permit no piling of plates as they are taken from the table, nor allow the soiled plates to be placed on the side-table. As the soup is removed hot plates should be ready for fish or meat, and as the waitress places the hot plate before the diner, she removes the cold plate to the side-table. Fish should be served alone, no vegetables. Salad is the only thing allowable with fish. If fish be broiled, a lemon, cut in quarters, should be handed, to be squeezed upon the fish, unless fish-sauce is preferred. With salmon, thinly cut slices of cucumber, dressed with pepper, salt, and vinegar, should be served. Before the fish is removed, the fish-trowel and spoon should be taken off on a tray or plate; before the meat is removed the carving knife and fork should be carefully taken off on a plate or tray. After the meat and plates are removed, the unused silver should be taken off, then the salt-cellars. The table being cleared, the crumbs should be taken off with a crumb-knife or with a napkin upon a plate; then the spread napkins should be taken off by the four corners.

Place upon the table the dessert-plates, and spoons, and forks, if for pudding or sweets of any kind; if for fruit, a plate with a coloured doily, a finger-bowl, and a silver knife and fork. If coffee is served, it should be placed on a tray, with coffee-cups and sugar, at the head of the table. The old fashion of a polished and bare table for fruit is gone out, except where an elaborate table and men-servants are kept.

A Beauty-Preserving Tea.

(From the London Globe.)

The cup that cheers but not inebriates is threatened with a rival possessing properties which must render it first favourite among the fair sex. The produce of the *Ilex Paraguayensis*, mate, or Paraguay tea, has often been suggested as a substitute for the more orthodox infusion of the leaves of the thea, or tea-plant, but this would stand no chance in competition with the new candidate for public favour. Paris it is said, has just awoke to the virtues, of "a new kind of tea," called Serkys tea, "which has the virtue of preserving the brilliancy and beauty of early youth up to the ripest age;" it is composed "of exquisitely refreshing and balsamic plants"—the leaves of the plants are probably intended—"growing on the foot of the mountains of Mecca and Libanus." The beverage in question claims an antiquity greater than that of the modern tea whose name it borrows. It is said to have been discovered in the time of Osman I., who introduced it to the ladies of his seraglio, and it has ever since remained the favourite beverage of the Sultanas. In outward application its effects are as marvellous as when taken internally, and the leaves stewed down after infusion, if thrown into the bath, will contribute to preserve the freshness of the complexion in a manner which Mme. Rachel's preparations could never equal. Serkys, whatever it may be, will no doubt become the rage in Paris, where its virtues are, we are told, devoutly believed in. There is only one little difficulty in the matter, and that is that the wonderful properties of the drink should ever have been forgotten when once known, as Serkys is said to have been familiar to the ladies of the French court. "In France it was known during the reign of Louis XIV., and perhaps it was owing to this preparation that all the women of that period were young and beautiful!"

A Mysterious Countess.

The gossips of "society journals" are very busy about "who is she?" in the case of the countess of Lichtenstein, who died in Borsthale, in Styria, on the 28th of last month, and who was so long the admired of Holland House and its guests as Miss Fox. She was really the daughter of a French nobleman of very ancient name, whose wife, her mother, died at her birth, and Lord and Lady Holland adopted her, stipulating that she should take the family name of Fox. This was, of course, fully explained to Queen Victoria and the Austrian court before she was received, and to Cardinal Manning, who married her, Earl Granville giving her away, and the Prince and Princess of Wales, and nearly all of the royal family, being present. The Prince Lichtenstein, who was attached to the Austrian legation, met her at the garden parties at Holland House. She has left three children.

"Somebody's Coming When the Dewdrops Fall," is said to be a very beautiful song. "Somebody's Coming When the Note Falls Due," is not so enchanting.

"Do you know 'When the swallows homeward fly?'" asked a young man of his "inamorata," as he leaned over the pianoforte. "Of course I do," she replied, in a voice as far apart as the teeth of a barber's comb. "They fly home when they want their grub." And then she began to sing, "Would I were a bi-r-d."

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

Value of Manure.

A cord of average manure, as shovelled from the barn cellar, weighs somewhat over four tons. The average of eighty-six reports of premium crops, as given in the *Agriculture of Massachusetts*, shows twenty-eight loads or seven cords, or probably twenty-eight tons, of dung, applied in order to obtain the average estimated crop of eighty-one bushels of shelled corn. This would indicate a value for the manure, as applied by these farmers, of about three bushels of corn to the ton, or less, if calculated as it should be, on the increase, instead of on the crop gained from the natural fertility of the land *and* the dung.

Is this correct? It is certainly claimed that this method of calculation is proper, and that there are two values to dung, the one chemical and the other agricultural. Thus a ton of manure produces one bushel of increase in wheat, etc.

For our own part, we don't believe that we can assign to manures any value which we can define as agricultural as distinct from chemical. Give a sample of fertilizer to twenty chemists, and they will agree upon its chemical value. Give fertilizer to twenty farmers, and no two will value it alike. One may call it worthless, and no two will assign the same crop-product on to its use. We might as well come to the conclusion at once that the agricultural value of a fertilizer depends upon who uses it,—on the land, on the crop, and on the judgment of the user. Give a ton of superphosphate to this man to grow corn, and let him use it on land unfitted for corn, and the fertilizer is condemned. Give it to that man who applies it to corn land, and it is pronounced good. A hundred weight of fertilizer or dung applied to one field may produce double the crop of another field upon which one hundred pounds of the same fertilizer has been strewn.

The only true basis for testing fertilizers is the chemical one; but this valuation of the chemists must be correctly interpreted. It is not sufficient to know how much nitrogen is in a sample, but also how this nitrogen occurs, and how it is mixed with other elements of fertility, etc., etc., and so for the other elements. Do we ignore field trials? By no means. It is only through field trials that we can learn the action of fertilizers; but to accomplish this, the trials must be made by men who are willing to devote study to their interpretation.

Have manures and fertilizers an agricultural value? Certainly they have. But what is it? Only the chemist, who interprets the influence of constituents and combinations, and the other conditions termed physical and physiological, can give it; and then when this chemist arises and gains enduring fame by giving it in its completeness, no two farmers can obtain the same value, nor the exact value that he assigns. Do not call our words contradictory, for, remember, the man who rules the conditions of his farming the best prevails over another who rules not at all; and further reflect that the MAN is indeed a prime necessity for the successful farm, and not merely the labourer, nor the dung, nor any other one factor can organize the highest success.

Bone Dust and Super-Phosphates.

Very little progress has yet been made in Canada, in the use of bones and various fertilizers made from them. This is much to be regretted, as the advantage from their use can hardly be over-estimated.

It is now about sixty years since ground bones were first used by farmers in England as a manure. On the first introduction of this powerful agent the modes of preparing them for the soil were rude in the extreme. They were principally broken by hand with sledge-hammers, and applied in large quantities to the land. Subsequently, however, mills were erected and the bones ground and a much finer powder obtained. In this state bone dust was used at the rate of about eighteen bushels to the acre. It remained, however, to Baron Liebig to discover the now popular method of preparing them by dissolving them in sulphuric acid; and it is found by actual experiment that one bushel of bones treated with one-third its weight of acid is fully equal to four bushels of the dust. Nor is this the only advantage gained. Turnips, for which these dissolved bones are chiefly used, reach the growth to which they obtain, when thinned, from fifteen to twenty days sooner than when either simple bone dust or bara-yard manure is employed, thus defeating the ravages of that terrible pest so ruinous to this crop, the turnip beetle. Super-phosphate is eminently the manure for this climate, and especially for this crop, because, although guano is found to be equally good in humid or moist climates, it does not act near so quickly during dry weather.

Applying Super-phosphates.

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—On page 775 there is an account of some experiments with fertilizers by T. Sharpless. The result was quite different from those in my experience. I have used super-phosphate for several years to grow my corn crop on sod and have never failed to get pay for the fertilizer and all cost of application, in the increased crop, and many times I get quite a profit. It has sometimes increased my crop 33 per cent. I think the reason Mr. Sharpless received so little benefit was the result of his method in applying the fertilzer. In order to receive the most benefit to the first crop, all fertilizers, whether special or farm manures, should be applied on grass lands, as early as September the fall previous; or if not a that time it should be applied on the surface after the land is ploughed. I believe, as John Johnston long ago said, "that a rich sod contains all the elements for a good crop of corn." Some years on sod land the young corn requires stimulating a little until its roots get hold of the sod, and super-phosphate, if applied in the hill, will do this. It generally puts the crop two weeks ahead early in the season, which is very important in this section. I always apply super-phosphate in the hill on sod land at the rate of 250 or 300 lbs. per acre—never more than the above amount—and it has never failed to pay well. On old land the result has not been as favourable. As a general rule, I am in favour of surface application of all fertilizers. HENRY LANE, *Addison County, Vt.*

Bone Dust.

An intelligent English farmer, writing to the *Mark Lane Express*, states his experience with bone dust and super-phosphate made from bones. He believes bone to be the "cream of the cream" as manure. On pastures land, in Cheshire, where he lived seven years, he found it indispensable. In Wiltshire he found it developed the best grasses and produced a superior herbage; it produced the best roots, and on the wheat crop, in the shape of super-phosphate, it secured a good stand. He used $2,500 worth of it, and believes it to be the best worth a farmer's attention of any outside manure. He found on clay lands impregnated with oxide of iron that until the land had been limed the bone had no effect, but so soon as lime was applied bone was used with success. Finally on experimenting with it on sandy soil he found it perfectly useless, and even in quantities of 700 lbs. per acre applied to old pastures or young grass lands it had no perceptible effect during many years.

——In the statement of experiments with phosphates by Mr. T. Sharpless, he says he sowed it upon the sod and ploughed it under six inches deep. It is a wonder that it had as much effect as it did. It should have been applied upon the surface after ploughing, or as near the seed as practicable and not prevent germination. What would be the result if just food enough was given to a young animal to preserve its existence and cause a feeble growth until it had reached sufficient age to forage for itself? An irreparable injury would be the result. The same principle applies to plants. The first stages of their existence are the most important ones, and if they ever need any extra food, that is the time.

There are thousands of tons used in Western New York. It is destined to come into general use in this section and add greatly to the wealth of farmers. It is important that it be rightly applied, and should not be condemned when not applied properly. For the small grains it gives the best results when drilled with the seed by means of a fertilizer attachment to the drill. Where corn is drilled with one of these drills, the fertilizer may be drilled at the same time, but all the tubes should be allowed to discharge; or at least one on each side of the row of corn, which should be at least forty inches apart. Where corn is planted in hills it may be applied where the hills are to be, and around them, or may be applied upon the surface of the hills soon after planting, but in either case another portion should be sown broadcast upon the surface, as the roots of corn soon extend beyond that applied to the hills. For grapes the soil should be ploughed and turned from the roots early in the spring, then sow the fertilizer broadcast at the rate of 400 or 600 lbs. per acre. J. M.

Penn Yan, N. Y.

THE employment of Artificial Manures for promoting the growth of our crops has become such an established practice, that their assistance is now justly regarded as essential to remunerative farming. The more frequent growth of similar crops upon the same land, whilst it has proved to be profitable to the farmer, has demanded from the soil a greater supply of fertilizing matter than it is capable of yielding, even with the assistance of any ordinary supply of Farm Yard Manure. This change of system has also been accompanied by strong practical evidence that abundant crops are alone profitable to the producer. In this way we have an increased demand upon land—a demand which it cannot meet without artificial help—and the result has been to establish the employment of Artificial Manures as a necessary part of the practice of every good farmer. It has yet to achieve its triumph; many stages before it exerts full influence upon the prosperity of Agriculture.

EVERY farmer should look upon his farm as a bank; every crop he takes off it is a draft upon the strength and fertility of the soil, and must be returned to it in properly prepared Manure, containing those elements of vegetable life which the crops abstracted therefrom, otherwise the land will degenerate in quality and value. Few farmers produce sufficient farm-yard manure to keep up the condition of their land, hence the necessity of some other stimulant. In growing our crops we find that the substances most likely to be exhausted from the soil, are Phosphate of Lime, Potash and Ammonia. This led to a demand for a fertilizer containing these substances in a concentrated, quick and effective state. To meet this demand Artificial Manures possessing these properties have arisen; they, unlike farm-yard manure, carry no weed seed to the soil, and the value of them has been amply verified during many years of experience in Europe, and the Southern and Eastern States, in rapidly restoring worn out lands to fertility, enriching poor soils, creating abundant crops, and improving farming generally.

Women's Commercial Honour.*

(From the Chicago Times.)

Not long ago, in a neighbouring city, one of the belles of society accepted the matrimonial proposition of a worthy young gentleman, and was asked by him to name the happy day. She consulted her parents—who had previously given their consent to the match—and a family council was held. The decision reached was curious, as well as characteristic of our century and age. The father and mother agreed that the social position of their daughter required a grand wedding. The father, however, announced that misfortunes in business had brought him to the verge of bankruptcy; that he was, in fact, preparing to make an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. To this the mother replied that the grand wedding being of primary importance, it must of course take precedence of the assignment for pecuniary reasons easily understood. And it was so ordered. The marriage occurred amid a blaze of glory, duly chronicled in the newspapers, and a few days afterward Mr. Smith's paper went to protest, and his creditors took possession of his limited assets.

Not long ago, considerably nearer home, a fond husband informed his loving wife that his financial affairs were in that condition which indicates a speedy and disastrous collapse. The wife said little, but thought much. She result of her meditations was that the next day she went down town and bought a sealskin sacque and a set of diamonds. She told a female neighbour, who knew of the impending calamity, that the sacque and diamonds "would last her a lifetime; that if she did not get them now she never would, and so she got them." The collapse came in due season, and it is hardly necessary to remark that the sacque and jeweller are whistling for their money.

These two incidents are true. They are only two out of the many, equally true, that we could find their way into the uncongenial and unwelcome atmosphere of print. They illustrate a rascally tendency which is doing more to unsettle the foundations of commercial confidence and destroy commercial honesty than any other we know of. They indicate, indeed, that in some quarters of "the very highest respectability," commercial honour and honesty are already dead and buried. Taken in connection with the familiar process known as "breaking with a full pocket," they show that paying one's debts and buying nothing you do not expect to pay for, are becoming exceedingly unfashionable. Our fathers—and a good many of their sons hold the same views, we are glad to say—considered that a man who would not strain every nerve and make every sacrifice to pay his honest debts was little better than a scoundrel; and that the man or woman who bought anything without expecting to pay for it was little better than a thief. Yet, one can scarcely cross the streets of a great city without being splashed with mud from the carriage-wheels of elegant bankrupts, who ride, while the people they owe are obliged to walk. Persons live in fine houses, wear fine clothes, and give fine entertainments, who, if out of debt, would be as poor as the poorest of their creditors. Fashionable society encourages and patronizes this fashionable rascality. The one sin which fashionable society will never forgive is poverty—even though that poverty is the result of unflinching honesty. A prominent Boston merchant—an ex-governor of Massachusetts—has hanging in his counting-room a photographic portrait, under which is written, "An Honest Man." The Honest man thus honoured had simply paid his debts in full, after having been compelled to compromise them at a heavy discount. The ex-governor insisted that the hero of such a remarkable deed should have his picture taken. So taken it was, and there it hangs—a sad commentary upon the rarity of that old-time virtue, honesty.

What is Russia?

Who and what is Russia? Not the name of a complex and multiform society of intricate configuration, such as is our own; but a vast mass, comparatively inorganic, still nationally young and simple in its forms of life. We may regard Russia, for the present purpose, as including three elements, three forces only. First, the Emperor; secondly, the people; thirdly, the official, aristocratic, and military class, which last may be said to make up there what, both there and here, passes under the name of "Society." Of these three factors, distinct estimates have to be formed. The present Emperor of Russia has, during a reign now approaching a quarter of a century, given ample evidence of a just and philanthropic mind. No greater triumph of peaceful legislation is anywhere recorded than the emancipation of the Russian serfs, which he has effected. It is true that he gave to England assurances about Khiva, which he has been unable to fulfil. But the military measures taken against the Khan apparently had in view the real necessities of peace and order in that region, from which plunder and kidnapping had to be expelled. There is little in their accompaniments, either of profit or of power, which would warrant the imputation of an unworthy motive. It is more just to ascribe the Emperor's original promise of entire abstention to an honourable anxiety for the friendship of England, and as an over-sanguine expectation, than to denounce as an act of bad faith a resort to force which has every appearance of reason and justice. In the great matter of the war with Turkey, I avow my belief that the Emperor was prompted by motives of humanity, which drew additional force from the special sympathies of race and of religion. Justice seems to require a similar admission in regard to the Russian people. They are a peaceful and submissive race, whose courage in the field is that of a determined and unscalculating obedience. Domestic in their habits, rural in their pursuits, and fighting the battle of ordinary life under hard conditions, they are little open to the evil influences of what is here termed Jingoism; the conscription has for them no charms; and war summons them to little else than privation.

A SUM of $140,000, consisting of remittances to Europe from merchants in Mexico, has been captured by fifteen brigands on the railroad between Puebla and Vera Cruz. About a dozen brigands took third class tickets, seated themselves in a carriage next the baggage car, and about half an hour after starting severed all the cars behind them. Leaving these on the track, they forced the engineer to continue at full speed up to a point where twenty-five armed men on horseback ordered a halt, whereupon the whole party carried off the money on mules, killing the conductor and seriously wounding an inspector of the line.

THE YOUNG FOLKS.

Two Kisses.

When I made a visit home,
And stole up-stairs, good fortune leading,
I saw, or rather thought I saw,
My sister in the study reading.

With noiseless tread I forward crept,
With scheme of mischief most imprudent;
And leaning o'er the arm-chair's back,
I softly kissed the gentle student.

She turned to fly with burning face,
As if a brother's kiss polluted—
Rapture! 'Twas not my sister Lu,
But Cousin Amy I'd saluted.

Of course I then began to beg
She wou'd excuse my having kissed her,
Protesting that, upon my word,
I really thought it was my sister.

A conversation followed next,
Whose theme, be sure, was not the weather;
And then a very blissful pair
Seated—well, rather close together.

And Amy with her roguish way,
When for the second time I kissed her,
Said, archly looking up to me,
"Are you quite sure it's not your sister?"

Little Nicholas; And How He Became a Great Musician.

Nicholas Paganini was born at Genoa, Italy, February 18 1784. When he was only four years old his father put a violin into his tiny hands, and made him practice upon it from morning till night. Sitting at his parent's feet on a little stool, Paganini obediently scraped away, learning his scales and intervals. He entered into the work cheerfully, and took great interest in his studies, but this did not lessen his father's rigor. The slightest fault was punished severely. Sometimes food was denied the little fellow in punishment for a mistake which any learner might have made. The delicate, sensitive constitution of the child was injured beyond repair by such treatment.

His mother, also ambitious for her son, worked upon his imagination and excited him to ever-renewed exertions by telling him that an angel had appeared to her in a vision, and had assured her that he should outstrip all competition as a performer on the violin.

Even at this early age the bent of Paganini's mind was toward the marvellous and extraordinary,—that is, he did not merely imitate those who before his time had played the violin, but struck out new ways for himself, making his instrument a greater puzzle to the unlearned than ever it had been before; and he astonished his parents and received their hearty plaudits when, in departing from the common methods, he produced entirely new effects. His musical instincts seemed to have been only sharpened and strengthened by the close application imposed upon him.

At eight years of age the little Nicholas performed in the churches, and at private musical parties, "upon a violin that looked nearly as large as himself." He also composed, at this time, his first "Violin Sonato." A year afterward he made what was considered his first public appearance, or *debut*, in the great theatre of Genoa, at the request of two noted singers—Marchesi and Albertinotti.

Paganini's father took him, about this time, to see the celebrated composer, Rolla, who lived at Parma, hoping to obtain for the boy the benefit of Rolla's instruction in a little while. But the composer was sick, and could not see his visitors. The room in which they were seated was next to the sick man's bed-chamber, and it so happened that he had left his violin there, together with the copy of a new work he had just finished. Little Nicholas, at his father's request, took up the violin to see what the music was like. He began at the beginning and executed the entire work at sight without a single mistake, and so well that the sick composer arose from his bed to see who the boy was that mastered had given him so agreeable a surprise. Rolla, on hearing the object of their visit, assured the father that he could do nothing to the young artist's acquirements, and recommended other noted teachers.

Nicholas and his father then went about the country through the principal cities of Lombardy, after which they returned to Genoa, where the youthful performer was again subjected to those daily toils which had been forced upon him before with such heartless rigor; but this bondage was not to be prolonged.

At fourteen he was allowed to go on a short tour with an elder brother, and at fifteen he ran away and began to travel on his own account. Relieved from the control of his too-exacting father, his mind reacted from its long slavery, and he fell into bad ways of living. But after a while his affection for his father led him to return home. Having saved a sum of money equal to about fifteen hundred dollars, he now offered a portion of it to his parents. But his exacting father demanded the whole, and Paganini, to keep peace, gave up the greater part of the hard-earned money.

The young man now began another tour, visiting many parts of Italy, and everywhere meeting with unbounded success. But I am very sorry to say that he allowed his great popularity to turn his head, so that he became very arrogant, he drinking, and, in various ways, led an unworthy life.

There are four strings on a violin, as everyone knows, and ordinary players find it necessary to use them all; but Paganini astonished the world by his performances on only one string,—the fourth, or largest. Upon this he could produce three perfect octaves, including all the harmonic sounds, and from it he brought forth the sweetest melodies.

After travelling through many countries, creating the greatest wonder and admiration wherever he went, he returned to his native land. He suffered all his life from ill-health, and although he had become a very wealthy man, his last days were sad enough; for he was greatly troubled with law-suits and ill-health.

The precious flame of life was too dearly expended on a perfection that allowed nothing else to be perfected. In becoming the absolute master of his instrument he became its slave. But the success of his life's purpose was complete. He accomplished his one object, and history declares him to have been the greatest of all violinists, past or present. He died at Nice on the 27th of May, 1840, leaving a fortune equal to nearly three-quarters of a million dollars.

An Operatic Debut in Italy.

First you pay a fee of about 100 francs to an agent; 100 francs there is equal to $100 here. The agents, as a rule, are publishers of musical papers, which they oblige you to subscribe for. The agent sends you to some little town, and if you do not please the impresario, he protests you, and back again you are sent, and lose your 100 francs beside. From beginning to end the re is a perfect system of extortion and robbery of foreign music pupils in Italy. It does not quite offset the advantages to be gained there, but it is a serious objection to studying in that country. In the first place, the teacher will accept you as a pupil whether you have a voice or not. His specialty may be coaching in operas, and you may be a beginner and in need of thorough vocal training; nevertheless he will take you and your money, no matter how poorly he may be qualified for the task. Then comes the doctor, if you are in Milan, and the agents who, as do the other publishers of musical papers, make you take their journals or else abuse you in them most unmercifully. Why, there are four or five insignificant papers of this sort in every small town in Italy. They know that the majority of *debutantes* want press notices to send back to America or England, so they levy blackmail upon you. If you consent to subscribe for a month to these dirty little sheets, they will write a few favourable notices about you, but after that you must pay for every line of mention they insert. Having once got you in their toils, they will ferret you out, no matter what part of the country you go to, until at last you become almost frantic with the quantity of dreadful musical papers that pursue you everywhere. Then there are other systems of extortion, such as this: A girl will go to a small town to make her *debut*, and will be met by a man who tells her that for 500 or 300 francs he will station men about the theatre to give her an ovation, but that if she refuses to pay the money the men will be sent to hiss her down.

Female Education.

Women are admitted this year for the first time to all the examinations and degrees of the University of London without exception, on precisely the same terms as men. At the winter matriculation two weeks ago there were nearly six hundred candidates altogether, and eleven of these were young ladies. One lady presented herself at the examination for the degree of bachelor of laws. These are the first twelve ladies who have been admitted to the regular examinations of any English university.

PERSONAL.

LUCCA is to appear as *Elsa* and *Carmen* at Vienna.

MADAME ADELINA PATTI will sing six nights during this month at the San Carlo, Naples.

THERE is a large probability that Madame Teresina Singer, who has startled Rome and Naples with the vocal and dramatic vigour of her *Norma*, will appear in America next season.

THE Crown Prince of Austria has written a book entitled "Fifteen Days on the Danube." It contains shooting adventures, and is said to be distinguished by an accurate knowledge of natural history, and by keen observation, which, considering the extreme youth of its author, make it a noteworthy performance, and distinguish it favorably from most royal productions. The book is printed for private circulation only.

Mr. ANTHONY J. DREXEL, Philadelphia's distinguished banker, alike well known for his great wealth and large though unostentatious benevolence, has recently been interested in building in the outskirts of Philadelphia 385 small houses for working-people, which are sold to them on the lowest terms and the most easy payment, so that the humblest working-man by industry can hope to have a neat and comfortable home. There could not be a more beautiful charity.

Mr. WESTWOOD, of Mount Auburn, Ohio, was worth $35,000 when his first wife died. Her industry and management had been to a great extent the cause of his prosperity, and he gratefully spent $1,400 in putting a monument over her grave. He soon married again, and his second wife rapidly wasted his fortune until he had no property left except the monument. According to the new Mrs. Westwood's advice, he had it removed to a marble yard, effaced the inscription, and offered it for sale at half its original cost.

A RUSSIAN lady, Mme. Helene Gajewska, who was charged with obtaining advances on paste diamonds and other bogus jewellery, and disposing of similar articles to unsuspecting dealers, was recently acquitted at Berne, Switzerland; but, in the meantime, she had been imprisoned four months in Australia, awaiting proceedings for extradition, and nine months in Switzerland, pending preparations for her trial. There was no case against her, but she had no redress for the wrong done by her arrest and imprisonment.

MRS. GEORGE GROTE, who died a few days since near London, was in every respect a superior woman. The London *Academy* says she should be held in honour, "not for her own sake alone, but for her happy suggestion to her husband to undertake the history of Greece. She it was that negotiated for its publication, and aided its progress as the successive volumes slowly issued from the press. Rarely indeed has a wife been more intimately connected with the labours of her husband. From the date of their first acquaintance she endeavoured by patient study to qualify herself for fit companionship with him; and the spirit which animated her during those tedious years of courtship may be truly said never to have deserted her through their more than half a century of married life." An admirable edition of Grote's *Greece* is published by Harper & Brothers.

BISMARCK is an image-breaker. According to his biographer, Dr. Busch, he had a great contempt for Von Humboldt, whom he called "a conceited, insupportable chatterer and a disgusting glutton." M. Thiers he speaks of as a wide-awake, amiable man, witty and intelligent, but without a trace of a diplomatist—too sentimental for that business. His is a higher nature, doubtless, than Favre's. But he is not fit to be a negotiator—no, not to be a horse-chauntier. He allows himself to be "bluffed" too easily; he betrays his feelings; he lets himself be pumped. As to Humboldt, we are quite willing, as against Bismarck, to take the opinion of that distinguished American, the late George Ticknor, who was on terms of intimacy with him. Mr. Ticknor says: "Humboldt, of all the men I have known, is in some respects the most remarkable, the man on whom talent and knowledge have produced their best and most generous effects."

MR. ANTHONY TROLLOPE, in the January number of the *Nineteenth Century*, tells us something curious about novel-reading. He says that there has grown up a custom lately among tea-dealers to give away a certain number of books to their poorer customers—one book given to so many pounds of tea bought. The other day 18,000 volumes of Dickens' works were ordered for this purpose. "The bookseller suggested that a little novelty might be expedient. Would the benevolent tea-dealer like to vary his presents? But, no! The tradesman knowing his business, and being anxious above all things to attract, declared that Dickens was what he wanted. He had found that the tea-consuming world preferred their Dickens." This is a practical commentary—though not meant as such—on Mr. Trollope's just remark upon Thackeray and Dickens, that Dickens has tapped a stratum lower in education and wealth, and therefore much wider, than that reached by his rival.

CALEB CUSHING, although a grave scholar and not much given to light amusements, was one of the most voracious of novel-readers—indeed the most so of any literary man in America. It mattered little as to the style or object of the fiction, or whether written in English, French, German, or Spanish, though French of the time of Louis XIV. were his favourites. It is said he could remember long passages from