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THE CHRISTMAS GIFT.

BY VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND.

"Oh such a merry Christmas as I shall have," murmured little Eva Leeds to herself, as she tied a small, but exquisitely fashioned glass bird-cage to the Christmas tree, whose every bough bent under its wealth of sparkling toys—toys of sizes, shapes, and colors. There were dolls, with soft blue eyes and the rosiest cheeks and lips; there were daintily carved boxes of pearl, and of ivory; there were little nests of cottages, with women in the foreground no larger than a baby's fore-finger, scattering corn to a flock of chickens; there was a great Santa Claus in the centre, with a large bag slung over his shoulder, and a most grotesquely benevolent expression of countenance;—there were horns of plenty, gaily decorated with blue ribbons; there were sugar churches, and glass palaces; but, my dear children, it would be utterly useless for me to attempt to enumerate the many beautiful things with which every cedar bough of that Christmas tree was drooping, and I must leave the rest to your imaginations.

"How good grandpa is," continued the little girl, as she stepped back and surveyed admiringly the glittering objects before her "to let me have all my class-mates here tomorrow, and have this nice Christmas tree for them. Won't they stare though, when they see all these pretty things?"

"Ah, Miss Eva, you're a happy child," said Nan, the old black cook, who had lived with Eva's grandfather more than a score of years, as she came into the sitting room to light the gas, for the short December day was fading into night.

"I know I am, Nan. I wish all little children were just as happy."

"And to think how many on 'em will go to bed without any supper, and get up to-morrow morn' and not so much as a crust to eat."

"You don't mean so; you don't really mean what you say, Nan," cried Eva, turning round sharply; and there was a startled look on her bright face.

But the bell rang at that moment, and Nan hurried off without replying to Eva's question.

So the little girl walked up and down the room with her hands behind her, while the night-shadows dropped softly into the corners, and there was a new and strangely thoughtful expression on the fair face of Eva Leeds. She was thinking of her own bright, happy life, as free from care and sorrow as the merriest birds that ever sang a welcome to the summer from amid boughs white with the blossoms of May. She was fatherless, and motherless, this little Eva Leeds, whose life counted eleven Christmases, and she was the one child of her grandfather, a widower childless old man, who was stern and cold to everybody but his dear little grandchild, upon whom all the tenderness and affection of his nature seemed to concentrate.

It was touching just to see how his face would kindle, and his tones soften, when she came and laid her little plump cheek against his, or wound her arms about his neck.

I have said, Mr. Hughes, for this was the name of Eva's grandfather, was childless, but old Nan knew that when the lips of his eldest daughter ceased to call him "father," it was not because death had silenced them, but because he had sworn in his wrath that she should never speak to him, never enter his house again.

Mary Hughes had married clandestinely the son of her father's garconer, a worthy, intelligent young man; but he was poor, and his station in life was, of course, far below hers, and for this deed her father had taken a solemn vow never to forgive her. Little Eva knew something of this, for two years before, when her fair young mother lay on death-bed, she had overheard part of a conversation between her and her grandfather.

The old man's face was very white as he walked up and down the room, so excited that Eva had fairly shuddered to look at him. "Anything but that, Ellen," he said in a thick, hoarse voice. "Ask anything but that, and I will grant it. Remember my oath."

"But if they have children, father," murmured the faint voice of the woman, who was dying, but they did not guess it then.

The old man went to the bedside. "Yes, Ellen, I promise you if she has children, and I ever know it, they shall not suffer." Then the nurse came and took Eva out of the room and she heard no more.

And the little girl's thoughts, as she walks so slowly up and down the room, go back to this hour, and she wonders for the first time in her life, if her mother's sister "Mary" had any children, and if they have such a kind grandfather, and are happy as she is.

Suddenly the little girl walks to the window, and looking out in the street she

sees two children standing in front of the house.

They are very poor; she divines this at once by the boys' old straw hat, and threadbare coat, and the little girl's faded calico dress, and old pink hood.

The boy about Eva's age the girl must be several years younger, and she is crying, and he is seeking to comfort her, and evidently endeavoring to persuade her to go on, further.

Somehow Eva's heart (always a tender one) is strangely softened to-night, and she longs to do something for that sorrowful-looking little boy and girl. She is an impulsive child, too, and so, without stopping to consider the matter, she rushes down stairs, and out the front door.

They are lighting the lamps up the street, and the cold wind sends a shudder through Eva's frame, as she bounds to the pavement.

"What ails the little girl?" she asks of the boy, in her soft voice.

He looks up in startled surprise, but something he finds in Eva's face makes him answer: "My little sister is tired and cold; we have walked a long way, and she says she can't go any further."

"Well, come right into the house and get warm, and let her rest," answers Eva. "Then we can send somebody home with you."

"We haven't got any home now," says the boy, sadly.

"Not got any home?" Eva stands still a moment with surprise and pity, then taking hold of the little girl's hand, she leads her into the house, without speaking another word, and the little boy follows.

They go into the sitting room, in the centre of which stands the Christmas tree with all its load of gifts, and the bright gas-light giving to every object in the luxuriously furnished room a new brilliancy, and the children stare around them, bewildered and overwhelmed, and the little girl is evidently quite alarmed, for she shrinks up close to her brother, and hardly dares to take the low chair that Eva offers her.

At this moment Grandfather Hughes comes into the room. He cannot be far from his seventieth birthday, for his hair is very white, and his brow is deeply furrowed, but his tall figure is erect, and he has a stately air and presence.

"Well, daughter, how is the Christmas tree coming on?" he asks in a cheery voice, then he starts, and asks, "Eva, how came these children here?"

"Why, you see, grandpa, I asked them to come in and rest, and get warm, because they haven't any home."

"Well, my child, you should have sent them down into the kitchen."

And now the little girl lifts up her head, and looks at the old man. She has a pale, wistful face, with soft blue eyes, and sunny hair; and somehow it troubles the old man, and his mind goes back to the time when, just such a face as that sat on his knee, and sometimes nestled itself against his heart. He stands still, looking at the child, until the tears come into her eyes, for she has a little toward heart.

"What is your name, little girl?" the voice of Grandfather Hughes is unusually gentle.

"Mary Ned."

The old man starts as though the words struck him. His face grows very pale, and he opens his lips two or three times to speak, and then pauses as though it cost him a painful effort to do this. At last he asks: "Where are your parents?"

"Willard can tell you," and the little girl turns to her brother.

He looks like his sister, but his hair and eyes are several shades darker, and he tells his story in a simple, straightforward way, which does not leave a doubt in your mind of its truth.

"Our father died four years ago, in Illinois. We lived there until mamma began to grow sick, and then about six weeks ago, we came to the city. Mamma took in sewing and supported us, but she grew worse all the time, and last week she died. Then they buried her; and Mrs. Watson, who lives in the chambers, kept us till to-day, but her husband drinks, and he swore we should not stay any longer. But just before mamma died, she called me to her, and told me there was a gentleman living on this street who was our grandfather, and I must go to him with little sister, and tell him 'Mary was dead, and this was all she had to leave him.' I've been all the afternoon trying to find the place but I can't."

"What was your grandfather's name, boy?" the old man leaned forward, and his breath panted through his lips as he asked the question.

"Joseph Hughes; have you ever heard of him, sir?"

The old man bowed his head a moment on his hands, and a sob shook his frame; the fountains, the long frozen fountains in his

heart leaped up, once more. "Mary, my little Mary! and his tones were full of tenderness and remorse, but alas, alas, they could not wake the dead. The old man rose up and drew the children to him."

"Yes, I will take you," he said. "You shall not want a home any longer; and I will be father and mother to you, my poor children, Mary's children. Eva, kiss your cousins." She understood it all, and came forward and kissed them both very tenderly, and then she whispered,

"Grandpa, they are your Christmas gifts, aren't they?"

"My Christmas gifts!" exclaimed the old man. "God be praised! my Christmas gifts!"

Riot on the Erie Railroad.

New York, 4th Dec. 1857.

A formidable disturbance has broken out among two hundred and odd laborers employed at the Piedmont terminus of the Erie Railroad. About a week since, the paymaster informed them that after Dec. 1st, their wages would be reduced from one dollar to seventy-five cents per day. This caused wide spread dissatisfaction among them, and a resolution was formed and conveyed to the paymaster that they would not work at reduced wages. The result was that they were all notified to quit, and 200 men were easily found in the city to take their place. Upon attempting to land however, they found the old force drawn up in hostile array to resist them; being put ashore, a scene of the wildest description ensued; clubs, stones, and all kinds of missiles were used. The invaders were pitched overboard, and finally compelled to abandon the attempt to land.

Upon returning to the city and stating the facts 25 metropolitan policemen were permitted to volunteer to go with the newly employed and put in possession of the premises. Cannon and small arms are said to be in waiting for at Piedmont. The party left upon one of the boats of the company late yesterday afternoon. At a later hour the company received information by telegraph that the steamer with her party arrived shortly after dark and found the place garri-soned by about 600 men under arms, and a brass cannon planted to prevent their landing.

A parley was held, but the old force resolutely refused to abdicate. They offer to go to work at old rates, but would resist to the death the attempt of any body of men sent to supersede them.

The steamer was hauled off out of cannon shot and anchored till morning.

ANOTHER FRIGHTFUL MYSTERY.—The City was again horrified on hearing that on Sunday last the body of a man was found near Little River; that his head was found lying some distance from the body, and that there were strong reasons to suspect that he had been murdered.

On Sunday afternoon the body was brought in by two men belonging in the neighborhood of Little River, named James Chisholm and James Henry, and George Stockford, the coroner's officer. The men before discovering the body, which some boys had discovered, had come in and reported the matter to the authorities. Great part of the flesh was gnawed off the face and head by some animal, probably dogs or foxes. The head, when found, lay with the face up. The body lay front downwards and was frozen hard. The right hand was almost entirely gnawed away. The left was as if in an attitude of defence. It is said that though a portion of the neck is gnawed and torn, yet part looks as if the head was cut off with a keen edged instrument.

Out doors it is said that the deceased was at one time in the employment of Mr. Ellen Hathaway, and disappeared about the time Mr. H. was reported to have lost his money. Of course a great many theories are deduced from these data.—Freeman.

Another Victim of the McKenzies Tragedy.

STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS.

Immediately after the body of the man found on the marsh at Little River had been identified before the coroner's jury, as being that of Henry Stewart, Capt. Scoullar, the indefatigable Superintendent of Police, went to work to discover where Stewart was last seen, the persons with whom he associated, and other matters which might lead him to ferret out the circumstances connected with his death. In all these he has been successful; his acquaintance with Breen was ascertained, and enough was brought to light to cause him to believe that Stewart was the strange man the murderers met on the road, about five miles from McKenzie's, on their return with the plunder. Both Breen and Slavin stated to the Captain of Police after their arrest, that a fourth man joined them on their return—that his appearance alarmed old Slavin, who thought

that Breen had accomplices for the purpose of murdering him, and taking away the stolen property, and that he struck at him with the axe, but that Breen afterwards pacified him by stating that he was well acquainted with Stewart, and that he was to be trusted.

On Monday last, Capt. Scoullar went out to the Penitentiary, and in presence of Mr. Quinton, the keeper, he put several questions to Patrick Slavin, who stated that on their way home, they met a man on the road as they turned off to go to his father's house. Breen was in advance. He carried a tin box which they took out of McKenzie's safe. It was so heavy that he could scarcely lift it with one hand. It was tied with a cloth. Breen had some conversation with the man, and old Slavin questioned him about the man, when Breen said he was all right; that he was acquainted with him. The strange man whom he described, (and whose description corresponded with that of Stewart,) he said took the box and carried it towards town, while Breen, Slavin and the boy went on to Slavin's house.

The boy Patrick stated, that Breen said he had killed the man by cutting his throat with a knife from ear to ear. He afterwards stated, before the coroner's jury which went out to the Penitentiary yesterday, to hear his evidence, that the tin box contained gold, paper, and other property, but he appears not to be aware of the value of its contents.

The examination of Alexander Lindsay and the other witnesses threw no further light on the subject; but taking all things into consideration, there can be no doubt that Breen met Stewart at the appointed place, and that he coolly murdered him in order to obtain possession of the money and other articles of value, as well as to hide his own and Slavin's fearful crimes.

The coroner's jury retired last evening.—[New Brunswick.]

Ovation to Lady Havelock in London.

Lady Havelock was present at Her Majesty's Theatre on the occasion of the production of M. Jullien's "Indian Quadrille." The fifth and concluding part of this elaborate composition is a battle piece, illustrating a series of military incidents and achievements, the heroes of which are the General and his devoted warriors. "The Campbells are coming" is first heard from a distance, and then by a cleverly managed "crescendo," swells out into an overpowering "fortissimo" for the entire orchestra. When the crowning victory is obtained, the band—with the multitudinous drums and fifes of several regiments, perform in obstreperous harmony a bold vigorous air called "General Havelock's Triumphant March," while the chorus declaim some verses in honour of the hero. The whole terminates with "Rule Britannia" and "God save the Queen." The conclusion was hailed with uproarious applause and unanimous cries for a repetition of the national airs.

Instead of acceding at once, however—in accordance with his usual custom—to the patriotic demand, M. Jullien, as soon as he could attract attention, addressed the audience something to this effect: "Ladies and Gentlemen.—As we are honoured this evening by the presence of Lady Havelock, the wife of the distinguished General—that British lion who has nobly hunted down the Bengal tiger—I am sure you will be as delighted as I am to know that she is among us." Then, pointing to a box on the first tier, he said "There is Lady Havelock!" This announcement was received with such tremendous cheering that Lady Havelock, who had been quietly listening to the music, in little expectation of such an incident, rose from her seat, and, coming forward to the front of the box with her daughters, gracefully saluted the audience. The acclamations that followed were again interrupted by M. Jullien, who spoke in a loud voice, and evidently as excited as if he had been an Englishman born. "Now, ladies and gentlemen," he said, "you shall join with me in three British cheers. I will give the word, and you shall respond, *ensemble*!" He did give the word, and his "Hip, hip, hurrah," thrice reiterated, was thrice echoed by such a "hurrah" from the united voices of the whole as made the walls "reverberate again." Rarely has a scene of greater enthusiasm been witnessed. Lady Havelock remained until the end of the performance and the great majority of the crowd kept her company. When the last piece was finished, the audience dispersed slowly, and the scene of "ovation" was changed from the theatre to the open street. A dense crowd blocked up the thoroughfare; and as Lady Havelock was recognized entering her carriage the cheering was renewed with the same vociferous heartiness.

There is in Richmond, Va., a family of juvenile slaves, seven in number, who play on the saxhorn. Sixty thousand dollars have been offered for them, but they are to

be sent to Europe, where it is expected that their musical talent, from the fact of their being slaves, will create a sensation.

Four Days later from Europe.

INTERESTING FROM INDIA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.

The steamer Europa arrived this morning, bringing later dates from India, which report the arrival out of fifteen troop ships, with six thousand men.

The mutineers have been defeated at Agra, with the loss of 43 guns captured, and one thousand of the rebels killed.

Gen. Havelock remained at Lucknow.—A large force of the enemy was in the vicinity.

The King of Delhi is to be tried by a Military commission. Two more of his sons have been shot.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Some additional failures are reported in England, but matters generally look more favorable. The demand for money was diminishing. Gold was flowing in steadily. Readstuffs held at 6d. advance.

Western canal flour 24s. 6d. to 25s.; corn and wheat a trifle more active. Provisions dull. Sugars 6d. to 1s. lower.

Tea—Prices barely maintained. Coffee dull.

Consols 91½ to 91¾.

California and Central America.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 12.—The steamship Empire City, from New York 21 inst., via Havana, is ashore at the Belize, but will probably be got off to-night. She connected at Havana with the steamship Star of the West, from Aspinwall with the California mails, and about two and a quarter millions in treasure for New York.

Walker, who it will be remembered took his departure from Mobile bay on the 13th ult. in the steamship Fashion, landed at Punta Arenas, in Nicaragua, on the 25th, with one hundred and fifty men. Not the slightest attempt was made to prevent the landing, and in fact the purpose of the expedition appeared to have not been even guessed.

The U. S. sloop-of-war Saratoga was lying in the harbor, and the Fashion passed under her stern at full speed with only ten men on deck. The whole party were landed on Scott's wharf. Walker had, it seems sent fifty men up the river by other entrances, before making his appearance at Punta Arenas. After landing the expedition, the Fashion took her departure for Aspinwall, where, at the departure of the Star of the West, she was taking in coal.

Commodore Paulding of the U. S. frigate Wabash, attempted to seize her at Aspinwall but on examination of her papers found them correct, and consequently could take no further steps against her.

The British and American naval forces had sailed from Aspinwall for San Juan, and would very probably take part in the scenes in that vicinity, or at least prevent the landing of any more filibusters. It was supposed that the difficulties between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, alluded to in previous accounts, would be settled without a resort to hostile measures.

The news by this arrival from California embraces no points of special interest. The public were much excited with regard to the sea-worthiness of the Pacific mail steamers.

A Banker cowed by a Lady.

A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, writing from Janesville, (Wisconsin,) Dec. 5, says:—On last Tuesday the good people of Janesville were furnished with a bit of excitement, growing out of the cowering of Mr. John P. Hoyt, a well known banker of this city, by Mrs. Clarinda A. Andrews, the proprietress of a millinery store. In the morning, as Hoyt was passing up West Milwaukee street to his office, Mrs. Andrews saw him from her store on the opposite side of the street, and seizing a stout cowhide which she had provided for the purpose, crossed the street, and the following conversation ensued: Mrs. A.—"Is your name Hoyt?" H.—(bowing politely)—"It is Madam." Mrs. A.—"You have acted the traitor to me and my husband;" and without further ado the lady proceeded to administer a severe flagellation, laying her whip over Hoyt's face and shoulders with an emphasis which was feelingly appreciated by the recipient. The proceeding of course collected quite a crowd, and the bystanders interfering, Hoyt escaped from the clutches of Madame A. A warrant was procured from the Police Court, and the lady brought before that tribunal, for assault and battery. The sapient dispenser of law at that court fined her \$50 and costs, which was promptly paid by the citizens.—The cause of the difficulty was alleged sharp practice with a mortgage, and bad faith on the part of Hoyt.

European Intelligence.

Arrival of the Canada.

The steamer Canada, Capt. Lang, arrived at Halifax on the 18th inst., but could not get up to her dock until after the American departure, about 3 A. M. The Canada reports, Dec. 14th, lat. 47, long. 42, passed American ship Quick-Step, bound East. The Canada arrived at Liverpool on Sunday the 29th ult.; the Adriatic arrived on the afternoon of Friday the 4th inst. The North Star left Southampton for New York on Wednesday the 21. The following were the main features of her news. The failures of Herman Cox & Co., in the London and Liverpool cotton trade; liabilities £60,000 stg.; Leschoff, Beer & Co., in the London Indian trade, for £30,000. M. Joel, Dantzic, £300,000 stg.; Hersch Moses & Co., Stettin, for a million and a half thalers.—H. Hoffman & Co., London. P. Maggee, and others less prominent.

The crisis is still more severe at Hamburg, and the failures too numerous to particularize. An order was promulgated at Berlin enacting the suspension of the usury laws.

The Queen of Spain has been delivered of a Prince. There is little else of interest.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Parliament was opened on the 3rd inst. by the Queen in person. The Queen's Speech was as follows:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

Circumstances have recently arisen connected with the commercial interests of the Country which have induced me to call Parliament together before the usual time. The failure of Joint Stock Banks and of some mercantile firms produced such an extent of distress as led me to authorize my ministers to recommend to the Directors of the Bank of England the adoption of a course of proceeding which appeared necessary for allaying the prevalent alarm. As that course has involved a departure from the existing law, a bill for indemnifying those who advised and who adopted it will be submitted for your consideration. I have observed with great regret that the disturbed state of commercial transactions in general has occasioned a diminution of employment in the manufacturing districts, which I fear cannot fail to be attended with much local distress.

I trust, however, that this evil may not be of long duration, and the abundant harvest with which it has been graciously pleased Divine Providence to bless this land, with I hope in some degree will mitigate sufferings which this state of things must unavoidably produce.

While I deeply deplore the severe suffering to which many of my subjects in India have been exposed, and while I grieve for the extensive bereavements and sorrow which it has caused, I have derived the greatest satisfaction from the distinguished successes which have attended the heroic exertions of the comparatively small force which have been opposed to greatly superior numbers, without the aid of the powerful reinforcements despatched from this country to their assistance. The arrival of those reinforcements will, I trust, speedily complete the suppression of this widely spread revolt.

After still further eulogizing the gallantry of the troops, the speech continues:—

"It is satisfactory to know that the great mass of the population of India have taken no part in the rebellion, while the most considerable of the native Princes have acted in a most friendly manner, and have rendered important services. I have given directions that papers relating to these matters shall be laid before you. The affairs of my East Indian dominions will require your serious consideration, and I recommend them to your earliest attention.

The nations of Europe are in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace, which nothing seems likely to disturb. The stipulations of the treaty which I concluded with the Shah of Persia have been faithfully carried into execution, and the Persian forces have evacuated the territory of Herat.

Your attention will be called to the laws which regulate the representation of the people in Parliament, with a view to consider what amendments may be safely and beneficially made therein."

In the House of Lords, Macaulay took his seat as peer.

Lord Portman moved, and Lord Carew seconded, the address in response to the speech, which was agreed to.

In the House of Commons, Lord J. Russell gave notice that on the 10th he should move for a committee of the whole House to consider the oaths of abjuration and the civil disabilities of the Jew.

Mr. Headlam gave notice that he should move a resolution condemnatory of the principles of unlimited liability in case of joint stock banks. The address agreed to after some debate, in which D'Israeli censured generally the action of the government.—Lord Palmerston stated that he did not intend to bring in any bill on India till after recess, and announced his intention of asking the House to make provision for Gen. Havelock, as the India Company would do the same for Wilson.

In the Lords, on Friday, Ellenborough gave notice that he would move for a copy of the Indian Arms Act, and information in regard to licensing the press of India.

In the Commons, Palmerston stated the terms asked by Austria for the use of her projected line in telegraphing to India, were such as the Government could not accept,

and negotiations fell through. He said the Turkish Government is anxious to lay a line from Constantinople to the head of the Persian gulf. Mr. Milner called attention to the imprisonment of two British engineers in Naples, and asked what the Government had done in the matter. Palmerston replied that the Consul had been admitted to the prisoners, and found that their only complaint was want of books.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved for a committee of the whole House to consider the Bank Act, and asked leave to bring in a bill to indemnify the Bank for the recent over-issue. He explained the necessity for the action which the ministry took, and suggested that it might be advisable among other reforms to make the bank notes a legal tender throughout the kingdom.—After some opposition from Gladstone and D'Israeli, the motion was agreed to, and the bill read a first time.

The Leviathan steamship has been moved still further down the launching ways, but the ship had still 107 feet to move before she would be afloat. Her progress was very tedious, but the Engineers had perfect control, and no fears were entertained for a successful result in a short time. A scaffolding from which to view the launch broke down, and a number of persons were more or less injured. The vessel on Friday had nearly five feet of water under her.

The Bankruptcy Court have decided that the Great Northern Railroad had no claim on the Redpath's estate.

Financial Affairs.—In London, on the 24th, money continued in active demand. The stock market was firm; caused by the arrival of the West India Mail steamer with £300,000 in silver. The suspensions of the day were Mendis Dacosta & Co., London, in the West India trade; liabilities £350,000 stg.; Kiewer & Co. in the German trade, for £50,000.

The semi-monthly shipment of silver to India and China was £100,000.

At a meeting of the Erie Railroad bondholders, it was resolved that a committee should be requested to receive subscriptions to the proposed new loan, and to communicate with the Directors in New York, with a view to an arrangement for general protection.

On Thursday the 3d, the funds were quiet, while money was in active demand in proportion for payments of the 4th. The failures were Hodgkinson & Burnside, London, wholesale stationers; Barber Roseman & Co. and Hirsch Strother & Co., both in the German trade, London; G. C. Pim, large corn merchant, Belfast; and Friedrichsen Bunne & Co., corn dealers, Hartlepool; liabilities not stated. Another large house is reported to have sought assistance from the Bank. Heavy exports of silver were making to Hamburg on the 14th; the funds fluctuated slightly but closed firm. No change in money; great caution observable. A despatch from Italy announces the failure of the house of Cellaro at Genoa, Milan and Turin.

(Very latest by Telegraph to Liverpool.)

Paris, Friday evening.—The Journal La Presse has been suppressed for two months, in consequence of the article which appeared in it yesterday, signed by M. Peyrat, on the refusal of Garibaldi and Cavour to take the oath prescribed to Members of the Corps Legislatif.

HAMBURG.—Friday.—The senate has just convened another extraordinary convocation of Burgherschaft for to-morrow, to empower former to establish government discount institutions with thirty millions of Banco capital.

(From the Times City Article.)

LONDON, Friday Evening.—The demand at the Bank and in the discount market continues active and payments maturing to day have been provided for in a more satisfactory manner than had been anticipated.

The funds opened steadily this morning at an advance of one eighth. There was subsequently some heaviness, but a decided recovery took place before the termination of business. A good effect was produced by the arrival of the Adriatic, with eighty thousand pounds in specie and satisfactory commercial intelligence from New York. The amount of gold taken to the Bank to day was twenty-nine thousand pounds.

The Daily News City article says,—"the funds improved one eighth to day. At the Bank of England to day the demand for money was to a fair extent, but not pressing.—In exceptional cases, first class bills are discounted somewhat below the bank rates.

The Launch of the LEVIATHAN is expected to be completed on Tuesday or Wednesday next.

The Tea market is depressed; it is almost impossible to effect sales.

MARKETS.—Consols 91½. Breadstuffs dull; Wheat 2d to 3d; Flour 6d to 1s, and Corn 6d lower.

Provisions depressed. Sugar, Tea, Coffee and Rice unchanged. Cotton quiet. Timber.—Yellow Pine 16d to 20d; Red 14d to 15d; Spruce 16d to 17d; Birch 12d to 20d. Deals 47 10s to 48 10s.

THE BANKS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK have resumed specie payments. At a meeting of bank managers on the 11th it was resolved to resume specie payments in full at once, and all claims upon them are now paid in coin. On the night of October 13, the banks resolved to suspend, and on the night of December 11, they resolved to resume.—The suspension has therefore continued fifty-nine days. The banks at Albany and most others throughout the State, and those of Boston and most of the New England States, will without doubt resume at once. The movement will gradually extend, and

we expect to see, with perhaps a few exceptions, before many weeks elapse, all the banks of the United States ranked again as specie paying institutions.

New York, Dec. 13.—A despatch from New Orleans states that 400 men landed from the Fashion at Punta Arenas. The ordinance which Walker expected to find there had been disposed of. He will receive an additional force of men, which will leave Mobile this week.

We regret to hear rumours of the suspension of several of our merchants in consequence of the difficulties of the present crisis, and the contracted system still adhered to by the Banks. The suspension no doubt will be temporary, but in the meantime much anxiety, and embarrassment widely spread, must be the result. How long is the screw to be unmercifully applied, and how long will the community neglect to come together for mutual aid and united action.—Halifax Jour.

Visiting, Invitation, and other Cards struck off at short notice.

The Standard.

ST. ANDREWS, DEC. 23, 1857.

Christmas.

The time honored and hallowed festival, the season of social gatherings and happy greetings—is fast approaching. According to ancient custom, the various members of families who have been separated during the year will be united, and friends will be gathered together—verifying the words of a poet, now so more,—

"Hear'st thou to heart,
Love wanders never."

This festive season we notice is more generally observed of late years by our neighbors "over the Line," than in former times. In the large cities they follow the good old British custom of holding Divine service in their places of worship—families are united together under the paternal roof, and give full scope to an interchange of kindly greetings and happy thoughts; the junior members are delighted with the presents hanging on the wide spread branches of the Christmas tree. In many family circles, however, in almost every community, the vacant chair tells the sad tale of some loved one who has "gone hence" never to return—of some who have left their homes to seek a living in distant lands; but, at this particular time, all are remembered. May those who possess the good things of this life, not forget their less fortunate neighbors, but give of their abundance, and so make it a festive season to them.

As Friday next will be Christmas Day, and it will have passed before our next number will be published, we improve the opportunity by wishing our friends and readers "a merry Christmas."

Mineral resources of Charlotte County.

Several of our contemporaries have noticed that the copper mine on the property of the Hon. J. J. Robinson, at Walspool, Campo Bello, is now being worked successfully.—The ore is reported to be of a superior quality, and abundant; it is also asserted that the speculation will prove remunerative to those engaged in it. Specimens of iron ore and coal have also been discovered on Campo Bello, and the adjacent islands.

In the Parish of St. George, we understand that some years ago silver ore was discovered in the vicinity of Red Rock, from which some small articles were manufactured, but either owing to the lack of the raw material or want of capital nothing further was done. At Mascarren in the same Parish, and at the Old Woman's Oven in St. Patrick, large quantities of copper ore have been sold to the Americans who shipped them to the United States. Since Dr. Gesner's geological survey of this County, it has been well known that the County of Charlotte abounds in mineral resources, which only require capital, skill and energy to develop them. We trust the day is at hand when capitalists will be induced to invest their money in working these mines, and that the investment will prove remunerative to all concerned. We look forward with confidence for brighter days for the County of Charlotte.

—The Railway although in its incipient stage of traffic, has convinced every unprejudiced person what may confidently be expected when it is opened to Woodstock, and the incalculable benefit it will be not only to its shareholders, but to this County.

We omitted to notice that Mr. Darling an enterprising merchant of Milltown, has purchased the Stores and Wharf formerly owned by the late John Wilson, Esq.; and that he contemplates doing a West India business; we trust it may prove a profitable one to him. He has already received and stored two car-

goes of Molasses, which he sells wholesale at fair prices. John D. Wilson, is his agent here, as may be seen by reference to our advertising columns.

NORTH BRITISH REVIEW.—We have received from Leonard Scott & Co., New York, the November number of the North British Review. The Contents are:—

Sir A. Alison's Histories.
Genesis and Science.
Luttrell's Diary.
Scottish Metaphysicians.
Slavery and the Slave States.
Beranger, Politician and Poet.
Travels in Arabia and Palestine, Early and Recent.

The opening article is a criticism on Sir A. Alison's Histories, which are contained in a colossal pamphlet of twelve thousand pages, which the reviewer has cut up with a skillful and unsparring hand. The other papers we have only glanced at.

WOODSTOCK, DEC. 17.

FIRE:—BURNING OF THE COUNTY GAOL.

On Monday morning last the County Gaol at Upper Woodstock was burned to the ground. There were confined in the gaol at the time four prisoners, two in the upper story, and two in the lower. These latter, two Frenchmen, first observed the fire, at about five in the morning, and attracted attention by their cries. The gaoler was absent, but his wife obtained the keys of the upper cells, and released the two men locked up in them. Before assistance arrived, the flames had made considerable progress, and the key of the cell in which the Frenchmen were confined, could not readily be found.—Consequently those who had gathered made an attack from the outside upon the iron grating of the cell window, and by desperate efforts succeeded in demolishing it sufficiently to allow the escape of the Frenchmen, who in five minutes more would have been beyond reach of human aid. The attention of every one having been engrossed by their rescue little or no effort was made to stay the progress of the flames. Indeed any attempt would in all probability have been fruitless, as there was neither fire engine nor even water at hand.

Opinions differ concerning the origin of the fire; but probably it was accidental.—Campbell, one of the prisoners, makes his escape, and has not yet been retaken.

This is the second gaol Carleton has lost by fire. The late one was built in 1848 at a cost of, we believe, £1,000. £500 of this is covered by insurance. It is to be desired that when a new gaol is built it shall be of material less inflammable than wood.—[Journal.

The Bangor papers speak of a cow on exhibition in that city, of the Devonshire and Durham breed, very large, and of fine proportions. She is six years old; girth, six feet nine inches; length, eight feet; and she stands four feet and six inches in height. Her weight is 1580 pounds. She was raised by Dr. James Emery of Frankfurt, and has been purchased by Llewellyn Emery of Bangor.

TRADE ON THE RIVER ST. JOHN.—

From a Tabular statement published in the Woodstock Sentinel, we learn that during the season of 1857, the steamers Richmond, Reindeer, and Bonnie Doon have made altogether 61 trips from Fredericton to Woodstock, 21 to Tobique, and 9 to Grand Falls, carrying 6,294 barrels to Woodstock, 2,788 to Tobique, 1,456 to Grand Falls, and of passengers down and to Fredericton—417. Of freight downward they brought 102 carts, 60 sheep, 8,964 bushels of oats, 2,529 bushels of potatoes, 83 kins of butter, 34 tons of clover seed, 100 timothy seed, 9½ tons of Buckwheat meal and about 500 bushels of buckwheat. The steamers first trip for the season was made on the 20th April and the last on the 25th Nov.

The Sentinel says:—One feature of the figures given would seem remarkable, viz., the fact, in the season just past, all the items of traffic have exceeded largely those of last year. This year but little lumbering will be done; parties who last year brought heavy freights to the market, for the supply of parties in the woods, this year have stored, comparatively speaking, no goods at all.—This year the products of the farms in the north and the adjacent County have been unusually large. These facts go to show that, unless the traders have terribly overrated the sources for consumption of their goods, the trade, population and wealth of the County must have increased to a very great extent. In another issue we hope to have some statistics respecting the traffic by tow-boats; meantime, we think that the freight carried by them, both up and down, has been quite equal to that by the steamers.

A NEW GOVERNOR.—Our readers will be glad to learn that there is some prospect of a new Lieutenant Governor being sent to this Province, at an early day, to take the place of Sir J. G. Le Marchant. A rumor, which we are inclined to think is not without foundation, has been current in town for the past week, to the effect that the Earl of Mulgrave has already been selected as the next Governor of Nova Scotia. It is possible that the present Governor may not take his departure before next summer, when the usual six years term will have expired; but the prevalence of this report would naturally lead to the hope that the change will take place at an earlier period.—Acadian Recorder.

A Water Proof Mixture for Leather.

Take one pint of tanner's oil, half-pound of tallow, a lump of good resin the size of a common shell lark, burgundy pitch size of a hen's egg, lamp-black, three cents worth—mix together, and melt gradually over a slow fire. When to be applied the mixture should be made about milk-warm, and put on with a sponge. The leather may be made a little damp, not wet. The above cement, when applied to boots and shoes, will effectually prevent their soaking water, and keep the leather pliant, and the feet of the wearer warm and dry. Every farmer who regards fort as a desideratum, should supply himself with this article, and apply it to his boots and shoes.

The Great American Dog "Prince."

The Illustrated London News, of Nov. 21, gives the following description of this enormous dog, recently exhibited at Windsor Castle to Queen Victoria. The dog was born in Pennsylvania, but as he is barely a year old he is far from being fully developed. His height is 37 inches; length 7 feet 9 inches; girth of body 41 inches; of fore leg 13, and of his neck 25 inches; weight over 200 pounds. Such is his strength that a man weighing 200 pounds may spring on his back without causing him to flinch. "Prince" is valued by his owner at \$1250.

Perry Davis' Pain Killer.—This unparalleled preparation is receiving more testimonials of its wonderful efficacy in removing pains, than any other medicine ever offered to the public. And these testimonials come from persons of every degree of intelligence, and every rank of life. Sold by druggists.

Ship News.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

—ARRIVED.

Dec. 17th.—Packet Matilda, McMaster, Eastport—passengers, &c.
Briar, Trio, McArthur, Portland.—New Brunswick and Canada Railway and Land Company, snow ploughs, &c.
Speed, Willett, Annapolis, coals.

MASONIC NOTICE.

THE Members of SAINT GEORGE LODGE, No. 312, will meet at their Lodge Room in McCready's Hall, on Monday, the 29th inst., at 2½ o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of installing officers, &c.
Transient Brethren are respectfully invited to attend.

By order of the W. M.
JOHN L. CAMERON, Secretary.

St. George, Dec. 18, 1857.

MORE NEW GOODS

Just received per-Packet ship Middleton, via St. John.

CLOTHING.

Blankets of every color, blue, brown, mix, &c. Oxford gray.
Rugby, Peabody, and smothering Cloths, Dressing, twilled Cassimeres, in black and fancy latest styles, and excellent quality German and Seal Cloths, for ladies' cloaking.

Blankets of every color, blue, brown, mix, &c. Oxford gray.

Horse Blankets and Rugs.

Red, blue, white, and fancy colored Flannels in plain and twilled.

Fur Caps and Gloves, of every description.

A splendid assortment of ready-made Clothes, of all descriptions, which will be sold at extremely low prices.

A splendid assortment of Carpets, in new patterns, 1, 2 and 3 ply. An excellent assortment of Rugs to match.

Which will sell extremely low.

Due to our Goods being late this season, which is much in our favor, also in the favor of those of purchasers from us, as they have both bought after Goods had fallen very much in the English market, and of course will afford us an opportunity of selling Goods much lower than any other here, which we are determined to do.

See handbill next week.

British House,
DENNIS BRADLEY.

St. Andrews.

CRUSHED SUGAR, TEA, &c.

Ex the "Imperial" from Liverpool, via St. John:

30 Chests Congout Tea.

23 Hbls. refined Crushed Sugar.

13 Boxes Woodstock Pipes.

1 Hbl. old Port Wine.

1 " old Sherry " &c., &c.

JAMES W. STREET.

Dec. 21, 1857.

New Brunswick and Canada Railway and Land Company.

NOTICE is hereby given, that from and after this 15th day of December, instant, all freights on Cordwood, will be charged for by the Truck instead of by the Cord as heretofore. The charge for each Truck will be \$3 from the Fredericton Road Store and all Stations South of that point, \$3.42 from Lawrence's, and \$3.75 from the Barber Dam to St. Andrews; and all trucks that the Conductor may consider and declare to be overloaded will not be allowed to be attached to the train. No trucks will be permitted to be discharged or will be forwarded down the Line Extension till after the freight is paid—and if detained over 24 hours a demurrage of \$2 per truck, per day, will be incurred.

JULIUS THOMPSON, Manager.

St. Andrews, Dec. 15th, 1857.—Provincialist 21.

A FLOCK OF GESE

CAME to the farm of a Farmer residing a few miles from St. Andrews: the owner can have them by proving property and paying expenses, on application at the STANDARD OFFICE.

