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# WEEKLY MISCELLANY.

Devoted to the Intellectual and Moral Improvement of the Young.

Vol. I. Halifax, N. S. Thursday, January 21, 1864. No. 30.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT \$1 PER YEAR  
IN ADVANCE, BY

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Subscriptions received by the Agents, and at the  
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HALIFAX, N. S. JANUARY 21, 1864.

Subscribers who have not yet done so, will oblige by paying their subscriptions to our Agents for their respective neighbourhood. These payments are required to defray publishing expenses, and will be very acceptable at the present time.

## "IT IS LOW."

We scarcely know any error into which people are more ready to fall than the notion that certain lines of business are low. What this thing is which is called low, we have never been rightly able to understand: for it varies in different places, and is never exactly the same anywhere. It likewise varies according to times. A thing was low twenty years ago which is not low in the present day; and we have a distinct remembrance of things being considered low, which are low no longer. We are quite certain of the fact, that those who once called out low, have themselves yielded to the spirit of lowness, and now emulate others in their multifarious efforts. Thus a change is perpetually going on in notions of what is low. The idea is breaking down. The thing that was low in one year, is not low the next; and he who scruples to transact any honest piece of business from an idea that it is low, may rest assured of this, that he will soon see some one less fastidious step in and take the said business from him: and what is more, he will see that very person thrive and be respected for doing that which he at one time foolishly rejected and was ashamed of.

There is nothing intrinsically low, if it be consistent with what is just and reasonable. We are all, every one of us, living by ministering, some way or other, to each other's necessities and comforts. The proprietor who lets his land to a farmer, properly speaking, also lives by the sale of grain, turnips, grass, cattle, &c., the farmer being merely a convenient instrument for conducting the negotia-

tions and gathering in the money; or he owns coal-pits, and through the medium of a tax-man or lessee, supplies fuel to all and sundry who will buy of him. What great difference, then, is there, in one respect, between a nobleman who possesses lands and coal pits, and the merchant or tradesman who keeps a shop? No one pretends there is any substantial difference. The whole world is but a great shop, in which all are sellers and buyers in turn, and in which each is expected to do something useful for the general well-being of the concern. Let us, for the sake of consistency and common sense, get rid of this preposterous notion of lowness. It is the bane of rational enterprise, and keeps hundreds from doing that which would be really profitable and lucrative. Honour and shame, as Pope observed, arise from no particular condition in life; true merit consists in the correct performance of our part, whatever that may chance to be.

## Family Department.

**Sleeplessness.**—Among the remedies for sleeplessness, with which so many are troubled, the following is worth a trial:—Nervous persons, who are troubled with wakefulness and excitability, usually have a strong tendency of blood to the brain, with cold extremities. The pressure of blood on the brain keeps it in a stimulated or wakeful state, and the pulsations in the head are often painful. Let such rise and chafe the body and extremities with a brush or towel, or rub smartly with the hands, to promote circulation, and withdraw the excessive amount of blood from the brain, and they will fall asleep in a few moments. A cold bath, or a sponge bath and rubbing, or a good run, or a rapid walk in the open air, or going up or down stairs a few times just before retiring, will aid in equalizing circulation and promoting sleep. These rules are simple, and e. s. of application in castle or cabin, mansion or cottage, and may minister to the comfort of thousands, who would freely expend money for an anodyne to promote "Nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep."

**Holland Cases for Pillows, &c.**—One very common instance of the unfortunate result of being "penny wise and pound foolish" is to be found in the continual

escape of valuable feathers or down from valueless old "ticking" cases. As ticking is an expensive article, many house-keepers find a difficulty in procuring it; not thinking that any other material can supply its place. Thus every day the feathers diminish in their pillows, and the dust and flue increase in their rooms, until their formerly really valuable pillows are not deserving of an expensive covering. In such cases, and as a preventive of such cases, I can recommend a *fine close brown holland*, instead of ticking. It will be found to answer every purpose, to wear as well (for fine feathers or down), and to be much softer and pleasanter to lie on than the harsher and more expensive ticking. The French mostly use nothing else for the first covers to the down of which their quilts or "duvets" are composed; nor, speaking from experience, can anything be better.

**To Season Earthenware and Iron.**—It is a good plan to put new earthenware into cold water, letting it heat gradually till it boil, then letting it cool. Brown earthenware especially may be toughened in this way. A little rye or wheat bran, thrown in while it is boiling, will preserve the glazing from being injured by acid or salt. New iron should be gradually heated at first, as it is apt to crack.

**To obtain Flowers from Bulbous Roots in three weeks.**—Put quick-lime into a flower-pot till it is rather more than half full; fill up with good earth; plant your bulbs in the usual manner; keep the earth slightly damp. The heat given out by the lime will rise through the earth, which will temper its fierceness; and in this manner beautiful flowers may be obtained at any season.

**A Charlotte Pudding.**—a good pudding for those who cannot eat pastry. Grease a pie-dish, and put in it a layer of bread crumbs, then a layer of apples peeled and sliced, with a sprinkling of sugar, and a little alspice or nutmeg. Fill the dish with alternate layers, letting the bread crumbs be at the top; pour over all a sufficient quantity of milk or melted butter to moisten the bread crumbs, and bake an hour; or, if very large, it may require rather longer time to bake.

**BROWN BREAD.**—A lady sends the Rural New Yorker her receipt for Brown Bread, as follows: Also, for steamed brown bread, with description of steamer:

Two-thirds corn meal; one-third rye meal—that is, rye not bolted—for two loaves, baked in six quart pans: one coffee cupful of molasses; one pint mol-

one pint wheat flour; saleratus sufficient to sweeten the milk and ferment the molasses—the whole to be mixed quite soft with warm water. Bake immediately. You will observe there is no yeast in this bread, consequently it can be made at any time, without the usual preparation of making yeast and waiting for it to rise.

*A Receipt for Steamed Brown Bread.*  
—Two cups Indian meal; two cups rye meal; one cup flour; one pint sweet milk; one spoonful of salt; one spoonful of saleratus; steam three hours.

*A Form for Steamer for Brown Bread.*  
—A round tin vessel, holding three quarts, smallest at the bottom; cover to set down on outside; rim of cover one inch deep; a hollow tube five inches long, one inch in diameter at bottom, one-half inch at top; the tube to run from centre of steamer upwards; the top of tube to be made tight. The bread to be put into the steamer, and when covered, the steamer to be placed in a kettle of boiling water. Bread cooked in this way is excellent, if eaten while warm.

#### COFFEE VS. BRANDY

"We shall have to give them a wedding party," said Mrs. Eldridge to her husband.

Mr. Eldridge assented.

"They will be home to-morrow, and I think of sending out invitations for Thursday."

"As you like about that," replied Mr. Eldridge. "The trouble will be yours."

"You have no objection?"

"Oh, none in the world. Fanny is a good little girl, and the least we can do is to pay her this compliment on her marriage. I am not altogether satisfied about her husband, however; he was rather a wild sort of a boy a year or two ago."

"I guess he's all right now," remarked Mrs. Eldridge; "and he strikes me as a very kind-hearted, well-meaning young man. I have flattered myself that Fanny has done quite as well as the average run of girls."

"Perhaps so;" said Mr. Eldridge, a little thoughtfully.

"Will you be in the neighborhood of Snyder's?" inquired the lady.

"I think not. We are very busy just now, and I shall hardly have time to leave the store to-day. But I can step around there to-morrow."

"To-morrow, or even the next day will answer," replied Mrs. Eldridge.

"You must order the liquors. I will attend to everything else."

"How many are you going to invite?" inquired Mr. Eldridge.

"I have not made out a list yet, but it will not fall much short of seventy or eighty."

"Seventy or eighty!" repeated Mr. Eldridge. "Let me see! Three dozen of champagne; a dozen of sherry; a dozen of port; a dozen of hock, and a gallon of brandy,—that will be enough to put life into them I imagine."

"Or death!" Mrs. Eldridge spoke to herself, in an undertone.

Her husband, if he noticed the remark, did not reply to it, but said, "Good morning," and left the house. A lad about sixteen years of age sat in the room during this conversation, with a book in his hand and his eyes on the page before him. He did not once look up or move; and an observer would have supposed him so much interested in his book, as not to have heard the passing conversation. But he had listened to every word. As soon as Mr. Eldridge left the room, his book fell upon his lap, and looking towards Mrs. Eldridge he said in an earnest but respectful manner:

"Don't have any liquor, mother."

Mrs. Eldridge looked neither offended nor irritated by this remonstrance, as she replied:

"I wish it were possible to avoid having liquor, my son; but it is the custom of society, and if we give a party, it must be in the way it is done by other people."

This did not satisfy the boy, who had been for some time associated with the Cadets of Temperance, and he answered, but with modesty and great respect of manner,

"If other people do wrong, mother—what then?"

"I am not so sure of its being wrong, Henry."

"Oh, but mother," spoke out the boy, quickly, "if it hurts people to drink, it must be wrong to give them liquor. Now I've been thinking how much better it would be to have a nice cup of coffee. I am sure that four out of five would like it a great deal better than wine or brandy. And nobody could possibly receive any harm. Didn't you hear what father said about Mr. Lewis? That he had been rather wild? I am sure I shall never forget seeing him stagger in the street once. I suppose he has reformed. But just

think, if the taste should be revived again, and at our house, and he should become intoxicated at his wedding party." Oh, mother, it makes me feel dreadfully to think about it! And dear Cousin Fanny! What sorrow it would bring to her!"

"O dear, Henry! Don't talk in that kind of a way! You make me shudder all over. You're getting too much carried away by this subject of temperance."

And Mrs. Eldridge left the room to look after her domestic duties. But she could not push from her mind certain uneasy thoughts, which her son's suggestions had awakened. During the morning, an intimate lady friend came in, to whom Mrs. Eldridge spoke of the intended party.

"And would you believe it," she said, "that old-fashioned boy of mine, actually proposed that we should have coffee, instead of wine and brandy."

"And you're going to adopt the suggestion," replied the lady, her face lighting up with a pleasant smile.

"It would suit my own views exactly; but then, such an innovation upon a common usage as that, is not to be thought of for a moment."

"And why not?" asked the lady. "Coffee is safe; while wine and brandy are always dangerous in promiscuous companies. You can never tell in what morbid appetite you may excite an unhealthy craving. You may receive into your house a young man with intellect clear, and moral purposes well balanced, and send him home at midnight, to his mother, stupid from intoxication! Take your son's advice, my friend. Exclude the wine and brandy, and give a pleasant cup of coffee to your guests instead."

"O dear, no, I can't do that!" said Mrs. Eldridge. "It would look as if we were too mean to furnish wines and brandy. Besides, my husband would never consent to it."

"Let me give you a little experience of my own. It may help you to a right decision in this case."

The lady spoke with some earnestness, and a sober cast of thought in her countenance. "It is now about three years since I gave a large party, at which a number of young men were present,—boys I should rather say. Among these was the son of an old and very dear friend. He was in his nineteenth year—a hand-

some, intelligent, and most agreeable person—full of life and pleasant humor. At supper-time, I noticed him with a glass of champagne in his hand, gaily talking with some ladies. In a little while after, my eye happening to rest on him, I saw him holding a glass of port wine to his lips, which was emptied at a single draught. Again passing near him, in order to speak to a lady, I observed a tumbler in his hand, and knew the contents to be brandy and water. This caused me to feel some concern, and I kept him in closer observation. In a little while he was at the table again, pouring out another glass of wine. I thought it might be for a lady upon whom he was in attendance; but no, the sparkling liquor touched his own lips. When the company returned to the parlors, the flushed face, swimming eyes, and over-hilarious manner of my young friend, showed too plainly that he had been drinking to excess. He was so much excited as to attract the attention of every one, and his condition became the subject of remark. I was mortified and distressed at the occurrence, and drawing him from the room, made free to tell him the truth. He showed some indignation at first, and intimated that I had insulted him; but I rebuked him sternly, and told him he had better go home. I was too much excited to act very wisely. He took me at my word, and left the house. There was no sleep for my eyes on that night, Mrs. Eldridge. The image of that boy, going home to his mother at midnight, in such a condition, and made so by my hand, haunted me like a rebuking spectre; and I resolved never again to set out a table with liquors to a promiscuous company of young and old, and I have kept that word of promise. My husband is not willing to have a party, unless there is wine with the refreshments, and I would rather forego all entertainments, than put temptation in the way of any one. Your son's suggestion is admirable. Have the independence to act upon it, and set an example which many will be glad to follow. Don't fear criticism or remark; don't stop to ask what this one will say, or that one think. The approval of our own consciences is worth far more than the opinions of men. Is it right? that is the question to ask; not how will it appear, or what will people say? There will be a number of parties

given to your niece without doubt; and if you lead off with coffee instead of wine, all the rest of Fanny's friends may follow the good example.

*Concluded in next No.*

### A MONSTER OF THE DEEP.

In some parts of the ocean there are enormous sea animals called "Sepia," which are a sort of polypi. They have very long legs, and are said sometimes to seize upon the coral divers along the coast of Italy. Mr. Beals tells of the following adventure with a creature of this sort:—

While upon the Bonin Islands, searching for shells on the rocks which had just been left dry by the receding tide, I was much astonished at seeing at my feet a most extraordinary-looking animal, crawling towards the retreating surf. I had never seen one like it before. It was creeping on its eight legs, which, from their soft and flexible nature, bent considerably under the weight of his body, so that it was lifted by the efforts of the tentacles only a small distance from the rocks.

It appeared much alarmed on seeing me, and made every effort to escape, while I was not much in the humor to capture so ugly a customer, whose appearance excited a feeling of disgust, not unmixed with fear. I, however, endeavored to prevent its escape by pressing on one of its legs with my foot; but although I used considerable force for that purpose, its strength was so great that it several times quickly liberated its member, in spite of all the efforts I could employ, in this way, on wet, slippery rocks. I now laid hold of one of the tentacles with my hands and held it firmly, so that the limb appeared as if it would be torn asunder by our united strength. I gave it a powerful jerk, wishing to disengage it from the rocks to which it clung so closely by its suckers, which it effectually resisted; but the moment after, the apparently enraged animal lifted its head, with its large eyes protruding from the middle of its body; and, letting go its hold of the rocks, suddenly sprang upon my arm, which I had previously bared to the shoulder for the purpose of thrusting it into the holes in the rocks to discover shells, and clung with its suckers to it with great power—endeavored to get its beak, which I could now see between the

roots of its arms, in a position to bite. A sensation of horror pervaded my whole frame when I found this monstrous animal—for it was about four feet long—fixed so firmly to my arm. Its cold, slimy grasp was extremely sickening, and I immediately called to the captain, who was also searching for shells at some distance, to come and release me from it by taking me down to the boat, during which time I was engaged in keeping the beak away from my hands. He quickly released me by destroying my tormentor with the boat-knife, when I disengaged it by portions at a time. This animal was the species of "Sepia" which is called by whalers "rock squid."

Thus are these remarkable creatures, from the adaptation of their remarkable tentacles and modifications of their bodies, capable of sailing, flying, swimming, and creeping on the shore, while their senses, if we may judge from the elaborate mechanism of their organs, must possess corresponding neatness and perfection.

### A TALE OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS.

We take from a very old monthly publication the following extraordinary narrative. The circumstances are certainly within the range of possibility, since no putrefaction could take place whilst the bodies of the sufferers were in the temperature of a vessel "encased in thick-ribbed ice."

In the spring, some years ago, a whaling vessel sailed from the port of London, upon a voyage to the Polar Seas. Nothing material is said to have occurred until their arrival at those solitary regions, when it became the duty of the crew to keep a perpetual look out upon the horizon, in search of fish. Whilst thus occupied, it was fancied by one of the seamen that a sail was discernible as far to the northward as the eye could reach; as the course of the whaler was toward the supposed vessel, a mast became gradually distinguishable amidst the mountain of ice which appeared in that quarter to bound the sea.

It was now summer, and the afternoon unusually calm, whilst the whaler gradually neared the object in view, the supposition being that it was a vessel engaged in operating upon the blubber, in a bay which would open to the view upon approaching nearer to the ice. Upon

## News of the Week.

A fire occurred on Monday morning in the premises owned by Mr. Falconer, and occupied by Messrs. Brown and Smith, near the Jerusalem Warehouse. The firemen were promptly on hand, and having a plentiful supply of water the flames were speedily extinguished.

A building at the west end of Sackville Street, owned by Mr. Stevens and occupied by Mr. Hutchinson, as a paint shop, was destroyed by fire about 6 o'clock yesterday morning.

Fraser's Rake Factory, at Green Hill, Pictou, was destroyed by fire last Saturday. The loss to the proprietor is said to be serious.

The Parliament of Canada will meet on the 4th February, and the New Brunswick Parliament on the 16th.

Mr. Coombes, Alderman Spens's solicitor, has commenced proceedings against the City Council, laying the damages at \$4000, for refusing to admit the Alderman to his seat at the Council Board at the proper time.

## THE COTTAGE OF CONTENTMENT.—

The gathering at Temperance Hall—to witness the entertainment of the Band of Hope—on Thursday evening last was unusually large; every seat being occupied long before the performance commenced, and nearly as many persons outside who were unable to gain admittance. The delighted audience (says the Reporter) comprised parties of all ages and both sexes of citizens. The Gentlemen's Amateur Brass Band occupied the front centre of the gallery, and, under the able leadership of their talented preceptor, Mr. James, of the Naval Yard, at intervals won repeated plaudits from the vast assemblage. The cottage and grounds were tastefully decorated with our own native evergreen, which verily set off the old homestead to a very great advantage, and when graced by the grouping in the foreground of the juvenile performers the whole scene was singularly attractive.

Where all were equally well up in their parts, and with artless simplicity played to please their patrons, the name of the latter being legion, it would be invidious to particularise. It is sufficient to state that the rendering of the dialogues, recitations, singing, &c., reflected the highest credit not only upon the young masters and misses themselves, but also on those who had evidently been at so much pains to impart the requisite amount of instruction to the youthful actors. Nothing can be more satisfactory than in being enabled to state, that notwithstanding the vast assemblage in the Hall consisted of a very large proportion of youngsters, to whom rudeness is pretty generally accorded as their main characteristic, the utmost order and decorum was observed, and seldom indeed has a more

quiet and attentive audience been brought together than on the evening in question. The entertainment was repeated on Monday evening with similar success; and we are glad to learn that the Cottage of Contentment will also be presented before the inmates of the Provincial Hospital for the Insane, at Dartmouth, on some future evening.

THE POWDER EXPLOSION.—The rumored explosion of powder at Rocky Lake Mill, on Saturday last, was not so serious as at first stated. The explosion occurred early in the morning of a time when none of the employes were on the premises. It would appear that one hundred and twenty pounds of the material had been placed to dry in a temporary shed used as a drying room, and the explosion was probably occasioned by the fire being too strong. Be this as it may the shanty was blown to atoms, and it was indeed most fortunate that the people were away at the time, as otherwise much injury to life and limb might have resulted.—Reporter.

MORTALITY AMONG CHILDREN.—It is with sincere sorrow that we have to report frequent deaths among the children of this city. Full many a home in Halifax has within the past few weeks been called to mourn the untimely departure of one or more of the prattling loved little ones, whose innocent ways had entwined them around the hearts of parents and relatives, and excited more than ordinary interest on the part of friends outside the household. Scarlet fever, of unusual virulence and fatal description, has proved, and is proving, a fell destroyer of young life in our midst. In some instances several youthful members of the same family have been summoned home, and one household at least has come to our knowledge in which the whole of the children comprising it have been swept away by this disease.—Id.

A number of journeymen carpenters have formed an Association, entitled "The House Joiners' Union Society of Halifax." The rules and regulations of this society, as we learn from the Reporter, have been framed in the most liberal spirit, and its funds are intended to be dispensed upon the broad principles of benevolence.

The inmates of the Poor's Asylum are so numerous this season, that the Commissioners have applied to the City Council for additional accommodation for houseless paupers. The Council in reply requested the Commissioners to procure additional room for those applying for relief, on the understanding that the city would bear a fair proportion of the expense.

The Secretary of the Deaf and Dumb Institute acknowledges the receipt of various donations from charitable persons in aid of the establishment.

arriving, however, at the spot, it became clear that the vessel was a wreck, embedded in the ice, and could only be approached by a boat. This having been lowered, the captain and several of the seamen landed on the ice, and proceeded to the vessel, which proved to be a brig. The sails were furled, very little appeared on deck, and all the arrangements were those of a vessel laid up for a long period of time. Descending to the cabin, the first object that was seen was a large Newfoundland dog, rolled upon a mat, and apparently asleep. Upon touching the animal it was found to be dead, and the body frozen to the hardness of stone. Entering the cabin, was next seen a young lady seated at a table; her eyes were open, and gazing with a mild and steadfast expression upon the new comers to that solitary spot. She was a corpse, and in that apparently resigned and religious attitude had been frozen to death. Beside her was a young man, who, it appeared, was the brother of the lady, and commander of the brig. He, too, was dead, but sitting at the table, and before him lay a sheet of paper, upon which was written the following words—"Our cook has endeavored since yesterday morning to strike a light, but in vain; all is now over." At the other side of the cabin stood the cook, with a flint and a steel in his hand, frozen to a statue, in the vain endeavor to procure that fire which alone could save him and his companions from the cold arms of death. The superstitious terrors of the seamen now hurried the captain away from the wreck, the log-book alone being brought away, and from this it appeared that the ill-fated vessel was a brig which had belonged to the port of London, and had sailed for the Arctic regions more than fourteen years before.

## Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping.

THE undersigned have been appointed by the Committee of Lloyd's Register, London, their resident Surveyor for the Province of Nova Scotia. Shipbuilders and Ship Owners in Nova Scotia requiring to have their vessels surveyed for classification in the Register Book of this Society, will please make application for the present at the Office, Windsor, N. S., where copies of the Society's Rules and any necessary information can be obtained.

JOSEPH I. TUCKER,

Dea. 17. Lloyd's Surveyor.

The following gentlemen have been elected officers of the Nova Scotia Historical Society for the present year: President, Judge Bliss; Vice Presidents—Judge Wilkins, Hon. Joseph Howe; Council, The Chief Justice, Hon. C. Tupper, Dr. Almon, Dr. Golpin, Hon. J. McCully, T. B. Akin and Beaumish Murdoch, Esqrs; Corresponding Secretary—Mr. Hunter Duvar.

The annual report of the Society of St. Vincent of Paul in this city, has recently been published. We learn from it that, during the past year over sixteen hundred visits were made to poor families by members of the Conference; and that the sum of £370 15s. 9d. was expended for charitable purposes. The Society of St. Vincent of Paul has done a powerful amount of good during the many years it has existed in this city; and its members are deserving of encouragement in their commendable efforts to alleviate the sufferings of the deserving poor who are struggling in our midst.—*Rec.*

The Hon. Edward Kenny has presented the munificent sum of \$400 to the St. Vincent of Paul, in this city, in aid of the fund for the relief of the sick and destitute.

An Industrial School, for boys and girls, we understand, has been commenced in this city, with prospects of successful results.

A new Division of the Sons of Temperance was organized at Waverley Diggings on the 6th inst.

The Cape Breton News reports the death of three ladies, aged respectively, 103, 93, and 90.

On the evening of the 4th inst. several shocks of an earthquake were felt in the city of Hamilton, Canada, causing the greatest sensation and alarm among those living in the vicinity more particularly visited by the shock.

Rev. Dr. Foster, of Springfield, Mass., in a review of the war, stated that one million eight hundred thousand men had been called into the field, and 2,000 battles and skirmishes had taken place; and 210,000 men had been killed, wounded and made prisoners since the war began.

The Right Rev. Dr. Timon, one of the Bishops recommended as successor to Archbishop Hughes, is a nephew of the late Hon. Hugh Bell.

#### AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

By Telegraph to Morning & Evening Papers.

St. John, Jan. 15.—The Petersburg Register of the 9th inst. contains the following Confederate Telegraphs:

"The Yankees busy at Charleston on the 5th, repairing damages to their batteries caused by a storm."

Gen. Lee announces the capture of 250 head of cattle and 200 Yankees.

Evening.—It is reported that Lee's

army instead of being depleted is being increased by recruits. Strenuous efforts are being made to organize and recruit their cavalry for offensive operations in the spring.

Private information reports Charleston being gradually destroyed by shells.

Reported thousand of rebellious Sioux are fleeing from Minnesota, causing much trouble near Selkirk, British America—British authorities refused permission to Federal troops to cross the line to prevent their outrages.

Jan. 16.—Guerrillas have made a raid into Vienna village, capturing fifteen government horses.

A Memphis paper contains a Union report, that four hundred Confederates recently captured a passenger train between Duval's Bluff and Little Rock, and injured the road to such an extent as to cause the destruction of the next train, with the lives of many passengers.

A Chattanooga despatch of the 11th reports Longstreet fortifying Bull's Gap, and reinforced by twelve thousand men, making the strength of his force thirty-four thousand.

Jan. 18.—Some of the Lamar's intercepted correspondence is published. G. B. Lamar writes from Savannah to parties to call on Slidell in Paris, to negotiate for French protectorate, in case of necessity, as Confederates will gladly accept it in last extremity. With Mexico, France, and Confederacy, in alliance, and free trade, we hold, we would eclipse the world. Other correspondence refers to purchase of steamers in England.

Evening.—Raleigh, N. C., Progress has editorials proclaiming that peace only can prevent starvation. The masses of the hardworking people want and will have it.

Scout from Point Pelee, Canada, reports that two thousand Confederates are there ready to make attack on Johnson's Island, on ice, to liberate Confederate prisoners.

Proposition for arming negroes, it is reported, is vigorously opposed in Confederate Congress.

Jan. 19.—The British blockade runner, Silvanus, from Nassau, has been captured in Doby Sound, Ga., by the gunboat Heron.

The Wilmington Journal announces the beaching of two more blockade runners, the "Adair," "Ranger."

The number of the Confederate troops west of the Mississippi is estimated at 30,000.

Jan. 20.—Correspondence from Hilton Head of the 15th inst., mentions the sailing of a few vessels on a new expedition accompanied by a large negro force.

The siege of Charleston is temporarily suspended, except by fire of guns from Morris Island.

The Richmond Sentinel, of the 8th inst., says that the Yankee troops are

being landed in Morehead city, N. C.

Richmond papers report the passage of a Bill in Confederate Congress prescribing all Confederates heretofore furnishing substitutes.

Evening.—Secretary Seward in letter to Minister Adams, dated Oct., says that United States insist and must continue to insist, that the British Government is responsible for depredations upon American commerce by the Alabama. Secretary Seward cannot, therefore, instruct Minister Adams to refrain from pressing claims now in his hands.

Secretary Seward congratulates Gen. Banks on his occupation of the Rio Grande, at apparently critical juncture, and instructed him to preserve strict neutrality in regard to Mexico, in preventing supplies and aid to either belligerent in that country; but to observe events there and advise Government thereof.

St. Domingo advices represent Spaniards getting the worst of it.

Jan. 21.—Gen. Banks is satisfied that more than one-tenth of the people of Louisiana desire the earliest possible restoration of that State to the Union.

The Conservative papers in North Carolina are in open rebellion against the wholesale conscription act pending in the Confederate Congress, and are predicting the secession of that State from the Southern Confederacy;—while other papers say the South must lay down its arms unless the act is passed into full effect.

A gentleman recently from Richmond reports the prevalence of an universal feeling of terror and dependence in the South.

#### EUROPEAN NEWS.

By recent arrivals at Portland and New York English dates were received to the 2nd inst.

It is confirmed that England has protested against the Federal occupation of Schleswig.

JAPAN.—The Tycoon has yielded to demand of Prince Satsuma, and agreed to the expulsion of foreigners.

Reported that England takes a decided stand against the Federal occupation of Schleswig, and, if carried out, she will assist Denmark to resist.

Napoleon made a pacific speech on New Year's day, expressing to the American Minister the hope of peace in America.

St. John, Nfld. Jan. 17.—Columbia, from Galway, 3th, arrived at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

It is stated that Parliament will meet Feb. 4th.

LATEST—Copenhagen, 5th.—The Danish Government called out 14,000 reserve troops.

The Holstein question shows increasing bitterness.

LOCAL AGENTS FOR THE  
**Weekly Miscellany.**

*County of Halifax.*

Mrs. Margaret Crooks, Lawrencetown.  
Messrs. Luther Sterns, Dartmouth.  
William Blakeney, Jeddore.  
William A. Cox, Oldham.  
John Lingley, Waverley.  
James Sutherland, Gay's River.  
R. B. Taylor, Gay's River Road.  
Joseph Lantz, Indian Harbour.  
John Booth sen'r. Prospect.  
James Gardner jr. Musquodoboit Harbour.  
Samuel L. Henry, Upper Musquodoboit.  
D. F. Lockerby, Bedford.  
Neil Bollong, Pope's Harbour.  
Henry G. Leslie, Spry Bay.  
William Bissett, Lower Ward.

*County of Colchester.*

Messrs. Thomas Baird, Onslow.  
J. B. Calkhan, Truro.  
Hugh McIntosh, Head of Bay, Tatamagouche.  
Hugh Dickson, Upper Onslow.  
Walter B. Hingley, Kempt Town, Salmon River.  
Saml. C. Cox, Upper Stewiacke.  
Simon McDonald, L'r Stewiacke.  
Andw. K. Graham, Five Islands.  
P. Fulmor, DeBert River.

*County of Cumberland.*

Messrs. M. E. Hewson, River Philip.  
Levi Borden, Pugwash.  
Michl. K. Pugsley, River Hebert.  
Wm. B. Lodge, Maccan Mountain.  
James Finlay, Head of Amherst.  
Jos. Atkinson, Maccan Interval.  
John McNeil, Wallace Ridge.  
Gilbert Seaman, Minudie.  
John Bragg, Windham Hill.  
Oliver Kiug, Tidnish Cross Roads.  
W. E. Angervinc, Wallace River, Six Mile Road.  
Archd. Robertson, Fox Harbour.  
Wm. Grant, Parrsboro' Shore.  
George H. Forshner, Head of Wallace Bay.  
Chas. D. Rockwell, Rockwell Settlement, Amherst Shore.  
Donald McAuly, Amherst Corner.  
Andrew Taylor, East Branch River Philip.

*County of Pictou.*

Messrs. Wm. Fraser, New Glasgow.  
Alex. Fraser, Middle River.  
Thos. R. Fullerton, Sutherland's River.  
John McGilvray, Knoydart.  
Matthew M. Archibald, Alma.  
Mrs. C. M. McDonald, Forks, M. Riv.  
Christy McDonald, French Riv.  
Messrs. D. McDonald, Bailey's Brook.  
William Dunbar, West Branch East River.  
Geo. McKay, Mount Thom.  
John Forbes, Bridgeville, E. Riv.  
Alex. Fraser, McLellan's Brook, East River.  
Jas McDonald, Piedmont Valley

*County of Hants.*

Miss Theresa B. Wolfe, Falmouth.  
Mary Cox, Lower Selma.  
Messrs. James McDougall, Five Mile River, Shubenacadie.  
John T. Cochran, Newport.  
John W. Lavrs, Up'r Rawdon.  
Evan McPhee, Nine Mile River.  
Jos. Mosher, Mid. Kennetcook.  
Joshua Fish, Highfield, Newport.  
Samuel Kerr, Antrim.  
Daniel Huntly, Hantsport.  
Osmond O'Brien, Neel.

*King's County.*

Messrs. J. W. Borden, Canning.  
C. S. Davidson, Berwick.  
William Gilliatt, Church Street Cornwallis.  
Amos Bill Jacques, Waterville, Aylesford.  
Thomas Farnsworth, Morden.  
Cyrus Webster, Sheffield Mills, Cornwallis.  
Oliver Lockhart, Lockhartville.  
B. W. Chipman, Aylesford.  
James H. Hamilton, Walbrook, Horton.  
Samuel L. Fitch, Kentville.  
John Casey, Beach Hill.  
John Strong, Wolfville.

*County of Annapolis.*

Messrs. James I. Chipman, Middleton.  
R. Graves, Port Williams.  
R. M. Shaw, Clementsport.  
T. A. Margeson, Margaretville.  
Geo. Wells, Saw Mill Creek.  
Alfred Hoyt, Lequille.  
John W. James, Lawrencetown.  
Alfred Troop, Granville Ferry.  
Israel McNayr, Springfield.  
Timothy C. Munro, Maitland.  
Robt. A. Dakin, L'r Granville.

*County of Digby.*

Messrs. Enos Patten, Brookville.  
John Smith, Petite Passage.  
John C. Morse, Sandy Cove.  
John W. Powell, Long Island.  
L. McKay, St. Mary's Bay.  
Charlton Sabcan, New Tuskett, Clare.  
Ambrose Poole, Cedar Lake.  
Clement M. Melancon, Chica-ben, Clare.

*County of Lunenburg.*

Messrs. J. W. Andrews, Bridgewater.  
C. Publicover, Blandford.  
Jacob Mosher, Petite Reviere.

*Queen's County.*

Messrs. John R. Hall, Brooklyn.  
Ephraim Mack, Mill Village.  
Z. P. Armstrong, East Port Medway.  
Elkanah Morton, Middlefield.  
John S. Morse, Brookfield.  
Philip Fancy, Pleasant River.  
Joseph J. Letson, Port Medway.  
John W. Scott, Liverpool.

*County of Yarmouth.*

Messrs. Benj. C. Robbins, Arcadia.  
Frecman C. Parry, Beaver River.  
James H. Hamilton, Kempt.

*County of Shelburne.*

Mrs. Nancy Snow, Port Latour.  
Messrs. Leonard Knowles, Barrington West Passage.  
Robert Currie, Lewis Head.  
X. A. Chipman, Locke's Island.  
James McKay, Clyde River.  
Messrs. S. McGuire, Salmon River Lake.  
E. C. Cunningham, Guysboro'.  
Jas. H. Feltmate, White Head.  
Jas. W. Whitman, Manchester.  
Jonathan Hartley, Pirate Harbor.  
William Sawers, Cross Roads, Milford.

George Norris, Cape Canso.

*County of Sydney.*

Messrs. Donald Sinclair, Goshen.  
F. S. Cunningham, Harbor Road.  
Robt. Chisholm, Pomquet Forks.  
Jas. Randall, Little River Shore.  
John McMillan, St. Andrews.  
Jas. McDougall, Marshy Hope.  
E. Corbett, Harbor-au-Bouche.  
Donald McMillan, Head Lochabar Lake.

A. Stewart, Foot Lochabar Lake.  
Levi Irish, Little River.  
Charles McGillivray, Glen Road.

*County of Cape Breton.*

Messrs. D. McPhee, Low Point Shore.  
P. T. Clarke, Cosheath.  
Walter Young, Lingan.  
Donald Gillis, Lewis Bay.

*County of Victoria.*

Messrs. R. McKenzie, Great Bras d'Or.  
Murdoch McKenzie, Munro's Point, St. Anns.  
John Burke, Ingonish.  
Donald Gillis, Big Interval.  
Neil McAskill, Cape North.  
D. McIntosh, Bay St. Lawrence.  
John McNaughton, St. Patrick's Channel.

*County of Richmond.*

Messrs. Angus McNeil, D'Esousse.  
Jas. Smith, McPherson's Ferry.  
William Urquhart, Rear Lands, Sporting Mountain.  
Rod'k. Bethune, Loch Lomond.  
Josiah Hooper, Forchu.  
John Murchison, Grand River.  
J. R. P. McLean, River Bourgeois.  
Daniel Fraser, Grandique Ferry.  
R. G. Morrison, St. Peters.

*County of Inverness.*

Messrs. J. H. Tremain, Port Hood.  
Angus McMaster, Low Point, Strait of Canso.  
Arch'd. McIntyre, River Dennis.  
John Ross, N. E. Branch Margaree.  
Alexander McEachern, Boom.  
Chas. McMillan, Lake Ainslie, East Side.  
Hugh McDonell, Judique.  
Jas. S. Lawrence, Margaree.  
Angus McInnes, West Lake Ainslie.

*Prince Edward Island.*

Messrs. Laird & Harvie, Charlottetown.

## EPHESUS.

Ephesus was one of the most ancient of the cities of Ionia. It was on the eastern shore of the Egean Sea, directly opposite to Athens. Tradition says, that the Grecian emigrants, under Androclus, who first settled Ionia, consulted an oracle, to know where they should build their city. The answer was, "A fish shall show you, and a wild boar conduct you." Soon after, while they were broiling some fish for their breakfast, one of them jumped out of the fire with a coal in his mouth, and fell among the dry grass, which took fire. The flames spread to a considerable distance, and disturbed a wild boar, sleeping among the bushes. The Greeks pursued and killed him, and on the spot where he fell, they built Ephesus.

A coin of the city, now in the Museum at Florence, is stamped with figures referring to this story, which probably was true as far as this: a fire, accidentally kindled, disturbed a boar; the Greeks, in pursuing him, were drawn to the place which they thought suitable for pitching their tents; and thus, by degrees, the city grew up. The incident of the oracle was, no doubt, an after-thought of the priests or the poets.

Passing through many changes of government, and many vicissitudes of fortune, Ephesus still retained, at the beginning of the Christian era, much of its ancient grandeur. It was greatly distinguished by the temple of Diana, which was so magnificent as to be reckoned one of the seven wonders of the world. It was more than 200 years in building. It was 425 feet long, and surrounded by a colonnade of 127 marble pillars, 70 feet high, and 27 of which were carved in the most exquisite manner, and the rest highly polished; these pillars were the gifts of so many different kings.

This temple was destroyed by fire, in the year 355 B. C., on the very day Alexander the Great was born. It was afterward rebuilt, in all its original magnificence, but again demolished by order of Constantine, about 300 years after Christ. This last temple is referred to in the Acts of the Apostles. The preaching of Paul, and the converts he made among the Ephesians, began to alarm the priests and the craftsmen who made their living by manufacturing silver shrines for Diana. These shrines consisted of minia-

ture representations of the temple of the goddess, with folding doors, which being opened disclosed her image before the altars. They were in great demand, not only among the zealous idolaters of the city, but among the strangers, who wished to carry away some relic of so remarkable a place.

Finding that, under the light of the gospel, their traffic was rapidly diminishing, and fearing that they should soon lose it altogether, they raised a mob, under the lead of one Demetrius, and roused the whole city with the cry, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" Their object was to kill Paul, and drive his followers from the city. But, having no concert of action, and no proper leader, they did little but shout, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" and were soon dispersed by the Roman officers.

This was probably the death-blow to the worshippers of Diana. It soon began to decline. A few generations after, the beautiful statues and magnificent columns of the temple were carried to Constantinople, to adorn the church of St. Sophia, which was, at a still later day, converted into a Turkish mosque.

Paul resided several years at Ephesus, preaching daily at the school-house of Tyrannus, a converted Gentile, and supporting himself by his own labor, as a tent-maker. Here he wrote his Epistle to the Galatians, and his first Epistle to the Corinthians.

Ephesus has now fallen into utter decay. A few Greek peasants occupy the place where it once stood. The great temple has so entirely disappeared that its site is not known. Among the remarkable men of Ephesus were Heraclitus, known as "the weeping philosopher," Apelles, the most distinguished painter of antiquity, and Pharrhasius, also a great painter, but as vain as he was great.

## ORIGIN OF THE GYPSIES.

The Gypsies are not Egyptians, as is commonly supposed, but are of the lowest class of Indians among the estates of Hindostan, commonly called Pariars, or in Hindostan, Sudars. They are found in Persia, Turkey, Russia, Hungary and most of the continental nations, amounting to more than 700,000; they all speak one language, differing only in a slight degree from each other, as the provincial accents

of a kingdom may differ, and this language is nearly the same, the Hindostanne.

The migration of this people from their own country is attributed to the war of Timour Beg in India (1408), at which period their arrival in Europe is confirmed by historical authorities. So cruel was the conqueror that 100,000, who surrendered as slaves, were put to death; in consequence of which, a universal panic seized the inhabitants, and they fled in all directions, the Sudars gradually finding their way into Europe. The features of the Gypsies plainly showed their Eastern origin; but they had so well contrived to dupe the European inhabitants that, till the advancement of oriental literature, their country could never be clearly traced. In England, where they arrived in the time of Henry VIII., they met the taste of the vulgar by pretended skill in astrology, and the art of palmistry, bringing with them their native tricks of juggling. That the Gypsies are of the race mentioned can scarcely be doubted, when we put all the reasons together for establishing the theory.

The date of the scattering of the Indian tribes by Timour Beg agrees with that of their emigration to Europe; their language accords with that of Hindostan; their persons strongly resemble the people of that country—so much so, that the troops of Hindostan struck the British officers with surprise when they joined their armies, as so nearly resembling these people, and their customs and mode of life in every respect are perfectly in accordance with those of the Sudars; both are filthy and disgusting in their habits; both are given to steal; both dislike to communicate their language to strangers; they are remarkably fond of horses; they both prefer food killed by disease; they have similar dances: they are alike wanderers, and are averse to civilized life; they equally dislike agricultural pursuits, and practice music, or travel about with their tinker's tools, ready to work at every door; their marriage customs are similar.

The belief that the Gypsies were Egyptians arose from the report circulated by the first of them, that they were pilgrims from Egypt. The Gypsies have no particular religion, all professedly conforming to that of the countries where they dwell, but being, for the most part, destitute of faith.



FOR THE MISCELLANY.  
MUSINGS.

I love to climb the mountain height,  
And view the fertile plains below;  
It thrills the soul with sweet delight  
To see each sparkling fountain flow.

I love to view each fragrant flower,  
And catch the sound of music sweet  
That floats through every little bower—  
While warbling birds their songs repeat.

I love to hail the morning light,  
While Nature's beauties smile around,  
The glorious Sun with rays so bright  
Makes every heart with joy abound.

I love to view each landscape o'er,  
And listen to the murmuring breeze;  
While, passing round from sea to shore,  
It flutters through the tender leaves.

And if the picture be so fair,  
And Nature's beauties bloom to die,  
O may we seek a mansion where  
No sorrow's tear can dim the eye!

W. E. W.

Lower Canning, Jan. 1st, 1864.

## NOW ENVELOPES ARE MADE.

The paper having been made especially to order, is sent direct from the mills to the establishment. The mills are located in New Jersey and Massachusetts. A number of sheets, from three to five hundred, according to the thickness of the paper, is placed on a board; a knife in the shape of the envelope when the four "lappets" are opened, is placed on the paper and put under the "platen" of a press which, by means of a crank, is brought down with immense force upon the knife, so as to cut through the whole mass of the paper, cutting three hundred thousand blanks daily. The number of envelopes cut from each sheet depends on their size, a large number of knives of all kinds being on hand. There are two of these presses kept constantly to work. The cuttings are saved in bags and sent back to the mills to be made over again into paper.

If the envelopes are for any fancy purpose, they are embossed by means of a steam-press. They are then taken to a stamping press, worked in a similar manner to the walking beam of an engine, except that the stamping dies are fixed at the end of both "rods," and work alternately at either side of the beam. By the press the name of the maker is stamped on the envelopes, and if any initial letter or design for a seal is to be imprinted, it is done by the same process.

The envelopes are now ready for gumming. This is done by girls, who first "f. l. i. out" the blanks with a folder to separate them, and then pass a brush dipped in gum along the whole line; thus with one stroke of the brush gumming, perhaps, a hundred. So rapid is this process that an active girl can gum over forty thousand per day, working by the piece, can earn over five dollars per week. The envelopes are spread on tables or boards, of which there are about one hundred, and when gummed, are put in racks to dry, which process generally takes about an hour and a half. After this they are ready to be taken to the folding machine, which is a very ingenious contrivance, and is attended by one girl, who can thus complete sixteen thousand a day with ease, earning upon an average, four, five or six dollars a week. A pile of envelope blanks are put upon a shelf or table of the machine; "a jack," guided by means of iron pins, strikes alternately on a semi-dissolved piece of gum arabic, and the envelope, which, when gummed, is carried along by the machine to the orifice over which the "plunger" is suspended. The die plate is made of the size of the envelope, and when it strikes, the blank forces it to descend in a square form into the hole, when the four leaves as it were, immediately fold up, forming the envelope into the form we see it.

The folded article now rises up again, and is caught by a clip and carried along till it arrives at a roller, and is then pressed to fasten the gummed part more firmly. It then passes under another description of roller to an "apron" or lathe-band where the machine counts off twenty-five. These the girls pick up and fasten around with a band, putting each handed packet into a box, until the requisite number to fill it are placed therein. There are on the premises seven of these machines.

There is another kind of folding machine used in this manufactory which requires to be fed by one girl, and the folded envelope received through a "shute" by another, who counts them very rapidly, fastens the bands around each twenty-five, and puts them in a box.

Two girls can thus, with this machine, when working ten hours per day, make thirty thousand envelopes, the average, however, being twenty-five thousand.

The bands having been embossed, are

gummed and cut out by means of a "bind-er's cutting knife" so as to be ready for use. The cutting and gumming of these bands alone give employment to one girl.—*Waverley Magazine.*

Among the quaint and curious entries in the parish register of Barking, Essex, is that of "Martin Luter" (in subsequent entries of the family spelt "Luther"), baptized 4th of March, 1559.

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF  
British & Foreign Shipping.

Surveyor for the Province of Nova Scotia.

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. JOSEPH JOHN TUCKER has been appointed the Surveyor to this Society for Nova Scotia, to reside at Windsor, N. S.

Notice is also given that all Ships built at Nova Scotia, after this appointment, which shall not be surveyed while building by the Surveyor, or where the Owners or Builders shall refuse such Survey, will be subjected to the laws of one year (as prescribed by the Rules, page 16, sec. 65, in regard to British built Ships) from the period which they would otherwise be allowed.

All ships built under the immediate inspection of the Surveyor on the terms prescribed for Special Survey, will be distinguished in the Register Book by a Cross, thus  $\times$ , and in the Certificates of Classification then issued, as "Built under Special Survey."

By order of the Committee.

GEO. B. SEYFANG, Secretary.  
2 White Lion Court, Cornhill, London, }  
Jan 14.] 22nd October, 1863.

## To Contractors.

GOVERNMENT BUILDING,  
Market Square.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Commissioners for Erection of above Building, will be received at the Office of the Secretary, until 12 o'clock, on MONDAY, the 1st day of February next, from all persons desirous of contracting for same, according to plans and specifications which may be seen on and after Monday, the 4th inst., in the large room of the Nova Scotia Marine Insurance Building, Bedford Row, fourth story. The building is to be of Freestone, 3 stories high, and measures 125 feet long by 54 wide, more or less, and any further information required in reference thereto may be had on application to Mr. David Sterling, Architect, Hollis Street.

Tenders must be accompanied with a guarantee from two responsible persons, who are willing to become security for the faithful performance of the contract entered upon.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN DUFFUS, Chairman.

A. G. JONES, Secretary.

Halifax, 2nd January, 1864.