Excessive Eating.—In a letter to Lord Murray, found in the Life of Sydney Smith lately published, the latter says :—"You are, I hear, attending more to diet than heretofore. If you wish any thing like happiness in the fifth act of life, eat and drink about half what you could eat and drink. Did I ever tell you my calculation about eating and drinking ? Having ascertained the weight that I could live upon so as to preserve health and strength, and what I did live upon, I found that between ten and seventy years of age I had eaten and drunk forty-four one-horse-wagon loads of meat and drink more than would have preserved me in life and health ! The value of this mass of nourishment is considered to be worth $35,000. This is a frightful calculation, but irresistibly true ; and I think, dear Murray, your wagons would require an additional horse each."

Facts Worth Noting.—The whole number of languages spoken in the World amounts to 2523 ; namely, 587 in Europe, 396 in Asia, 276 in Africa, and 1264 in America. The inhabitants of the globe profess more than 1000 different religions. The average life of men is about 33 years. One-quarter die previous to the age of 7 years, and one-half before reaching 17. Of every 1000 persons 1 reaches 100 years of life, of every 100 only 6 reach the age of 65, and not more than 1 in 500 lives to 80 years of age. There are on the earth 1,000,000,000 inhabitants. Of these 33,333,333 die every year, 91,824 every day, and 60 every minute—or 1 every second. These losses are about balanced by an equal number of births. The married are longer lived than the single ; and above all, those who observe a sober, industrious conduct. Tall men live longer than short ones. Women have more chances of life in their favour previous to being 50 years of age than men have, but fewer afterward. The number of marriages is in the proportion of 75 to every 1000 individuals. Those born in spring are generally more robust than others. Births and deaths are more frequent by night, than by day.

Dimensions of the American Lakes.—The latest measurements of our fresh water seas are as follows :

The greatest length of Lake Superior is 335 miles ; the greatest breadth is 160 miles ; mean depth 988 feet ; elevation 627 feet ; area 32,000 square miles.

The greatest length of Lake Michigan is 360 miles ; its greatest breadth 108 miles ; mean depth 900 feet ; elevation 687 feet ; area 23 000 square miles.

The greatest length of Lake Huron is 200 miles ; its greatest breadth is 160 miles ; mean depth 800 feet ; elevation 574 feet ; area 20,000 square miles.

The greatest length of Lake Erie is 250 miles ; its greatest breadth is 80 miles ; its mean depth 200 feet ; elevation 555 feet ; area 6000 square miles.

The greatest length of Lake Ontario is 180 miles ; its greatest breadth is 65 miles ; its mean depth is 500 feet ; elevation 262 feet ; area 6000 square miles.

The total length of all five is 1584 miles, covering an area altogether of upwards of 90,000 square miles.

Cucumber, (*cucumis.*)—The cucumber is a cold, watery, and indigestible fruit, yet more universally liked, probably, than any garden esculent in common use. On analysis, it has been fouud to contain in 600 parts not less than 582,80 of water—the remaining 17,20 consisting of thirteen different ingredients, in various proportions, the principal of which are a fungous substance, nearly resembling the substance of the mushroom, and a saccharine matter which communicates to the fruit its peculiar flavour. To fruit well, the plant requires rather a warm, light soil, and it is not necessary, that it should be very rich. It spreads rapidly, taking root as it runs, so that thin planting is the best.

Gretna-Green will be destroyed by Lord Brougham's new bill, which directs residence of three weeks in Scotland, before marriages, and divorces in Scotland will be legalized in England.

Murder of a Pacha.—A letter from Erzeroum says:—Feisullah Pacha, the Veely of Sivas, at one time *attache* of the Ottoman embassay in London, has been barbarously murdered in his palace, by four of his Georgian slaves. In consequence of ill-usage experienced at the hands of their master, they vowed vengeance, and, having put him to death one night in his sleep, went straight to his chiaga (secretary), confessed the deed, and surrendered themselves prisoners. The murdered pacha had his peculiarities, but he was not a bad man at bottom.

One of the examiners of the Statistical Society of London came to a house in Marylebone, in which there was one remarkable room. It was occupied, not by one family, but by five. A separate family ate, drank, and slept in each of the four corners of this room ; a fifth occupied its centre. 'How can you exist ?' said the visitor to a poor woman, whom he found in the room (the other inmates being absent on their several avocations)—'how can you possibly exist ?' 'Oh, indeed, your honour,' she replied, 'we did very well, until the gentleman in the middle took in a lodger !'—Dr Southwood Smith.

Horrid Sight.—The London correspondent of the *Toronto Globe*, gives an episode of the war which we have not encountered elsewhere. According to the latest news from the Crimea, the Russian officers are delighted at the termination of the war. They have suffered enormously during the siege. Their boats crowded with men, while crossing from the north side, were frequently sunk. An English diver discovered at the bottom of the harbor, a battery of field artillery, horses and men, all entangled in the harness, their skeletons hanging together in the net work of leather. On the skeleton of one of the horses, there were the bones of a driver, held together by the rags of his uniform, and with his foot still in the stirrup. Such are some of the horrors of war.

Preserving Butter. The farmers in the parish of Udny, in the county of Aberdeen, Scotland, practise the following method of curing their butter, which gives it a great superiority over that of their neighbours :—Take two quarts of the best common salt, one ounce of sugar, and one of saltpetre ; take one ounce of this composition for one pound of butter ; work it well into the mass, and close it up for use. The butter cured with this mixture appears of a rich and marrowy consistence and fine colour, and never acquires a brittle hardness nor tastes salty. Dr. Anderson says : "I have ate butter cured with the above composition, that has been kept for three years, and it was as sweet as at first." But it must be noted that butter thus cured requires to stand three weeks or a month, before it is used. If it is sooner opened, the salts are not sufficiently blended with it, and sometimes the coolness of the nitre will be perceived, which totally disappears afterwards. The above is worthy the attention of every dairy-woman.

Food for Milch Cows.—A farmer who has experimented for the last five years in this matter, after trying nearly all kinds of food, says, that his cows give more milk and make more butter, from corn meal, wet, with cut straw, than from any other food, by from one-third to one-half. It will not do to feed hay or stalks at the same time ; it fattens the cows too much. Try four quarts of meal and one bushel of straw per day ; that is, two quarts morning and night ; the straw at noon ; they will gain in flesh at that. Stabling is indispensable while feeding on this plan.

An exchange paper quotes from Paul's writings, "Owe no man any thing;" and then adds :—"We fear some of our subscribers never read Paul's Epistle's."

American Books in England.

The following letter is from the Rev. Thomas Timson, an able and pious minister in London, the author of many valuable theological and other works; and a person who has distinguished himself as the originator of of various benevolent movements in that great city. It breathes a spirit of peace and good-will toward America, creditable alike to the head and heart of the writer. To such sentiments we heartily respond, and hope the peace and intercourse now existing between England and America may long be preserved inviolable.—*Ed. American Courier.*

"London (Eng.), *March* 22.

"Mr. Robert Sears :

"*My Dear Sir* : I am constrained by a sense of obligation, to testify to you on the part of myself, my sons, and my daughters, the inexpressible gratification that we feel in the possession of the sixteen volumes of your beautiful works which now adorn my library with their elegant bindings. I look at them with astonishment, as I reflect on their having been the production of one individual ; comprehending, as they do, so large a variety of the most important subjects, and compiled, as their valuable contents show, from a vast number of the best publications, and by a gentleman otherwise engaged in an extensive business ! Having been honored with the commission to offer a set of them to Victoria, queen of Great Britain—and which she has graciously accepted—I examined these volumes more particularly ; and I feel admiration of their excellent and useful information, their pure and Christian morality, and their truly scriptural theology. I may most justly apply to you, what a reverend doctor of America once said to me, after examination of my rather numerous publications—'I have not observed a line of all your writings, which you may wish to blot out when you come to die.' I considered that a very high compliment from such a judge.

"By your publications, you have made all classes through the whole community in the United States, very greatly your debtors. This they are in some good measure acknowledging, as I perceive, by the large and increasing demand for your valuable works; but the man who placed in their hands *illustrated pictorial* volumes, relating to such a variety of that which is wonderful in 'nature, art, and mind ;' so much that is instructive in biography and history ; and what is most divinely consoling in religion and the oracles of God—in forms well adapted to promote the edification of all classes, especially those in the peculiar condition of the millions so widely scattered, as the people of your vastly-extended Union, cannot easily be remunerated for the requisite expenditure of mental and physical labor, with the large amount of property employed in producing these works.

"'The Pictorial Family Library,' the 'Wonders of the World,' the 'History of the American Revolution,' and 'Information for the People,' must be invaluable treasures to the rising members of thousands of families throughout America ; especially because of the necessarily limited sphere of observation on men and manners existing in the 'Old World ;' while the 'Description of Great Britain and Ireland' will afford them the most ennobling ideas concerning the people, the riches, and glory of their 'fatherland' and the 'mothercountry.' For this good service, we are indebted to you as Britons.

"Your 'Bible Biography,' 'Bible Illustrations,' and 'History of the Bible,' cannot fail to be highly prized by those of a more religious or established Christian character ; on account of the precious stores of pure divinity which they contain, and the concentration of the rays of heavenly light which they throw upon the Scriptures. You cannot wonder that I rejoice to see my name and labors so prominently placed in one of your volumes, with my 'Thirty Dissertations' on the Scriptures, from my 'Key to the Bible,' in your 'Bible Biography."

"It is natural for you to wish my judgment—as that of an Englishman, more particularly—upon your 'Description of Great Britain and Ireland.' Regarding this work especially, as I am acquainted with most parts of this country, I beg to assure you that it does very great credit to your talents, research, and industry ; the information, I perceive, is derived from the best sources, and the pictorial representations are good—many of them equal to those of the same kind published in England. You have done wisely by giving so extended an account of London, our wonderful metropolis ; for, though Edinburgh and Dublin are truly splendid cities, as the ancient capitals of the kingdoms of Scotland and Ireland ; and while Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow, are really magnificent as provincial boroughs, great manufacturing centres and emporiums of trade—London, with its sister-city of Westminister, is the seat and source of the intelligence, commerce, wealth, legislation and government of the vast British Empire. The palaces of the sovereign and the mansions of the nobility are grand. No language or pictorial description can, however, adequately represent our mighty metropolis to a stranger ; yourself, on a personal survey, will be like the queen of Sheba in her visit to King Solomon and Jerusalem.

"One words as to the spirit of your writings. I admire exceedingly the benevolence, liberality, and enlarged philanthropy, which they all breathe ; indicating the author to be in the best sense 'A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.' I cordially delight, in the unsectarian Christian spirit which pervades those that are religious : this is worthy your profession as the follower of the world's Redeemer ; and as to your work on 'Great Britain and Ireland,' I tender you my warmest thanks for the noble sentiments it expresses. I cannot look upon the Americans, but as our own brethren. As an Englishman, I feel the full force of the significant expression uttered by some of our profound worldly politicians—'England and America *against* all the world !' but as a minister of the blessed Prince of Peace,' the Redeemer of all nations, I would rather say what, in my judgment, your work is happily designed and adapted to promote, and the whole body of British Christians would joyfully echo my words—'England and America *for* all the world! May we continue increasingly to co-operate, by the Bible, Missions, and Commerce, in promoting the intelligence, liberty, and happiness of every people !

"I am convinced, that the two countries are deeply interested in the prosperity of each other. Our people are one in blood, one in language, one in science and art, and one in religion. Ourselves mutually united in the bonds of peace and friendly intercourse, both must prosper, and essentially serve each other ; and, increasing in population, by our moral influence, our intelligence, religion, liberty and commerce—all improved and perfected—we may be the means of removing the ten thousand evils of despotism, superstition, and false religion, which afflict the great nations of Europe, Asia, Africa, and many parts of America, and of regenerating the world, under the gracious providence of God.

"Wishing you success in your various noble, benevolent, and Christian enterprises, and that your life and health may long be preserved, to enjoy the fruits of your labors on earth. I remain, yours, in Christian esteem.

"THOMAS TIMSON."

G. W. MILLER, Agent. P. E. I.

MAILS.
Summer Arrangement.

THE MAILS for the neighbouring Provinces, &c., will, until further notice, be made up and forwarded as follows :—

For New Brunswick, Canada and the United States, *via* Summerside and Shediac, every Monday and Thursday morning, at nine o'clock, and direct to Shediac, by the Steamer "Lady Le Marchant," every Friday afternoon, at one o'clock.

For Nova Scotia, by the Steamer "Lady Le Marchant," every Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock, and every Thursday morning, at ten o'clock.

For Newfoundland, every Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock.

For England and Bermuda, to include the correspondence for the West Indies, every alternate Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock, viz :—

Tuesday, the 3rd and 17th June,
The 1st, 15th and 29th July,
The 12th and 26th August,
The 9th and 23rd September,
The 7th and 21st October,
The 4th and 18th November.

Letters to be registered and Newspapers must be posted half an hour before the time of closing.

THOMAS OWEN,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office, May 24th, 1856.

N. B. The Steamer "Lady Le Marchant" will leave Shediac every Tuesday morning at six o'clock, and Picton every Wednesday and Friday morning at eight o'clock, and will leave Charlottetown for Shediac every Friday at two o'clock.

SHINGLES AND BOARDS!

LATELY RECEIVED a few Cargoes of Pine and Spruce Boards and Shingles, warranted of the same prime description as sold to customers last year.

JAMES N. HARRIS.

June 4, 1856.—3w Isl. & Ad.

New Spring Goods!!
—AT THE—
"Manchester House," Queen St.,
Per "Majestic," from Liverpool.

NOW opening, and will be ready for inspection in a day or two, a large and carefully selected supply of

British Merchandize,

including every variety of Dry Goods, suitable for the season, and in the newest style of Fashion;

Among which are the following:—

Straw, Tuscan, Chip, Manilla, Fancy, Crape, and Glace silk Bonnets.
Girls' Battiste, and Girls' and Boys' Straw Hats
Ribbons, Parasols, Silk Mantles.
Muslin and Embroidered Dresses.
Black and Coloured Balzarines, Mouseline De Laines,
Alpaccas, Cashmere, Fancy Prints.
White and coloured Coutille Stays, Collars, Habit Shirts and Sleeves.
Infant Cashmere Hoods, and Muslin Tucked Robes
Laces and Edgings, Curtain Muslin and Fringes
Damask Moreens, Marseilles Toilet Quilts and Covers.
White Shirting, French Fronts,
White and Grey Shirtings and Sheetings,
White Fents, Children's Dresses,
Table Linen and Towelling, &c. &c.

With a large and choice assortment of other Goods, all of which will be found worthy of the attention of customers, and will be offered at prices extremely low.

☞ Further importations hourly expected per "*Thomas Begbie*" from London.

SAMUEL McMURRAY,
Queen Street.

May 13, 1856.

For Sale or to Lease.

SEVERAL valuable Building Lots well adapted for business-stands situate in "Stratford," Township No. 48, at the Ferry.

Also,—Building and Water Lots in Charlottetown, and a desirable site for a Ship Yard.

For plan and particulars, apply to the owner Major Beete, or to the undersigned.

JOHN BALL.