ed Baldwin protested that he had made no allusion to Foote whatever. "What?" cried Foote, 'does the Senator dare deny the fact, when I heard him with these ears?' Amid roars of laughter, the Mississippian perceived that he had been made the subject of a practical joke. That is said to have been the last nap taken in Congress."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS IN 1631.

To a geologist staying at Naples, Vesuvius is naturally the chief object of attraction. In 1631 this mountain had practically been at rest for more than three centuries. The alleged eruptions of 1500 and 1568 were probably nothing more than the shocks of an earthquake, and the volcano itself was generally considered to be extinct. Even the hollows in the crater, which up to the beginning of the sixteenth century had been resorted to by persons suffering under certain complaints for the sake of the hot vapors they exhaled, had closed up, and the crater presented the aspect of a vast amphitheatre covered with a dense vegetation. In circumference it measured a mile and a quarter, while its depth was not much less than a mile; and wherever the rays of the sun could reach, its sides were carpeted with herbage and strawberry plants, among which appeared at intervals lofty oaks and elms. The herdsmen led their cattle to pasture there, the peasants resorted thither for firewood and charcoal, and in its deepest recesses the wild boar made his occasional lair.

It is no wonder, therefore, that a population among whom even the tradition of an eruption had almost died out should have been blind to the natural warnings which even in the serene and cloudless days which marked the first half of December, 1631, gave some indication of the coming danger. Subterranean noises were heard, but they were attributed by the devout to the groans of the lost spirits to whose dwelling Vesuvius was believed to serve as a portal, and by the matter-of-fact to the struggles of an imprisoned stream seeking to make its way to the surface. Probably, too, these noises, as well as the uneasy cries of cattle and the harsh screams of various birds, were largely magnified after the event. But we may wonder that more alarm was not excited by the discovery, five days before the eruption, that the bottom of the crater had risen almost to a level with its rim, while the vegetation had been almost destroyed, partly by the disturbance of the soil, and partly by the intrusion of large masses of bituminous mud. About sunrise, on Tuesday the 16th of December, the country people coming into market at Naples saw a sudden cloud of smoke rise above Vesuvius. The alarm was soon spread, and every point in the city which commanded a view of the mountain was speedily crowded with anxious gazers. Marked out against the clear morning sky was a compact mass of reddened smoke, which rose in a majestic column till it reached the lower clouds, and then spread itself out in the form of a huge pine tree, which obscured the whole sky, except where it was relieved by the reflection of the darting flames which began to show themselves through the smoke. In the villages at the foot of the mountain the danger was more imminent, and the terror proportionately greater. At Torre Annunziata, the Prince and Princess Botera were the first to fly half-dressed from the place.

At Torre del Greco the inhabitants were not so well advised. At the first sight of the eruption, Cardinal Buoncompagno, who was staying there for his health, left the town and hurried to Naples. The Governor, Antonio di Luna, promptly took the same course, carrying with him twelve prisoners in chains. A great crowd of people followed him along the road in a state of frantic terror, while others rushed to the churches, to pray for mercy or to wait for death. When the fugitives reached Naples they found no entrance. The bridge nearest the city was guarded by soldiers, on the plea of fear of the plague. As soon as the Viceroy heard this inhuman measure he had the troops withdrawn, but not before a considerable number of the unfortunate Torresians had returned home in despair.

At Naples the Viceroy had been actively exerting himself throughout the day. He despatched a commission to visit the scene of the eruption, and report whether the smoke would bring any contagion into the city. The afternoon was taken up with a religious procession which had been ordered by Cardinal Buoncompagno immediately on his return. The terror of the people was hourly increased by the darkness, the occasional convulsions of the earth, the peculiar sound emitted by the volcano, which was compared to the roaring of a hundred furnaces, and the constant reports so closely resembling the discharge of cannon that the commandants of some distant fortresses on the coast believed that there was a fight going on at sea. As night approached, the wind changed, and a cloud of fine mineral ashes began to fall upon the city. At eight o'clock at night the Sanitary Commission returned to Naples. They had ventured as close to the mountain as the rain of cinders and red-hot stones would allow, and they came back with the news that the city was threatened with more immediate dangers than those of pestilence or contagion. Thereupon the Viceroy ordered the Governor of Torre del Greco to return at once to his duties, and despatched a Spanish officer to Vesuvius, to watch the progress of the eruption. The horrors of the night which followed can hardly be adequately conceived. The rain of ashes descended without intermission, almost blinding those on whom it fell; every few minutes came a rumbling of the earth, which drove the inhabitants in terror from their houses, fearful lest they should be buried under the ruins; and the very darkness was made more terrible by the glare of the distant flames.

All this was but the prelude to the still greater disasters of Wednesday, December 17. About nine in the morning a huge mass of water burst from the side of Vesuvius and descended in three separate torrents upon the country lying to the north and west, and shortly afterwards a similar inundation devastated the district between the mountain and the sea. An hour later the ashes had ceased to fall, but only to give the Neapolitans a clearer view of a vast mass of fire which descended from two separate sources towards the sea, at the rate of nearly a league an hour, swallowing in its resistless passage fields and woods and houses, animals and men. By noon the space between the mountain and the shore had been traversed, and through the darkness the watchers at Naples could see the still burning trees that had been carried into the waves, and gave the sea the appearance of being studded with the craters of submarine volcanoes.

In the meantime Don Antonio di Luna had returned to Torre del Greco early in the morning. He found the townspeople determined to fly, but uncertain whether to turn their steps towards Naples or Castellamare. The Governor attempted to quiet the disorder that prevailed, but the precise orders given by him are differently reported. At all events much time was lost, and at eleven o'clock, when the lava was seen advancing on the town, nothing had yet been done. Stimulated into sudden action by this discovery, the Governor hastily assembled about a thousand persons, and made for the gate of the town leading towards Naples. They had nearly reached the gate when the lava burst across the street, and divided the band of fugitives into two parts. Those at the head of the column, which had already passed the dangerous spot, were saved. The Governor, and about 450 others, who were in the rear, turned, and tried to escape in the opposite direction. It was too late. The lava overwhelmed them, together with about 500 persons who had preferred to await in two other churches the fate which they thought it useless to struggle against. The deserted Torre Annunziata shared in the same destruction, and across the whole space between the two towns passed other torrents, measuring in one case about 1,500 yards across, with a depth in some places of from twenty to thirty feet.

The worst was now over, and though Vesuvius continued in a state of active eruption throughout the winter, the great destruction had been already wrought. The inundations of the 16th, and the lava of the 17th, had overthrown more than forty towns and villages, and killed about 4,000 persons. At Torre del Greco six churches and more than two-thirds of the houses were destroyed. At Torre Annunziata only about fifteen houses were left standing. All the villages for miles around Vesuvius showed similar traces of the visitation.

To any one visiting Naples M. Le Hon's monograph, together with its invaluable map, will be found an extremely useful companion in tracing out the vestiges of the catastrophe of 1631.

ALARM IN THE SOUTH OF IRELAND.

(From Saunders's News Letter.)

The alarm of the loyal inhabitants of the South at the threatenings that surround them is shown in every class of society, all fearing that those in their employment, either as domestic servants, tradesmen, assistants or laborers, are panting for the opportunity to be their assassins. The people in the out districts are looking to the Government for military protection, which has been supplied so far as the safety of the garrison here will admit, and many are prevented from leaving their isolated homes in the country from the knowledge that regiments are on their way from England to be distributed throughout this and the adjoining counties. The feeling of uneasiness is considerably increased by the measures resorted to by the country trades-people and comfortable farmers to get into their own possession all the money they can scrape together, which they are turning into gold and secreting within their own abodes. The shopkeepers decline renewing their stock of goods, and excuse the payment of their out-standing accounts, while they draw from the banks the balances in their favour. The farmers are also drawing their moneys from the banks, and are requiring gold payments for their produce. Heretofore the farmers who made butter left the proceeds accumulate with the merchant, at interest, either to meet their accruing rents, stock their lands, or portion their daughters. Within the last few days they suddenly commenced demanding payment of the merchants of all balances—these payments being required in gold, and all new deliveries of butter are only made for metallic cash. This proceeding has occasioned considerable distrust and alarm, and has seriously affected every class of trade. The run on the banks in this city for gold is increasing, while the notices served at the savings bank to withdraw lodgments are considerable. But amongst all those who express alarm, there are none more unhappy than the Roman Catholic clergy. They say that the people now avoid their instruction—that although, as usual, they attend the celebration of the Mass, they withdraw from their other religious duties, and that the non-observance of the requirements of the Church is not confined to the male population. Latterly they have not restricted themselves to this passive mode of disobedience, but proclaim the priests as their bitterest enemies, and a class whose counsels ought not to be taken. The disaffection to the clergy of their religion is so well known, that it is generally remarked that on the "breaking out of the rebellion"—the day now named being the 15th of next month—the first people to be disposed of are the bishops and priests—the former by hanging and the latter by the pike. From every enquiry I have made there is no doubt but large quantities of arms are concealed all over this part of the country, both rifles and muskets, and there is a strong belief abroad that a rising will take place, and that the property of the country will be then in the hands of the Fenians. Considerable attention is bestowed by the authorities upon the direct arrivals at this port from America, but the vigilance of the police is frustrated by the course adopted by the male immigrants within the last few months. They now evade the attentions of our constabulary by proceeding to Liverpool, where they are at present understood to number several thousands. From thence they are drafted by the Channel steamers to this country. A number of them landed here this week from a Liverpool steamer, without luggage of any kind, and were not known to possess even money, but immediately "told off" in twos and threes and took different directions into the country. They answered the enquiries of the police by asserting they came to seek employment, but it is certain their pursuit is pillage and murder. This day one of the most respectable Roman Catholic merchants in this city said that the time had arrived—in fact had all but passed—when to save life and property Government should declare martial law, as it was patent the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act was not suited to the exigency.

"BROTHERLY" LOVE.

We stated some time since that the Fenian leader, Roberts, had enclosed a draft for $200 to Bishop Lynch of Toronto, to be spent in providing for the wants of the Fenian prisoners, Col. Lynch and McMahon, under sentence of death in that city, and that Bishop Lynch treated the impudent scoundrel as he deserved by returning to him the money and his letter. The following correspondence which we find in the Canadian journals, explains this matter, and at the same time exhibits so clearly the utter hollowness of the pretentions to patriotism that are made by the leaders of the Fenian organization, and places in such bold outline the selfishness of their actions, that the wonder is that they have not ere this felt the summary vengeance of their dupes:

PRESIDENT ROBERTS TO BISHOP LYNCH OF TORONTO

New York, Dec 7, 1866.

Right Rev. and Dear Sir:—In accordance with the resolution of the Senate of the Fenian Brotherhood, I have the honour to transmit to you, by this day's mail, the sum of $200 in American currency, to be expended in such necessaries as may be required by the Rev. John McMahon and the other prisoners now held in the Toronto jail as Fenians.

In sending this draft to you, Sir, we are influenced solely by the belief that we could not trust it to one who will see it so faithfully expended. The charity of the Catholic faith also justifies so eminent a prelate in accepting the trust.

I have the honor to remain with high consideration your obedient servant,

William R. Roberts.
President of the Fenian Brotherhood.

To the Right Rev. Bishop Lynch, Toronto, C. W.

PRESIDENT ROBERTS TO COL. R. B. LYNCH.

New York, Nov. 30, 1866.

Sir:—Your letter requesting that I should have sent to Washington affidavits of your non-military connection with the Irish Republican army has been received, and the request therein has been complied with, in the care of Capt. Fitzpatrick, and I will also write to Gen. O'Neil on the subject. *I regret to tell you* that I do not believe you will be hanged. So great a crime upon a non-combatant like yourself and against humanity would make every true Irishman in America a Fenian, and furnish our exchequer with the necessary means to clear Canada of English authority—in short a consummation devoutly to be wished for; and therefore I say, *I regret to tell you that you will not be hanged.* It would be a glorious death for you, and a life that will otherwise pass away unknown, a few years hence, would become an honoured portion of the history of our race, and of the age we live in. But whatever be your fate, pray God that you will act a brave and dauntless part to the last. Remember that you will not alone represent your own weak nature in the position in which you are placed, but your country and your race also, and though much I regret that you are in the power of bloodthirsty foes, I still hope that under any and all circumstances, you will make your countrymen proud of your name.

I remain yours, very sincerely,

William R. Roberts.
President of the Fenian Brotherhood.

To R. B. Lynch, Esq., Toronto, C. W.

The following is the proclamation in which Roberts called for the Christmas dinner contributions:—

"*Headquarters Fenian Brotherhood, 796 Broadway, New York, Dec. 19th, 1866.*

"To the Irish Men and Women of New York City:

"There are forty men in Toronto prison accused of loving Ireland: they are treated with that inhuman brutality for which British civilizers and Toronto Christians hold special dispensations.

"Two of these prisoners, Brother McMahon and R. B. Lynch, are supplied with food from a charitable orphan asylum. The rest receive diet unfit for human beings, and are not even supplied with prison clothing.

"I desire to make the hearts of these men glad on next Christmas day, and therefore call upon my countrymen and women of this city to send in, before Saturday next, donations for supplying them with a good Christmas dinner and such necessaries as they may require hereafter. In the late war the American people sought donations to send to their soldiers in the field. Can you do less for your soldiers in the prison? We will send them donations of shirts, socks, pants, coats, or anything else that will comfort or cheer the poor prisoners in their lonely cells. Come forward now and let them see they are not forgotten nor neglected. Cheer the bitterness of their captivity with the sweet consolation of love and friendship.

"Donations for prisoners received at 706 Broadway, second floor.

"Your countryman,
"William Roberts.
"President Fenian Brotherhood

In answer to the above document Lynch and McMahon administer the following stinging rebuff to the insolent impostor who would make a trade of their misfortunes:—

"*To the Fenian Brotherhood and the friends of the Fenian prisoners in New York City and its vicinity.*

"The undersigned has been authorized by his fellow prisoners now under sentence of death, and those yet to be tried, to caution their friends in New York and its vicinity against responding to the insulting appeal made to them by Colonel Roberts, President of the Fenian Brotherhood, for contributions towards procuring them a Christmas dinner.

"This appeal might be made with propriety for paupers and convicts on Blackwell's Island, or some such institution; but [it is] a gross insult to Irishmen held as political prisoners in Canada.

"*Never having received any aid or assistance from the Fenian headquarters,* they feel that this last appeal of President Roberts is adding insult to injury.

"They earnestly entreat their friends not now to outrage their feelings and that they may be spared *this cruel humiliation.*

"On behalf and by request of my fellow prisoners, 39 in number.

"Robert Blosse Lynch."

"I most cheerfully concur with Mr. Lynch on behalf of the prisoners now in this jail in protesting against the appeal of Col. Roberts for contributions for a Christmas dinner for them, and consider it as a personal insult to myself. The prisoners will not be the recipients of a Christmas dinner from any source.

"John McMahon.
"Late P. P., Anderson, Ind.

"Military prison,
"Toronto, Dec. 21, 1866."

What affectionate anxiety Roberts must have felt for the comfort of "those brave men" on Christmas day and how anxious he must have been to gladden their hearts, when only a few days before he was expressing to one of them his regret that he was not hanged, as Lynch's death would furnish "our [Robert's] exchequer with the necessary means to clear Canada of English authority." A nice leader of the "Brotherhood," certainly, and the condemned Fenians have good reason to reciprocate his kind regards at this festive season!

A Remarkable M. P.—Mr. Kavanagh, the newly-elected M. P. for Wexford, is the most remarkable of men. He was born without legs or arms. In place of legs he has but about six inches of muscular thigh stumps, one being about an inch shorter than its fellow; while his arms are dwarfed to, perhaps, four inches of the upper portion of these members, and there are unfurnished with any terminations approaching, in the remotest manner, to hands. Yet he is a beautiful caligraphist, a dashing huntsman, an artistic draughtsman, an unerring shot, and the most expert of yachters!—a combination of accomplishments, under the circumstances of his corporeal imperfections, that is certainly astonishing. He is now about forty years of age, and a large family of as handsome children as could be found in this teeming and prolific country has blessed his union with a lady as remarkable for her beauty as she is beloved for her amiability and consideration. He has considerable literary taste, as his "Cruise of the Eva" will testify. He holds the pen or pencil in his mouth, and guides its course by the arm-stumps, which are sufficiently long to meet across the chest, and by this apparently impossible mode he produces a caligraphy, each letter of which is distinctly formed, and all without any peculiarity or what is called "character." When hunting he sits in a kind of saddle basket, and his reins are managed with an expertness and ease surprising; but, perhaps, the greatest of his achievements is driving a "four in-hand." This he does to perfection, and as his team scampers away at a dashing pace the sharp crack of his whip may be heard far off. How is the honourable member for Wexford to record his vote? In his drawing room he contrives, hedge-hog-like, to roll from place to place. This would not be practicable in the House; and, as "strangers" can't be admitted on such sacred occasions, Colonel Taylor will have to add the duty of "locomotive" to those onerous ones which even with fully developed members he oftentimes finds it difficult to discharge. Arthur McMurrough Kavanagh's first appearance in the House will create something of a sensation. He is an able and fluent speaker, and brings to the consideration of every public question the resources of a carefully cultivated intelligence. He is the lucky possessor of large estates in Wexford, Kilkenny, and Carlow.

Power of the Wind.—The wind recently blew a hurricane at Keith, and the focus of the storm, says the *Elgin Courant*, was the Isle of Mills, near the railway station. The wind lifted one of the roofs—the outside one—100ft. long and 30ft broad, and without a plank falling, the whole was borne 20ft. high in the air, and was carried over three houses, when it came in contact with the engine-stalk, and knocked it over from the foundation. The stalk was 50ft. high. Without being in the sligtest degree arrested of its progress through the air, the flying roof passed over the ruins of the engine-stalk, and coming in contact with a cloth and yarn warehouse, two stories high, smashed the slates of it, carried away its chimney, and then spread over the road in pieces, involving the railway telegraph-wires in ruin. The roof flew—body bulk, as the phrase goes—more than sixty yards before it came to the ground; and, what is even still more surprising, it rose from one-story house and passed over two two-story houses.

Ayer's American Almanac is now ready for delivery gratis, by W. R. Watson, Charlottetown, to all who call for it.

Among the problems of high science which the Doctor presents in it, is the startling assertion that the friction of the tides upon its surface, retards the earth's revolution upon its axis, or holds it back with a force of 6000 millions of horse power. Hence it is easy to see that without some counter force, the globe must rotate slower and slower, until its revolutions wholly cease. Then with perpetual night on one side, and a degree of cold far below any now known, we should have on the other a "fervent heat" from the sun, which would melt the rocks and make the mountains run like water. But we need feel no alarm. He shows a counterpoise which nearly balances this resistance, and will maintain, substantially, the present mundane condition, through ages upon ages yet to come.

Forests and Climates.—A question which has been often debated of late years, namely, the effect of woods and forests on climate, has been suddenly revived by the great floods in France. Forests, as is shown, promote and equalize the rainfall of a country, and are the natural counter check to draught. The reverse of all this is produced by cutting down the forests. Then long terms of dry weather occur, the rain falls in short but furious storms, and running rapidly down from the unsheltered land, occasions the sudden floods so much complained of. It is now argued that the remedy for those disasters is the re-planting of trees throughout the districts which have been stripped of wood, and the putting a stop to the reckless felling of timber which has prevailed of late years.

In the washed banks of a ravine, which jut into the Mississippi river a few miles below Wolf Island, there was, a few days ago, discovered by a Missouri hunter, a keg which the finder first regarded as a keg of powder, but, on attempting to remove it from its resting place he found it defied his efforts. He thereupon employed a hatchet which he carried in his belt, and dashing in the head of the keg, was both astonished and gratified at a shower of gold and silver coin that fell with a musical jingle all around him. The keg contained $30,000 in eagles, $650 in half-eagles, $350 in quarter eagles, and $170 in silver. There was nothing in or on the keg to indicate who buried it there, or when it was buried. From appearances, however, it is believed that it was placed there at the outbreak of the rebellion.

Facts Worth Knowing. Johnson's Anodyne Liniment is superior to any other Liniment or Pain Killer in the world. It is equally efficacious, whether taken internally, or applied externally.—It will cure cough, hoarseness, influenza, whooping cough and croup, and is excellent for all lung complaints.

The man who followed his own coffin to the grave and then sued for his life insurance has been tried at Antwerp for forgery, and condemned to be put into a coffin with his head off.

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

(From the Madras Athenæum.)

The latest accounts from the famine-stricken districts of Bengal are as afflicting as those which preceded them. In fact, it appears that no language could exaggerate the horrors which have overtaken the wretched inhabitants of those parts. Lord Cranborne's instructions to the Viceroy, to spare no cost in affording relief to the survivors, will doubtless save many lives, but they came too late to avert a most dreadful sacrifice, for which the Bengal Government is chiefly responsible.

We are happy to say there have been no further disturbances on account of the dearness of food, either here or in our provinces, although but little and casual change has taken place in that respect since last we wrote. It will be a good while yet ere prices materially decline, but large supplies of grain are being brought into the market, both at Madras and up country, which will reduce rates by degrees; and should the season turn out as well as it now promises to do, we may hope for great improvement after the next harvest is gathered in. Until then the bulk of the population will suffer severe privation. There were some grain riots lately at Kamptee, consequent on high prices, and the native soldiers were the chief culprits; but order was soon restored, though strict vigilance was requisite to prevent fresh lawless demonstrations.

Spain and the South American Republics.—The belligerent States have all accepted the mediation proffered by England and France, and also the basis of peace, of which this is an outline:—1. Spain renounces having her flag saluted by the Republics previously to any peace negotiations. 2. The treaties existing between the belligerent States before the war shall be re-established and put in vigor. 3. All decrees enacting the expulsion or banishment of any subject of the belligerent States, or the confiscation of State or private property, shall be held as void and annulled. 4. The war prisoners shall be at once given up to their respective nations. 5. The prizes in possession of any belligerent shall be given up forthwith to the nation to which they belonged. 6. The contracting parties shall not put forward any claim or compensation for losses and damages sustained in war. 7. The Republic of Chili shall not claim any damage for the bombardment of Valparaiso.—*Morning Herald.*

Large quantities of grain are leaving the United States for Europe. A few weeks ago, in two days about a quarter of a million of bushels of barley, peas, wheat, corn and other grain were shipped from New York to England. If it be true that Great Britain has renewed her demands upon the United States for breadstuffs, this extraordinary pressure will soon have an effect upon even the present high prices, as the receipts for the remainder of the winter at New York will hardly suffice for the home consumption.

According to the New York Tribune the Senate Committee on Foreign relations have decided not to report the bill which passed the House at the last session respecting the neutrality laws. Notwithstanding all the fair promises before the elections, it would seem that the Fenians are not to have their privileges to rob and murder enlarged. It is gratifying to find that the committee on Foreign relations are inclined to respect the international obligations of the United States Government.

A fire broke out in a tenement house in Division street, New York,—the lower part of which was occupied as a Petroleum store—on the night of the 9th inst., *and nine persons were suffocated.* The New York *Herald* says:—

"It was ascertained beyond a doubt that all these unfortunates were in the tenement house when the fire broke out, and the firemen, forcing open the windows, leaped into the rooms, and groping through the darkness and smoke, sought to rescue the missing ones. One by one the members of the department reappeared, each bearing in his arms the inanimate form of a child, a woman or a man. Nine persons were then taken from the house, and carried to a drug store in the vicinity, where Surgeon Bliven and Drs. Snodgrass and Birdsall *endeavourd in vain to restore life* to the pulseless clay. Only two of the unfortunate beings showed any signs of existence, but the beating of their hearts, faintly perceptible a few seconds after they had been carried into the street, was soon hushed."

At the inquest it was proved that the police at once took possession of the doorway, and refused to allow those to pass in who wished to alarm the unfortunate inmates. Not one was allowed in until the firemen arrived, and they did not come for half an hour after the alarm was given, the nearest company being engaged in some amusement at the time.

An Unrehearsed Effect.—In an Episcopal Church in the north of Scotland a porter employed during the week at the railway station does duty on Sunday by blowing the bellows of the organ. The other Sunday he fell sound asleep during the service, and so remained when the pealing of the organ was required. He was suddenly awakened by another official, when apparently dreaming of an approaching train, he started to his feet and roared out with all the force and shrillness of stentorian lungs and habit, "Change here for Elgin, Lossiemouth and Burghead". The effect on the congregation, sitting in expectation of a concord of sweet sounds, may be imagined.

Seeing a wretched looking lad on the plains near the Humbolt desert, nursing a starving baby, a traveller asked him what the matter was. "Wall now," responded the youth, "I guess I m kinder streakt. Ole dad's drunk; ole woman's got the hy-sterics; brother Jim be playing poker with two gamblers; sister Sill's down thar a courtin' of an entire stranger; this yere baby's got the diaree the wust sort; the team's clean guv out; the wagon's broke down; it's twenty miles to the next water—I don t care a darn if I never see Californey."

VOX POPULI.

It has been justly remarked that the popular judgment, deliberately made up, is correct and reliable. It stamps with its own peculiar seal whatever it approves. The reputation which survives its *searching and critical tests is established* on a firm foundation. A really meritorious article may find favor at first, but slowly and with many rebuffs, yet its inherent virtue continually asserts itself, its elasticity rebounds higher with every check, until it finally reaches the height of favor to which it is entitled.

These remarks have a *peculiar significance* in connection with those popular remedies known as Dr Larookah's Pulmonic Syrup and Dr. Larookah's Sarsaparilla Compound. Originally introduced to the public through the disinterested efforts of ministers of various denominations, they have gained friends at every trial, proving, by the unmistakable benefits which they confer upon the sick, that they are eminently deserving of the high reputation which they enjoy. Composed exclusively of vegetable products of foreign and domestic growth, many of which are cultivated and gathered under the personal supervision of the proprietor, they may be administered with perfect safety, and with the assurance that their medicinal virtues are always the same. Were all constitutions alike, we should not hesitate to recommend the Pulmonic syrup as the *only* remedy to be taken in diseases of the throat and lungs, and we have thought that by carefully adjusting the dose to the physical condition of the patient, this remedy may be found in *all cases* of pulmonary disease the best of which we can avail.

As an alterative and purifier of the blood. Dr. Larookah's Sarsaparilla Compound is known no less favourably than his Pulmonic Syrup. The ways of living into which our people have fallen render such medicine a necessity in millions of households. That it has proved a blessing wherever it has been used, we are assured by the testimony of thousands about us, and by certificates from every section of the country in the public prints. We cannot close this article without an allusion to Dr. Knights, under whose personal superintendence these medicines are prepared for general use. Eminently qualified by long study and practice for the responsibility of his position, his name is of itself a power at home and abroad. It is known everywhere that he would not endanger his reputation by associating with it any *remedy of ordinary or doubtful merit.* Consequently, physicians of eminence are in many instances prescribing these remedials, and with, as we are assured, the happiest results. No higher compliment than this could be paid to Dr. Knights. They and the recipient labor harmoniously together to alleviate the physical ills to which mortality is heir.

A bloody duel with bowie knives was fought by the light of a lantern in a baggage car on the Nashville Railroad, and the two contestants cut and slashed at each other until both were fatally wounded.

For horses that are hide bound, or have staring rough coats, use Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MEETING AT CARDIGAN BRIDGE.

A public meeting of the Electors of the Third Electoral District of King's County took place at the School House, near Cardigan Bridge, on the 2nd instant, for the purpose of nominating Candidates to represent the District in the next General Assembly. The meeting was organized by appointing Mr. James McDonald to the Chair. The Hon. Joseph Wightman addressed the meeting. He reviewed the extravagant expenditure of the present Government respecting the Land Commission; the Delegations to England and to Canada; the bringing of Troops to the Island; the Building of the Barracks, which cost the country a large amount of money; and also the Land Commission, which ended in a great boon for the proprietors, in place of relieving the Tenantry. He reviewed the Land Purchase Bill, brought in by the Liberals, but which was opposed by the Tory party; he thought was the only way to convert the Leasehold Tenures into Freeholds. He spoke of the free Education Act passed by the Liberals,—showing its benefits to the rising generation. Our young men were able to fill any offices in the Island, in place of importing men from other countries; and they also distinguished themselves wherever they went. But he was sorry to say that the present party had crippled the School Act by cutting off one of its legs; and it was very likely that if they would be returned again, they would cut the other off. He opposed Confederation. With all its schemes, he could not see any benefits for this Island to join Canada. He also said that we were very much neglected in this County, with regard to Steam Communication. He said that, if he had the honor or the misfortune to be returned to the House, he would endeavour to get a grant for a small steamer to ply between Souris and Pictou, calling at the intermediate ports of Grand River, Georgetown, and Murray Harbour. When the Railroad would be extended to Fisher's Grant, we would have Halifax near our doors.

Mr. Howlet, of Grand River, addressed the meeting. He said he was always a supporter of the Liberals, but he was not pleased with either party. If he was returned, he would support any measures that would be for the benefit of the country.

The following resolutions were then put from the Chair:—

1. Moved by Mr. Hugh McDonald, seconded by Mr. Daly, That Mr. Wightman be a fit and proper person to represent our suffrages.

2. Moved by Mr. William Hart, seconded by Mr. John Lockhart, That Mr. Howlet be our other Representative.

The first motion was put by the Chair. The House then divided; Mr. Howlet, his mover and seconder, and one more, were found on one side of the House, and Mr. Wightman, with 70 or 80, on the other.

The meeting was closed in due form, with three hearty cheers for Mr. Wightman.

JAMES DEWAR, Secretary.

Jan. 9, 1867.

PUBLIC MEETING AT ROLLO BAY.

At a meeting held at James Davidson's, Esq., Head of Rollo Bay, on the 17th December, to consider the preliminaries of forming a steam communication between Souris, Bay Fortune, Grand River, and Georgetown, with Pictou and Charlottetown, the Chairman, Mr. Daniel Dingwell, in addressing the meeting, said: "It does not require of me, now-a-days, to show the benefits of steam communication; but I would remark that the proposal now before the meeting, if carried out, would certainly be highly beneficial to the different ports and the surrounding country, and would likely be remunerative to the owners. The route proposed would connect four considerable villages, representing extensive agricultural districts, and the centre of considerable fisheries and shipbuilding, with two thriving towns, one of which, Pictou, connects with Halifax by railway, and is the outlet of extensive coal mines. The other, Charlottetown, connects, by steamers and railway, with St. John, N. B.; by line of steamers with Halifax and Boston; and by well-appointed sailing packets with different leading ports in Britain. When all this is taken into consideration, it will be owned that a suitable steamer calculated for both passengers and freight, would get plenty of employment."

After a few more remarks by different gentlemen, it was resolved:

1st. That an endeavour be made to form a Joint Stock Company, in order to carry out such Steam Navigation.

2nd. That such Company be got, if possible in a working position, by the 15th day of March next.

3rd. That shares in such Company be limited to £10 each; and that no individual hold more than twenty shares.

4th. That, as soon as such Company is formed, and Capital subscribed for, an act of incorporation be applied for.

5th. That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee pro tem, viz.:

James Jenkins, Esq., Head of Grand River;
Ronald Walker, Esq., M. P. P.;
Capt. Daniel Flynn, Bay Fortune;
Mr. John McKay, Shipbuilder;
James Davidson, Esq.;
Mr. Alex. Leslie, Junr.;
Mr. Edward Kickham, Merchant, Souris;
Mr. Michael McCormack, " "
Hon. A. A. McDonald, Georgetown; and
Mr. Charles Owen, "

6th. That a small subscription list be opened, to meet preliminary expenses.

7th. That the Chairman do forward copies of Chairman's address to the newspapers of Pictou, Charlottetown, and to the Glasgow *Herald*, with request to publish.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, January 14, 1867.

THE WEEK.

The week that has passed since our last issue has been a dull, monotonous and dreary one to the last degree. The weather has been boisterous and cold, the roads so blocked up with snow as to render travelling nearly impossible—and what is worse, we have had no mail communication with the outer world, civilized and savage, during the whole of that long week. A week's dull weather and imprisonment within one's own house may not have been unacceptable to those whose Christmas and New Year's festivities were of an exhaustive character; but these were few compared to the general public, and editors, we think—we speak from experience—were not amongst the few. We have become so accustomed to receiving Mails from abroad every day, that it seems a positive hardship to be deprived of them for a period of a whole week. The Telegraph is some little resource, indeed, in the way of supplying news, but the confounded thing has become so untrustworthy by the frequent utterance of false news, that even *we*—patient in all things—can scarcely find patience enough to read the telegrams. The sensation mongers and stock jobbers in New York manufacture more than half the "intelligence" that is said to come across the Atlantic wires; and, in short, we deeply regret to say that the sublime system of telegraphy is getting into disrepute by the base purposes to which it is applied.

In our own midst, we have a little—just a little—political excitement springing up, as the time for the general election approaches; and even the cold, bad weather does not prevent our hardy yeomen from attending public meetings in various localities. These have been called to select candidates for the several districts, and in most instances the choice has been favourable to the Liberals, who seem suddenly to have awakened to a consciousness of their power and influence, which have become all the greater from contrast by the divisions in the ranks of the Conservatives. The Government appear to be thoroughly, hopelessly shaken in public opinion,—there is scarcely one candidate—except a valorous man like the President of the Council—who has a word to say for the dying Administration. Even some of those who were greatly petted and regarded as pillars of the state—Cornelius Howatt, for example—have turned upon their patrons in the Government with a degree of savagery which none of their liberal opponents can imitate. Cornelius ostentatiously proclaims himself as one of the apostles of the Third Party—(as to what kind of a thing that will be we have not the remotest conception)—but we are strongly inclined to think that Mr. Howat's constituents regard him as a man who has seen enough, and more than enough, of public life, and will permit him to cultivate a peaceful obscurity for the remainder of his days.

The Liberals were never in a fairer way to win a large majority at the polls, if their zeal and energy, now thoroughly aroused, be directed by a sound and cautious judgment. In a time of excitement there will be a great number of mere pretenders to the honor of a seat in Parliament—men who never served the Liberal cause to the value of a farthing, but who were willing to see Liberals trodden upon in the days of their adversity. The old and well tried adherents of the Liberal cause should be cautious how they receive such men. Old supporters of the party, who have undoubted claims, and who are in all respects unobjectionable, should be preferred to new men. If persons of the latter class should thrust themselves, under false colours, upon Liberal constituencies, without being called thereto by numerously signed requisitions, or extensive public meetings that reflect the united voice of the districts, they should be regarded as the worst enemies which the Liberals have, and frowned into their native insignificance.

There is no doubt of this fact, that the Government are doomed to a most signal overthrow. They have been eight years in office—that is about as long as any Government will or ought, perhaps, to be tolerated, let the record of their services be ever so pure; and this Government have nothing at all to shew as claims to further confidence during the eight years of their administration. They, or their friends, refer to the 15 Years' Purchase Bill, as a good original measure of theirs, because it is said to have remitted certain old arrears of rent. The old rent was pretty well secured by judgments and promissory notes;—whatever balance was left was not recoverable; and there was nothing gracious or charitable in giving *that* up. The 15 Years Purchase Bill confirmed the Proprietors's claims under the original grants—gave them the fishery reserves and exemption from the payment of the old quit rents; besides, it set an extravagantly high price upon the public lands of the Colony; and we have no proof whatever that *any* number of tenants bought their holdings under the provisions of the 15 Years Purchase Bill. The Government Party cannot refer to the Land Commission as a theme for popular applause—that was a wretched humbug. They cannot claim credit for their speculations under the Land Purchase Act,—some of them were good, the last one was decidedly bad; but even those purchases could not have been effected if the previous Liberal Government had not passed the Bill, in spite of much opposition, which authorizes the purchase of Township lands.—They cannot claim any merit for their *amendments* to the Free Education Laws, for all they have done has been to destroy the efficiency of the free system. Then, what have the Government done to entitle them to a longer lease of power? Can their organs and admirers inform us of their good deeds? We know they have doubled the public debt and nearly doubled the taxes, but what is there to show for it?

Rumours are rife as to the time when there will be a dissolution of the House of Assembly. Some well informed persons say that the time for the important event will be determined upon at the next meeting of the Executive Council—if it be possible to get a quorum in the present shattered condition of the Government—and that the general elections will most likely take place on the 14th February, or sooner than the time appointed for the two partial elections, to supply the vacancies caused by Mr. Warburton's resignation in Prince County and Mr. Sutherland's death in King's County. The *Islander* of Friday week assured us that the elections were delayed, because the Government wanted to learn from England if this Colony would be included in the continental plan of Confederation, whether its inhabitants were consenting parties or not. This excuse for the delay in holding the elections—for putting them off to an inclement, cold, and mayhap, stormy time—will render the prospects of the Government all the darker when they go before the people. The House of Assembly and Council have declared—one by a very large majority, and the other unanimously—that this Colony will not accept Confederation upon any terms;—the people, from one end of the Island to the other, seem to approve of this declaration; and we are, therefore, inclined to think that any proposals that may be made by the Home Government, or by the Delegates from the other Provinces, with the view to the bringing of this Island into the Confederacy, will meet, as the resolutions of last Session declared, with the "*hostile opposition*" of the people of P. E. Island. Such is the public phrensy against Confederation that no public man who looks to the future, dare advocate it, even if the whole British empire demanded our acceptance of the measure. There will be, we trust, a better understanding about it in the course of time. In the meanwhile the Government are not unwilling to offer themselves as a sacrifice to that question; and we, while intoning their *requiescat in pace*, will accept the sacrifice without any manifestations of grief.

L. Scott & Co., of New York, have laid English readers on this side of the Atlantic under great obligations, by their reprints of Blackwood's Magazine, and of the four British Reviews, at prices that bring them within reach of most persons who desire to take them, notwithstanding that these publishers honorably pay a copyright to the British publishers, which, of course, adds largely to their cost. There are now few educated persons, or even persons who have in any way become interested in the numerous wonderful questions of this wonderful age, or in literature in general, who do not find it necessary to take one or more of the great Reviews. To professional men and intelligent men of business who have not sufficient leisure to read even the best books continually issuing from the press, the Reviews are indispensable, and at the same time sufficient to impart a comprehensive view of the merits of books, the nature and merits of the questions and enterprises of the day, and of the intellectual state and progress of the times. Nearly every number of each Review contains, among its variety of articles, one or more articles of very superior merit, such as is more than an equivalent for a whole year's subscription.

There is at present over 20,000 British troops in British North America, being a greater number than at any time since 1814.

A Frenchman has invented an air gun which he calculates is capable of killing off the inhabitants of the earth in about fourt[illegible]

Another Resignation in the Government.—It is currently reported about Town to-day, and we believe it is true, that the Hon. James Duncan resigned his seat in the Executive Council on Saturday last. This will make the third vacancy in the Government—and, indeed, the fourth, if we include the Hon. D. Davies, who is now in England, and who, we are credibly informed, does not intend to engage in political life again. The Cabinet has just now a sufficient number to form a quorum, and no more—when all its members can be drummed up from East to West. It is absurd to suppose that the public business can be discharged in a satisfactory manner by a Government so enfeebled as this one is,—the best course for the fragment to pursue is to resign at once, and let His Excellency the Lieut. Governor form a new Administration from whatever source, within the walls of Parliament, can be made available. It would be preposterous to attempt to patch the worn-out Cabinet just on the eve of a general election, and when the signs of the times presage a speedy downfall to the ruling power.

The Mails.—Up to the time of going to press this evening, we have no account of the Mails from abroad. Three Boats crossed this morning, we understand, from the Cape Traverse side; and the ice having made by the recent hard frosts, it is to be hoped the Boats have made a good passage across the Straits. If they have, we may expect the Mails some time in the course of to-night, or to-morrow morning.

Gratuitous Labours of Editors and Newspaper Proprietors.—An Exchange paper contains the accompanying remarks respecting the labours which Editors and Newspaper Proprietors perform gratuitously for the public, politicians and others. There is unfortunately too much truth in what the writer says:—

"My observation enables me to state, as a fact, that publishers of newspapers are more poorly rewarded than any other class of men who invest an equal amount of capital, labour and thought. They are expected to do more service for less pay, to stand more sponging and "dead-heading," to puff and defend more people without fee or hope of reward than any other class.

"They credit wider and longer, get oftener cheated, suffer more pecuniary loss, are oftener the victims of misplaced confidence than any other calling in the community. People pay printer's bills with more reluctance than any other. It goes harder with them to expend a dollar on a valuable newspaper than ten on needless gew-gaws yet everybody avails himself of the use of the editor's pen and printer's ink.

"How many professional and political reputations and fortunes have been made and sustained by the friendly though unrequited pen of the editor? How many embryo towns and cities have been brought into notice and puffed by the press? How many railroads, now in successful operation, would have foundered but for the lever that moves the world? In short, what branch of industry and activity has not been prompted, stimulated and defended by the press!"

[For the Examiner.]

ERRATUM.

"His Excellency has been pleased to accept the resignation of the Honorable Kenneth Henderson, as a member of the Executive Council."—*Islander, 12th inst.*

The notice of resignation should have appeared thus:—

"His Excellency was pleased to *receive* the *enforced* resignation of the *tenacious* Honorable Kenneth Henderson as a member of the Executive Council."

"You who have tears to shed prepare to shed them now" over the political grave of poor Kenneth. "I knew him well," Mr. Editor. Kenneth was an ambitious man and a —— Doctor.

DEXTER.

SUPREME COURT.

The Hilary Term of the Supreme Court for Queen's County was opened on Tuesday. The following gentlemen compose the Grand Jury:—

Thomas W. Dodd, Esq., Charlottetown, Foreman; John Hyde, Cornwall; John Simpson, Cavendish; Malcolm Murchison, North River; William H. Wilson, Charlottetown; James White, do.; W. S. Longworth, Royalty; Edwin Locke, Crapaud; Thomas Alley, Charlottetown; Henry J. Cundall, do.; Thomas Beers, Cherry Valley; Angus McAulay, Tracadie; Alfred LePage, Royalty; Samuel Dake, Lot 49; Thomas DesBrisay, Charlottetown; John H. Gates, do.; John A. McDonald, do.; William Brown, do.; George L. Dogherty, do.; and W. E. Dawson, do., Esquires.

Having been sworn in, His Lordship the Chief Justice addressed them, and said:

Mr. Foreman, and Gentlemen of the Grand Jury:

You will be gratified to learn that the criminal cases for your consideration at this Term, in so far as the Court is informed, are only three in number, two larcenies, and a case of assault and battery upon, and rescue from, a Small Debt Court Bailiff, of a party in his custody under Execution.

This state of the Criminal Calendar of the most populous County in the Colony, for a period of time extending over nearly half a year, is most satisfactory as regards the paucity of crimes of magnitude; but cannot be taken as a correct index of the state of the County in regard to the lesser description of offences, such as larcenies, the receipt of stolen goods, and assaults and batteries, many of which are tried and disposed of by the City Police Court, under local acts, giving it summary jurisdiction in certain cases.

The local statistics relating to the issue of licenses, authorizing the sale of spirituous and fermented liquors, require you to present all persons guilty of retailing such liquors without license, and under these Acts you have the power of suspending or annulling the License of any Inn or Tavern Keeper offending against these provisions in the management of his house, as one of public entertainment, and the Acts in question direct the Court to bring these matters to the notice of the Grand Jury at every Term.

At this Term also you are required by law to present to the Court lists of competent persons to fill the offices of Fence Viewers, and Constables for the several Settlements in your County; and it is necessary that in the exercise of this duty you take care that no place requiring such officers be omitted in your list, an event that not unfrequently happens occasioning serious public inconvenience.

These are the only remarks now necessary to make to you, gentlemen, beyond assuring you that you may always depend upon receiving the aid of the Court in the performance of those important duties which devolve upon you as the Grand Inquest of this County.

As will be seen by His Lordship's charge to the Grand Jury, the Criminal Calendar is light, and contains no offences of an aggravated character. The Record causes are as follows:

J. S. Carvell	vs. James Stewart,
J. Cantwell and ano.	" John Conely and ano.
J. Lamphier	" J. T. Jenkins
R. Heartz and ano.	" Thomas Owen
J. H. Gates	" Geo. Proud
R. Heartz and ano.	" Wm. Drake
J. A. McDonald	" John McNally
E. Locke and ano.	" P. Monaghan
W. H. Wilson	" M. Coffin and ano.
Albert Kelly	" N. Collins
T. W. Dodd and ano.	" R. Bell and ano.
Jas. Palmer	" Neil Currie
Patrick Breen	" John Conoly
R. B. Stewart	" William McKay.

These, with twelve summary suits and five appeals, comprise the Civil side of the docket for the present Term.—*Pat.*

A public Tea, under the auspices of the Wesleyan Choir, came off on Wednesday night, the 2nd instant, in the basement room of the Wesleyan Chapel, and was a decided success. The amount realized—about £30—is, we hear, to be expended in making alterations and improvements in the choir gallery.—*Pat.*

The crew of the Barque *Alma*—which vessel was referred to in our last as seen, on the night of the 15th December, in a sinking condition—were not lost. Capt. White, of this city, informs us that they were taken off the barque by a vessel from Newfoundland, and came passengers with him in the steamer to Halifax. The *Alma* sank after she was abandoned.—*Pat.*

On Wednesday evening, the 3rd instant, the annual Tea to the Sunday School Scholars of St. James Church was held in the Temperance Hall. After the Tea a number of presents was awarded to the most studious and deserving members of the school.—*Pat.*