THE PRICE OF A METROPOLITAN SEAT IN PARLIAMENT.—Those gentlemen who aspire to the honour of becoming candidates for a metropolitan seat in Parliament would do well to peruse a very instructive return which has been issued to members, as to the cost of becoming a metropolitan member. It will surprise a good many, and will, doubtless, cool the courage of several gentlemen who, at the different clubs, have talked of coming forward in the event of a dissolution, which may occur at any moment. Some may think it a little too dear to pay "for one's whistle;" others, on the contrary, may think that, like an article at a dear shop, it must be good because the price is so extravagant. However, here are the prices at the late general election, and hon. gentlemen would do well to scan them. They are as follows:—London; Russell, £3,222; Rothschild, £1,313; Duke, £1,068; Crawford, £999; Currie, £970. Tower Hamlets; Ayrton, £1,337; Butler, £1,133, Clay, £806; Finsbury, Duncombe, £412; Cox, £2,308; Parry, £836; Reed—Major Reed's accounts do not appear. Lambeth; Roupell, £5,339; Williams, £1,705; Wilkinson, £2,688; Southwark, Napier, £1,219; Locke, £3,880; Pellat, £684. In Westminster and Marylebone, no contest; Shelley, £115; Evans, £163; Hall, £100; Ebrington, £150. The above returns show that an election for a metropolitan borough, when contested, may cost any sum varying from £1,500 to nearly £6,000. But though the returns may be accurate, as far as they go, a candidate is fortunate who gets off for the amount inserted in the Parliamentary paper. When Marylebone was contested on the death of Lord Dudley Stuart, in 1854, it cost Lord Ebrington £5,000, and Mr. Bell, £3,000; and it is said that Lord Dudley Stuart paid about £7,000 for his return in 1847. A contest in Westminster varies from £2,000 to £8,000, and has exceeded, in the good old times, £20,000. A seat in a metropolitan constituency, consisting of upwards of 350,000 persons, is no sinecure, and it is very clear that no candidate can be elected for the first time without enormous expense, to which he may be subjected at each succeeding election—a contest being the rule and a walk over the exception. In addition to election expenses, it is said that the subscriptions to local charities vary from £300 to £1,000 per annum. Mr. Byng's seat for the county of Middlesex costs £2,000 a-year in subscriptions.

A CAPTURED SLAVER.—A correspondent writing from Kingston, Ja., says:—The slaver "Cortes" has been condemned in the Court of Vice Admiralty, and her stores ordered to be sold. She is a noble specimen of naval architecture, and a thorough clipper. While in charge of the prize crew, she ran eleven knots with ease "on a wind." It is supposed that she was captured early in the morning before the sea breeze had set in, as she could at any time, with a fair breeze, sail round any gunboat in the British service. Her hull is long, low and waspish, painted black, and her masts are tapering and rakish. Her whole appearance is symmetrical and graceful, and the fittings of her cabin are chaste and complete. The Cortes will be taken into her Majesty's service in the place of the Cuba, the slaver captured by Lieutenant Stubbs last year, which has been condemned as a sea boat."

DECLINE IN PRICES OF REAL ESTATE IN BOSTON.—The hard times are beginning to tell upon some classes of real estate in the city. Stores and houses in certain situations and of certain size continue to let well and to bring good prices; but the number of houses for sale or to rent is large and is daily becoming larger. Where leases have terminated, rents have fallen, in most localities, and where a considerable number of houses stand vacant, as at the south part of the city, many of them can be purchased at less than cost. In some instances, a profit is obtained by the builder, through the advance in the price of land; but, speaking generally, many houses are to be had for considerably less than the land, materials and labor would cost to-day. Even in the southern district, however, there are various localities, such as the different squares, Union park, and other contiguous situations, where houses are as high as ever. It is probable that most of the dwelling houses in course of erection are built under previous contracts, and that when these are completed, there will be very little building going on for some time.—*Post.*

A SKETCH BY A FRIENDLY HAND.—We cut the following from a late No. of *Mackenzie's Message*, an Upper Canadian Journal. Mr. McKenzie was out under fire in 1837, but Upper Canada proving too hot for him, he crossed over to New York, where he conducted a public journal, until the passage of the Idemnity Act enabled him to return to Canada. He was soon after elected a member of the United Parliament, and is now the Representative of Haldimand. Although an old man, Mr. McKenzie is one of the most active, energetic, and spirited members of the Assembly, quaint and ready, and not always very sparing of the feelings of his antagonist:—

"Long experience and careful observation enables me to say that the real difficulty in America (Canada included), in the way of purer legislation and a more upright rule, more even than through ignorance and prejudice, lies in the blackness of the human heart, in the corruption of human nature, in the infernal sordid selfishness of constituents, legislator and executive manager. My fondest hope of a purer system was destroyed when I saw the working of American institutions from behind the curtain.

"Mr. Brown, in office, might prove another Hincks; but it is clear to me that all the dirty, shabby rascals; all the sycophants, pimps, cheats, thimble riggers, land jobbers, knaves, sham loyalists, hypocrites, railway jobbers, and all grades of swindlers, are terribly afraid of him. They evidently fear he'd prove far too honest for their purpose. To a man they oppose him; consummate rogues, united in nothing else, are warmly opposed to the idea of giving George the reins. The more I see of this, the more anxious I am to give him a chance to right the vessel of state if he can."

"THE WAY THE MONEY GOES."—Lately in the Canadian Assembly, Mr. John S. McDonald introduced a motion to bring to the bar of the House G. Shepherd, Esq., Editor of the Toronto *Colonist*, for alleged breach of privilege in publishing the draft of a Report before such Report had been made public. Seven hours were occupied in discussing the motion, and on the question being taken, only *two* voted in the affirmative, thus showing that the talk was all or nearly all on one side. The estimated expense of the discussion is $800. The unanimity with which the motion was negatived reminds us of the story of the negro who said that he had had a great dispute with his master, and on being questioned as to its nature, replied: "Massa say squash grow bes' in sandy ground, and I say so too, and thar we 'spute about it for mor' than an hour."—*St John News.*

A HIGHWAYMAN THRASHED BY A GIRL.—As a peasant girl, named Melanie Robert, daughter of a small farmer near Corbeil, was proceeding to Essonnes, a few evenings back, a man armed with a thick stick suddenly presented himself and summoned her to give up her money. Pretending to be greatly alarmed, she hastily searched her pocket, and collecting some small pieces of coin held them out to the man, who, without distrust, approached to take them; but the moment he took the money, Melanie made a sudden snatch at the stick, and wresting it from his hand, dealt him so violent a blow with it across the head that she felled him to the ground. She then gave him a sound thrashing, and in spite of his resistance, forced him to accompany her to the office of the Commissary of Police, by whom he was committed for trial.

THE FISHERY COMMISSIONERS.—The Hon. Mr. Gray, of St. John, N. B., who was appointed umpire to decide cases of dispute between the British and American Commissioners for defining the fishing boundaries on the shores of the United States and the Provinces, has recently given his decision in several cases submitted to him. It appears that the Commissioners differed as to twenty-four places in Prince Edward Island, Her Majesty's Commissioner claiming that they were rivers under the treaty, and the United States Commissioner denying that they could be so considered. Mr. Gray has decided that eighteen of those places are rivers under the treaty and that the remaining six are not. Mr. Gray has also decided in favor of the lines claimed by the British Commissioner for defining the mouths of the Buctouche and Miramichi Rivers. At latest accounts the Commissioners had been sitting in the city of Portland, deciding upon the rivers of Maine, and it is said that the President had appointed Gen. W. B. Burnett of New York to take the place of General Cushman, as American Commissioner. It is stated, however, that Mr. Cushman denies the authority of the President to displace him, contending that his appointment is under a treaty stipulation and not subject to the pleasure of the executive while he is able and willing to act. In the meantime Mr. Perley the British Commissioner has returned to St. John and awaits the action of the United States Government in appointing a colleague.—*Eastern Chronicle, Pictou.*

The Paris *Patrie* pays the following tribute to the memory of the late Duchess of Orleans:—

'The Duchess of Orleans was the head of the exiled family. Her counsels carried with them the authority belonging to the superiority of her mind and her position as a mother. On more than one occasion she showed rare firmness of character, more especially at a moment when there was an expectation of effecting a union between the two branches of the family separated by the revolution of 1830. She opposed it in the name of her husband's memory and her son's honour; and the fusion which had been so carefully prepared by so many eminent statesmen, received the *coup de grace* from the hands of a woman. Her death makes a great void at Claremont. In France it will only inspire regret for a premature loss, and respect for this new and greater grief of a family which has experienced so many sad reverses.'

Daniel O'Connell, the Irish Liberator, has but two surviving sons left, Morgan, formerly member for Meath, and Daniel, the youngest, who sits for the borough of Tralee. Some twenty years ago, or more, Mr. O'Connell, then in the zenith of his fame, used to boast that there were "eight of us"—a very forcible hint to the Minister of that day. In 1858 but two of that formidable phalanx are surviving, and only one of the name of O'Connell is now to be found on the rolls of Parliament. John, the favorite son of "the Liberator," died in very straitened circumstances, and has left a large and youthful family almost wholly unprovided for.

THE EXECUTION GROUND AT CANTON.—Threading our way, under guidance of some experienced friend, we came to a carpenter's shop, fronting the entrance to a small potter's field. It is not a rood in area, of an irregular shape, resembling most an oblong. A row of cottages open into it on one side; there is a wall on the other. The ground is covered with half-baked pottery; there are two wooden crosses, formed of unbarked wood, standing in an angle, with a shred of rotting rope hanging from one of them. There is nothing to fix the attention in this small enclosure, except that you stumble against a human skull now and then as you walk along it. This is the Aceldama, the field of blood, the execution ground of Canton. The upper part of that carpenter's shop is the place where nearly all the European residents have, at the price of a dollar each, witnessed the wholesale massacres of which Europe has heard with a hesitating scepticism. It was within this yard that the monster Yeh has, within two years, destroyed the lives of seventy thousand fellow-beings. These crosses are the instruments to which those victims were tied who were condemned to the special torture of being sliced to death. Upon one of these the wife of a rebel General was stretched, and by Yeh's order her flesh was cut from her body. After the battle at Whampoa the rebel leader escaped, but his wife fell into the hands of Yeh—that was how he treated his prisoner. The sickening details of the massacres perpetrated on this spot have been related to me by those who have seen them, and who take shame to themselves while they confess that after witnessing one execution by cutting on the cross, the rapidity and dexterity with which the mere beheading was done, deprived the execution of one hundred men of half its horror. The criminals were brought down in gangs, if they could walk, or brought down in chairs and shot out into the yard. The executioners then arranged them in rows, giving them a blow behind, which forced out the head and neck, and laid them convenient for the blow. Then came the warrant of death. It is a banner. As soon as it waved in sight, without verbal order given, the work began. There was a rapid succession of dull crunching sounds—chop, chop, chop, chop. No second blow was ever dealt, for the dexterous man-slayers are educated to their work. Until they can, with their heavy swords, slice a great bulbous vegetable as thin as we slice a cucumber, they are not eligible for their office. Three seconds a head suffice. In one minute five executioners clear off one hundred lives. It takes rather longer for the assistants to cram the bodies into rough coffins, especially as you might see them cramming two into one shell, that they might embezzle the spare wooden box. The heads were carried off in boxes.—*Correspondence of the London Times.*

The following sums have been raised for the various objects of the Free Church of Scotland for the year ending 31st March, 1858:—Sustenation fund, £110,254; building fund, £46,897; congregational fund, £92,557; missions and education, £56,776; miscellaneous, £25,387—total, £331,871. In addition to this, the Free Church has investments for behoof of various missions and funds to the amount of £184,013.

PICTOU, N. S., June 24th.—There was picked up on the 10th inst., near the Board Landing at the head of the tide, Truro, a bottle, which on being opened, was found to contain a slip of paper on which the following words were written:—"Bark Belfast, totally lost, on Thursday, 31 June, 1858—all hands lost." No name or other particulars were given. The paper seemed to have been torn from some old memorandum book.—*Eastern Chronicle.*

A FIRST RATE NOTICE.—The Cleveland *Plaindealer* thus notices the Hon. Horace Greeley, editor of the New York *Tribune*, who has been in the West delivering lectures. It says: "Horace Greeley will lecture on the Poets, at the Melodeon, this evening. He edits the *Tribune*, a daily paper of New York city. He is a pretty sharp writer, but is principally distinguished for wearing a dilapidated wool coat and a decayed wool hat. With the exception of an occasional game of euchre or string of tenpins with Henry Ward Beecher, Mr. Greeley takes no amusement whatever. He eats mush, bran-bread and oatmeal slap-jacks, but avoids meat except in campaign times; then he eats voraciously of roosters' gizzards, cows' tails, calves' plucks and sheeps' liver. A great many persons think he is a great man, and he rather inclines to that opinion himself. He has written a few articles about the slave oligarchy. We believe he has also written a few short articles on Kansas. He wears cow-hide brogans and is eccentric. Success to him. Long may he wave."

BANKRUPTCY COURT.—*In re C. McCalman.*—This bankrupt, who was connected with the firm of Wilson & McCalman, shipchandlers, &c., at Liverpool, came before Mr. Commissioner Perry yesterday, on an application for his certificate. The examinations of the bankrupt had taken place before the late Mr. Commissioner Stevenson. Mr. Hull, on behalf of the assignees, said he was instructed to withdraw the opposition which had been made by certain creditors. Mr. Martin, for the bankrupt, having explained that the bankruptcy arose from misfortune in business, and not from any misconduct on the part of the bankrupt, his Honor granted an immediate certificate of the first class.—*Liverpool Mercury*, June 18.

A melancholy accident had occurred off the harbor of St. John's, N. F., on the evening of the 18th inst. A bait skiff in returning to Quidi Vidi deeply laden with bait, was struck by a sea and immediately sunk. There were six men in the boat, four of whom were lost. Their names were Edward Power, Thomas Pendergrast, Martin Cleary, and Caufield, all poor, with families depending on them for support.

CANADIAN DECIMAL COINAGE.—From a conviction of the great importance of having at once a Decimal Coinage to represent the new mode of accounting, we have taken pains to inquire how soon and in what form we are likely to have it; and we are now enabled, on the best authority, to state that Mr. Wyon, medallist to the Royal Mint, has prepared the designs for the following pieces:—In Silver,—20 cents, 10 cents, 5 cents; in Bronze, 1 cent. The Government soon expect to receive specimens of the new coins. The 20 cent piece is intended to be equivalent to 5.066 grains of English standard gold, and will be coined of 71.73 grains of English standard silver. The cent piece will be of the weight of the one-hundreth part of the avoirdupois. The coinage we have already stated will represent the head of Her Majesty on one side; on the other will be letters describing the denomination of the piece. For the last eight years a Canadian Decimal Coinage has been at times talked of—since Mr. Hincks's abortive attempt of 1850 to establish a Mint in Canada. We believe the public may now be positively assured that they are about to receive it at last.—*Montreal Gazette.*

The St. Isaac's Church at St. Petersburg, the building of which has lasted thirty two years, during which time it has swallowed immense sums, is now completely finished, and the consecration, with the assistance of nine hundred vocalists, will take place in a very short time. The edifice will contain six thousand people, and is lavishly adorned with gold, marble, malachite and jasper; the pictures are by the hands of Brulow, Bruni, Neff, Bassin and Steuben.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., JULY 12, 1858.

THE Opposition press and its patrons are at length recovering, though slowly, the use of their reasoning faculties, and, with the subsidence of the excitement attendant upon the late elections, they are beginning to admit that the Government will have a majority in the new House. That majority, as we stated last week, will indeed be a small one, but it will nevertheless be sufficient to sustain the Administration. Our opponents allow that there are 15 to 14—not taking into account the seat so closely contested between Mr. McDonald and Mr. McAulay, for Georgetown; but as the former gentleman has been declared duly elected, and will, in virtue of such declaration, take his seat,—and as the Scrutiny has resulted in showing that a greater number of bad votes were polled for Mr. McAulay than for the other candidate, then it is very evident that the numbers will be, after the House is fully organized, 16 to 14—giving a majority of at least *two* in support of the Government.

Can the administration of public affairs be carried on with such slender support? Why not? Several years ago, Mr. Johnston, the Conservative Attorney General of Nova Scotia, conducted the Government of that Province for a considerable period with a bare majority of *one*, which Mr. Doyle, the facetious member for Halifax, in opposition, was wont to designate the *Unit*-arian Government; and in New Brunswick, more recently, the Gray and Wilmot Government was sustained through one whole session by the casting vote of the Speaker of the House of Assembly. The Conservative Government of England, under the Premiership of Lord Derby, is, at present, a Government on sufference—not only without a majority in the Commons pledged to its principles and policy, but dependent for its existence on the private feuds of a party that would be otherwise strong enough to crush it in an hour.

The Opposition here say that the Liberals should resign the Government, and, without asking any questions, leave the formation of a new Cabinet to the chapter of accidents. We have no doubt that such a proof of verdancy on the part of the Liberals would afford intense satisfaction to their opponents. Let the former be got out of the way, and the great stumbling-block to the accession of office of the latter is removed. Cunning—contrivance, however at variance with sound principle, and perhaps corruption, may be relied upon more effectually to secure their accession to and retention of office. However, the Conservatives will have no opportunity of this kind presented to their eager grasp. They have not yet foiled their adversaries in the out-door conflicts; and unless they can make a better fight within doors, they must shiver for a while longer in the cold shades of Opposition. The Liberals have the majority of returned members; and a majority, however small, are surely better entitled to have the conduct of public affairs than a minority, however respectable; and if sixteen cannot secure the efficient discharge of the functions of Government, we are really at a loss to know how fourteen can perform the difficult task. Do the Conservatives imagine that a coalition can be formed? We believe there is no disposition on either side to coalesce. Coalitions have proved failures in every instance in which they have been tried, and we know of no place where the failure of such an experiment would be more conspicuous than in this Colony, because the antagonism which exists between the two parties is no where more strongly marked than it is with us.

The *Islander* says: "The Government will probably threaten a dissolution, but they will hardly venture to carry it into effect, unless they be desirous of a more decided defeat than they have now sustained." This remark of our cotemporary would imply that he is either ignorant of the constitution under which he lives, or that he really did not understand the purport of what he had written with respect to a threatened dissolution. If the Government intended to dissolve, they could not carry their intention "into effect," until *after* the House be organized and tried; and if, as the *Islander* says, they have already sustained a defeat, they would not then have the power to dissolve. We are inclined to think that our cotemporary is afraid of another dissolution. Dim as the prospect of office is at present to the Tory vision, it would be "beautifully less" after another election.

THE PROTESTS.

IT has been stated in some of the papers, that on the declaration day for this County, two electors from the third district, named Wood and Jones, entered a protest against the return of the Hon. Mr. Coles and Francis Kelly, Esq., on the ground of the poll having been closed on the election day at *five* o'clock, instead of *seven*. The Tories of Charlottetown—now that they have lost all hope of Mr. Kelly—pretend to be quite delighted at the spirited and patriotic act of Wood and Jones—who, of course, knew as much about the provisions of the Election Law as the Election Law knew of them—and they seem to lay the deceptive unction to their souls, that the aforesaid protest will have the effect of preventing Messrs. Coles and Kelly from taking their seats. Of course, if the majority were only on the Tory side, Messrs. Coles and Kelly would have a poor chance of their seats; and Messrs. Wightman and Harris would be left to share their fate, on a pretext equally untenable and absurd. But the majority, we are happy to know, is on the Liberal side; and the gentlemen referred to will be secured against the wrong and injustice that would be otherwise inflicted upon them. In the case of the third district of Queen's County, we have seen within a day or two a copy of the proclamation made and entered on the poll book during the day, which is as follows:—"That the poll shall be finally closed at five o'clock with the consent of all parties." The poll was accordingly closed at that time, and as all parties consented to it, there was no violation of the law. Precisely the same thing occurred in the fourth district of King's County, and the election of Messrs. Wightman and Harris cannot, therefore, be affected.

MORE FALSE TESTIMONY FROM THE CHRISTIAN WITNESS.

THE following statement appears in an article in the last *Protector* under the characteristic heading, "Truth is great and will prevail:"—

"The Word of God is excluded from the Normal and Model School of the Colony by positive order of the existing Government."

Now, every person of any intelligence knows this statement to be as great a falsehood as was ever penned. The Bible is not excluded from the Normal School. A time has been set apart for its use, which, being considered too short, is to be extended; and every scholar who desires it may have free use of the Bible within the specified time.

The same article continues: "And the refusal of its" (the Bible) "use in the public schools, when asked for by Protestants for the sole use of their own children," &c. This statement is quite as untrue as the preceding one. The Bible has not been refused to the public schools. The various returns from the school teachers laid before the Legislature some time ago, show that the Bible can be used, when desired, in any of the public schools; and this fact is still further proven by the absence of any allusion to those schools in the protestant petitions which were presented to the House of Assembly last session, and which were prepared and promulgated for signature by some of those very pious people who circulate falsehoods and practise blasphemy through the columns of *the Protector*.

THE NEW APPOINTMENTS.

MOST of our readers are already aware that the Hon. Dr. Young has been appointed to the office of Attorney General, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Hensley, who resigned that office immediately after the election. Mr. Young became Attorney General at the formation of the first Liberal Government in 1851, and resigned about two years after in consequence of what he considered unfair treatment which he received at the hands of the House of Assembly, over which the Government was supposed to have control. His return to his former post will be hailed with satisfaction by his numerous friends throughout the Colony and elsewhere.

The Hon. Col. Swabey has been likewise recalled to his old office of Registrar of Deeds and to a seat in the Executive Council, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Mooney, resigned. Mr. Swabey has been always a popular officer, and his return to the Government will afford general satisfaction to the Liberal party.

Francis Kelly, Esq., has been appointed to a seat in the Executive Council; and the other two vacant seats in that chamber have been offered to John Knight, Esq., member for the first district of King's County, and to S. F. Perry, Esq., member for the third district of Prince County.

Some minor appointments have also been recently made, which will be seen by reference to the *Gazette;* and some *removals* have taken place—the officers affected having manifested their hostility to the Government at the late elections, without showing their independence first to sever their connection with it.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

EXCHANGE ROOMS,
CHARLOTTETOWN, July 9, 11 a. m.

Steamer *Africa* arrived at New York yesterday.

Parliamentary proceedings unimportant. New India Bill passed House of Commons to second reading, Government gaining numerous friends during progress of discussion. Parliamentary debates on French Emigrants' Scheme continues to excite indignation in France.

Later advices from China and India, but nothing special; still fighting. British had relieved Shahjehampore, but were making slow progress with the rebels.

Fire in Dantzic had destroyed 55 warehouses and dwellings.

Rumoured that Spain had applied to France to support her against British pressure on Cuban slave trade.

Consols 95¾. Breadstuffs very dull.

R. HYNDMAN & Co.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Will you please insert the following in your paper:

On the night of June 26th—running up the Island from the eastward, being then off New London, at 10 p. m.—made Malpeque Light, about twelve miles distant. My intention was to make the harbor that night. About 12 p. m. the Light began to grow dim; at 1 p. m. it disappeared altogether, consequently I had to haul off and lay by till morning. At this season of the year a great number of vessels frequent this harbor, it being the best on the north side of the Island to run for in time of danger. It is very important that the Light should be well attended to, as it might, if not visible, occasion a great loss of life and property. I understand, from good authority, that this is not the first time the Light has been extinguished this season.

Princetown, July 5, 1858. A FISHERMAN.

Died,

On Sunday, the 11th inst., at Charlottetown, Ann McGowan, relict of Peter McGowan, Esq., formerly Attorney General of this Island, in the 92d year of her age. Funeral will take place on Wednesday next, at 4 o'clock, p. m.