

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1866.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents as a guarantee of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

THE YEAR 1866.

That time flies quickly is an exceedingly trite remark, but an exceedingly true one. It seems to us, but the other day that we were occupied in doing for 1865 what we are now about doing for its successor, 1866. When we cast a retrospective glance upon the year that is just on the eve of expiring, we feel surprised to think that so many and such great events could have taken place in so short a period of time. Events big with the most important consequences to mankind have followed one another in quick and startling succession. We have had wars and rumors of wars, famines, pestilences and earthquakes in divers places, and even now as we write, though war's deadly blast has ceased to blow, men feel an uneasiness, a foreboding that the calm is a deceitful one, and that the year which we are about to enter will witness horrors equalling, if not surpassing those of the one which is now passing away. The old year has bequeathed to us some difficult problems and some serious annoyances. The knotty question of Confederation which we of these British American Colonies are more particularly interested in solving, seems almost as difficult of solution, and at least as far as this Island is concerned, as far from being satisfactorily determined as it was this time last year. It is true that New Brunswick by a vote of the people, and Nova Scotia by the decision of its legislature, have decided favorably to the principle, but in this Island both the people and their representatives look with distrust and dislike upon any scheme of Union with the Continental Provinces that may be mooted. Whether the Delegates now at work in London can so modify the Quebec Scheme of Union as to make it acceptable to the Lower Provinces, is a question which thinking men who are not partisans, find it very difficult to answer, either in the affirmative or in the negative. For the result we are contented to wait hopefully and patiently. Delays are not always dangerous, copy book wisdom to the contrary notwithstanding. We have a presentiment that a brilliant future awaits these British American Provinces, and whether in Confederation or out of it, they will yet make their mark in the world's history. Fenianism has in the past year caused much annoyance and some alarm to the people of British America. It is by no means pleasant for a people to live for months in daily expectation of invasion from a horde of lawless ruffians fresh from the carnage and the license of the South, and that nation does not well deserve the name of friendly which cherishes them in its bosom and encourages them in their unwholesome enterprises. That the President of the United States somewhat tardily exercised the authority vested in him in putting a stop to these invasions of the soil of a friendly power is quite true; yet we are convinced that in this, as in many other of his most statesmanlike acts, he did not receive the approval of the great body of those over whom he exercises his authority. That the Fenians who were taken prisoners while in the act of endeavoring to take the lives of British subjects and to uproot British authority in America will escape with their lives hardly admits of a doubt. We cannot help thinking that this is bad policy and cruel mercy. It is our opinion that those who without authority undertake to disturb the peace of an existing community should be made to know that they do it at their peril. They should be given clearly to understand that it is a crime of no common magnitude to invade a country from the territory of a friendly power, and to spread terror and dismay among a defenceless population. The mercy shown to the Fenian prisoners will be attributed to the Fenians themselves to any cause rather than to a merciful disposition on the part of the British authorities. In Canada, and they will, we think, be made ready to undertake another raid into British America when opportunity offers, then they would have been, if by firmness and a necessary severity, the actual and intended murderers of British subjects had received their just and lawful deserts on the gallows. In Ireland for the greater part of this year the Fenians have been tolerably quiet, but they have lately been giving some trouble to the British authorities. The unfortunate people of Ireland have been for many long years, either the prey of open foes, or of pretended friends. They have been fearfully oppressed, and the bad passions engendered by that oppression have continued to live when the causes of their existence have ceased to act. Those who will take the trouble to think, can clearly see that this people of England have now not the least desire to oppress those of the sister country. On the contrary, they evince a lively sympathy for their Irish fellow subjects, and seem determined to aid them in obtaining a redress of those real grievances of which they have so long and so vainly complained. The big British heart feels for every one, no matter what his nation or what his color, who is groaning under the rod of the oppressor. Convince the Englishman that he has helped to ill-use a fellow being, and he instantly in his downright way, sets about repairing the injury he has wittingly or unwittingly done. The emancipation of the negro in the British West India Islands is one proof of this, and the loudly expressed indignation of the British people at the alleged cruelties permitted by Governor Eyre is another. That the blacks of Jamaica were

most severely treated is admitted on all hands. The details of the punishments inflicted on them are sickening to read. When these atrocities became known in Britain, the public mind was filled with indignation and shame. A cry for enquiry and for justice so loud and so general that no government dare disregard it, was heard through the length and the breadth of the land. The Jamaica commission was the result. This commission, after patiently hearing and sifting the evidence on both sides, came to the conclusion that though the measures taken by Governor Eyre and his subordinates were unnecessarily severe, yet they could not be said to be criminally so. Governor Eyre, though superseded, was not indicted for any criminal act. When we come to consider the circumstances under which the white population of Jamaica were placed, we will be able to make some allowances for people placed in a situation of such great and imminent peril. A handful of white inhabitants were literally at the mercy of the negro population, who in Morant Bay and other places, evinced a most sanguinary and revengeful disposition. The belief, whether well or ill grounded, prevailed that the whole Island was ripe for rebellion, and that if prompt and stringent measures were not taken, similar outrages would be perpetrated in every part of the Island. This they felt was no time for half measures. The spark of rebellion must be quenched at once. The existence and the honor of every man, woman and child in the country hung upon a thread, and if the negroes were not convinced by the only logic they were capable of understanding, that it was hopeless to contend against their white fellow islanders, a general massacre of the whites would most certainly ensue. Fear is pitiless, and even were the danger purely imaginary, due allowance should be made for those who were by the fallaciousness of that passion almost beside themselves; but we have no reason for supposing that the danger was an imaginary, far from it. There were plain indications of deep discontent among the blacks, and that discontent among an emotional people such as they are might, under favorable and exciting circumstances, find vent in acts of fiendish violence and enmity. It is a fact to which we attach much significance that among the inhabitants of Jamaica Governor Eyre's conduct met with the most unqualified approval. He was hailed as the deliverer of the people, and addressed as a public benefactor, and this too, by grave and reflective people. Clergymen and lawyers, merchants and tradesmen, all united in praising Governor Eyre for his firm and vigorous conduct in one of the most dreadful crises in which a ruler was ever placed. But a portion of the British public were of a very different opinion. They were indignant when they knew that Governor Eyre would escape unpunished, and even unrebuked. They determined to prosecute him in the courts of the Old Country for murder. Those who are best able to judge in this matter are of opinion that this prosecution will come to nothing, and say if a man who is entrusted with the government of a colony is to be punished as a murderer when he takes what he honestly considers the best and surest means of preserving the lives and property of those who are assigned to his care, no capable man will be found to undertake a duty which he may be punished ignominiously for endeavoring to perform to the best of his judgment and ability.

In South America there have been wars. The Chilians have been fighting with the Spaniards; very little interest has been taken in this war by the people of the Island. The dispute, as far as we can learn, arose as many disputes among individuals every day arise about money matters. Spain wanted to carry matters with a high hand, but the plucky Chilian were determined she would not have everything her own way, and showed fight. The Spaniards we think, got rather the worst of it, but whether the original matter in dispute has been settled to the satisfaction of either party, or not, we have yet to learn, most likely it has not.

Europe has this year seen a war begun and ended. The Prussians and Austrians united to rob Denmark, and afterwards quarrelled about the division of the spoils. Austria has been badly beaten, and has forever, we think, lost her position among the states of the German Confederation. Prussia has made large accessions of territory. Many of the smaller German states have already been absorbed by her, and the rest are so much under her influence, that they now only possess the semblance of independence. Prussia has gained immensely, both in power and prestige by the late war. The Italians who hate Austria with a hearty hatred, made common cause with Prussia against Austria. Though unsuccessful both by sea and land they succeeded in wresting Venetia from the grasp of Austria. Italy, with the exception of the Pontifical States is now under the rule of a common sovereign. How long it will be before the whole peninsula is consolidated into one kingdom it is difficult to predict. The French troops were to have evacuated Rome on the thirteenth of the present month. It is said that they will return on the very first appearance of revolt among the people, but if the Pope's rule as a temporal Prince is distasteful to the inhabitants of the Papal States, their absorption into the kingdom of Italy is a mere matter of time. A compromise of some sort must sooner or later be entered into. No country can in these days at least, be long held in subjection to rulers whom the great body of the people disapprove of. The needle gun and Sadawa will always be mentioned together by the future historians of Europe. Whether Prussia owes its late success to the needle gun or to the superior discipline and morale of its troops, is a question

that has been warmly discussed. The most reasonable conclusion appears to us to be that both causes have combined to produce the result. At any rate, Prussia is no longer to have a monopoly of breech-loading small arms. The ingenuity of mechanics and inventors in Europe and America has been taxed to devise an arm equal, if not superior to, the famous Prussian Needle Gun. Snider, in England who, poor man, did not live to enjoy the fruits of his skill, has invented a gun, which, it is said, can compete successfully with the Prussian arm. A native of this little out-of-the-way Island of ours, (Mr. Bowness, of Princetown Road) has invented a breech-loading rifle, for which, if we do not mistake, he has taken out a patent in the United States. He is a poor man, and it is probable that he will share the fate of many other inventors, some one will reap the advantage of his skill, while he himself will derive small profit and little credit from the sweat of his brain.

The successful laying of the Atlantic Cable will, of itself, mark the year 1866 as one of the great epochs of human progress. In no way has science shown how completely it can triumph over natural obstacles more plainly than in this bringing two continents separated by a mighty ocean into instantaneous communication with one another. We will allow this, what is impossible to science, skill, enterprise and energy. Previous to the laying of the cable, that monstrous steam-ship, the "Great Eastern," was with great confidence pronounced a failure, but if she had stranded the day after she had paid out the last mile of the Great Cable, she would have been worth more to the civilized world than the cost of her construction ten times told. The picking up of the old cable from the depths of the ocean where it had so long lain was a work more wonderful, if possible, than the laying of the new one.

From what we can learn, the financial success of the cable is complete. Netor was success more deserved. If ever men deserved to make large fortunes it was those who in spite of losses and discouragements persevered until they brought this great undertaking to a successful issue. We were much pleased to see that at least the name of one Summerside merchant is on the books of the Company. We sincerely hope that Mr. McDonald will receive a benefit commensurate with the cost of the messages he has sent and received.

We have only sufficient space left barely to mention many other events and calamities, which have occurred in the year 1866. It has been our melancholy duty as Journalists, to chronicle the occurrence of extensive fires in Portland, in Charlottetown, in Nova Scotia, in Quebec, and in other places on this Continent. It is the least of the incendiary has been at work, he has performed his diabolical task with truly satanic cunning, for not one has been discovered.

The Money Panic in England has been the cause of ruin and distress to many, and of inconvenience to all. The faith of the English public, in financial concerns, conducted on the principle of limited liability, has been rudely shaken. The Mexican Empire is at last, to all appearances, on the very eve of falling. Its establishment was the mistake of Louis Napoleon's wretched career. He has derived neither honor or profit from his attempt to force on a people a government unsuited to their wants. Maximilian will be happier in Europe than he was in Mexico. If his amiable wife were recovered, we would feel inclined to congratulate him on his escape from the cares, the dangers, and the responsibilities of Sovereignty in America.

The Pamid in India has been a truly awful affliction. Surely something might be done by the government of India to save the unfortunate Hindoos from such terrible visitations in future. The revolt in Caudia has occupied public attention for some time. We who know so little of that distant Island, and of the people who inhabit it, can be at best but poor judges of the merits of the dispute between the Christian Caudians and their Mahometan rulers. One thing seems certain, and that is that the days of Turkish rule in Europe are numbered. That empire has been tottering to its fall for a long time.

At home, in this snug little Isle of our own, we have, during the year 1866, been blessed with peace and plenty. We have, as a people, pursued the even tenor of our way, busied with our own little concerns, which, however insignificant they may appear to others, are everything to us. During the past year we have endeavored to perform our promises to our patrons. We have enlarged our sheet, and spared no pains to make it interesting. We have the satisfaction of knowing that our labors have been appreciated, and thankful for the support tendered us, we, in conclusion, wish them one and all

A HAPPY, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WE learn that the Charlottetown Mail which heretofore was sent from Conventville to North Bedouque on Tuesdays and Fridays, has been discontinued, and that the carrier does not go further than Conventville. This is a great injustice done to the people of North Bedouque, and we hear that they have already petitioned the Postmaster General to have it renewed.

A DREAM. ONE of the most difficult things to be accounted for in dreaming, is the perfect acquiescence of the dreamer in the improbable or impossible circumstances in which he may be placed, during the continuance of the dream. I do not intend entering just now into any disquisition on the philosophy of dreaming, but will relate a very extraordinary dream I had a short time since, in which you will remark that species of duality, or double existence—not I believe an uncommon characteristic of the habitual dreamer, among whom I am, fortunately or the reverse, compelled to include myself.

Without further preamble, being a few nights since in the Land of Nod, I found myself a passenger in a RAILROAD CAR going from CHARLOTTETOWN to SUMMERSIDE. As we proceeded, I was not a little astonished at the superior cultivation of the land on each side of the railroad, and the frequent view of handsome houses, villas and churches, which I did not remember to have ever seen before. I ventured to ask whether we had come to Bagnall's, when a very old gentleman observed that I must be a stranger, seeing that we had left what used to be called Bagnall's on our right some time since, and that in a few minutes we should reach what had formerly been called Barret's Cross, about four miles from the suburb of Summerside, called now, as then, Richmond. Feeling that I was in some sort a stranger, though I had, I knew, been acquainted with Richmond when "Traveler's Rest," with only one house—and Summerside when "Green's Shore," with but two houses, belonging to the two farms which were afterwards the site of Summerside. I was amused at the idea of Richmond being a suburb of Summerside, but so I found it, and as the car was whirled through streets bordered by handsome houses and stores, I tried to find some of the old landmarks, but in vain. In a very few minutes Bedouque Bay came in sight, and with it a splendid view of shipping, of every description, merchant steamers of great bulk and various other kinds of steam vessels, but few sailing ones. We arrived at last at the station, a palatial building roofed over with glass; from thence to the Hotel, in a street omnibus. On entering the hotel I was asked to write my name in the book kept for that purpose, which I did, to the great astonishment of the person in charge of the book, who muttered "curious, wonder if he is any relation to the — of this place. I took no notice of this piece of impertinence, having made up my mind to keep up the character of the stranger that had been assigned to me in the rail car. I therefore asked if I could get a guide capable of giving me the necessary information respecting the City. A young man of gentlemanly appearance stepped up and said as he had the pleasure of being acquainted with, and indeed of being related to persons of my name, he would willingly act as my vicereine. It struck me on looking into his face, that he must be my great grandson, but I said nothing of my suspicion, but accepted his offer at once. I do not suppose, said I, that you know where "Green's wharf" was? Oh yes! said he, the site of it has been often pointed out to me by my grandfather and great uncle, mentioning their names—which convinced me that I was right in my suspicions of the relationship between us. He then led the way, and so we went along one of the streets leading to the water side, he stopped at a crossing, and said, "now we are on what used to be the head of Green's wharf, or the Queen's, as it was afterwards named." We then proceeded some hundreds of yards further and arrived at a Quay, of such extensive magnificence that I had never before seen. My guide informed me that about twenty-five years since—a short time before he was born—the corporation of Summerside, in consequence of the growing importance of the commerce of the port, had obtained an act from the Confederate Parliament of Ottawa, enabling it to purchase the wharfs and docks from the proprietors, and that it had first run the street parallel to old water street, and by an embankment to the channel of the harbor, had formed the quay you now see, extending the whole front of the City. Many of these spacious warehouses, belonging to the descendants of the former proprietors, given them in exchange for the properties surrendered; further up and down are shipbuilding establishments, marine slips, and commercial buildings of various kinds. On the opposite shore, the Fisheries are carried on in a manner that reflects credit on the place, and is productive of great wealth to the proprietors. What can be the use of that immense—though to my eye shapeless and uncouth—mass of steam machinery, as by its chimney I suppose it is? That is a steam ice crusher. In former times we were shut in by the ice during four or five months of the year, and these crushers were intended for the purpose of enabling us to carry on our trade during the winter as well as summer; these long levers that you perceive armed with iron mallets, are moved by steam, and come down on the ice alternately with the force of several tons, breaking the ice at every blow. She is propelled by iron paddle wheels of great strength, both at the sides and in the middle, so that the ice broken by the hammers are ground to lolly by the wheels, and the vessel propelled at the same time. Though shallow, she is very long and broad of beam, and carries an immense cargo. There are two here and two at Cape Traverse, and are found to do their work well. It would astonish our great grand-fathers if the old rocks were to get out of their graves and look at these and several other improvements that they had no conception of. "Old cocks!" I said to myself, and was about to administer a severe rebuke to my descendant, but remembering my vicereine, and convinced that he did not know to whom he was talking, I merely smiled, and nodded an assent. "You would like to see some of the other lions of our City? Suppose we take a look at the old Bank, it has been much admired." Not without reason, said I, as I looked upon a large building with a green pe-

IRELAND AND IRISHMEN.

(From Tom Hughes' London correspondence in N. Y. Tribune.)

There is no distinction whatever, in any part of the British Empire, between the Englishman and the Irishman. Wherever there is a difference, it is in favor of the weaker people. They are taxed in their own island. Every citizen in England is perfectly open to them. At our bar they share the highest prizes. Sir Hugh Cairns, who has just been promoted to the Chief Justiceship in one Court of Chancery, is an Irishman. There are three Irishmen among our common law judges, and Irishmen are practicing with success at our bar, while there is no Englishman on the Irish bench, or so far as I know, in practice at the Irish bar. In the church and in the army the same rule holds, and in the medical profession there are many Irishmen our leading physicians and surgeons. State education in Ireland is on a far better footing than in England, and in this respect, but for the intestine quarrels of the churches and sects, there would be nothing more to be wished or thought for. The only real grievances which remain—the established church and the system of land tenures—would be abolished in a moment, but for the opposition of Irishmen themselves.

(From a recent Speech by Judge Keogh—an Irishman.)

"I will not, even in this assemblage, where many differ from me in opinion, stand silent and hear the praises and eulogies of a country which our destinies are inseparably attached to—(great applause)—I will not hear that country, which presents the greatest career to the young men of his island that any country ever presented since the beginning of the world, spoken of in a detracting spirit. (Applause.) I will not hear her, if I can by my voice rebuke the calumny, spoken of as an enemy of the oppressed. (hear, hear) as the trampler upon the liberties of mankind, as a crusher of freedom of opinion. (Great applause.) We are told that the nations of Europe are reforming themselves, and so they are. The world is and ably at this moment, as we all can see by manifest signs and perturbations, big with some great battle which may be a monstrous prology, which may be a benefactor to the human race. But I should be glad to know his name who thinks slightly of the destinies of England, and who forgets the important part which she has at all times taken in the march of civilization and the freedom of the human mind. (Great applause.) Spain, indeed, has wronged us; Spain must entertain a lively hostility to England! And that it is to be said in an assemblage of Irishmen! Do they forget that from the port, which I hope, is yet destined to be a depot for the commerce of the American world, went forth some 56 years ago, a little army, mostly composed of Irishmen, headed by a great and illustrious Irishman—a Napoleon himself said of him, *le grand capitaine*? They went forth, and they never looked back again till they had entered the bay of France. (Tremendous applause.) Spain has wronged us against England! Let Vimiera, Corunna, Salamanca, and a hundred other imperishable names tell the tale—if Spain thinks she has wronged us of Spanish ingratitude, but of British magnanimity. (Defining and prolonged applause.) Let France be taught to respect the independence of Belgium. How deep were the groves which floated upon the unsanguined plains of Belgium, of British blood, to free that country from the grasp of France? (Applause.) Let Italy remember her autonomy! By all means let her do so. No man rejoices more than I do at the establishment of the independence and unity of Italy. (Applause.) The hope that was nursed at the breast of Dante and Tasso, and for the realization of which 300 years ago Machiavelli sighed and prayed, is not announced with triumphant hymns, and the houses which have twice made the circuit of Europe—brought from Corinth to Rome; from Rome carried by Constantine to Constantinople; taken by Dandolo to Venice; by Bonaparte to Paris, and finally restored by British arms to their present position. (Loud applause.) The immortal poet of England (Byron) said—

"Before Saint Mark's still glow her steeds of brass,
"Are they not bridled?"

They are not now bridled, and in their freedom I say British arms, British policy, and British intervention have had a leading part. (Great applause.) This much I thought it due to my country to say. (Applause.) This much I thought it fitting that I should utter on behalf of the country (applause) of which I recollect what was beautifully said by a great countryman of ours (George Canning) when he spoke of the fall of dynasties, the ruin of empires, kings, mighty sovereigns, deposed popes, patriarchs sent into exile. He looked around him, and seeing before him the maritime power of England—the flag that floated in the assembly in which he was placed— "One Power shall stand, and stand, and stand, one office alone remain, upon that office floated that ensign, the signal of relief to the distressed combatant, of shelter to the fallen." (Tremendous applause.) Prepare yourselves, I say, for the great events which may be opening before you! Prepare yourselves, move all things, to uphold and maintain the honor, the character, and the prestige of the country." (Loud and prolonged applause.)

THE ANCIENTS AHEAD OF US.

The Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown, of Liverpool, gave a lecture in Dunfermline last month on "The Good old Times." We extract the following passages:—

"Mankind as wonderful intellectual features 2,000 and 3,000 years ago as are done in the present time. It is true that man was only an improved gorilla, we don't find that he showed a greater resemblance to it than than now—for his own part he believed there were more monkeys now than then, and possibly the gorilla might not so much represent the race from which we sprung as the destiny to which we are hastening. Abraham he believed to be as thoroughbred a gibbon as any in the nineteenth century, and he found a man of business as they would find in the Liverpool Exchange; while Joseph was a statesman and Moses a legislator worth a great deal more in their time than all our Lords, Commons, and Town Councils put together. Our mechanical appliances for building are far superior to what could have been known to the people of the olden times, but they reared up buildings that are the just and true monuments of the civilized world, and which we cannot equal. We may copy them, as we may copy a painting of a bird's nest, but till we strike out something of our own as good as the Parthenon or Strasburg Cathedral we must kneel down to the old times. We think we do things on a grand scale, and a Cockney will boast that the largest theatre in London will hold 4,000 people; 80,000 would scarcely have filled the Coliseum of Rome. St. George's Hall, Liverpool, is justly regarded as a very magnificent building, but it was only a reproduction of a very little bit of the Baths of Diocletian, which were nearly a quarter of a mile square, the whole structure being a very great deal larger than our Houses of Parliament. We thought we had made great progress in sanitary science, but he believed we were at a great disadvantage compared with the ancients. In Rome alone there were 800 public baths, and it never had more than half the population of London. They had hot, cold, and vapour baths, and something like our Turkish bath, and what was better still the people constantly used them. We should be our civil engineering, but it was questionable if it had improved much since the time when the Romans built their aqueducts, which were carried over valleys, supported on thousands of arches, or tunneled for miles through the solid rock, with the greatest scientific skill was required to give the supply the proper gradient. There was a great deal of talk about that wonderful triumph of genius, bringing the water of Loch Katrine to Glasgow, but

the quantity of water delivered to every inhabitant of Rome was ten times the water supply of London. An abundant supply of water was a special characteristic of an ancient city. We often read of the inhabitants of a besieged city suffering from hunger, but rarely, if ever, from thirst. And there was no over-crowding. Nineveh contained 600,000 inhabitants, but the population of London was, for its size, five times as dense as that of Nineveh. The ancients did not allow the dead to be buried within the walls of their cities—a practice only beginning to be abolished with us. They read the other day of some people taking cholera from washing the clothes of those who had died from that malady. According to the Mosaic law these clothes would have been burned. Moses would not allow people to live in houses that were unwholesome, but he refused of the cities to be built out and allowing the poor to stand; he knew people would live in it if it remained, and so he said—"Down with every stick and stone of it." In the matter of sewerage, the Romans were superior to us. The city was built on arches for the purpose of complete sewerage, and there yet remained a sewer in Rome so wide that a cart loaded with hay might pass through it. Excellent and well contrived drains had been discovered in Nineveh and other towns, but the refuse of the cities was burned in the open plains. The hand-loom of 3,000 years ago produced cloth of as fine a quality, in point of texture, color, and style, as we can produce; and the Hindus and some of the Africans knew the process of manufacturing iron and steel, which led them to look with contempt and to reject as rotton, the specimens of these metals which we sent them. In all these points the past compared favorably with the present.

Latest from Europe.

(From Wimer & Smith's European Times, December 8.)

The London correspondent of the Scotsman asserts that serious dissensions exist in the Cabinet on the question of Reform—that Mr. Disraeli has horrified some of his colleagues by his proposals, and that he has endeavored to bring them to reason by threatening resignation.

The public will hear with pain of the loss of the steamer Scotland, belonging to the National Steam Navigation Company of this country. When the accident occurred she was leaving New York on her way to the Mersey, and came into collision with an invalid-bound ship, called the Kate Dyer. So severe was the shock that the sailing vessel immediately went down, and the steamer sunk also, but not before she had been brought into shallow water. The telegram announcing this calamity is silent as to the loss of life, so the probability is that the destruction of a magnificent steamer, fitted up with water-tight bulkheads, and every modern improvement, and the ruin of the sailing craft—events had enough in themselves—are not intensified by the extinction of human life. The storm which swept over the east coast of England on the 4th of October wrecked several vessels, the casualties being attended in at least two instances with loss of life.

The approach to reconciliation on the part of Austria towards Prussia does not appear to be very expedient. It was recently stated in the Berlin papers that Austria was concentrating troops in Galicia, and that Russia regarded the movement with suspicion. The Vienna papers denied the statement, but they were not believed in the Prussian capital; and a Viennese semi-official paper now alludes to the original denial, and further declares that Austria and Russia are becoming better friends than ever they were. It is again solemnly affirmed that there is to be no concentration of troops in Galicia, and further, that such a step was never contemplated.

The health of Count Bismarck is far from being established. Indeed, it is so indifferently that rumors were current in Paris, a day or two ago, that he had resigned.

The speech of the Viceroy of Egypt is a remarkable document. The political education of the world is marching with tolerable rapidity when it has reached Egypt. In opening the Chamber, the Viceroy spoke with pride of what his father and grandfather had done for the improvement of the country.

The news from Constantinople shows that the disturbances in Candia are not at an end, as we had reason to believe a week or two ago. The *Journalier* ascribes the disturbances to the work of adventurers. A very extraordinary piece of intelligence has been communicated by the Greek Consul in Manchester to the newspapers there. The telegram on which it is founded is said to be dated Corfu, the 4th inst., and declares that 540 Cretans, 350 of the women and children, being closely besieged in a convent by the Turks, blew themselves up, and, of course, perished. They had, however, the satisfaction by this act of killing 2,000 Turks by the explosion. This is indeed horrible—if true.

The *Moniteur* has at length given an inkling about the ex-Emperor of Mexico. It declares that all the necessary preparations have been made for the return to Europe of the French troops; and an official Vienna paper asserts that the Austrian-Mexican legion will be brought back and treated exactly as if they were French soldiers—brought back in French vessels. On the 1st of November Maximilian was at Orizaba and cannot be in Europe so early as was expected. By the end of January, or a little later, these troops will be in their native country. It will be seen by a telegram which came to hand last night, that a despatch has been received in Paris from Maximilian, requesting the physicians of the Empress Charlotte to meet him at a given point in the Mediterranean, on the second fortnight in December.

One hundred and twenty ready made uniforms for Captain Morris' artillery Company, together with 7000 yards of cloth and trimmings, besides a quantity of ammunition and other stores, were received last week from England for the use of the local volunteer and militia force.—*Pat.*

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—We have permission to state that, during the week, two messages have been sent direct to London and Liverpool per the cable, from this city, by our enterprising merchants and townsmen, Messrs. Hugh Monaghan, and J. A. McDonald, of Summerside. The two messages cost \$125, in gold. We wish them success, and hope they will be fully remunerated for their enterprise, and be always able to send many more. These two messages are the first from Prince Edward Island, by the Atlantic Cable.—*Ed.*

By Telegraph to Journal.

London 24th.—*Times* considers affairs of Italy see in Ireland condition, despite tranquil appearance.

London 22d.—Fenian troubles in Ireland entirely abated. The Island is tranquil, and confidence restored to the people.

Said that Great Britain certainly requires the Spanish Government to satisfy the seizure of the ship *Torpedo*, when near Callao.

Remored that another conspiracy, having for its object, the destruction of the lives of the ruling power. Suppression of forms of government discovered at Madrid.

Col. Brown of Canada, apprehended in Prussia, and passed to Montreal in charge of detective.

Gold 134. Charlottetown, Dec. 27. Weather very fine. Harbor clear of ice. Travelling bad. Times dull and inactive. Political news flat. Executive Council meets to-day. Remored dissolution of Assembly immediately. Also reported that another session of the present House first.