

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY. HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

(Continued from last Herald.) WEDNESDAY, April 22nd, 1868.

Hon Mr Davies—The fact that overtures had been made to the Government by one of the Proprietors, relative to the sale of their Estates, rendered it necessary to place at the disposal of the Executive, the means of purchasing any lands that may be offered at a low figure. He then reviewed the general question of land tenures, and in reply to hon member of the Opposition, remarked that the Executive party, at the time alluded to, were powerless, because the Governor in Council, had, at that time, the prerogative to reject any measure they pleased. It was, therefore, folly to think that under the Constitution of the Colony, as it then stood, that the Executive party could obtain their object.

Hon Leader of the Government observed, that the principle of purchasing Proprietary Estates, under the provisions of the Land Purchase Act, with general approval, and had been adopted by the Conservative as well as the Liberal party. There were, however, a few small Estates well settled, that could not be purchased at the limited price fixed by the Land Purchase Act. Should any such Estates be offered, the Government would be placed, by the bill under consideration, in a position to purchase. He then proceeded to show the propriety of ascertaining the views of the Home Government, relative to a compulsory measure, previous to its introduction, in order to prevent any misconception on the subject. He concluded by expressing the hope, that the owners of the remaining Township Lands on this Island would follow the example of others, and yield to the wish of the people, by selling their Estates on fair terms.

Mr Brecken—The bill under consideration was based on precisely the same principle as that which amended the called Tory Bill—the fifteen Years' Purchase Act. If the latter was so very unjust, and so adverse to the interests of the tenantry, what he would ask would be said by the supporters of the present Government of the bill now before the House, placing unlimited power in the hands of the Executive to purchase lands at an unrestricted price. He would offer no opposition to the bill, but would merely remark that it was in his opinion an abandonment of the conservative policy alluded to in the Minute of Council already referred to, and a repudiation of any effort to secure a compulsory measure. He would, therefore, willingly give the bill his support.

Mr McNeill said that the effort made to secure the consent of the Home Government to a coercive measure, was not accompanied by any declared or implied intention, to give up the policy of the Liberal party, relative to the Land Purchase Act. The principle of purchasing an equitable terms was closely adhered to, and even under the provisions of a compulsory measure, there was no desire to deprive rightful owners of a fair valuation for their lands. The main object was to secure to the hard-working sons of toil the fee simple of their farms, on just and reasonable terms. The principal Proprietors having consented to part with their Estates, and thereby a large majority of the tenantry of the Colony being placed in a position to become free-holders, it was but natural, he said, to expect that the remaining portion of the people would eagerly seek like privileges. And if the owners of remaining Estates would persist in resisting the well understood wishes of the people, it was but reasonable to expect that coercive measures would be applied for, and if possible, obtained. In other Colonies obnoxious systems had yielded to public opinion, and he hoped that here, also, the remnant of an oppressive and baneful system of land tenure, such as seldom disgraces the annals of any country, would soon be wiped away.

Hon Mr McAnulty said that extreme agitators and quack politicians were the greatest enemies to any country. All ultra attempts at settling any question always ended in disappointment and defeat. Such had been the fate of the promoters of compulsory legislation, relative to the land tenures in the Colony; and he hoped that the country would now see the folly of all such extravagant and groundless efforts.

Hon Mr Henderson said that it appeared the present Government had taken precedent from the much abused Fifteen Years' Purchase Act. That was, in his opinion, proof of the fact, that parties were disposed to view measures more by their preconceived prejudices, than by the exercise of impartial, mature judgment. He was, however, prepared to support the bill now before the House, or any other reasonable measure, having for its object the releasing of the people from Proprietary bondage.

Mr Cameron said he was happy to give his hearty support to the bill. If during the recess lands were offered for sale to the Government on reasonable terms, it would be extremely impolitic not to allow the Executive the exercise of discretionary power. The Government, he said, would be held responsible to the people, and he did not fear that they would be guilty of any undue or extravagant misappropriation of the public funds. There was no departure from the general principle of purchasing under the provisions of the Land Purchase Bill, contemplated by seeking for a compulsory measure. Proprietors who persistently rejected every offer made to them, should be made to feel the force of public opinion, and he would, therefore, still urge the propriety of agitation on the question. It was humiliating to reflect on the position in which a few small Proprietors placed the country, by the defiant attitude they assumed, relative to what they termed—vested rights. It was indeed high time that the Home Government was urgently appealed to for a coercive measure, having for its object the amelioration of the people, and the advancement and prosperity of the whole Island.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed. House adjourned.

A. McNILL, Reporter.

[From the New York Tablet.]

THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE.

Said a Canadian writer on "The Statesmen of Canada," some few years ago, while the subject of his remarks was still living, and likely to live many years—"I had the honor to know Thomas D'Arcy McGee in the middle of the sixteenth century, he would very probably have been a member, and a very distinguished one, too, of that all-powerful 'Bardic Order,' before whose awful anger, he himself informs us in his History of Ireland, 'Kings trembled and warriors succumbed in superstitious dread.'"

The remark is an apt one, although it was neither an Irishman nor a Catholic who made it, neither a countryman nor a co-religionist of Mr. McGee, and none but one of his own race and his own religion could thoroughly understand his character. It is true that he was endowed with all the qualities of mind and heart that were most conspicuous in the barbs of old—had all their wealth of imagination, all their fire and fervor, all their glowing tenderness of nature, all their passionate love for the old race, their fond and proud remembrance of its ancient glories, and their glorious gift of expressing all these feelings and emotions in stately, flowing verse. But more than the barbs of old had he a deep, ever-abiding, Christian faith, a profound humility, truly admirable in one so rarely gifted, and a high and broad and all-embracing philosophy, with an almost universal knowledge of men and things in his and preceding ages. So it was that he came to wield over all who really knew him, especially in his latest years, a power and an influence such as few men, or few women ever command. He was a wonderful character, comprising the very opposite traits. With all his brilliant talents, his amazing versatility, his far-reaching thought, his high poetic endowments, he was simple as a child in his ordinary speech and ways, and to those he loved, as gentle and endearing. Hence the devoted affection which he inspired in all who had the happiness of knowing him intimately—hence the deep, heartfelt sorrow with which he is mourned; and will be mourned, while one of those who knew and loved him remains on earth. If he had bitter, violent, rabid enemies who neither knew, nor cared to know him, except through the black hues of ignorance and calumny, he had warm, appreciative, devoted friends, and these amongst the best, the most enlightened, the most truly patriotic of the Irish race at home and abroad.

A full and complete biography of Thomas D'Arcy McGee, which we hope to see some day from the heart of his inner circle, will glow with the same different light from that which he is here and elsewhere too often represented. Pending the appearance of this memoir, which must necessarily be a work of time, we hasten to comply with the wishes of his friends and ours, by

throwing together a few of the principal facts in his very remarkable career. Our space will here permit but a very brief and imperfect sketch of this truly great Irishman.

Thomas D'Arcy McGee was born on the 13th day of April, in the year 1825, in the pleasant town of Carlingford, on the coast of Louth. His father was Mr. James McGee, a Union House officer, his mother, Miss Jones Morgan, the former a good, honest man of ordinary capacity, the latter a woman far above the common level, from whom her eldest and most beloved son received, as he was fond of saying, the higher gifts of his high and noble nature. His first and second names, Thomas D'Arcy, were those of his grandfather, a respectable resident in that neighborhood, and a friend of the McGee family. When the little Thomas was yet but a child, his father was removed to Wexford, and in that ancient and historic town the future poet, historian, orator, and statesman grew up to early manhood. He received a higher or more extensive education than that which the ordinary day-schools afforded. A collegiate education was then beyond the reach of the elder Mr. McGee for his sons. It was the misfortune of the family to lose the amiable and gifted wife and mother while her children were still young. Her loss was, indeed, an irreparable one, judging by the way in which her memory was cherished, and the indelible impression her superior mind and estimable qualities made on the hearts of her children; a good Christian mother she must have been, for, with other endowments of the conservative and the liberal, she was her favorite son, the subject of our sketch, she instilled into his young mind a love for religion, a reverence for his ministers, a deep and lively faith that remained with him all his life through, and under the most adverse circumstances.

The chief tie that bound him to home once broken, it was not surprising that, even in his boyhood, Thomas D'Arcy McGee, with his broad, expansive nature, his consciousness of vast mental power, his yearnings after the brilliant future of his genius dreamed, should extend his thoughts beyond the limits of his native land, away to the home of freedom, as he perhaps not wrongly deemed it, in the great Republic of the West. Fame and fortune he probably looked for in this *El Dorado* of modern Europe, but beyond fame and fortune, we can well believe, rose before his enthusiastic mind the dream of working for Ireland in the new home of the old race beyond the Atlantic wave. Love of his native land and her chequered story were even then the passion of his fervid nature.

It was in the year 1842 that Thomas D'Arcy McGee landed on the coast of America, in the old Bay State. On the 4th of July of that year, some few weeks after his arrival, a Repeal meeting was held in the old Marlborough Chapel, and at that meeting the young emigrant of seventeen electrified the Boston audience to such a degree that the chairman, Mr. James, an American gentleman, while expressing his admiration of the young stranger's wondrous eloquence, emphatically remarked, "If such are the *Wexford boys* what must the *Dublin men* be!" That first triumph of Mr. McGee's in America was followed by an engagement in the office of the Boston *Pilot*, with which paper he was connected in one way or another till his return to Ireland three years later. Those years were busy years, memorable years, during which he laid the foundation of much that was remarkable in his subsequent career. Those were the days when the lecturing system was being inaugurated; and, in addition to Mr. McGee's already extensive stock of knowledge, he acquired much from the great minds who were then high above the horizon in the intellectual capital of New England. Even among that galaxy of stars, including such men as Longfellow, Emerson, Brownson and Giles, the young Irish lad, with his self-taught genius, and his spontaneous gift of glorious speech, attracted no small attention. He had taken to lecturing, and to journalism, and by the time he was eighteen, was associated with the late Walter J. Walsh in the editorial management of the *Pilot*, to the extensive popularity of which his ready wit and brilliant genius gave, perhaps, the first and most powerful impetus. They were stirring days those,—they were the days of the Native American excitement, of the Philadelphia church-burning, when to be a foreigner and a Catholic was deemed a legitimate cause for persecution; Irish of the Irish himself, and Catholic to the very core, it was natural that our young editor should rush headlong into the prevailing excitement, and he said and wrote words so keen and bitter that they long ranked in the jaded minds of the Nativists, as they were called. They were the first enemies he made as a public man. As a lecturer, he made a name for himself, extending over the New England States; whilst as a journalist, his fame went back to the old land, and obtained for him an offer from the editor of the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* to write for that paper, and highly respectable paper, which offer he gladly accepted. His heart still clung to the fonder to his native land for the years he had been away.

In 1845 Mr. McGee returned to Ireland, and the three years which followed were amongst the most memorable of his chequered life. From the stormy excitement of the Native movement in America, he passed to the equally stirring and still more momentous struggle between Old and Young Ireland, between wise old heads and cool judgment, on the one hand, and the hot heads and fervid enthusiasm, and Eutopian schemes of fiery, fervid youth, many of whom were more than ordinarily endowed with genius and with learning, and whose hearts glowed with patriotic ardor. O'Connell's wise and eminently successful policy was too slow in its operation for the men of the young generation, and in an evil hour they seceded from the old national party, of which he was the leader and the representative, and formed what was called the Young Ireland party. No one is ignorant that Thomas D'Arcy McGee was one of the first, as he was one of the foremost, in this new party, or confederation, as it soon became. They were a brilliant band of bold, bold spirits, those founders and chiefs of Young Ireland. There were Wm. Smith, Wm. Smith, from age and position (as son of the noble family of the O'Connors of Thomond or Inchiquin), took the lead in the movement; there were Thomas Francis Meagher, and Thomas Davis, and Richard O'Gorman, and Charles Gavan Duffy, and John B. Dillon, and John Mitchell, and Kevin Izod O'Dogherty, and John O'Donoghue, and Terence Bellew McManus, and Michael Doherty, and Thomas D'Arcy McGee, scarce less brilliant than the brightest, and with reason and judgment more matured, despite his extreme youth, for he was but a year or two over twenty when he became secretary to the new organization. It was about that time that the *Nation*, the able organ of the Young Irelanders, sprang into existence, with Charles Gavan Duffy as chief editor, Thomas D'Arcy McGee, second in command, and all the others mentioned above as regular contributors. Others there were, too, who came gradually into the ranks, giving the aid of voice and pen to the fast-spreading movement. "The writers of the *Nation*" were a power in themselves. In addition to those already mentioned there was Father Meehan, and John Campbell, and John Frazier, and two ladies who wrote respectively under the names of "Eva" and "Speranza," who were considered by the young enthusiasts whose cause they did much to advance as the highest priestesses of their powerful party. A combination of genius, of high poetic talent, and of glowing patriotism that illumined its every page, the *Nation* of that day was one of the most brilliant and all-effective journals ever published in any country, and we well remember the potent spell it wielded over all classes of the Irish people.

The first object of those ardent young patriots was to educate the people, and to prepare them for the self-government they dreamed of in no distant future. The publication of the *Nation* was the first step they took in this direction. The next was the issuing of a series of stirring volumes, on every subject that could improve and elevate the masses. Of this series, known from the name of the publisher, as "Duffy's Library of Ireland," two volumes were written by Mr. McGee, and all his arduous labors; these were the "Gallery of Irish Writers of the seventeenth century," and the "Life of Art MacMurrough," a great and noble knight of the fourteenth century, of whose character and achievements he had all his life a high appreciation.

It was during those memorable days that the gifted young secretary of the Young Irelanders wooed and won the faithful partner of his life, Miss Mary Teresa Caffry, his life-long devotion to whom inspired some of his sweetest lays, as all must know who are familiar with his poetical compositions. Bright was the dawning of their married life, but the dark hour came all too soon; the British Government, alarmed at the growing influence of the confederacy, made a descent on the leaders, several of whom, including Duffy, Meagher, and O'Connell, were arrested and thrown into prison. Mr. McGee, fortunately for himself, as it then seemed, had been sent on a secret mission to Dumbarton, in Scotland, the duties of which he had faithfully and honorably discharged, as Mr. Duffy and others of the party have again and again testified.

It is sad to think that of all this noble band of young Irish patriots, whose career opened with such brilliant promise, nearly all have now passed away. Only three, it is now known, remain to see the gradual extinction of lights that once shone so brightly. "Eva" (Miss Mary Eva Kelly) afterwards became the wife of Kevin Izod O'Dogherty; "Speranza" is now Lady Wilde.

Justified; hearing of the arrests in Dublin, Mr. McGee was enabled by a priest to escape from Scotland, first to the North of Ireland, and thence to America. During his short stay in Ireland on that occasion, he was befriended and sheltered by the late eminent Bishop of Exeter, Right Rev. Dr. Maginn, and a reverend gentleman, who is now the esteemed pastor of a New York church, gave him the canoe, in which, disguised as a priest, he was enabled to cross the Atlantic. His young wife journeyed to the far North to see him before his departure; and were it all told in detail, the story of their loves, and their vicissitudes, would make a volume in itself. They parted; the young wife returned to her widowed mother in Dublin, and Thomas D'Arcy McGee went a second time to seek his fortune in the New World. Separated from his wife in the first year of their marriage, his feelings of wounded patriotism and agonized affection were expressed in the well-known stanzas entitled "Home Memories," with which we shall close this portion of our brief sketch, hoping next week to conclude it with a rapid survey of his American career.

I left two loves on a distant strand
One young and fond, and far from home;
One fair and old, and sadly grand;
My wedded wife and my native land.
One tarrieth sad and seriously
Beneath the roof of some remote shrine;
One sitteth by the sea, and sighs
Chanting a grave song mournfully.
A little life I have not seen
Lies by the heart that mine hath been;
A cross-wind darkens now I ween,
Upon the brow of my love in green.
The mother and wife shall pass away,
Her hands be dust, her lips be clay;
But my other love on earth shall stay,
And live in the life of a better day.
Ere we were born my first love was,
My sires were heirs to her holy cause;
And she yet shall sit in the world's applause,
A mother of men and blessed laws.
I hope and strive the while I sigh,
For I know my first love cannot die:
From the chain of woes that loom so high
Her reign shall reach to eternity.

News by Telegraph.

OTTAWA, May 4.—The investigation into the McGee assassination case continues. The missing links in the chain of evidence are almost completed. A strong force of Constables has been sworn in to take special charge of the public buildings here. Private letters state that Mr. Howe had a formal interview with the Colonial Secretary, who received him favorably, and promised to take the subject of repeal into consideration. Discount on American invoices is 28 per cent.

OTTAWA, May 6, 1868.—The estimates of 1868, and part of 1869, passed yesterday the House of Commons. The Government has decided to discontinue bounties to fishermen. The Penitentiary Bill passed through the House of Commons yesterday, and was read first time in the Senate to-day. On motion made to go into Committee of supply, Mr. Holton moved amendment, setting forth that greater economy be exercised in the public expenditure. The Government regarded this as a vote of want of confidence, and the motion was lost, 94 to 36. In Committee an amendment moved by Mr. Huxford, that the Governor General's salary be reduced to thirty-two thousand dollars, carried by a vote of 90 to 45. All the Nova Scotia members, except Stewart Campbell, were absent and did not vote. Several arrests have been made throughout Canada of suspected Fenians.

TORONTO, May 5th.—The parties arrested here yesterday are Patrick Boyle, Editor of the *Irish Canadian*, and President of the Hibernian Society; Owen Cosgrove, Tavern-keeper, and Marshall of the Hibernian Society; John Nolan, Secretary; and Edward Hines, Printer, on charge of Fenianism. All the papers and books of the Secretary were seized by the authorities, and a special constable for the trial of Whelan and others, and they will hold over until the Fall assizes in September. This causes much dissatisfaction here. The Toronto press cautions the Local Governments to view drains and air ducts of public buildings, and have them protected by large double iron gratings of great strength, and to have them inspected every fifteen minutes during the night, by watchmen. Several Criminal Law Bills have passed a third reading in the Commons. A Bill has been introduced by Mr. Savary, providing for the issue of Nova Scotia Bank notes of smaller denomination than they are at present. The British Government will allow Dominion Grants to be placed a license of two dollars per acre on American fishermen.

LONDON, May 5, midnight.—In the House of Commons this evening, Mr. Gladstone referred to the Duke of Richmond's assertion in the House of Lords last night, that Her Majesty the Queen had entrusted to the Ministry to dissolve Parliament whenever they pleased. Such a power, said Mr. Gladstone, was unconstitutional as it left the Ministry at liberty to deal with cases which had not yet arisen. He asked for an explanation of the statement, and contradicted one made in the House of Commons by the Premier. Mr. Disraeli, in reply, said that there was not a discrepancy between the two Houses. He had offered to resign, but the tender was declined by Her Majesty. His advice to the Queen was to dissolve Parliament when the state of public business permits; this was without any reference to the new constituencies, but if the work of the House was soon completed, a new House would be elected by them. Sir Stafford Northcote made some remarks to the effect that the Ministry had no intention to menace the House. Mr. Disraeli, in again rising, said that the right to dissolve Parliament only was reserved by the Ministry in case an issue upon the Irish Church question was presented to a division. After speeches by other members the debate on the Turco-Cretan question.

LONDON, May 6 (eve).—The entire domain belonging to the Hudson Bay Company is to be added to the Crown. A division is expected to take place in the House of Commons to-morrow night, 7th inst., on a remainder of the resolve prepared by Mr. Gladstone, in reference to the Irish Church. A meeting was held in St. James' Hall to-day in favor of continuance of Irish Church. The attendance was immense, proceedings noisy and turbulent. The Archbishop of Canterbury occupied the chair, and the platform was crowded with most prominent of Tory party. The Archbishop of Canterbury, on taking his position, made a speech in furtherance of objects of the meeting. The Lord Mayor then rose and moved a series of resolutions in favor of the continuance of Union of State and Church, which was seconded by the Bishop of Oxford. The Archbishop of York also presented resolutions to the effect that an attempt to overthrow the Irish Church, was an attack upon the Church of England, and a movement towards the establishment of Papacy upon the country. There was much tumult and confusion at this point of proceedings. The resolutions were finally adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

LONDON, May 7, eve.—There was a large attendance at the session of the House of Commons, and great interest taken in the proceedings. Soon after the House came to order, Mr. Gladstone rose and said that he proposed, after the House had acted upon the resolves relative to the Irish Church Establishment introduced by himself, to offer a suspensory act which should, if passed, remain in force until the first of August, 1869. He then proceeded to explain the purport and intent of this second resolve, and moved that it be put on its passage. Mr. Guthrie Hardy said that the Opposition intended to destroy the Irish Church, and that the Ministry wished to alter for a better, but that after the recent vote on the first resolve they would make no more advances in the matter. The second resolve, Mr. Gladstone then moved the passage of the third resolve, and after a discussion and protest of all the various amendments moved, nearly all of which were rejected, it was adopted in substance as follows:—"Resolved, that an address be presented by the House to Her Majesty the Queen humbly praying to prevent by Legislation at this session, or by the Crown of new personal interests through the use of the public patronage and that she should be graciously pleased to place at the disposal of Parliament her interest in the temporalities of all the dignities and benefices of the Church of Ireland. Mr. Whitehead, member for Bedford, moved a resolution for the withdrawal of the grant of £30,000 to each of Roman Catholic Colleges of Maynooth, and to abolish Irish

Donna and the grant to Presbyterians, after the disestablishment of the Irish Church, which was agreed to. The Reform Bill for Ireland was read a second time.

New York, May 5.—Near Galesburg, Ill., on Sunday, fourteen houses were blown down, two churches unroofed, four persons killed and forty injured by a tornado.

New York, May 8.—The House of Representatives spent the larger part of yesterday's Session in debating a joint resolution requesting the President to send a fleet of war vessels to the Gulf of St. Lawrence for the purpose of protecting our fishermen from the tax imposed by the Canadian authorities. The resolution was finally passed by vote of 92 to 39.

LATE NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

R. M. S. City of New York, Halcyon, master, from Liverpool 25th ult., arrived at Halifax on the 7th inst. The principal features of the news have been anticipated by telegraph.

This steamer has a large number of passengers for New York, and a considerable quantity of merchandise for this port.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, on their return from Ireland to England, called at Carrarvon, where a Welsh welcome was accorded them.

On the 23rd ult., the House of Lords assembled for the first time after the Easter recess. The re-appearance of the Earl of Derby, after his severe illness, was specially noticed. He took his seat on the Ministerial side immediately below the gangway next to Lord Chelmsford, and, as might have been expected, received the hearty congratulations of his friends on his restoration to health and the use of powers. The Duke of Buckingham, in confirming the news as to the assassination of Mr. D'Arcy McGee, took occasion to eulogize the character and ability of the deceased gentleman. Lord Carnarvon also paid a graceful tribute to the character and ability of the late Mr. McGee.

THE BUDGET.
The broad results of the budget, which was unfolded by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, may be stated as follows:—The revenues of last year amounted to £69,600,000, the expenditure to £71,236,242, an excess (owing to the Abyssinian war and the uncollected tax upon this account) of £1,636,242. This amount is brought forward into the estimates for 1868-9, which totals amount to £70,428,000, while the expenditure is estimated at £71,350,000, which figures give a surplus of £1,922,000. But then there is the extraordinary expenditure of the Abyssinian expedition to be considered, and this amounts to a total of £5,000,000. Of this sum, however, £2,000,000 were provided for in the supplementary estimate of November last, by an extra penny of income tax and from certain other sources. The sum remaining to be dealt with is thus £3,000,000, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to provide for as follows:—Balance as above, £1,922,000; extra income tax (6d. to be levied, but 4d. is to be taken credit for in the regular estimates), £1,800,000; exchequer bonds, £1,000,000; total, £3,722,000, which figures will give a surplus upon the year of £372,000.

The Herald.

Wednesday, May 13, 1868.

THERE are two questions now before the public which claim almost universal attention. These are, the impeachment of President Johnston and the resolutions of Mr. Gladstone to disendow the Irish Church. The impeachment case is now nearly ended, and there seems to be little doubt upon the public mind that President Johnston will be removed from office. This will be a new chapter in American history, although examples are common enough in Europe of exalted persons being tried for violations of authority vested in them. Whether owing to the respective forms of Government prevailing in the countries where those impeachments take place, or not, we are not prepared to say; but, at all events, it is evident that these State prosecutions have much more significance and are much more serious in their character and consequences in European countries than the case of President Johnston promises to be in America. The people of the United States feel deeply interested in the impeachment. As a free and intelligent people, they attach all due importance to the "misdemeanors" of their Chief Magistrate. They closely watch the progress of his trial, and anticipate the result; and yet pursue their ordinary avocations with as much assiduity as if no such man as Andrew Johnston lived; and when, by the process of law, he shall, in a few days, have passed into the obscurity of private life, the people will pursue the even tenor of their way, undisturbed by the mighty event which marks an epoch in the history of the United States. How different the circumstances and the consequences attending the trial and beheading of Charles the First of England! The wildest excitement, the most frenzied political and religious excitement, the iron rule of the usurper and the despot, followed by the lax morality and the vindictive retaliation of the restoration! These are the surroundings of the impeachment of the first Charles; and it is fortunate that either the simplicity of a Republican form of Government, or the advanced intelligence of the present day, saves those consequences to the United States. As it is, the Chief Magistrate of a great Nation, dignified, by his position and the power which he wields, with the first monarch in the world, will, in all probability, be removed from office, without the functions of Government or the various forms of industry being in the least disturbed. The immediate cause of the President's impeachment was his attempt to remove Secretary Stanton from the War Office, in violation of the Tenure of Office Bill. This bill was passed by the Senate over the President's veto, and provides that certain officers shall hold office during the term of the President by whose they were appointed. The Secretary of War is one of these offices, and the present incumbent, having been appointed by the late President Lincoln, was not liable to be removed until the term for which Mr. Lincoln was elected expired. There appears to be no doubt of President Johnston's violation of the Law in this matter, and his removal from office will cause but slight sensation either in the United States or throughout the world at large, for it cannot be said of him, as it was, we believe, of Aristides, that whilst some men were dignified by office, he added dignity to the office which he held.

With respect to the Irish Church question, it is assuming greater proportions every day, and will shortly be decided by the people at the polls. Mr. Gladstone has taken the matter in hand. In a series of Resolutions he has declared that the Irish Church Establishment shall cease to exist any longer in Ireland as a State Church, and he has been supported in his Resolutions by a majority of over sixty in the British House of Commons. In a closing speech on the first of his Resolutions, Mr. Gladstone stated that those eleven nights of discussion, in which the Irish Church was before the House, had fully demonstrated that the Irish Church establishment never did and never could fulfil the end of its creation. It was not the church of the nation, it was not the church of the poor, nor was it a missionary church. It existed only for the purpose of sustaining political supremacy in a form most painful to the people upon which it was imposed. This was unendurable. No Minister dared to say that it should continue to exist. Now was the time to apply the remedy. Ministers had raised a question, and had broached a policy in regard to it, upon which they subsequently failed to agree. He would say nothing concerning the disposal of the church property in Ireland, for more and better information was needed on the question involving interests so extensive. Our duty now was to accord justice to

Ireland. Mr. Gladstone, then alluding to the personal attacks which had been made upon him, denied, in the most explicit manner, that he had any connection with, or interests in the policy or plans of either the Ritualists on one hand, or the Roman Catholics on the other. Discussing the arguments made against his propositions, he said two leading objections had been made against his plan for the disestablishment of the Irish Church.—One was, that it imperilled the existence of the Established Church, and the time was inopportune. Ten years ago, said Mr. Gladstone, the people of Great Britain were indifferent, and the introduction of this great reform would have been unfruitful, but now the people were aroused, and the opportunity presented itself for an early and sound settlement of the question. The strength of the Church of England lay in her own merits and voluntary zeal; in her rotaries, more than in her connection with the State. He expressed the belief that the Church of England would lose none of her strength when parted from the State. She had more to take from her partisans than from her foes, and the reform of the Irish Established Church would strengthen the Church of England. Mr. Disraeli, on the other hand, affected to deplore the act of injustice contemplated by Mr. Gladstone's Resolutions. It was, in his opinion, an act which involved wide confiscation of property, and menaced the rights of every corporation and every person in the United Kingdom. It inevitably must predispose the public mind for a similar attack upon the Church of England, and it undoubtedly was intended to have such an influence, but in spite of the violence of the press, and the pressure brought to bear by the advocates of the change, he believed the English people would never sanction the sacrifice of sacred things to party necessities, leading, as it was sure to lead, to results only to be described as revolutionary. Mr. Disraeli, however, having been defeated, he tendered his resignation to the Queen, who refused to receive the same, and counselled an election on the question. An anticipation of the coming struggle, both parties are actively employed in the press and on the platform in preparing the people to give a just and intelligent vote on the subject. So far, Mr. Gladstone has carried not only a majority of the members of the House of Commons, but also a majority of the leading papers and of the people of the Empire, with him. In the interests of justice and of the peace of the Empire, we express the hope and belief that the result of an election will be such as is desired by the friends of civil and religious liberty. In no other light can the present struggle be looked upon; but it is not to be supposed that an Establishment, which has existed for centuries at the expense of an oppressed people—the emblem of an odious ascendancy—and fed and paupered by the State, will submit to be disendowed without a severe struggle. Mr. Disraeli, accordingly, with the tact of a clever politician, raises the cry of "the Church in danger!" whilst his followers impute all sorts of motives to Mr. Disraeli, with the view of promoting an anti-Popery blast which shall again waft the Conservatives into power. Our despatches give some faint idea of the spirit in which the contest is being carried on, and of the excitement throughout the Empire on the subject. It is plain to us, from the discussion now going on, that the principles of religious and political equality, as well as of that sound statesmanship which moulds into one loyal and harmonious whole, people of different races and of different creeds, have made vast strides in England within the past fifty years, and that Ireland, after long ages of injustice, will now have removed from her one of those evils which have grievously afflicted her—one which has been freely condemned by the leading intellects of the present century, and one to which no spirited people, having the power, would submit for a day.

The *Summerside Progress* very justly praises the excellent co-operative society Bill introduced into the Legislature last session by J. O. Arsenaull, Esq. The farmers generally of the Island, more especially the poorer class, should make themselves acquainted with the provisions of this bill, which secures them in twenty bushels of grain and of potatoes for seed purposes, whatever their debts or liabilities may be. The *Progress* gives a very good outline of the Bill in the following remarks:—"The Society, it seems, was first started for the purpose of securing to farmers a sure supply of seed grain in the Spring. At first, a deposit of a certain number of bushels of oats, barley, &c., was made by each member of the society; and if any of them ran short in the Spring of the quantities required for seed they drew on the general stores. If not, the amount contributed stood over to their credit. But the party drawing out seed grain agreed to return, for each bushel taken out, one and a half bushels in the Fall, but was not required to give it in return, for the fifty per cent. returned was credited to him, and remained on deposit to his credit. Thus—if a farmer had only ten bushels to his credit, and in the Spring drew out that amount and ten bushels additional, (making twenty bushels in all), he would have to return thirty bushels in the Fall, twenty of which, (after returning the ten bushels he borrowed), would be placed to his credit. This plan has been found to work so well that, at the last session of the Legislature, an Act of Incorporation was applied for and obtained by the representative of the Western portion of the district, Joseph O. Arsenaull, Esq., (from whom we derive our information of the matter.) This Act, we learn, is general in its character, and, under its provisions, societies for the distribution of seed grain can be formed in any district throughout the Island. And not only this, but such societies are allowed to own a certain amount of real estate, and personal property to an unlimited amount. In this way, then, we begin to see an opening for a prospect of obtaining the only means that will make farming profitable in this Island. That is, the ways and means for obtaining expensive labor-saving machinery. Societies, like the one in England, must soon save enough of a surplus fund in hand to be able to import, for the use of its members, reapers, mowers, and, in time, steam ploughs; and all these things, obtained in this way, while the price will increase and cheapen the cost of production will not entail a sacrifice upon any of those who may have contributed to their purchase.

Success to our Acaidian co-operatives, and may their example spread into every community on the Island, and prove the source of good as yet undreamed of."

The submarine cable connecting this Island with the Mainland, and which was severed early in the winter, is still unrepaired. Mr. Chas. Hyndman, the Superintendent of the Telegraph Lines on this Island, has been at work endeavoring to repair the breaks and nearly succeeded on Wednesday last. A heavy wind and sea, however, having sprung up, the Steamer *Heather Belle* was forced to seek shelter, since which time, no new attempt has been made at the work. Mr. Hyndman intends returning to Cape Traverse in a few days, when he confidently anticipates restoring telegraphic communication to the Island. We wish him success.

We have received from Ottawa a "Memorandum on the Sugar Question," which is commanding some attention in the Dominion just now. Down here we do not feel particularly interested in it.

CAPT. EVANS and other officers of the *Princess of Wales* were feasted at the "Clifton House," Summerside, on the first visit of the Steamer to that Port this season, namely, the 2nd inst. They dined there.

H. M. S. *Constance*, whilst lying in Halifax harbor took fire on the 2nd inst., in the coal-bunkers, and sustained considerable damage before the fire was extinguished.

A MAN named McDonald recently died in New Glasgow, N. S., from the effects of two glasses of gin.

GALBRAITH'S BAND, will, weather permitting, perform on Hillsborough Square this evening at 7 o'clock.