'You are Miss Wynne?'

'I am.'

'I bring you tidings of him you fancied dead—of Ralph Seymour.'

She grew deadly white, and grasped convulsively at the back of a chair.

'He is not dead; floating senseless upon the sea he was rescued by the boats of an outward bound vessel, and for years he dwelt under the palm groves of the East. Do you ask why he did not return? What had he to gain, to hope for? Faint rumors floating toward those orient shores reached him of the engagement—the probable marriage of the woman he had loved. Was it so?'

'False—false!' gasped Lettice, with one fluttering hand upon her heart.

He slightly inclined his head.

'You will return to him?'

'Yes.'

'Then tell him that Lettice Wynne cherished his dead memory with everlasting love; that she was true to him through good and evil. Tell him she *loved* him; that will be the truest word!'

The stranger paused; she could see the flash of his dark eye, even in that uncertain light.

'She loved him?' he echoed.

Lettice stood, white and silent—was it a dream?

'Lettice—*my* Lettice!'

Close, close against his strong, true heart—no more sick memories and rains of anguish tears—no more doubts and misunderstanding, and bitter trials. Ten years—ten sad, slow years—it seemed but a moment now in the glow of their exceeding great joy.

Lettice Wynne did not die an old maid, after all, though she richly deserved it. We don't always get our deserts in this world—and what a lucky thing that is for some of us.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The following items of interest are from a Boston paper of a late date:—

The St. Domingo rebellion is raging with renewed fierceness. We have intelligence of desperate encounters with the Spaniards, in which the troops gave themselves up to the work of fire and pillage. The losses by two fires at Santiago and Porto Plato reach $5,000,000. The whole population of the latter place had fled to foreign countries, and thousands had gone to the neighbouring islands, some of the principal merchants leaving for the United States.

From Charleston Harbour we have the exciting news that on Thursday last Gen. Gilmore brought three of his heavy guns to bear upon the city, and flung Greek fire shells into its very heart. Other guns were to be trained upon it, and were expected to open on Tuesday afternoon. The batteries on the island also were active, and four monitors were in position, ready for work. The rebels were surprised, and replied to our fire with some reserve. It does not appear whether or not Gen. Gilmore proposes to make this the grand and general assault. We have rebel papers, with news from Charleston up to Tuesday, but they make little mention of the attack.

The government detectives have succeeded in bringing to light a deep and well laid plot in Ohio, in which many prominent men were engaged, to attack Camp Chase, release the rebel prisoners there, seize the arsenal at Columbus, attack the Penitentiary and release John Morgan, and begin a grand rebel campaign in Ohio. Several arrests have been made. It is said that a similar organisation exists in Illinois.

Accounts from Vicksburg state that the Mississippi has been and is unusually low, and only gunboats of light draft can navigate the stream. The dangers to navigation from snags are increased by the presence of guerillas, and every vessel passing receives volleys at several points. A number of boats have been destroyed, the guerilla plan being to pick off the pilots, when the boats, becoming unmanageable, run ashore, and are then rifled and destroyed, the passengers being left to go whithersoever they can. The work of strengthening and increasing the fortifications of Vicksburg is steadily progressing.

Situation in Virginia.—The correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, at Gainesville, Va., writes under date of October 29 as follows:

"The physical condition of the men and the moral condition of our army here are about on a par; neither are first-rate, nor have we any advantage over the rebels, except in superiority of our equipment and supply. The men have become so inured to the hardships of our hardest of all campaigning, that I opine but few of them will now leave the army for civil avocations. Most of the men will re-enlist.

Our present position is considered a strong one, and our army is probably more concentrated and better prepared at all times for a general engagement than ever before. Our line of operations is now quite contracted, and we are at a convenient distance from our base of supplies, which arrive partly by rail and partly by waggons.

The railroad has been repaired to this vicinity, and will soon be in complete order to our advance corps. Matters and movements here indicate that it will only be necessary to complete its repairs to Rappahannock Station.

The rebels seem to have crossed the Rappahannock with several divisions, probably Hill's corps. These troops are demoralized to a frightful extent, and look and act like men who are more anxious to devour food and dispose of clothing than to slay men. This force, immediately in our front, is supported by Ewell's corps, which is stationed in the Culpepper region. The rebels do not seem demonstratively inclined, unless it be to secure some stores, and our army is perhaps less 'on the fight' than they for the present.

The enemy seems restive and uneasy in front, and especially on our right. General Lee is evidently very anxious to keep our army back, and makes the best show of the few men he has now under his command that is practicable. On Monday he made a bold push forward to reconnoitre, his spies having informed him that our army was advancing from Warrenton in force. This had to cease immediately, so he shelled our out-posts and drove in a few advanced pickets and videttes, while Mosby received orders to renew his operations in our rear to create alarm. The rebels were checked, and have been unable to flank us.

I think this desultory fighting will continue for some time, but that the rebels will be forced into a general engagement in the end, seems to admit of little doubt. Certainly Hill's corps will be severely handled, if it does not either get out of the way or be powerfully reinforced."

Describing the Bull Run battle-field, a late letter writer says:—"In the long luxuriant grass one strikes his foot against skulls and bones, mingled with the deadly missiles that brought them to the earth. The shallow graves lie here and there above the grass, sometimes in rows and sometimes alone, or scattered at irregular intervals. Through the thin layer of soil that hides the nameless hero who gave his life for his country, one sees the protruding ribs from whence the rain has washed their covering, a foot or an arm reaching out beyond the earthen bed, and once I saw one of those long sleepers covered snugly to the chin, but with the entire face exposed and turned up to the passer-by—one could imagine him a soldier lying on the field wrapped up in his blanket, but that the blanket was of clay and the face was fleshless and eyeless. In one case a foot protruded, with the flesh still partially preserved; in another, an entire skeleton lay exposed upon the surface, without any covering whatever."

A Terrible Dilemma.—News from Havana bring details concerning the destruction of the steamer 'Mejico' by fire. A number of passengers perished, among whom was Senor Carfancho, late Minister to Mexico from Peru, who was expelled by the French authorities. Senor Carfancho, when he found that there was no chance of escape from death by fire or water, resolved on committing suicide. He did so, and was followed in the terrible act by the captain of the vessel. Some of the passengers were saved, and arrived at Havana.

The latest Mexican news looks squally for the French. It is to the 1st October:

"A conspiracy against the Imperial Government has been discovered, and a large number of accused persons has been imprisoned, some shot and others sent to Martinique. No movements of the French troops were mentioned. The press was free in commenting on the refusal of Minister Corwin to hold interviews with the Provisional Government, and also on his neglecting to join the festivities celebrating the birthday of Napoleon. The forces of Jaurez were daily increasing, and 27,000 troops were between Queretaro and San Luis. Guerillas were increasing, and the adherents of Jaurez seemed as determined as ever to resist the French to the last extremity. The opinion prevailed that large French reinforcements would be necessary to complete the subjugation of the country."

Public Opinion in the South.—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 27th October has a lengthy and bitter article against England, because of the detention of the rebel rams. It undertakes to show that had the rams got away they would not turn out as useful as everybody supposed they would, which reminds us of a little story about a certain fox and some grapes. Among other things the *Examiner* says:—

"His [Russell's] own individual wishes seem to be tolerably clearly stated that we should be overcome, or at least, that in the shock of war our social system should be completely subverted. This much might be inferred from his well-known sentiments on slavery; but it was not to be expected that they would seriously influence the acts of a veteran statesman on a great question of Government policy. Still less was it to be supposed that Palmerston, who, for more than half a century, has been the dexterous incumbent of places, of dignity and power, and who has evinced a cosmopolitan indifference to creeds and principles, should now be swayed by any wishy-washy humanitarian notions. Perhaps his fourscore winters weigh heavily upon his head, and, like the tyrant of the middle ages, who sought to expiate a life of violence and rapine by founding monasteries, he may fancy that sacrifice on the altar of negrophilism may atone for the cold-blooded indifference with which he has always subordinated the peace and happiness of other nations to the sordid interests of England. Whether owing to motives of humanity, fear of war with the United States, or that simple timidity which is apt to overcome narrow-minded men when placed in a position where results of importance hang upon their conduct, certain it is that the English Ministry have now transcended all they have hitherto done in favor of the Yankees and against the Confederacy."

The Richmond *Dispatch* also has an article upon the same subject. It says that Russell "has acted from the combined impulse of hatred and fear;" and that the "contemptible pretext of neutrality binds no man in the South."

The Rage for Diamonds.—Our diamond dealers say they have never done a larger or more profitable business than during the past two years; but it is extremely difficult, from the very nature of this most concentrated form of all earthly wealth, to arrive with any degree of certainty at the aggregate value of the importation of diamonds into the country, for they are so easily smuggled that even the very low duty of five per cent. on unset precious stones does not prevent their surreptitious introduction into the country. A few days since a diamond merchant entered at the custom house a single brilliant, which was invoiced in Paris at 40,000 francs, the cost of which, after paying the duty of five per cent., would be about fifteen thousand dollars. The duty on diamonds is so small that there is hardly a temptation to smuggle them; yet the great part of the precious stones imported here doubtless come free of duty. The custom-house books exhibit but a very small number of diamond entries, but the importations of the past two years through the custom-house show a considerable increase over any previous year. The total amount of gems and precious stones, not set, entered at our custom house in 1861, was but $46,513, while for the first quarter of the present year it has been $97,246, and in 1863 it was $188,821. So that in the second year of the war the importation of diamonds increased fourfold on the previous year, and the third year bids fair to double that. We doubt if there have been any diamonds or unset gems imported into the Confederate States since the rebellion commenced. Strange stories are told of diamond purchasers: A dealer in Broadway tells how having sold a diamond necklace to a lady, he had occasion to ask her to write her address on a card, when she had to confess her inability to write her own name. Diamonds so costly as the one we have mentioned as having been recently entered at our custom house are not often imported, and there are probably not many of its size in the country; but that even one such small mountain of light should be imported indicates a demand for such valuable ornaments that will surprise many people who do not know what extravagance our new made millionaires indulge in. It is a rather startling thought that a little glittering pin worn in the shirt bosom, or on the finger, required three thousand barrels of flour, some ten thousand bushels of wheat, or fifteen hundred barrels of pork, to be sent out of the country in exchange for it. But there is a thing to be said for diamonds, that they are always worth very nearly what they cost, and do not, like many other articles of luxury, lose their value by use.—*N. Y. Independent.*

At Dromeliby, County Clare, some men in digging for potatoes, came on a massive boulder, which required their united exertions to remove, having been artificially set over four others, which formed an enclosure of about two feet square. But well repaid were they for their labours, for, having displaced it, they found the contents to be a copper kettle filled with silver pieces, each being worth about tenpence, and some of which bear the date of 1550. On digging further they perceived some stones set in mason work, which they upturned with renewed energy, and succeeded in entering a vault, which, to their surprise and disappointment, contained nothing but a leaden coffin about nine feet in length. On taking off the lid, (which, by the by, was considered very daring of them by the peasantry,) they beheld a human skeleton of massive proportions, the thigh alone measuring 2 feet 11 inches, and the cranium half an inch in thickness.

Sir Roderick Murchison informs the public of the sad death of Mr. Richard Thornton, one of the Central African explorers. Dr. Livingston, who writes the news to Sir Roderick, states that he himself is in poor health; that his steamer will have to be taken to pieces and sold; that some of his companions are returning to England, and that all around him a scene of devastation is presented.

Stonewall Jackson's Admission into Heaven.—I was much amused at the rebel prisoners' account of Stonewall Jackson's admission into heaven. They were strong admirers of Gen. Jackson, and especially of the great success of his flank movements. "The day after his death," said they, "two angels came down from heaven to carry Gen. Jackson back with them. They searched all through the camp, but could not find him. They went to the prayer meeting, to the hospital, and to every other place where they thought themselves likely to find him, but in vain. Finally they were forced to return without him. What was their surprise to find that he had just executed a splendid flank movement, and got into heaven before them."—*Cor. Boston Recorder.*

A London Professor lectured recently on adulterations of food. He handed round coffee, which was pronounced excellent, then told the audience that they had been regaled with a mixture of bullock's blood, chicory, sheep's liver, dried, and old coffee grouts. He gave them capital porter, too, made of spirits of wine, gum arabic and brown sugar.

The odd proposal has been made in England to turn the Great Eastern into a floating hotel, and anchor her off Cowes, to make occasional sea excursions. The undertaking would receive the support of all novelty lovers.

Frauds in the New York Custom House.—The New York *Express* reports that extensive frauds, amounting to near $100,000, have been committed by a high official in the New York Custom House, by means of false entries and other cheats. It is also stated that means of destruction have been furnished to the rebels by connivance in the Custom House, and that, therefore, the parties involved are likely to be guilty of treason. A Deputy has been placed under arrest on grave charges.

The shipping returns for the year show that of the vessels trading to ports in the United Kingdom during the year, 1827 were wrecked, and the deep swallowed 690. Over 286 thousand vessels cleared and entered altogether. Many of these vessels are very old. Over 70 are more than 60 years old, 25 are over sixty years, and one old tub is a hundred years old.

Potatoes.—The Rutland (Vt.) Herald says that the potatoe rot in Vermont is not so bad as people expected, and that farmers who can get a chance to sell their potatoes for fifty cents a bushel from the field are disposed to consider themselves well off.

The Houlton Times says that the potato crop this season in Maine will prove the best gathering in that county for a term of years. The potatoes are of excellent quality, and the yield is large.

Charlottetown papers say that the potato crop in P. E Island will, this season, be fully an average one.

In this Province, we are sorry to say, the crop is in most sections an entire failure.—*New Brunswick paper.*

A New York paper states that a Madagascar Prince is now living in a hovel in that city—an exile.

The average profits of the big hotels in New York are $100,000 per annum.

On one of the French railway lines, a bridge over the river Isere gave way without any warning. A man who saw it fall ran along the railway to stop an advancing train. The engineer paid no attention to his warning and signals. Seeing there was no other means of persuading him to stop, the man bravely laid himself right across the rails, in the hope that, at least to prevent crushing him, it would be attempted to arrest the engine—and accordingly it was done, just in time to save both the brave peasant and the entire train.

The coal mine at Monkwearmouth, England, is said to be the deepest mine in the world. The depth of this mine from the surface is 1900 feet, and the workings of coal underneath extend to a distance of two miles from the shaft. About 300 persons are employed in it, and 600 tons are mined daily.

A bridge, in Spain, over which a railway train was passing, fell, precipitating an engine and seven carriages into the water. The loss of life is supposed to have been large, but the number could not be ascertained.

The total number of students attending in all departments of Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., is 822, of whom 11 are from New Brunswick, 20 from Nova Scotia, and 4 from Prince Edward Island. Canada sends only 4.

A Berlin Professor finds that Europe contains 372,000,000 of inhabitants, Asia, 720,000,000, Africa, 89,000,000 America, 200,000,000, and Polynesia 2,000,000—1,283,000,000. Out of this little crowd, about 32,000,000 die in each year, which is 87,761 a day, or 61 per minute.

Courtship in the 19th Century.—On Saturday last the inhabitants of Eastbourne were amused by singular intelligence, proclaimed by the "town crier," who, having given the usual summons with the bell, and his clear and stentorian "Oh, yes," announced the fact—not that a lady had lost her lover—but that she wished to obtain one. It appears that the lady in question met a gentleman in the bazaar held for the benefit of the Wesleyan Chapel Fund. The agreeable manners and personal appearance of the gentleman so pleased the lady that she desired a more private and prolonged interview, and being ignorant of the name and address of the gentleman, she called to her aid the town crier to announce to the loved one that his presence was requested on the Parade between the hours of eight and nine P. M.—*Surrey* (Eng.) *Standard.*

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

"What is there to prevent an almost immediate union of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island? But what, it may be asked, would be the basis of such a union, and how could it be accomplished? We see no difficulty whatever, providing each of the three Provinces agree to a union. An act to be passed uniform and identical, in each Province, authorizing the union, with one Legislature—its first session to be held at a given date, and at which every member of the existing Legislature of each Province should be entitled to meet upon terms of equality,—this would be a proper basis; that is to say, the Legislative Councillors of the three Provinces in one body, and the members of the three Houses of Assembly in another—the tenure of their seats to be exactly as they are at present, until altered by the United Legislature. All laws in each of the Provinces to remain as at the Union, until altered by the United Legislature. Over this United Legislature the Lieut. Governor of the senior Province to preside, and each of the other Provinces to remain presided over, and its laws—fiscal or otherwise—to be administered exactly as they are until otherwise determined by the united body. But there should be no meeting of individual Legislatures after the United Legislature had been once convened. By the Act of Union to be passed in each, preparatory to the consolidation, it should be provided that all tariffs and other expiring acts should stand continued and unrepealed until otherwise enacted by the united body. All vacancies occurring, whether in the United Legislature or out of it, to be filled up as at present, until otherwise provided. The duty of the United Legislature at its first meeting would be to provide by degrees for that uniformity desirable to consolidate the Provinces and secure harmonious action throughout. If a member of the popular branch were to die, the vacancy should be filled just as it would be at present. If, before the scheme were perfected, the term for the existence of the popular branch in either Province expired, let a new election be held under their existing laws; and when the whole arrangement were consummated, and a franchise provided uniform for the whole, then a dissolution should follow, and a general election for the United Provinces."

The above is from the Halifax *Chronicle*. The *Colonist* intimates that the views are similar to those held by some person of position in New Brunswick. It will be remembered that when Dr. Tupper was out of office he travelled over the country advocating a Union scheme for the Provinces. Now that he has power, we would like to see him use it to carry out ideas similar to those he then enunciated.—*St. John Globe, Nov. 2.*

We printed, from the Halifax *Chronicle*, the other day, a feasible plan for a legislative union of the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward. The time has come when that or some similar scheme should be carried out. One set of laws, one Government, one tariff, would produce interests in every way identical; identical interests would produce a unanimity of opinion and purposes among us, and this would make the United Provinces powerful. We could talk with some effect. Canada would not again dare to treat us as basely as she has done. Our credit abroad would be increased, and our sphere of political thought and action enlarged.

It is all very well to tell us that Union would not increase our population, develope our resources, or add to our wealth. We believe it would have a great tendency to do all these. Whatever a large state undertakes to do it can do with greater force or vigor than a small one. The union of Upper and Lower Canada, as a political measure, may not have worked well. In a commercial point of view, however, it has been a great success. The reasons that have operated to make the Canadian Union a failure, politically, would have no existence in a Union of these Provinces. Being pretty much the same kind of people, we could amalgamate without difficulty. We would get along very well under one Government; one set of Crown Officers could do all the work that Crown Officers have to do; and either Dr. Tupper or Mr. Tilley would discharge the duties of Provincial Secretary, and have plenty of time for an annual delegation. A wide field for our Colonial statesmen wherein to exercise their talents would give us abler statesmen; and the reduction of half the petty offices in the two Provinces would of itself be a blessing. It has always been the dream of our Lower Province politicians to have all the Provinces united at the same time in one grand Confederation. Our late negotiations with Canada must have dispelled any illusions of that kind. Canada does not want us; and, certainly, until her statesmen begin to have some regard for their honour, we want no alliance with her. Mr. George Brown says that he never saw a dozen Bluenoses in Canada. The loss is Mr. Brown's, not that of the Bluenoses.

The possession by Nova Scotia or New Brunswick of all the machinery for the government of a large state is a great absurdity. In the case of Prince Edward Island it is next to criminal. A small patch of land that might almost be placed in the Reach in the River St. John without detriment to steamboat navigation—yet it has its Lieut Governor, its Executive Councillors, its Legislative Councillors (elective, too, at that—the wisdom of the Crown not being equal to the duty of selecting competent men), its House of Assembly, and all the subordinate officials. It is no wonder that this has been likened to placing on board a canoe the machinery necessary for the propulsion of a steamboat. The case of these Provinces is very little better. Many of our Provincial statesmen have expressed themselves in favor of the scheme. Let them take hold of it in earnest, and ere another year elapses the machinery of the union can be put in motion.—*St. John Globe, Nov. 4.*

From the St. John N. B. Telegraph, Nov. 5.

PRINCE EDWACD ISLAND DEFENDED.

A very clear and pleasing writer furnishes the following defence of Prince Edward Island against the powerful attacks of the mighty St. John Press.

To the Editor of the Telegraph:—

Sir,—Prince Edward Island seems to have a rather hard time among her provincial companions. A kick from one and a cuff from another are among the kindest salutes she receives, and all because she is guilty of the dreadful fault of being little! One angrily shakes his fist in her face and tells her he could put her in his pocket; another asserts seriously that it is little short of a crime in her to be so small; while a third invariably steps over her, pretending not to see that she is in his way. I observe in the *Globe* of to-night that she now stands a chance of a cold bath in the river St. John. What monstrous fellows some of us are! One is really inclined to inquire whether there may not be something besides her diminutive size that has excited all this displeasure.

"Why, the puny thing has a government,—a real government, just as if she was as big as one of us."

Well, suppose she *has* a government; whose business is it but her own? I cannot conceive why New Brunswick, or Nova Scotia, or Canada should be so exercised about it, seeing that neither of these giants is obliged to contribute very largely to its support.

"But the idea is so ridiculous!"

Now, really, neither New Brunswick nor Nova Scotia has so very much to boast of either in size or population. They are much smaller as compared with Canada than Prince Edward Island is as compared with them.

"Oh! but we are talking of a union, and we want Prince Edward Island to join us."

Well, gentlemen, your ideas of courtship are somewhat original. What a saucy creature she must be if she does not favor a suit so gallantly pressed. I am astonished that she can keep her heart for an instant, and that she doesn't incontinently throw her neat little arms around your brawny necks, and smother you with kisses, you are so kind!

"And, then, the politics of a small place like the Island are so personal and bitter, that it would really be to her advantage to drop her seperate existence and become a portion of a large and respectable province such as we are."

If the little lady had been keeping an eye on her respectable continental friends, as I have no doubt she has, in anticipation of a matrimonial offer, she must certainly have been charmed with the social harmony, political purity and official dignity exhibited in these same respectable provinces.

In all seriousness, Prince Edward Island politics are personal and bitter enough; but in the name of charity, do not point her to an example set by some of our larger provinces. What has been the character of Nova Scotia politics of late years? Out of consideration to the public nostrils, I shall not stir up the festering mass. As for Canada, if Canadians do not belie themselves, it has become a political Sodom, having lost even its instinctive desire to hide its shame from the gaze of the world. With regard to New Brunswick, justice compels me to state that its character is, as yet, comparitively free from the blemishes which deface the older provinces. Still the leprous spots are visible here and there; and I am much mistaken if, as the province becomes older in party politics, it does not lose that appearance of health by which it is now distinguished. Upon the whole, Prince Edward Island may do worse than remain as she is. She is not very large, to be sure. (The *Globe* evidently is seized with the idea that the whole Island would make barely one comfortable farm). But as size does not constitute happiness, her people, if they understand their true interests, though they may not be very great may be very happy.

St. John, Nov. 4th. FILIUS.

THE WAR NEWS.

The telegrams inform us that there has been considerable skirmishing in Burnside's department. During three days his loss, in killed, wounded and missing, was about 500. The Confederate loss in the same time is said to be about 600; but people will persist in asking how is it that the Yankees, as a general rule, know the enemy's loss better than they do their own. On the 25th Burnside was at London to repel an expected invasion by a large force of Bragg's army.

Again we hear of activity in Virginia. Meade's whole line is said to have advanced, and various engagements are reported, in one of which the Federal loss was 400.

Anti-draft riots have occurred among the coal miners in Pennsylvania, and several murders have been committed. The Militia force has been called out.

The Paris Correspondent of the New York *Times* says that six iron plated vessels are building at Nantes and Bordeaux for the Confederates; but that that Government will prevent them from going to sea.

The Confederates hold both sides of the Rappahannock River, and have recently been fortifying the approaches on the north side. Mosby's guerillas continue very active; they recently captured the cattle guard of Buford's division, within one mile of Warrenton Junction, to where the Federal trains now run. Two "war correspondents" were also captured within three miles of Meade's head quarters. One correspondent says Meade will have no trouble in finding the foe, as they are all around.—*Halifax Journal.*

COLONIAL NEWS.

Business in Halifax.—The fall trade is just now at its height in Halifax; and the amount of business being transacted must be very considerable. This applies more particularly to the shipment of merchandise to the outports; and also to the inland traffic by railroad east and west of the capital. The activity in trade usual at this season is doubtless materially increased at the present period, by the large number of vessels now building in various parts of the Province, the outfits for which are mainly drawn from this city. Considerable quantities of fish, both dry and pickled, are also arriving from the outports; and everything would appear to indicate general prosperity on the part of the population of this highly favoured Province. The loss of the potatoe crop this year will of course be severely felt throughout the country as well as in the city, the estimated value thereof being little less than $2,000,000; but it is to be hoped that, all things considered, all classes of the community are in quite as good a position as in any former season, at a corresponding period.—*Halifax Reporter.*

A person from Megantic places us in possession of a few details of a sickening massacre perpetrated by an insane woman named Clarke—the victims being her own children. It would appear that this woman is a farmer's wife, residing in the Township of New Ireland, and that she has already been deranged to such an extent as to necessitate her confinement in the Lunatic Asylum for a time. She had, however, returned to her family, but recently manifested symptoms of a violent outbreak of her mental ailment. On Monday night, in a terrible fit of frenzy, she destroyed her four children—two girls said to have been aged respectively fifteen and thirteen, a little boy considerably younger, and an infant of some two or three months. It is surmised from circumstances, that she despatched the two oldest with an axe, and the two younger children with a razor. The unfortunate maniac, after this terrible deed, tried to cut off her hand at the wrist with a razor, and also made a desperate attempt to sever her foot at the ankle with an axe, inflicting fearful wounds upon her person in these attempts. The shocking occurrence bears a striking resemblence, in its sickening details, to the Arthabaska tragedy of last year, when another insane woman killed her seven children, and then put an end to her existence.—*Quebec Vindicator, Oct. 30.*

The rumoured intention of appointing the Hon. John Rose to the Governorship of New Brunswick is revived. The London *Times* of the 10th instant, says:—"The late Governor of Nova Scotia, the present Marquis of Normanby, arrived in England by the last Cunard steamer. We believe we were correct in naming the Honorable Arthur Gordon, at present Governor of New Brunswick, as the noble Marquis's successor, and the Hon. John Rose, of Montreal, as the newly appointed Governor of New Brunswick. We learn also that Capt. Kennedy has been appointed Governor of Vancouver's Island, vice Governor Douglas."

Decrease of Population in Canada.—The Canadian papers speak of a decrease in population. A writer in the Toronto *Leader* says:—"While we are speaking of defence, militia, &c., &c., our industrious and indispensable classes of mechanics, workmen, laborers, &c., &c., are, with their families leaving daily by the hundred from our land to obtain a subsistence in a neighbouring country afflicted with a civil war. Our population, already indequate to this immense territory, is every day decreasing immeasurably. The forests, the wilderness, which not long since were changing into beautiful fields, dread less the persevering hand of man. New towns are no longer seen to spring up. Capital brought into the country formerly by the exertions of some of our great men, who were often ungratefully calumniated, no longer contributes to the enlargement or embellishment of our cities, nor the erection of any new public edifices, but hidden, as it were, is unprofitable to the public welfare. Even foreign emigration, the true wealth of a new country, and which, to a certain degree, was prosperous and had found its way to Canada, has also of late turned its tide to the United States. But enough of these calamities."

A Militia muster took place in Chatham, N. B., a few days ago, and is thus described by the St. John, N. B., *Freeman*:—"The muster of the militia men of the upper district of Chatham, which took place on yesterday week, was, according to the Colonial Times, a greater scene of disorder than any we have yet heard of. The orders issued by the officers were received with shouts of laughter, cries of "button your mouth," "dry up, old fellow," &c. Clods, sticks, and gravel were showered on the sergeants, a turnip field was plundered, turnips and clods were thrown to and fro, and the wildest confusion prevailed until the order to disperse was given."

The Carleton *Sentinel* tells a curious story of a man who had been deaf and dumb from early childhood, a period of 43 years; but who got up from his bed, to which he had been for some time confined, and "went round the room, shook hands with all present, saying distinctly good-bye! laid down in bed, exclaimed glory! glory! and immediately expired. Had he before becoming deaf and dumb learned the meaning of, and how to pronounce the words, the singularity of the case would be lessened; but it was not so."

The Carleton *Sentinel* tell us that John Robertson, of Grand Lake, N. B., produced the following from five acres of ground for sale in the St John Market.—181 barrels of green cucumbers; 25 barrels of pickles; 54 bushels of green beans; 9 bushels onions; 200 dozen corn; 100 bushels potatoes; 10 bushels peas; and 5 tons squash. Giving a return of something over $900. This shows what may be done by careful culture.

Shipping at St. John, N. B.—The *Evening Globe* of the 5th inst., says:—"We doubt if there were ever more vessels, large and small, in this port than there are just now. The harbour this morning was a sight worth seeing, its surface being covered with small crafts just arrived or coming up, and all available wharf room occupied. There has been a great increase in the number of brigs and brigantines owned, or hailing from here, within the past year, and many of them are of a class that cannot be excelled anywhere. There is a big business doing in all trades connected with shipping.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, November 16th, 1863

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

We insert in another column some articles from a portion of the New Brunswick press respecting a union of the Colonies, in which Prince Edward Island is mentioned with some particularity, and not excessive politeness. A Colonial union is a subject that involves very grave considerations, and, if consummated, would confer important advantages, in which we would participate to the extent of our territory and resources; but we cannot now enter upon a review of the whole subject. We hope, however, to find an early opportunity for examining it in all its details. In the meantime, we must say that a Union appears to us exceedingly remote; and we doubt whether it can ever be accomplished so long as the Provinces remain tied to the apron strings of the Mother Country. Petty Provincial Statesmen—(if we do not abuse the word in applying it to our huckstering politicians, no matter what party they may belong to,) will not, while they have the power, willingly part with it, and with power the emoluments thereunto annexed, which would never return to most of them, in any shape, under a Union. The Opposition will sometimes warmly advocate a Union, if for no other purpose than to vent their spite upon those in office. This was done here in 1851 and 1852, when the Tories were going mad for annexation to Nova Scotia, annexation to the United States, or annexation to any thing or any country. The present Opposition show their good sense by observing an almost total reticence on the subject. It is not in their power to effect the object, if they desired it ever so much. A union can only be effected by a cordial concurrence of the several Colonial Legislatures. The Colonial Legislatures mean the Governments: and such men as the Grays, Popes, Palmers, McLarens, Yeos, are not likely to give up their local influence, with the great pecuniary advantages it confers upon themselves and their relatives for the very uncertain chance of commanding the least consideration in a united Government and Legislature. Besides, it is morally certain that any attempt to browbeat, bully, or scold any one particular province into a union will have no effect whatever, unless it be to keep the union farther off than ever it was before; and we know that the Imperial Parliament cannot abolish the Legislative independence of any one province more than that of another. Powerful as it may be, it would not dare to interfere with such Colonial rights. If it were in the power of England to abolish inferior or dependent Parliaments at will, the subjugation of Ireland in 1800 would not have cost millions of money, and enormous bribery, before the consent of the Parliament of that Kingdom could be secured for its extinguishment.

While we can readily imagine that great practical advantages might accrue from the Union, Federal and Legislative, of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, there are, however, several circumstances which, being peculiar to this Island, would have the effect of placing her, on her admission into the suggested alliance, very much in the position of a poor relation, whose rights are not considered as of any comparative importance, while the honor of the connection is deemed sufficient compensation for the burdens which her more pretentious sisters may impose upon the political Cinderella.

While it would be very advantageous to their mutual interests that the two Provinces we have mentioned should be to all intents and purposes made one—that their respective tariffs should be assimilated—that their present railway communications should be extended until Halifax should be connected with St. John—that a court of *ultimate* appeal should be called into existence within their own borders—that for these and other benefits they should "bear each others' burdens," we submit that, in any project of a Union which may come up for discussion with a view to a practical result or by authoritative suggestion, Prince Edward Island could offer reasons which would at least entitle her to an exceptional status from that of the other Colonies.

If we have been correctly informed, Nova Scotia pays at present no less than £60,000 per annum as interest on her railway—New Brunswick, according to a statement made in the Assembly, a year or two since, by the Hon. Albert J. Smith, then Attorney General, has to pay at the rate of £200 a *day* for interest on her railways; and as those works have been constructed on capital borrowed in England, these amounts are annually sent from the Provinces to be spent abroad. The abstraction of sums of such amount must, of course, press heavily on the resources of both Colonies, and even upon the inhabitants of some portions of each unjustly, for while the farmer or owner of large tracts of land on the line, or in close proximity to a line of railway, has his property greatly increased in value, the benefit to the people of other and more remote districts is so infinitessimally small as not to be appreciable by any *calculus* at present known; yet all are equally taxed for its support. This state of things must, to a certain extent, occur in all countries where great public works are undertaken by the Government, but the hardship would be far greater in the case of a country having no geographical connection with that in which such public works were situated, and as one prominent argument adduced by Unionists is an assimilation of tariffs, the people of the Island would be required to pay towards the Railways in the neighboring Colonies by a rate of duties far beyond that which they at present feel quite heavy enough. We admit that the contemplated Union would give some advantages to us, but they would be purchased at a price we cannot afford to pay. Both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have Courts of Escheat, and the Colonial Office does not consider their inhabitants the vassals of Sir Samuel Cunard and one or two others, but leaves their respective Governments to manage their own affairs. This Island is, no doubt, of limited area, so small indeed, that if Colonel Gray, Hon Mr. Palmer, and James Duncan, Esq., should form a tripod even the Hon. Mr. Yeo might, supported on their shoulders, if not "monarch of all he surveyed," still discern all the "fresh springs, brine pits, barren place and fertile." But small things are great to small people, and as far as this Island is concerned, our union with our neighbours might be as appropriate as the marriage of Gulliver with Glumdalhitch, or Tom Thumb with Miss Swan the Giantess.

The English Mail, due and expected on Friday morning last, did not arrive with the Colonial Mail of that morning, nor was there any account of the R. M. Steamer being intercepted off Cape Race; and the Delegates, so anxiously looked for, are still deprived of the congratulations, embraces, and plaudits of their friends.

The Wharves in this City are crowded with Vessels of all sizes, some new, fitting out for Europe, and others taking in Produce of various kinds, for markets in the United States, West Indies, Cape of Good Hope, New Zealand, Bermuda Newfoundland, and the various ports in the neighboring Provinces. A large quantity of Produce has already been shipped, and much more remains on hand to be shipped before the closing of the navigation. We hear of Vessels loading in nearly all the outports, and it is with difficulty the demand is being supplied. Oats readily realize 2s 3d and 2s 4d per bushel, cash. Potatoes and Barley are also in demand, and realize a fair price, particularly the latter article. We are pleased to observe a marked improvement in the mode of shipping Produce—Grain is being shipped in bags, and Potatoes in barrels, bound to distant countries.—*Isl.*

The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of Messrs. Davies and Weeks, a new firm whose store is in the brick building of Duncan, Mason & Co. The members of the firm are young men willing to please those who patronize them; and as they are graduates from one of the oldest houses in town, it is presumed that they are capable of giving satisfaction to their customers. One of the firm is a native of Charlottetown, and highly respected, and this consideration united with many others, should bespeak for them a share of public patronage.—*R. Weekly.*

The Committee of the Reading Room and Debating Club intend to begin the winter course of debates next month, with a grand musical and literary entertainment. We understand they have resolved to charge a small admission fee for the purpose of liquidating the debt of the Institution. As the object is a laudable one, we wish them success. The entertainments given by the Club last year were so creditable, that we hope the Committee will be well sustained on this occasion, more especially as the monthly entertainments will be open to the public, as usual, free of charge.—*Prot.*

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH FROM THE SEAT OF WAR IN THE STATES.

St. John, Nov. 9.

Riots have occurred among the coal miners in the vicinity of Maunch Chunck, Pa., and several murders have been committed; some attribute these outrages to enforcement of draft amongst them; some to a position to secret organization of Irsh miners against workmen of all other countries. Militia force has been called for to suppress troubles. Returned prisoners from Richmond give accounts of horrible sufferings among Union prisoners there in consequence of barbarities of Confederate officers and soldiers in charge, and urges retaliation to prevent further cruelties. Maryland elects four Emancipation Congressmen to one Conservative. Union gain in 28 counties in Illinois over last year 15,000.

St. John, Nov. 9.

World's Washington despatch 5th says the army of the Potomac is at last moving in direction indicating abandonment of Warrenten en route to Richmond. Guerillas bold and active everywhere. Considerable skirmishing in Burnside's department. During three days his loss in killed, wounded and missing was about 500, and Confederate loss 600. An expedition had driven the enemy to extreme ridge of East Tennessee. In one engagement Federals lost about 100 and Confederates 500. On 25th Burnside was at London to repel expected invasion by a large force of Bragg's army.—Paris correspondent to N. York *Times* says six iron plated vessels are building at Nantes and Bordeaux for Confederates, but Government will stop them going to sea. On Saturday, Sedgwick advanced to Rappahannock Station, driving enemy to River, capturing two redoubts, seven cannon, and over a thousand prisoners. Gen. French advanced to Kelly's ford, capturing 400 prisoners. Also reported that both commands crossed the River, forming junction on the other side, and pursuing enemy. Buford's, Gregg's and Kilpatrick's cavalry crossed the River at two points to protect right and left flank. Federal loss in killed and wounded number four hundred. Meade's whole line reported advanced. Atlanta despatch says the Federals gained important advantages, which, unless counteracted, will render the subsistence of Bragg's army at Chattanooga impossible. Arkadelphia, Ark., recently Price's quarters, in possession of Gen. Steele. Seventeen hundred volunteers from Tell county reported to Stele.

St. John, Nov. 10.

The Herald's despatch says that the advance of the entire army of the Potomac was progressing most rapidly and satisfactorily. Sedgwick's advance has reached Brandy Station, and Gen. Kilpatrick is reported to have occupied Fredericksburg Heights. The 5th Maine regiment distinguished itself in the advance of Sedgwick's division on Saturday by capturing over 500 prisoners—the latter exceeding the number of their captors. The 6th Maine regiment lost heavily. The Morris Island correspondent of the Tribune writes that the Federals now occupy Block Island. Early on Sunday morning week there were great joyful demonstrations in Charleston, on the occasion, it is supposed, of the arrival of reinforcements from Lee for Bragg. Gen. Dan's expedition from New Orleans comprised 20 steam vessels, accompanied by the gunboats Orrasco, Virginia, and Monongahela. The land expedition was still in the vicinity of Vermillionville.

THE WAR.

Still another week, without any military or naval act on a large scale; though not a day passes by without its record of skirmish or collision.

It has been established by despatches, since we last wrote, that Lookout Mountain, overhanging Chattanooga, was really abandoned by the Southern forces on the 29th ult., and that on the same night a portion of them attacked General Hooker's corps, but were signally repulsed, losing 100 prisoners, though inflicting upon the Federals a loss set down at 350.—The only other occurrence of this sort that invites notice, is the resumption of the attack on the outward defences of Charleston. Throughout last week, and up to Sunday last, beyond which date we have no information, a terrific bombardment of the ruins of Fort Sumter had been kept up. On one day 1215 shots were launched against it from the heaviest artillery by land and sea. Confederate papers record the wounding of 7 men, and the subsequent death of 13, who were crushed under the falling wall of the sea-face. General Gilmore has thrown into the city a few more shells charged with Greek Fire. The Southern batteries on Sullivan's Island are said to have only responded at intervals. Either the Army of the Potomac is doing nothing, or information on the subject is kept back by the War Department at Washington.

There is a lavish outpouring of money for Government use. The loan, known as the 5.20, is so popular, that sixteen millions of dollars were offered lately by individuals, in one day! The whole amount is 500 millions of dollars; more than 350 have been subscribed. On the other hand, notwithstanding the prodigal bounties offered, volunteers come in very slowly. This appeal is regarded as a failure. The Conscription will be tried again.

Major-General Butler, the notorious, is to have command in North Carolina.—The C. S. Guerrillas are still active along the banks of the Mississippi, and fire upon passing steamers.—A plot has been discovered at Columbus, Ohio, for releasing a large number of Confederate Prisoners. Arrests have been made; but there are not wanting insinuations that the affair was either got up or greatly magnified, for electioneering purposes.—Upwards of 900 Officers of the Northern army are prisoners at Richmond. Great complaints of their cruel treatment find their way into print.

The State Elections on Tuesday resulted generally in large majorities for the Republican or Administration party—a fact that is thought to indicate an indefinite prolongation of the war. In the city, the Democrats have kept their wonted superiority, though with numbers greatly diminished. The only point of interest is that a fellow named McCunn, denounced by the press, almost without exception, as utterly unworthy, has been elected to a high Judiciary office! We can remember nevertheless when New York was equally indignant at the idea of having Fernando Wood for Mayor! It may be set down as beyond question, that this flourishing city will tolerate anything or anybody—that pays well and serves its purposes.—*New York Albion, Nov. 7.*

The War Between San Salvador and Guatemala.—*New York*, Oct. 4.—By the arrival of the Ariel from Aspinwall we have important news from Central America. On the 29th of September Carrera gave orders for all troops under his command to move on the capital of San Salvador, in two columns. He occupied the suburbs of Remedois and San Jacinto, beat back Barrios' pickets, captured his cannon, and drove him into the place. Bombs were thrown in almost incessantly, destroying many houses, firing others, and killing many women and children. The house of the United States Minister had three cannon balls through the walls, and one of his servants killed. The water had been cut off, provisions did not come in, constant attacks were made, and night and day there is constant terror and alarm in the capital. At last accounts Carrera and Barrois were endeavoring to compromise, the latter offering to abandon the Presidency and leave the country, stipulating that Carrera should at the same time also retire with his army to the frontier of Guatemala, which the latter utterly rejected.

Jeff. Davis said at Mobile on the 31st ult.:—"He congratulated the people upon the fact—which he assured them he felt to be the fact—that their cause is now in a better condition than it was a year ago. Having just come from the scene of the great battle of Chickamanga, it was impossible that he should not refer to that, and though it could not be expected that he should allude to contemplated movements, yet he was happy to say that the brave victors of that bloody field stood ready and anxious to strike the blow which should secure the complete fruits of their glorious victory. He should say more, that he believed that they would strike that blow, and that Rosecrans' unwieldly legions would be destroyed or driven for refuge to the Ohio. The same spirit animated our armies elsewhere, and all they needed was to be properly seconded by the people at home, to send the hordes of Yankees back to their beloved Boston or any other place from which the return might be more difficult."

The New York Ton.—Broadway as a fashionable promenade is abandoned. A multitude that no man can number drifts along at all hours of the day, but the elite are not there. These can be found about the hour of five p. m. on each Sunday, from Washington parade to the reservior on 5th avenue. The ton, the style, the display, the fashion are there. The young damsels have made purchases of such "loves of canes," and the trade in the fine, fancy article is enormous, and the price puts all minor business in the shade; and as the next steamer is expected to bring the news that the Empress of the French has donned the cane in her walks, then, like autumn leaves after a gale, these masculine feminine attaches will appear on all sides. Even now a semblance of a cane was seen in the hands of a dashing belle from above 34th street.

I. O. OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

This Organization of the Temperance Cause is doing good service in this Island.—There are twelve Temples already instituted, having a membership of some 400 or 500. Two of these Temples are in active operation in this city, and comprise about 100 members male and female, and are rapidly increasing in membership every week. There will soon be a Grand Temple established in P. E. Island.

The working of the Temple is simple, economical and effective: simple, because the forms and ceremonies are plain and practical: economical, because the dues are low, and the expenses are trifling; and effective, because every member has got some work to do, and female influence has the opportunity of exercising its powerful aid in the good cause. At the close of the routine business of the session on each evening, something takes place to interest the members present in the shape of a dialogue, select readings, recitations or music. Thus a pleasant and social hour is agreeably spent, and thus Temperance principles are more deeply implanted in the minds of the Good Templars.

Upon the Honorable Charles Young, L. L. D., retiring from the chair, at the end of the last quarter, and being inducted P. W. C. T., he delivered an address, and he was unanimously requested to furnish a copy thereof for publication. It was something to the following effect:

"Officers and Members,

"Having filled the chair of the W. C. T. for the first two terms of 'The Albert and Alexandra' Temple, No 1, of P. E. Island, I cannot retire from that important office without expressing to each and all of you, my warmest thanks for the cordial support I have invariably received.

"Altho' I have had the high honor of presiding over Legislative Bodies, Ecclesiastical Associations, Literary Institutions, Temperance, and other Societies, I must say that I have had as much comfort and satisfaction in being your chief officer for the last six months as I have ever elsewhere experienced. I attribute this to the hearty co-operation afforded by each of the officers and all of the members. When perfect harmony exists in any association the object for which it has been organized will necessarily be prosperous.

"And what is really our object?

"It is no other than to promote the principles of total abstinence, which tend to reform and elevate the drunkard, to suppress the importation and the manufacture of, and the traffic in, intoxicating drinks; and to regenerate socially our fellow-men.

"Let us keep these results ever before us, whether in or out of the Temple; and by looking to God, he will bless us in our efforts and make each of us a blessing!

"Let us be willing at all times to harmonize with our brethren—the Sons of Temperance—who have the same object in view, and who have fought this moral fight for many years; and let us act together with them in fraternal feeling and in generous rivalry. Let each be an incentive to the other for progress.

"While we love our own Independent Order let us be careful not to interfere with, or injure, any other Temperance organization, because, by such manifestations we hurt ourselves, injure the cause we are striving to uphold, and give those opposed to us ground for triumph over us.

"Let us remember that it is the intention of this Order to unite all the social elements in an unceasing warfare against the Giant Evil of the day—drinking habits and drinking customs.

"Then let us one and all, resolve that our efforts and exertions shall never cease until the foul stain of Intemperance shall be blotted out from this "Gem of the Sea" forever."

Dr. Young then offered various suggestions for the better working of the Temple, and for the extension of the Order throughout the Island. He then concluded his address with the following aspiration:

"My fervent prayer is, that our Temple may continue to exist in unity of feeling and of purpose; and that the Members of our Order throughout this Island may become every year a thousand fold, ever abiding in faith, hope, and charity; in love, purity and fidelity; and in peace, concord and harmony!"—*Com.*