to legislate with vigilance, and as far as positive enactments can be devised, against habits of gross intemperance and those evils and crimes which are universally acknowledged to flow from their prevalence, will be prepared to concur in any sound enactive remedy which may come from the other branch of the Legislature, whose more constitutional province it may be to legislate on Bills imposing pecuniary burdens on the subject. JOHN GOFF, Chairman.

Adjourned till Monday next.

MONDAY, April 11.

Hon. Attorney General moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Ramsay, that the Bill intituled "An Act to repeal the Acts now in force establishing and regulating the rate of Interest, and to make some provisions on the same subject," be now read a third time.

Hon. Mr. Beer moved in amendment, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Goff, that the said Bill be read a third time this day three months.

The question of concurrence was then put on the amendment, and it passed in the affirmative.

Hon Mr. DINGWELL asked the members of the Government if it was their intention to continue the present School Visitor for the eastern part of the Island in office. I do not think, said his honor, that any of your honors can say that he is doing his duty.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: I have no doubt but the Government will continue the School Visitor as long as he does his duty and no longer. I do not apprehend any difficulty on that point. If that gentleman is unable, owing to physical disability, to discharge his duty, I take it for granted that he will not hold his situation so as to obstruct the appointment of another person. I believe he is absent from town at present prosecuting his duty in some part of the Island He does not enjoy the best of health—it has become very much impaired during the last year or two, and if it continues so, I have no doubt but he will resign his appointment: but at present I do not know whether it is his intention to do so or not.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Col. Gray, with a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Marine Court of Inquiry. Read a first time—second reading to-morrow.

TUESDAY, April 12.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Beer, a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Marine Court of Inquiry was read a second time, and the House went into committee thereon.

First clause read:—

Hon. AT GEN.: I think, Mr. Chairman, that a Bill of this kind has really become necessary; and if the Court is properly constituted, I have no doubt but it will prevent many frauds and abuses on the mercantile community. It is needless to call to the minds of your honors the many instances of wrecks which have taken place on the coasts of this Island, and the manner in which they have been disposed of, sometimes at very short notice, for mere nominal prices, and without thorough investigation to see if it was absolutely necessary that they should be sold There is no means here, as the Courts are at present constituted, to bring parties who have charge of navigating vessels before an competent tribunal to ascertain whether any fault is attributable to them. In Great Britain there are properly constituted Courts where all these things are enquired into, and no doubt they have a good effect; and if we had a Court of this kind its advantages would be similar, as far as the mercantile interests of the community are concerned, and corresponding to the shipping interests of this Island to those of Great Britain. They have a similar law in operation in Nova Scotia, and though it is but a short time in operation, it is found to be a good and useful institution. I think the Bill is a desirable one, and will tend to prevent many of those frauds which I believe are frequently practised on the Insurance Offices and upon the mercantile community. These are the principal objects of the Bill, but I fancy that some parts of the details of it are susceptible of a little improvement.

Hon. Mr. MCDONALD: I agree with his honor the Attorney General. I think this measure will prove to be of very great service and I am surprised that it was not introduced many years ago. I think it will have a tendency to prevent many frauds and bad practices with regard to wrecks of ships. If a Court of the kind contemplated by this Bill were established, and a rigid inquiry instituted to find out where the fault lay, and the guilty parties punished, it would have a good effect, and would prevent the loss of vessels by causing the persons having them in charge to be more careful, knowing that they would be liable to a penalty if they acted improperly. As a similar law is in operation in Great Britain, as well as in the neighboring Colonies, and is found to work well there, I think there is no doubt but it must work well here; I will therefore support the Bill.

Hon. Mr. LORD: This Bill deserves a good deal of attention. I think it will be a very useful law, but may require some amendment. I was not aware that such a law was in operation in the neighboring Colonies I observed that the Administrator of the Government of Nova Scotia alluded to the subject in his speech at the opening of the legislative session this winter, and I understand that it was recommended by the Marine Board in England. I am pleased to see the Bill introduced here, and I think it will have a very good effect, for there are many cases of wrecks and the causes of them which require investigation; but I think the clause just read does not extend far enough. It only provides that the jurisdiction of the court shall extend to vessels wrecked on or near the Island. I think it should extend to all vessels belonging to the Island, though they may be wrecked in other places, even on the other side of the Atlantic, or on the way home, if they are insured here. When vessels are wrecked, we have no right to doubt the sincerity of any of the parties concerned; but things do sometimes come out when they are investigated which are not very creditable to them.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I think it is a very necessary Bill. There have been many wrecks on the coasts of this Island under suspicious circumstances, and by this means the Island coast has got the name of being dangerous, so that now we can hardly get insurance for vessels to come to the North Side. As to extending the jurisdiction of the court to the other side of the Atlantic, I doubt very much if it is in our power to do so; but I suppose we could apply to the court there to have a case investigated.

Hon Mr. DINGWELL: I am happy to see such a Bill introduced, for it is very much required. This Island is represented as a dangerous coast, but I believe it is not the case; it is just as safe as any coast that can be found. Vessels, if they have good ground tackle, can ride at anchor in almost any weather on a lee shore. I have had a good deal to do with vessels, and I never paid £10 for insurance, for I found that it would cost so much to get vessels insured that it would absorb all the profits I therefore incurred the risk myself, and I have never met with any serious loss. I repeat that I am very glad to see this Bill introduced, and I am of opinion that when it becomes law we will get vessels insured for one half, or perhaps for one third of what it now costs.

The House was then resumed and progress reported.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by Mr. Brecken with a Bill intituled "An Act in addition to the Act to extend the criminal jurisdiction of the Police Court in the City of Charlottetown."

Adjourned till to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A CITY AFTER A SIEGE.—Mr. Dicey furnishes the *Daily Telegraph* with a picture of Sonderborg after the bombardment of thirty-six hours. After having briefly described the configuration of the place, he goes on to say:—"Most of the windows in the upper towns were broken, and there were great chasms in many of the roofs; but still the houses were open, and several of them occupied by soldiers. It was only as we turned a corner, and gazed full down the street, that we knew what the bombardment means. I saw Gaeta the day after the capitulation, where the dead still lay unburied; I visited Palermo before any attempt had been made to repair the injuries occasioned by the Neapolitan shells; but in neither place, to my mind, was the havoc wrought comparable to that occasioned here. I know not how to describe the scene. I have walked hundreds of times up and down this little thoroughfare, till I could tell you well nigh the name of every shop in it, and the order in which they came; yet I declare, if I had been placed there to-day, without knowledge of the event, I might have guessed forever without finding out I was in Sonderborg. The whole quarter was one mass of bare walls, charred rafters, and tottering chimneys, enveloped in a dim haze of mouldering smoke. The few walls left standing looked so near toppling over, that I felt as though the shock of one cannon shot would carry the whole mass crumbling to the ground The buildings here, one and all, are of poorly-made bricks, and lath and plaster; and every house by the road side, almost without exception, was literally gutted. Many of the dwellings were absolutely indistinguishable. I looked in vain for a bookseller's shop which had been one of my chief resorts. I could only tell that it might have been any one of the heaps of blackened bricks which encumbered the roadside. The bare walls of the Town Hall had been left standing, but the roof and flooring and rooms had disappeared utterly. The streets were covered with fragments of shells and tiles and rafters; but the houses had fallen inwards, so that there was little impediment to one's passage. Crowds of people were poking amidst the ruins to try and find something of their lost property; but a dead silence reigned throughout the place. Everybody was still awe-struck with the destruction around them. At any moment the devil's work might have begun again, and all ears were watching for the first whirr of the shell, so that they might scamper from the dangerous ground whose range had been obtained with such fatal accuracy. Fifteen hundred shells had fallen in this street, while those which had passed beyond its range might have been counted by a few scores."

THE FARMER'S BAROMETER.—Take a common glass pickle bottle, wide mouthed; fill it within three inches of the top with water; then take a common Florence oil flask, removing the straw covering, and cleansing the flask thoroughly, plunge the neck of the flask into the pickle bottle as far as it will go, and the Barometer is complete. In fine weather the water will rise into the neck of the flask even higher than the mouth of the pickle bottle, and in wet and windy weather it will fall to within an inch of the mouth of the flask. Before a heavy gale of wind, the water has been seen to leave the flask altogether at least eight hours before the gale came to its height. The invention was made by a German, and communicated to a London Journal.

A PIQUANT INVITATION.—Some of our young literary men and artists, who at present are richer in hope than in fame or fortune, gave a few evenings since a performance of Macbeth in a studio in the Rue d'Assas. The ticket of invitation they issued was in these words: "Monsieur and Madame McBeth have the honor to inform you of the painful bereavement they have met in the departure from this life of their trusty lord and cousin, Monsieur Dun Can. You are respectfully requested to honor with your company the last honors they pay their deceased lord and cousin, in which they will be effectually aided by Monsieur McDuff N B.—Please bring a sperm candle in your pocket, as the family, being in mourning, are very short of light articles." Ridiculous as this ticket of invitation is, the Thespians acted Shakspeare's play admirably.—*Paris Cor. Publishers' Circular.*

COLONIAL.

THE SYDNEY MINES DIFFICULTY.—The *Cape Breton News* of a late date has the following in reference to the unfortunate state of affairs at the Mines. We are glad to perceive that matters don't look so bad as at first reported:—"The Colliers' strike at the Sydney Mines has been continued throughout the week, and the men still refuse to go to work at former rates of remuneration, and persist in keeping possession of the Association's houses. They have also by means of notices posted up throughout the Mines, having their signature appended to them, so far aroused the fears of other workmen as to induce them also to quit their employments. It was at one time apprehended that the men attending the horses in the pit, and the Engines there and at the pit's mouth, would be similarly deterred, when the most disastrous consequences would speedily ensue But with the exception, it is reported, of one day's absence from the pit of the stablemen, and others, a sufficient force has been daily at work to keep the water in the pit under control, and to attend to the horses' wants. In view of all the difficulties present, and prospective, the Agent applied to the Government for assistance, and in response to that appeal a detachment of soldiers will land at the mines in the course of to-day.—We presume their office will be to prevent any hostile demonstration against the civil authorities in ejecting the Colliers from the Company's houses, which they persist to occupy to the exclusion of new hands, who, without houses to live in, would not engage as cutters. The results we predicted weeks ago are rapidly approaching, and the question, whether the Agent or the Colliers shall controll the operations of the Association at the Coal Mines will then be finally settled. Exaggerated statements in Halifax newspapers must have resulted from misapprehension. The Colliers have not used any violence or personal obstruction. Up to the time we write, their deportment has been orderly; and their errors and faults confined to the placarding of notices, with the expectaton, evidently, of forcing the agent to accede to their demands: but which has had a contrary effect, and almost led to the abandonment of the works by the remaining hands, which if it became general, would be ruinous to the Coal Mines." We clip the following from the *Halifax Journal*: "We learn from Sydney that the miners are not starving the horses in the mines, or preventing the mines from being pumped out; on the contrary the boys are allowed to go down and feed the animals, and to adjust the gear for pumping out the water, so that the works will suffer no damage as many supposed. Neither will the miners be able to arm themselves with the rifles they had been in the habit of using as Volunteers. It will thus be seen that the matter is not so serious as reported, and we trust that on the arrival of the Military, order may be speedily restored without further difficulty."

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—The last *Gazette* contains the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Johnston, as Equity Judge. The Hon. W. A. Henry, becomes Atty. General; and J W. Ritchie, Esq., takes the place of Mr. Henry, as Solicitor General, with a seat in the Legislative Council, made vacant by the retirement of the Hon. W. A. Black.—*Halifax, N. S. paper.*

The *Eastern Chronicle* says that the disaster which occurred at the Albion Mines is not of so serious a character as was at first supposed, and that it will not materially interfere with the usual shipments.

Potatoes command a high price in market just now; they sell from 80 cents to $1 per bushel, Sydney Coal sells at $8 per chaldron.—*Halifax Express, May* 16.

UNITED STATES.

The Boston Journal of Thursday says—"The temporary uncertainty in regard to the results of the Virginia campaign, and the indications that the Government will be compelled to issue more 5 per cent. legal tenders, are the cause of the upward tendency in the price of gold. The steamer Olympus, from New York yesterday, takes out $1,000,000 in gold, and the Europe, from this port, £20,000.

The New York *World* says that a new secret organization, having for its object the liberation of Mexico from the thraldom of the French power, is in progress in various cities of the United States, with its centre in New York. It is known by the cabalistic title of "D. M. D.," or "Defenders of Monroe Doctrine."

The duty of fifty per cent. on imports imposed by the Federal Congress, is not on the value, but an addition to that extent on the previous duty. The result will be an immense stimulus to smuggling from the British Provinces, and the doubling of the trade of Montreal in the next two years.—*Telegraph.*

The excise on manufactured tobacco has been fixed by the Federal Congress at 35 cents per pound.

The white boatmen on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal have driven off the blacks, and one or two boats have been destroyed by them, the rioters being armed with clubs and pistols

THE GREAT BATTLES IN VIRGINIA.

THE BATTLE ON THURSDAY.

At three o'clock on the morning of Thursday the reveille was sounded, and our troops set out on their march to meet the enemy at daylight—Hancock moving southwest from Chancellorsville, Warren from the old Wilderness Tavern to Parker's store, Sedgwick to follow. Sheridan, with the cavalry, was concentrated at Bony Branch Church, for a hunt for Stuart and his horsemen, said to be concentrated and ready for a move. The different bodies moved but a short distance when it was reported that the enemy were advancing with artillery and infantry from New Vandersville. Our infantry column halted in line of battle—Sedgwick on the right, Warren in the centre, and Hancock on the left.

Our troops had not been long in motion when a report came in from both the turnpike and plank roads, running almost parallel, that the enemy were advancing. Two hours afterwards the report was confirmed that strong rebel columns were moving upon us from the directions mentioned. Generals Grant and Meade came up from Germania Ford, and orders were issued to halt the various columns of infantry, and to concentrate and form them for battle at this point. Commanding ridges running from the northwest to the southeast across both the roads over which the enemy were advancing, about half a mile to the west of this point, offered a fine position for the formation of a battle front, and were selected for this purpose. Sedgwick was ordered to take the right, and Warren the centre, and Hancock was expected to come up on the left.

About noon Gen Warren was ordered to push Griffin's division forward to the right and left of the turnpike, and ascertain what the enemy were about. Bartlett's brigade moved up to the left, and Ayer's regulars to the right of the road, Sweetzer's following in reserve. After advancing about three-quarters of a mile they suddenly found themselves confronted by a well-formed, strong, rebel position on a thickly wooded ridge.

A severe battle took place and lasted nearly an hour—for the enemy followed his usual custom of massing almost his whole available force against our men. Finally the enemy succeeded in over-lapping Ayer's Brigade and driving it back. This exposed the flank of Bartlett's brigade, and was forced also to fall back for some distance. During these movements two guns belonging to the Third Massachusetts Battery had to be left, in consequence of the killing of nearly all the horses belonging to it and fell into their hands. The two brigades were soon, however, relieved by those of Sweetzer and Wadsworth, whom the enemy attacked with great fury, but were so manfully met that after an hour's severe firing they withdrew from that part of our line.

Our loss was heavy in Ayer's and Bartlet's brigades, and is estimated at 600 in killed, wounded and missing. Among the wounded were Gen. Bartlett, slightly; Col. Hays, 18th Mass., and Col. Guiney, 9th Mass We took some 300 prisoners.

About the middle of the afternoon the distant boom of cannon indicated that our cavalry under Greggh ad encountered Stewart, and was engaged in desperate conflict beyond our extreme left. This encounter resulted in a loss to us of about 300, though the enemy were handsomely repulsed. Burnside's corps marched rapidly and hard during the thickest of the fight, and moved up to our centre, and several of its brigades took active part in the fight. Up to near dark the hotly and most stubbornly contested battle swayed to and fro without material advantage to either side, though in the main whatever advantage there might have been, was on our side; but just as the darkness was closing in upon us, the foe, by an admirably executed flank movement, turned General Sedgwick's right, and in an instant his rear was covered and overwhelmed by the rebel hordes. Gen. Sedgwick and his officers exerted themselves to their utmost to rally their men. A line was soon formed, and the onward advance of the enemy checked. Yet a small sized stampede was improvised among the teamsters and musicians, the darkness seeming to intensify their fears without a shadow of excuse for their demoralization.

Thus matters remained in an uncertain state at 10 p m., when the rebels made another dash upon our right, yelling like savages; but our men were on the alert, and no advantages were gained, while the rebels were suffering a heavy loss.

It is estimated that we have taken 3000 prisoners while our loss in captured is in excess of that number. The lowest estimate in killed, wounded and captured made here is about 7000; the highest 15,000 Perhaps 10,000 is as nearly accurate as can be determined upon amid the excitement and confusion of a great battle, still proceeding.

Thus closes up the day and night of Thursday, gloomily for us; and yet Gen. Grant and Gen Meade seem as fully assured and determined to fight it out to the bitter end as at the beginning. They are constantly at their posts, receiving and despatching orderlies, or in the saddle personally directing movements.

THE BATTLE OF FRIDAY.

STIRRING ACCOUNT OF THE CONFLICT.

We extract from the Washington correspondence of the New York *World* and *Tribune* the following details of the terrible battle in Virginia last Friday

"This (Friday) morning, just after first break of dawn lighted up the old Wilderness, the battle opened It was a little after 4 o'clock when the enemy, in great force, attacked our right and centre. Gen Ricket's division and a portion of Gen. Wright's, of Sedgwick's corps, and a part of Gen. Warren's became engaged. The attack was successfully repulsed, and the enemy was forced back by an advance of our line.

About 6 o'clock Gen. Hancock advanced with his corps and the troops that had been sent to his assistance from the centre and right the evening before.

After an obstinate contest of about an hour's duration, he succeeded in driving them from their breastworks and forcing them back on both sides of the Orange and Chancellorsville plank road to a point within two miles and a half of Parker's store. In this advance several hundred prisoners were taken by our troops.

The battle became general by 8½ o'clock, and an advance was made by our right and centre. They moved with the right thrown forward for about a quarter of a mile under a severe fire from the enemy, when suddenly they were brought to a stop by a marsh intervening between them and the enemy's intrenched position on a high ridge.

Finding it impossible to push across it, they fell back to their former position. Another attempt to drive the enemy from the ridge was made from a part of our line about 10½ o'clock, but it also failed. Gen. Burnside was expected to have his command in position on the right of Gen. Hancock's force by daybreak, and to join him in the advance of the battle, but the battle was fought without his being able to place his troops where they were wanted.

The enemy perceiving the exposure of Gen Hancock's position, in consequence of this failure, and evidently abandoning the hope of making an impression on our right, having been magnificently repulsed early in the day, resorted to the famous policy inaugurated by Stonewall Jackson, and commenced massing their forces, up to 10 o'clock, in front of Gen. Hancock's force.

By half past 10 they made one of the most furious assaults at once on every point of Gen. Hancock's line. They came yelling like so many infuriated devils, their line outstretched Hancock's left, and brought them around his left flank.

Col. Frank's brigade, of Gen. Barlow's division, was thrown back in confusion upon Hancock's line, causing a break and a retreat towards his first entrenched position along the brook. The centre and right of his line were also unable to withstand the vigorous attack of the immensely superior force of the enemy, and likewise fell back to the brook road.

Gen Wadsworth of New York, while riding backward and forward in front of his division, vainly, but with the utmost gallantry, trying to keep his line steady, was struck by a bullet in the head and fell, it is supposed, mortally wounded, into the hands of the enemy.

The attack of the enemy was checked by the vigorous defense of our entrenched line, and they fell back about 12¼ o'clock. In this assault we lost very heavily. As soon as the efforts of the enemy to overwhelm our left were discovered, a concentration of our own troops, on that part of the line, was ordered.

About the time the enemy abandoned the attack on the left, Gen. Burnside had succeeded in placing all of his troops in position, thereby securing a continuous formation of our battle front. At about 4½ o'clock the enemy returned to the attack upon our left. We were supported on the right by General Burnside, Their attacking forces consisted of the command of Gen. Longstreet, which it was ascertained from intercepted despatches, arrived on the ground from Orange Court House early in the morning, and Hill's corps.

They struck the left, which has again advanced some distance on the left centre, with great vigour and forced it again back to the brook road. Gen. Mott's division fell back in considerable confusion. This attack of the enemy extended also to the part of the line held by Gen. Burnside's divisions and Gen. Crawford's division of Warren's corps, which rested on the left of the former.

Gen. Stevenson's division, which was next to Hancock's right, gave back very confusedly, compelling the remainder of the left centre to fall back some distance. Gen. Crawford's division suffered very severely, one of its regiments, the Seventh Pennsylvania Reserve, was captured almost in a body, and the enemy succeeded in reaching our breastworks. There was imminent danger of a general break, but Gen. Hancock ordered Col. Carroll's brigade to form at right angles with his line, and sweep along the whole front of it, so as to take the enemy by the flank.

This movement was executed with bravery and skill, and resulted in the complete repulse of the enemy with great slaughter.

The first few minutes we were staggered. Stragglers for the first time in this fighting streamed to the rear in large numbers choking the roads and causing a panic, by their stampede and incoherent tales of frightful disaster. It was even reported at General headquarters that the enemy had burst entirely through, and supports were hurried up. Grant and Meade seated their backs against the same tree, quietly listened to the officer who brought the report, and consulted a moment in low tones. The orders for sending reinforcements were given, and for a little time not a word was spoken in the group of more than twenty officers. They but looked into each other's faces.

At length Grant says, with laconic emphasis, 'I don't believe it.' He was right. Long before that Hancock had recovered from the first shock, held his own awhile, and now was gaining ground. In forty minutes from this attack the enemy was completely beaten back with tremendous slaughter, and the loss of some hundreds of prisoners.

Men seperated in the heat of the day, now chancing to meet, congratulated each other. The rebels can't endure another such day, and we can, was the expressed conviction on all hands, and this statement epitomizes the Situation at sunset.

The sun went down red. The smoke of the battle of more than two hundred thousand men destroying each other with villanous salt petre through all the long hours of a long day, filled the valleys, and rested upon the hills of all this wilderness, hung in lurid haze all around the horizon, and built a dense canopy overhead, beneath which this grand army was preparing to rest against the morrow. Gens. Grant and Meade had retired to their tents. Quiet reigned, but during the reign of the quiet the enemy was forging a thunderbolt.

Darkness and smoke were mingling into grim twilight, and fast deepening into thick gloom, when we were started out of repose back into fierce excitement. The forged thunderbolt was sped, and by a master. A wild rebel yell away to the right. We knew they had massed and were charging. We waited for the volley with which we knew Sedgwick would meet the onset. We thought it but a night attack to ascertain if we had changed our position We were mistaken—it was more They meant to break through, and they did.

On Sedgwick's extreme right lay the 2nd brigade, 3d division of his corps, under Gen Seymour, who had been assigned to it but two days before. The brigade is new to the 6th corps, and is known as the Milroy Brigade; connecting on the left of Seymour by Shalers and then Neill's Brigades, the latter being a brigade of Getty's division that had not been sent to Hancock. These troops were at work intrenching when fallen upon

The enemy came down like a torrent, rolling and dashing in living waves, and flooding up against the whole 6th corps. The main line stood like a rock. But not so the extreme right. That flank was instantly and utterly turned. The rebel line was the longer, and surged around Seymour's brigade, tided over it, and through it, beat against Shaler's, and bore away his right regiments. All this was done in less than ten minutes, perhaps not five. Seymour's men, seeing their pickets running back, and hearing the shouts of the rebels, who charged with all their chivalry, were smitten with panic, and standing on no order of going, went at once, and in an incredibly short time made their way through a mile and a half of woods, to the plank road in the rear. They reported, in the frantic manner usual with stampeded men, the entire corps broken. Grant, as in Hancock's case, did not believe it. But when three of Sedgwick's staff rode in to army headquarters seperately and stated how they had ridden from Sedgwick's to keep Seymour's men to their work, had been borne back by the panic, and had last seen Sedgwick and Wright hard to the front working like Trojans to hold the wavering line, the situation appeared more critical. No word came in from Sedgwick. It began to be feared that he and Wright, disdaining to fly, were prisoners.

Artillery moved quietly to commanding positions to be prepared for the worst, and cool heads felt that were the whole 6th corps broken, the army as an army, would still be invincible. Warren's corps is instantly, but in perfect composure, disposed to meet the situation. Grant and Meade and Warren are in Grant's tent, to and from which officers come and go with a certain earnest air that bespeaks urgent and important cares.

The 6th corps flag comes in. Where is the 6th corps' chieftian? A despatch received. John Sedgwick safe. Wright safe. The 6th corps holds a strong line; only Seymour's and a part of Shaler's brigade have been broken. The enemy can do nothing more. The 6th corps proper has not lost its pristine glory. Compelled to withdraw, under orders after the defection of its right, it is still invincible, and ever shall be. I may not refrain from mentioning for gallantry Sedgwick's staff and Wright's.

Our army, to-day, has certainly achieved a decided success. It has baffled all the offensive efforts of the enemy. The almost impenetrable woods with which the battle ground is covered alone saved the rebels from a crushing defeat, as they enabled them to conceal their movements almost perfectly up to the very moment of their execution. That Gen. Grant can lay claim to a success over his adversary will be evident to the public when it will learn, in a day or two, the ultimate object of the movement of our army, which will be realized, notwithstanding the desperate interference of the enemy. The nature of the ground rendered the employment of artillery almost entirely impracticable, thereby depriving our army of this great element of our superiority. I doubt whether half a dozen pieces were brought into play on our side during the entire fight.

THE FIGHTING ON SATURDAY.

The Tribune correspondent gives the following account of the movements of the two armies on Saturday. His letter is dated "Wilderness, 5 p.m., May 7, 1864."

"Up to this hour there has been but little fighting to-day. Our position this morning was unchanged from yesterday's, excepting that the right had been sent back. Sedgwick's affair last night has in no wise disconcerted the plans of our leaders, depressed our hopes, or impaired the efficiency of the army It was but a disastrous episode.

This became clearly apparent when the morning disclosed the fact, that no where on the line was the enemy pressed up against us; that he had during the night withdrawn from the battle-field, leaving us free to occupy nearly all the ground where lay the slain.—He had retreated, however, only to another line where he evidently challenged an attack. He has played upon us all of to-day with long range guns, and has bold skirmish line in his front. Large parties have been seen all day at work intrenching just in Warren's front: 2000 or 3000 men have been digging all day upon a half mile line, from which several solid shot have been thrown nearly to army headquarters. Lee's success on our right must have been so greatly overbalanced by his repulse on our left an hour before, that he did not dare risk another day on the same ground. He concedes by this quasi withdrawal that he cannot longer stand the battle when he felt able to precipitate it.

About 2 o'clock the rebels made a demonstration upon our right rank, penetrating nearly to the plank road, and threatening communication with Germania. However, he had cleared the road of everything valuable, had removed the pontoons, and probably did not care to prevent the rebels from occupying.

I have yet said nothing as to the extent of our loss, or how it compares with the enemy's Five thousand of our wounded have already been cared for in the hospitals. It is thought that say 1000, remain on the field. Estimating the killed at 1500 and prisoners at 2000, I cannot reduce the total to less then 12,000. Included are several general officers, viz: Hays, killed; Wadsworth, killed or a prisoner; Shaler and Seymour, prisoners; Getty and Webb—these last two did most admirably—wounded.

It is a remarkable circumstance that during three days of battles the artillery reserve has remained quietly parked three miles to the rear. The artillery attached to the corps has been ten times more than could be brought into action.

The cavalry has had considerable fighting, and has done important service. It has hung upon our left, has kept Stuart at bay, has attacked him when it was possible to reach him. Sheriden's business was to protect our immense stores, which were mainly in the rear, toward Chancellorsville, to prevent Stuart from raiding around us toward Fredericksburg; in short, to take care of that enterprising rider, and thrash him if he could be brought to an encounter.

Wilson's division rode into and drove a portion of the enemy's cavalry on Thursday, on the road to Robertson's tavern—Our loss was some 300—the 5th New York suffering the most.

Sheriden seems to have taken the cavalry reins with a master's hand, and to be fast gaining the confidence of the Cavalry Corps. I suspect a general cavalry fight may be contested far down on the enemy's right before many days, for I know the destruction of Stuart's power for mischief is considered important to the carrying out of the campaign in the shape contemplated. By an arrival from Washington this afternoon, we learn of Butler's landing on James River. The news will at once be disseminated throughout the army, to give to this movement the impulse and inspiration springing from the knowledge of another onward to Richmond. The Hon. E. B Washbourne joined Headquarters at Culpepper, and has since ridden with the staff—a species of 'Congressional interference' to which the army does not object.

It is now nearly sunset, Saturday, May 7. There is quite vigorous firing, and some artillery, at different points on the line, induced by an advance on our part. I think it will not assume the proportions of a general engagement. It is proposed, doubtless, to learn something of the rebel position, and it may be for another object. Perhaps the main one is to inform the enemy that we are here in full force as night sets in. I doubt if we shall be when the sun rises."

TUESDAY'S FIGHTING.

A. P. Hill reached the battle field on Monday night and took his position on the rebel right, confronting Burnside. Ewell had the centre against Sedgwick. Longstreet stood against Hancock. The lines were in form of a horseshoe. It was Gettysburg reversed—Lee having the inner half circle.

Skirmishing commenced at sunrise on Tuesday morning, and continued through the forenoon along the whole line with increasing intensity. The pickets on both sides gradually approaching nearer, shortening the distance between the two armies.

Gen. Grant spent all the forenoon examining the positions, and was frequently on the line with the pickets. He issued orders for a general attack at five o'clock, but the rebels grew uneasy—took the matter into their own hands, and moved in heavy columns against Hancock's left and Warren's right. The first division, 2d corps (Barlow's) was fought back to the North side of the Creek to a strong position. The rebels were elated and attempted to cross the Creek but were repulsed.

Up to this hour there hed been little artillery used by either party, but battery after battery was brought into position, and the wild general uproar at last began. At one o'clock the rebel infantry surged against Hancock, and then against Warren, but were immediately rolled back. Gibbon, commanding the 2nd divison of the 2nd corps, was withdrawn from Todd's Tavern road and sent to Warren's aid.

At 3.30 the rebels made a terriffe charge against our right centre. Their hurrah was the war whoop of the Indians, but it did not intimidate the brave men of the 2nd and 5th corps.

I never have heard a heavier fire than that which burst from Barney's, Cutter's, Gibbon's, and Barlow's divisions. The rebel columns pelted away, and, after the most desperate fights of all time, were forced back under the tremendous fire and unflinching bravery of the divisions already named Parts of other divisions were engaged, but not to such an extent as these.

It was Hancock's turn. His troops advanced with cheers. Barlow's division fell upon Heath's division of Longstreet's corps like a thunderbolt, cutting it all to pieces. Rebel prisoners say it was the greatest charge of the war. The rebels were literally piled in heaps. The advance of other parts of the line not having been made at appointed moment, the advantages gained were lost, and the Second returned to its former position. There was no further attempt on the part of the rebel to push the 2nd corps.

Just before sunset Wright and Burnside attacked the enemy with great fury. Wright carried their rifle pits. The Second Vermont held one against all the efforts of the rebels to retake it. They said they would hold it for six months only give them plenty of ammunition and rations.

Gen. Wright, at 9 o'clock, went to headquarters and reported their gallantry, asking for instructions whether they should hold it. "Pile in the men and hold it at all hazards," was Grant's reply.

Gen. Wright went back to execute the order, but found that some subordinate officer had ordered them back for fear they would be cut off. Burnside pushed the enemy back almost to the Court House, and held his ground when I left the field this morning.

The colored troops were not in the charge. Upton's brigade, of the 6th corps captured Dale's brigade of Ewell's corps, but in the melee were able to bring off only twelve hundred.

Three guns were taken and lost again. Thirty-seven officers and a large number of battle flags were taken.

Up to ten o'clock to-day there was constant skirmishing, indicating that he was going to attack. Gen. Grant was ready. The troops are in excellent spirits. They have fought six days and gained all the time. Lee will fight, and with desperation. There will be other great battles, but officers and men alike feel sure that it is the last great struggle. They have perfect confidence in Grant, and admire Meade as an executive officer.

We have lost twelve Generals, Sedgwick, Wadsworth, Stevenson, Hays, and Rice, killed; Bartlett Getty, Robinson, Morris, and Baxter, wounded: Seymour and Shaler, missing. Our losses of men are very heavy.

Rebel prisoners report that they have been on half rations, and that rebel officers told them their next rations must come from Grant's stores. None had been issued except to prisoners up to 10 o'clock in the morning. On the contrary, thirty of Lee's wagons fell into our hands last night.

We have about four thousand prisoners.

To sum up: the rebels tried to stop Grant at the Wilderness, but, after fighting two battles, retreated. Lee has tried to stop Grant at Spottsylvania, and has had both flanks folded back—his outer line of rifle pit carried—and has been repulsed in his attacks.

I think it is Gen. Grant's intention to go to Richmond at all hazards, and I have great confidence that he will succeed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TENANT MEETING AT MILL VALE.

Pursuant to public notice inviting the Tenantry of the above place and the adjacent settlements to meet at the Mill Vale School-house, on Wednesday, the 11th instant, at two o'clock in the afternoon, to take into consideration and to deliberate upon the perplexing and long agitated land question, a large assemblage of people was congregated at the hour appointed, and the school-house, although exceeding the ordinary dimensions of such buildings, was crowded to its utmost capacity.

The meeting was declared duly organized by the appointment of Mr. Angus Praught to the Chair, and the appointment of Mr. John Bassett as Secretary. The Chairman having announced the purport of the meeting, it was thereupon addressed by a person who expatiated upon the degradation entailed upon the poor tenantry by the evils and miseries of the rent-paying system, and the prejudicial effect which the Act relating to the land question, passed by the Legislature in its last session, would have upon the poor suffering tenantry by its becoming law; and he also censured the Government for passing such an act, regardless of the voice of the people throughout the length and breadth of the Island. After some further remarks from other persons condemnatory of the course pursued by the Government, the adoption of the following resolution was moved by John McNally, and seconded by Thomas Murphy:

Whereas, in the opinion of this meeting, the land tenures of this Island are detrimental to the best interests of the Colony—crippling its resources and retarding its prosperity: And whereas contentment and harmony will never prevail until the tenantry shall have the privilege of converting their leaseholds into freeholds on fair and reasonable terms: And whereas the Act passed by the Legislature of this oppressed Colony in its last session, confirming, as it does, all proprietary titles to the fullest extent, providing for 15 years' purchase, the whole amount to be paid at the time of purchasing, within the short space of ten years, together with all back rents that may have accrued since the first of May, 1858, is not calculated to meet the requirements of the case, and if it ever become law, will operate most injuriously on the poor tenantry of this distressed and much neglected Colony: And whereas, the said Act does not provide a sliding-scale according to the good and bad quality of the land: Be it therefore resolved, That this meeting cordially sympathise with our oppressed and suffering fellow-colonists in different localities throughout the Island, and that we join in any popular movement, which contemplates the settlement of this long-agitated question, having for its object the amelioration of our country from Proprietary serfdom, on terms equivalent to those upon which other estates have been purchased.

It was moved by John McNally, and seconded by James Kelly, and carried unanimously—

That John Bassett be a delegate to represent Lot 22 at the forthcoming delegation meeting, to take place in Charlottetown on Thursday, the 19th instant.

It was then moved by Michael McAleer and seconded by John McNally—

That the proceedings of this meeting be communicated to the press for publication in all independent journals patronized by the tenant organizations.

The meeting, after according a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his able and impartial conduct in the chair, gave three cheers for our most gracious and beloved Sovereign, and dispersed in perfect order and unanimity of sentiment.

JOHN BASSETT, Sec'y.

Mill Vale, May 11, 1864

PUBLIC MEETING AT MONAGHAN SETTLEMENT.

Pursuant to requisition, a public meeting of the inhabitants of Lots 35, 36 and 37 was held at the house of Mr James Callaghan, on the Monaghan road, on the evening of Monday the 16th May, instant, for the purpose of considering whether it be proper or advisable for the Hon. Francis Kelly, who has recently been appointed by the Government to a Commissionership in the Small Debt Court at Cranberry Point, near Fort Augustus, to accept of such appointment, thereby vacating his seat as a member of the Legislature, and causing a new election. Mr. John McAree, of Monaghan was appointed Chairman, and Mr. Francis Traynor, District Teacher, was requested to act as Secretary to the said meeting. Mr. Kelly then explained his motives for requesting their attendance, expressing his desire respectfully to decline the said appointment, and recommend another in his place, but was also desirous of having the opinion of his constituents in the manner as to which he would act, after which the following resolutions were severally proposed and agreed to:

Proposed by Mr. James Trainor, seconded by Mr. Owen Simpson:

Resolved, That although the office of Commissioner of Small Debts be one of no great emolument, yet the filling up thereof by partizans, bigots or usurers would entail much mischief in the community within range of its jurisdiction.

Proposed by Mr. John Traynor, Donagh Road, seconded by Mr. Patrick Mooney:

Resolved, That the Hon. Mr. Kelly, our respected M. P. P., for the past six years has merited our unbounded confidence and respect as such our representative, and that as Chairman in the said Court, from his integrity, moderation and experience, we are confident the interests of all parties interested in said Court, would be safe in such hands, and that the Government who made such selection from the ranks of their opponents were cognizant of the same.

Proposed by John A. McDonald, Esq., seconded by Mr. Francis McAree:

Resolved, therefore, That the Hon. F. Kelly be requested by this meeting to open the said Court, and enter on the duties thereof, and that this meeting do pledge themselves in conjunction with the other portions of the district to re-elect him against all or any opposition that may offer against him, when the time for that purpose arrives.

F. TRAYNOR, Sec'y.

TO MR. JOHN BUTLER, TEACHER.

DEAR SIR:

We, the undersigned, in behalf of the inhabitants of Cross Roads School District, Lot 48, beg respectfully to tender you this Address as a token of the respect and esteem which we entertain for you We sincerely regret that adverse circumstances, the existence of which we deeply deplore should have induced you to resign the charge of our school, after having, for a period extending upwards of twenty-five years, so faithfully and efficiently discharged the responsible duties connected therewith; and, in thus parting with you, we would gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity of testifying to the ability and impartiality with which you conducted our school for so long a period; and while we are for the present deprived of your valuable labors, we congratulate those who have engaged you as their teacher on being fortunate in securing the services of one who is so fully qualified for the duties of his profession. Your quiet and unobtrusive character, and strict moral deportment during your connexion with us as Teacher of our school, have obtained for you the regard and respect of all.

In conclusion, we sincerely hope that you and your amiable wife and family may enjoy that full measure of health and happiness which it is our earnest desire that a kind Providence may bestow upon you.

We remain, dear Sir,
Yours respectfully,
EDWARD BURKE,
ALEXANDER MCGREGOR,
JOHN MCGREGOR, Jun.

Lot 48, May 16th, 1864.

REPLY:

To Messrs. Edward Burke, Alexander McGregor and John McGregor, Jun.

GENTLEMEN:

It affords me the highest gratification to receive your very kind favour, in which you, in the most flattering terms, addressed me in behalf of the inhabitants of Cross Roads District School, and conveyed to me an expression of your regret on account of my resignation of your School.

It would indeed be vain in me to suppose for a moment that my deserts were in any degree proportionate to the estimate set upon them by you. During the 26 years that I have taught your school, I have endeavored to perform the onerous duties connected therewith in an impartial manner, and to the best of my humble abilities; and it is gratifying to me to know that my services have been appreciated by the people. I now sincerely wish that my successor may be better able to perform his duties than I have.

I have to thank you for the favourable notice you have taken of my wife and family, who join me in wishing you health and prosperity.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN BUTLER.

Lot 48, May 16th, 1864.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE.—On Friday, the Schooner "Aid," of Gouldsbury, State of Maine, Bunker, master, arrived in port, with a small boat, picked up on the passage hither, about midway between Picton Island and Cape Bear, containing the bodies of a man and two children—a boy and girl of the ages of five and three years respectively. The bodies were found in the boat, immersed in water. The man was identified as James Semple, of Pleasant Valley, near the Wood Islands Settlement, who left that settlement on Thursday last, with his family for Pictou. It appears that the loss of life is not confined to the above, as in all probability, Mrs. Semple and one, if not two, young men, forming the crew, also met with a watery grave. An inquest was held no Saturday, before J. McNeill, Esq., one of the Coroners—Verdict: Death by drowning. After Captain Bunker gave his evidence, he was thanked by the Coroner for the humane and praiseworthy conduct of himself and crew in bringing to land the remains of the unfortunate deceased.—*Com.*

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, May 23, 1864.

A MISSTATEMENT CORRECTED.

IN commenting upon several of the Acts passed by the Legislature of this Island, last Session, the *Protestant* in its issue of Saturday, makes the following remarks on the purchase of the Worrell Estate, and on the new Act to provide a fund for the payment of the balance due thereon:—

"The Act providing for the payment of eighteen thousand pounds of Debentures issued for the purchase of the Worrell Estate, demands but a passing notice Our readers understand perfectly well, that the practical benefits conferred by this Act consists in something like taking about *thirty shillings out of the pocket of every tenant and freeholder in the Island*, to pay for free land for Mr. Whelan's constituents—a mode of settling the Land Question which is exceedingly *liberal* and cannot fail to give satisfaction, at least to one portion of the tenantry."

A more uncandid, and, indeed, untrue statement was never made. The Bill passed last session will not, for a very long time, at least take a shilling out of the pocket of any one. It merely proposes to substitute one batch of debentures for another. If the £18,000 due on the Worrell Estate had to be paid in hard cash immediately, before the unsold land could be disposed of, and the debts due by the estate collected, there might be some cause for grumbling. But this money will not have to be paid for ten years to come—the estate in the meantime will be always making some returns; and at the end of the ten years, we presume the Government's connection with it will be pretty nearly closed; and it is only then we shall know what amount of loss it really entails upon the Colony. If the purchase of the Worrell Estate were the very bad speculation which the partizans of the present Government are everlastingly representing it to be, why, in the name of common sense, did not the Government dispose of their interest in it by auction, long ago, as they threatened to do before they came into power, and then we should know at once what the actual loss would be?

Our pious contemporary sneers at the "practical benefits" conferred upon the country generally by the purchase of the Worrell Estate, intimating that Mr. Whelan's constituents are, after all, the only people really benefitted by the measure. We all know that the proprietary estates of this Island can only be bought by piecemeal; and every man must feel deeply interested in witnessing the gradual extinction of the leasehold system, no matter in what part of the country such extinction may go on, for it can never become prosperous and free until it is settled by freeholders from one end of it to the other. If it were wrong to purchase the Worrell Estate with public money, it was equally wrong to purchase the Selkirk estate in the same way. We will not follow the bad example of our pious contemporary by sneeringly saying that Col. Gray procured "practical benefits" for his constituents at the public expense when he used his position in the Government to buy the Selkirk estate with public money. Mr. Whelan voted for that measure, and is not sorry for having done so; and if an offer were to be made to sell lands to the Government in any other district, even more thoroughly Tory than the Belfast district, upon terms similar to those which regulated the purchase of the Selkirk property, Mr. Whelan would hold up both hands in favour of the offer. It may be said that the purchase of the Selkirk estate was a self-sustaining transaction, and that the purchase of the Worrell estate was not. Present appearances, however, do not augur very favorably for the self-sustaining qualities of the Selkirk speculation. The *Gazette* informs us that, already, the number of defaulters in the Belfast district who purchased their farms from the Government is double that on the Worrell estate; and there is no doubt that this number will rapidly and largely increase: for the Belfast people, notwithstanding their great advantages, and their long exemption from the payment of rent, are, in the main, the poorest class in the Island. Besides they have long regarded themselves as the especial pets of the Tory party, and will expect, and try to exact from a Tory Government indulgences which no other class of people would think of. So that, in a few years hence, when the Government transactions on the Selkirk Estate are brought to a close, there is every reason to expect there will be a heavy loss from the purchase of that property, and the general public will have to bear their proportion of it. Still, we think we should not regard the money to be thus spent as money thrown away, believing that it is better to tax the general revenue in order to abolish by gradual process the leasehold tenure, than suffer the Colony to endure all the evils—the poverty, discontent, dependence and servility—which are the accursed followers of the leasehold system.

INCIDENTS OF THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

THIS part of our Isle has been "full of noises" during the past week respecting a commotion in the Volunteer Movement. It is said that Col. Haviland has resigned his connection with the affair—that Adjutant Currie, Capt. Robbins, and some other officers have done the same. But we have not learned the immediate cause of this general "Sulk." It is evident that the Volunteer Movement is knocked in the head, and we are sure nobody will cry over it, although the Government, last Session, set apart four hundred pounds for its support, which they will take good care to spend in some way or other.

Great indignation is generally felt throughout the Town regarding the proposed sale of the Barrack Square, divided into twenty-two plots, which, it is apprehended, will be eagerly bought by small speculators, and appropriated to the worst uses. If this be the case, the citizens are largely responsible for the evil. They should protest by a public meeting, and by petition to the Government, and in every constitutional way, against the improper disposal of this beautiful piece of ground. If they are afraid to speak out manfully to the Government—if they are cowed by the frowns of one or two Executive Councillors—they deserve to lose a great deal more than the Barrack Square. The Government appear to be exceedingly anxious to encourage the Volunteer Movement, and they take away from them the only piece of ground in which the Volunteers could assemble for review or drill, without providing any other place; and, besides, notwithstanding the Act passed in the Session before last, the British Government, to whom the property belonged, evidently did not expect that the Square would be "used up" in the way proposed, without some place being provided for a Military Force, if the presence of one should ever be rendered necessary here. Whether this projected sale of the Barrack Square has or has not led to the resignation of the Volunteer officers above referred to, we are unable to say; but there is certainly less feeling in the community regarding the break-up in the Volunteer System than there is with respect to the loss of the Barrack Square.

In this connection we may state that the valiant Captain O'Brien, who, to the disgrace of a handful of Irish Volunteers, was selected as their chief officer, while discharging the duties of a