those courses they really mean the Government should have adopted, for they are so capable of blowing hot and cold that it is only necessary to watch their tortuous course to find them refuting their own arguments. The reason why the Government did not accept the proposition of His Grace may be seen by referring to the despatch itself,—it was subject to the consent of the proprietors. And if they thought it contained such terms as they could assent to, it is quite likely they would have come forward, as soon as that despatch was made public, and signified to the Government their intention of doing so. But, on the contrary, we have it plainly before us in the answer given by Sir Samuel Cunard to the propositions of the delegates, that they had no intention of accepting His Grace's proposals contained in his despatch of the 11th July last. Sir Samuel Cunard says, in his letter of the 14th November, that "some of the propositions of the delegates appear to be complicated, and difficult to be understood; but all of them interfere with the written agreements between landlord and tenant, and go to deprive the landlord of his just rights." And when he was closely pressed to give an answer, particularly to the third proposition of the delegates, he says, in his letter of the 4th January, "In my letter of the 14th November, in reply to the proposals submitted by the delegates, I was reluctant to trust myself to make any remark upon the third proposition, lest I should make some observations that might be deemed unpleasant, especially as the delegates hold the highest official situations in the Island. I therefore passed it over merely stating that it was difficult to be understood. Being now called upon, especially, to reply to this proposition, I will endeavor to explain what would be its operation. A tenant holding a farm consisting of 100 acres, for which he is bound by his lease to pay £5 rent per annum, and to pay it annually, would, under this proposition, avoid paying his landlord, being encouraged thereby to do so, but would deposit his rent in the Bank, where he can get six or seven per cent. interest, and at the end of 20 years the accumulated rent and interest would amount to more than £150. This sum should, in justice, belong to the landlord; but the tenant can take £80 of it and demand from the landlord a deed in fee simple of his farm, and has the remainder of the £150 as a reward for his dishonesty." These are the opinions of the proprietors, if we take their views from him who is generally supposed to represent them in Great Britain; and we want but little more to convince us what their views would be, if expressed, on the propositions contained in the Colonial Minister's despatch of the 11th July. No doubt the proprietors would consider the propositions of the Colonial Minister outrageous, tinctured, perhaps with *more* than "dishonesty," when they would consider that a tenant who had paid no rent for sixteen years could get his land at eight years' purchase; and we want no further proof that they would not accede to these proposals. But the opposition, faithful to their course of obstruction, and blowing hot and cold, use their faithful term "insincerity;" but when the Duke's despatch of the 11th July was published, they blew hot, and offered the strongest opposition to the propositions therein set forth, fearing the Colonial Government would accept of them; whereas, now, after the wiser course of sending the delegates to the Colonial Office has been adopted, and the Opposition find that the Government did not commit themselves by accepting or rejecting the Duke's suggestions, they are prepared to blow cold again, and say we should have accepted the former proposals, though it is evident that the proprietors had no intention of acceding to them. In testing the sincerity of those gentlemen, one naturally looks to see what their own propositions are; but if you trace their policy for the last 4 or 5 years, you will see that they offer no propositions for the settlement of the question, though they oppose and obstruct every plan that is offered by the present Government. In a very celebrated liberal paper dated — August last, and at a time when, if they had any sincerity in them, it would be made apparent, we find the following: "The Government of the Island should provide the means of paying for them, (the Proprietors' lands) either by an Imperial or a local loan; the former would be decidedly the best." But they know there is no prospect of obtaining an Imperial loan—the Duke of Newcastle tells us so—and that we cannot raise a local loan without saddling the Island with a burden of £75,000. And if we cannot get an Imperial loan, and are unable to bear a local loan, then they advise the tenantry to resist the claims of their landlords. The Editor, already referred to, says: if the proprietors will not sell on the same terms as the Selkirk and other estates were sold, "let their properties be rendered a very serious incumbrance to them." What he means by that I am rather at a loss to conceive. Again he says—"Hostile legislation, it is true, may be checked at the Colonial Office; if so, then *let the Local Government do nothing if the tenantry should be inclined to forget their obligations to their landlords.*" By that I suppose he means to keep the proprietors at their distance with the point of the bayonet. Here is the proposition of those great "Liberals," who charge the Government with insincerity. Now, which of the two is the most sincere; those who are endeavouring to bring about a union of mind between the landlords and tenants, or those who are endeavoring to incite the tenants to resist their landlords? I think every impartial man must see that the proper course was, not to postpone the matter till another session, with a view of legislating upon that Despatch, while we had, in the meantime, an opportunity of sending a Delegation to the Colonial Office, and getting information which we could lay before the Legislature. I am confident that it is money well appropriated, and I only wish that every member of the Legislature had the opportunity which we had of sitting down and having a free discussion with the Colonial Minister, and subsequently, on several occasions, with the Under Secretary of State, when they would find that it is not such an easy thing to legislate between proprietors and tenants, where private interests are so deeply involved. I might make further remarks on this point, but I wish to confine myself to the proposition contained in the amendment. The Delegates have undone nothing, nor bound the tenantry any further than they were bound before. There is no doubt that when the measure on the land question comes before us, ample opportunity will be given to say much more, and I will reserve any further remarks till that occasion. No really substantial objections have been offered to the measure of the Government in sending home the Delegation; and I was very glad to hear His Honor from Prince County (Hon. Mr. Lord) say, that he does not desire to take the lands from the proprietors without an equivalent. The only thing is, how to devise a measure that will hit the golden mean; and your honors may be assured, that only such a measure will receive the approbation of Her Majesty's Ministers.—[*To be continued.*]

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE PAINT AND VARNISH OF SOCIETY.

How should the world get on without Paint and Varnish? Though damaging to the core beneath, when laid on with too broad a sweep and too juicy a brush, they are yet, in a certain degree, necessities in a make-believe old life, "where nothing is but all things seem," and where matters are so oddly ordered, that sometimes truths have the effect of the wildest falsehoods. Think what it would be if we lived in a rough-hewn moral chamber, unpainted and unvarnished—nothing but the bare boards, with the grain of the wood showing up in jagged lines, and the heads and points of the nails starting out for the riving of our garments! Horribly uncomfortable, surely, with no good sleeping accommodation possible—not so much as would give one space or ease for a noonday siesta, with the sun stalking through Leo overhead! Think of the miserable gorilladom of the world, if the outside sweetness of society were laid aside—if the paint pot was empty and the varnish brush dry; if, instead of "My dear Mrs. Smith, this is indeed kind of you, I am charmed to see you," said amiably, and with an electric clasping of the fingers, your friend growled out: "Here is this odious woman again! why did they let her up?" Think of the consternation that would seize on poor Mrs. Smith's undoubting soul, if, in place of the smooth serenity of formal custom, this gnarled and knotted reality was suddenly to meet her! Would it be right, indeed, that it should? Where the necessity of turning the seams outside, and let the north wind whistle through chinks and cracks, which a little putty painted over and varnished, could stop out as well as heart of oak. Marrying for love seldom needs much paint beyond that belonging to the condition as by right; but marrying for money and making believe that it is for love! convenience transformed to passion!—interest putting on the semblance of devotion?—why, bushels of paint and gallons of varnish are not enough to make black white there, or to smooth over the awkward inequalities that cannot be planed away!—The wicked little lady daubs herself all over with the rosiest pigment at command: she hides the pictures in her heart—the big yellow purse, the opera box, the diamond necklace, the flaming carriage, and the stately household, under the paint of an all-shadowing love; she scrawls all sorts of Arcadian pastorals over the hempen canvass which else would show too coarsely; and if she is wise as well as wicked, she will go on painting and scrawling to the end of time. Usually she is too indolent and too careless to renew the dilapidations; and when the first coating has rubbed off, never seeks to lay on a fresh one; unless, indeed, there is a contingency in the background, and her husband's will may still make or mar her fortunes. When rich old men, or rich unpersonable young men, marry pretty portionless wives, they had better keep that contingency in their own hands, if they care for pleasing landscapes on their walls, or visions of Arcadian beauty in their galleries. We have our special paint-pots for love, whereby we cover up all the ugly spots of temper and unkindness, of small passions and mean ways that else belong to us, to we seem wingless angels of our fellow love. This we all do alike, not of design, and with no foregone intention to deceive, but by the natural ordering of the condition. Ah! well! wait till matrimony, that terrible disenchanter has worn off the varnish, and then see what knots come through the bare boards, what ugly veinings, what flaws and cracks and rents and rotten fibres are beneath, not one of which was seen in the beginning. Is it good for man that there should be this time for dreaming and deceit?— is it good that the ruggedness of the future should be masked beneath the varnished smoothedness of the present?—that love should usher in the soul's waking with the morning songs of birds and the honied sweetness of flowers, with rosy clouds resting on the mountain tops, and the gracious veiling of the lake breaking up into multiplied forms of misty beauty, when the truth lying behind this loveliness traces out but sadness and despair and the terrible rising to the gaunt day-work of disenchantment? It may be that some good purpose, some strong and holy shaping, lies in these fond dreams of the spirit; it may be that truth, in the beginning, would be too hard and angular for the soul to bear, and that if men were not solely led by illusion, they would faint by the way, and droop and die, and never reach the goal at all. If love could not plume himself in angel's wings who would care to harbor him in their hearts.

EXECUTION IN QUEBEC.

The Quebec papers devote a large portion of their space to accounts of the circumstances attending the execution of John Meehan in that city, on the 24th ult. Meehan was a young man—but twenty-three years of age—and was sentenced to death for the unprovoked murder of his cousin—a lad about 17 years of age. The last scene is described as follows:—

"The fatal moment now approached. The prisoner's shirt-collar was thrown loose, and the more experienced Calcraft of the two advanced on the drop and secured the noose around his neck. Meehan still remained firm, while this horrible operation was being performed, his spiritual adviser standing by his side, holding his hand upon his head and comforting him. The rope having been fastened, the Rev. Mr. Meagher bade his penitent farewell, and embraced him on the cheek. The unfortunate man then gazed upon life, and light and sunshine—upon the throng of his fellow beings around him—for the last time. A white linnen cap was drawn over his face. The hangman slunk back into the gallows-room, and the signal was given to his assistant to draw the bolt. The doomed man fell upon his knees, and in a moment a loud crash was heard as the drop fell, and the body of the strong man, who stood a moment before full of life and health in the presence of thousands, was now a thing of loathing and horror, writhing in convulsions at the end of a rope. The strongest nerves gave way, for a moment, as the sound of the falling drop was heard, and the wretched man was launched into eternity. The effect produced upon the mob was electrical. A deep prolonged groan or sob was heard from many throats as the body fell. Women screamed and boys ran in every direction, frightened at the sad spectacle they had been so eager to see. Hundreds of those who were immediately in front of the scaffold, fell simultaneously on their knees. The movement made by those whose nerves could not stand this last shock, was so great that a panic was created which lasted for several moments—a portion of the mob rushing wildly along Dauphine Street, while others made off in the direction of St. Ann street. There was no confusion, however, at the gaol enterance. The gaol-guard, who were out on duty, immediately stood to arms, and the police were also present in full force. The panic, or rush, or whatever it may be called, was over in a minute, and the crowd then stood silent and apparently awe-stricken in the fearful presence of death. The unfortunate condemned appeared to suffer fearfully in the last throes of death. As he fell, the cap slipped from his face, and the upturned countenance, working with the pangs of death, was visible to the persons looking from the front windows of the gaol above the scaffold. From the first deep red flush of strangulation, it turned to purple, and from purple to the livid hue of death. There was a violent convulsive motion of the whole frame at first, and the struggles continued for fully five minutes. At the end of this time, however, life was evidently extinct; but the body was allowed to hang for the usual length of time. Shortly before eleven o'clok, the last act of the tragedy was performed—the corpse being cut down and removed for the purpose of being handed over to the relatives. Even at this hour, thousands of persons still lingered in the immediate vicinity of the gaol, as if their eyes had not already sufficiently feasted on horrors, or as it something singular fascinated them to the spot. A considerable length of time elapsed before this crowd had finally dispersed."

MURDER OF A CIVIL OFFICER.—The Aroostook *Pioneer* of the 15th inst. contains the following narrative:—"This morning our community was shocked by the news of a most horrid tragedy, which occurred in the northern part of this county on Sunday morning last. Two gentlemen, Mr. Thomas Smith of Oldtown, and Mr. Andrine Vandine of Houlton, were in pursuit of a notoriously desperate fellow named John C. Gove, of Weston in the county, who had attempted murder and committed other crimes of a less serious nature. Having ascertained his whereabouts, he was discovered in a barn situated in a French settlement east of Fish River. When discovered he was buried under the eaves among the hay and straw, to the depth of several feet. He was "armed to the teeth" with a breech-loading rifle or carbine, two revolvers, and a two-edged knife, keen as a razor.

Messrs. Smith and Vandine attempted to arrest him when he presented a revolver. This was knocked from his hand, and when Mr. Smith collared him he brought his knife in requisition, cutting right and left. Mr. S. received a wound in each leg, one of which severed the main artery, causing his death in about ten minutes. While receiving the thrusts from Gove, he called to his assistants to shoot the villian, which order was promptly obeyed, and a bullet lodged in Gove's right shoulder, partially disabling him. He also received several well directed blows upon the head with a club in the hands of John L. Turner of Fort Kent. Gove was finally secured and brought to Little Falls, N. B., where his wounds were dressed and where a strong guard is kept over him until he shall be able to be taken to Bangor for trial. The remains of Mr. Smith were taken to Little Falls, where they were properly prepared and taken to his family in Oldtown."

SEAL FISHING OFF NEWFOUNDLADN.—A fleet of three or four hundred vessels, chiefly brigs, goes out every spring about the first of March, from St. John's, N. F., to engage in the business of catching seals. The field of operations is the floating ice that comes down from the North at that season. The men advance upon the fields of ice in couples—so that one may assist the other in case of accident. They keep to the leeward of the ship, else they might lose her, as indeed sometimes happens in the dense fogs. About the 7th of March the young seals are found about the size of cats, mewing on the ice. They are not yet fit to be taken, but by lying in the sun and sucking the ice until about the middle of March they gain three inches of fat. Then commences the slaughter. The men walk up to the white coats, as the young seals are then called, and knock them over by striking them on the forehead with a long pole, stick them with a knife, cut them down the breast, and carcass rolls out, leaving the skin and fat which is all the seal-catcher is after, the carcass being left on the ice. Usually in about the last week in March, the seals begin to dip, they take to the water, and are then only to be captured by shooting from the boats. Old seals are invulnerable unless shot in the forehead, and nature has provided them with a means of defence even here, in the shape of a "hood," which they drop on occasions—hence their name "old hoods." So the season of catching them is but three weeks in duration. The men often go five or six miles from the ship on the floating ice. They get one-half the catch, sometimes making a good trip, at other times getting nothing. One spring a crew that were out three weeks and three days, shared $135 apeice. A brig of 150 tons will take as a crew about forty men, who are provided by the merchant fitting out the vessel with a full supply of provisions, and all things necessary for the prosecution of the voyage, in return for which each man pays a small sum, called "berth money;" and should the voyage prove unfortunate, the merchant has to stand the loss of the entire outfit. It is a dangerous occupation, for the brigs are liable to be crushed in the ice though they are strongly built. The fat of the seal, after being brought into port, is cut into small pieces, placed in large vats, and left to drain off to oil, which is an article of commerce. The skins are used for various purposes.

WIDOW-BURNING IN INDIA. The last received copy of the London *Times* contains a case of suttee now admitted to be rare—related by its correspondent in India. The particulars were derived from a circular of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and are thus condensed:—"The woman, who lived in the Monghyr district, declared herself suttee on the dayher husband died. The preparations forburning her were made, and she went forth accompanied by her husbands relations, and followed by a large crowd of spectators.—"Among these," according to the official statement, "were several zemindars and people holding a respectable position in life." The woman mounted the pile, and the torch was applied by a young lad. When the flames reached the poor creature her resolution failed her, and she threw herself from the pile screaming and declaring that she could not complete the sacrifice. Taunts and reproaches were heaped upon her—it does not appear that actual force was used—and she again ascended the pile. The agony was more than she could bear, and she fell down. "On this," says the official paper, "the crowd dispersed, and the wretched woman, scorched and burnt, was left to roll in agony on the ground till death put an end to her sufferings."

LATE NEWS FROM EUROPE.

The steamship *Kedar*, from Liverpool, arrived at Halifax, on Thursday afternoon, after a fine passage of 10½ days. By this arrival dates are to the 25th ult. From late papers received we extract the following items:

It appears that Garibaldi will not be in England till Sunday the 3rd of April. He will remain in the Isle of Wight as a guest of Mr. Seely, M. P., for several days, and will make his appearance in London on the 16th of April. It is said that the restoration of his health is one of the main objects of his visit to England.

The inquest on the sufferers by the Sheffield inundation has terminated, and the jury have condemned the want of engineering skill which was evinced in the construction of the works.

According to the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, the Emperor Napoleon is highly gratified with the feeling displayed towards him both in the press and Parliament on the Mazzini affair. It is said that he would willingly see revived the cordial understanding which only a short time ago existed between the two Governments.

A St. Domingo despatch is not so favourable as others recently received, respecting the insurrection in that Island. Pacification in the southern part, it is said, makes progress, but in Cibao it is beset with difficulties.

A letter from Italy says that preparations for war continue on a large scale on both sides of the Po. The Austrians have, it is reported, 150,000 men in Venetia, and to these the Italians could oppose an equal number, one half on the Mincio, and the other on the Po. It is also asserted that a list of brigands, who are living in security at Rome, has been sent to the French Government by the Italian authorities. The French Minister has given orders not to allow these men to cross the frontiers.

A despatch from Paris says that the Archduke Maximilian will embark for Mexico on the 30th.

According to intelligence from Berlin, the entire staff of the Polish army in Warsaw has been transferred to the Prussian frontier. This is a confirmation of a previous rumor, but the reason for the change in the disposition of the troops is not given. Numerous bands of Polish volunteers are reported to have been discovered on the Prussian frontier.

The Danish Rigsdag closed on Tuesday with a speech from the throne, in which the King expressed his readiness "to do *everything that may serve to obtain peace*," adding that the enemy must know how far the Danes were from being forced to accept humiliating terms. His Majesty said, the Danes were still alone, nor could he tell how long Europe would look with indifference on the acts of violence perpetrated against them. The King, after closing the House, set out to visit the army at Sonderburg. A Copenhagen despatch say the Prussian cannonade against Duppel continues daily without result. The Austro-Prussian army has ceased since Sunday to bombard Fredericia.

THE DROUGHT AT THE CAPE DE VERDES.—According to the latest advices the Cape de Verdes were fast becoming depopulated. The condition of the islands Brava and St. Thiago was truly desperate. The population of these two islands *is estimated at about 70,000 souls, and for this population, when the last advices left St. Thiago, there were only 60 bags of rice among the entire population.* But the effects of famine were such that the people were actually dying by starvation in the very streets. The bark of the banana tree and the flesh of animals which few people ever use was esteemed a delicacy. Although rain had fallen, yet it was too late, the seed sown was parched in the ground, and would not sprout, and although the pastures showed green there were no cattle to feed, they all died for want of food and water.

DEATH OF LORD ASHBURTON.—Lord Ashburton died on the 23d. His lordship, eldest son of the late lord, who was better known as the Right Hon. Alexander Baring, was born in 1799, and graduated in classical honours, at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1821. He sat in the House of Commons as M. P., for Thetford, Callington, Winchester, and North Staffordshire, at various dates before his accession to the peerage in 1840, and held the post of Secretary of the Board of Control, and Paymaster of the Forces under Sir Robert Peel's first administration. His lordship was head of the great commercial firm of Baring & Co., and gained some celebrity on account of his strenuous advocacy of the teaching of "Commons Things" in our national schools. His lordship was nominated, in 1855, a Knight of the Legion of Honour, in recognition of his services in commerce; and in 1860 was elected President of the Geographical Society.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

By Telegraph to "Examiner" and Reading Room.

HALIFAX, April 14, 2.30.

Steamship "Asia" arrived at Halifax at 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

Queen announced her intention to return to public life; one Court will be held on the sixth of April, another on the thirteenth. Balls and State Concerts during May and June. Revenue returns for quarter ending March show a large increase. Attack on Stansfield will be renewed on assembling of Parliament.

Garibaldi's arrival hourly expected in England. Great preparations making throughout the country to receive him.

Steamer "City of New York" was wrecked in Cork Harbour; no lives lost.

Brazilian Government accepted mediation of Portugal in dispute with England.

Conference of Danish affairs fixed for April 12th. Austria, Denmark, France, Prussia and Russia accepted proposal. Britain and Sweden will probably send representatives. German Diet not yet decided. Hostilities continued unabated.

Attempt to take Duppell by storm failed. Prussians thrice repulsed, and retired dispirited. Seige still continued, and first parallel was opened and successfully furnished by 2,500 men on night of the 29th March, unobserved by the Danes. Heorsens was occupied by Danes on 28th.

Reported Hungarian troops in Denmark revolted. Austrian army broke up from Fredericia in unaccountable manner, and has contributed to this cause.

Norwegian Storthing closed. King, in speech, said Sweden, jointly with other powers, would endeavor to obtain peace, but, at the same time, be prepared to render assistance to Denmark against an overpowering force.

WAR NEWS FROM THE STATES.

ST. JOHN, April 4.

Newbern advices report Confederates guarding their lines with unusual care to cut off all communication from Federals of their strength.

A bitter and exciting political contest is now raging in interior between gubernatorial candidates, Gov. Vance and Mr. Holden.

Tribune's despatch says prominent members of committee on Ways and Means, have pronounced in favor of large duties on foreign imports, almost to prohibition.

World's New Orleans correspondent says Federals will evacuate Brownsville and Rio Grande.

Ringold, Tenn., despatch says Cavalry force augmenting and now numbers 5,000.—Johnson's forces estimated 35,000.

Memphis despatch reports Confederate General McCullough en route with 25,000 to reinforce Forrest.

Three hundred prisoners captured near Alexandria, arrived at New Orleans. Great destruction of property going on by both parties on the River.

Forrest's forces reported as scattered in Kentucky. Gen. Grierson endeavoring to intercept retreat, and probably prevent McCullough joining him.

APRIL 4, P. M.

The N. Y. Tribune's Alexandria letter says there is a report current among secesh that Gen. Steele entered Shreveport on 17th, after ten hours pitched battle. No confidence is placed in the report.

Federal fleet is waiting a rise in Red River to pass the Falls. Fourteen hundred bales of cotton were captured on the river.

Authorities at Louisville have no apprehensions of extensive raid into Kentucky at present.

General Chalmers, with 2,500 men, was reported at Grand Junction, Tenn., 29th ult.

Reported Sixth Tenn. Cavalry, with 600 men, had a fight near Somerville, Tenn., on 30th ult. with 1500 enemy. Supposed part of Gen. McCullough's command. The former fell leaving 50 killed and wounded in enemy's hands.

APRIL 5.

The Connecticut State Election took place yesterday. Governor Buckingham, Union candidate, was re-elected. Nearly every town in the States gives increased majority over last year.

The St. Louis Democrat's Leavenworth despatch reports that at the election yesterday the polls were seized by the mob, in the interest of McDowell, the Copperhead Candidate, and Mayor Anthony and his friends were knocked down and brutally beaten. McDowell's ticket was elected by about 700 majority. Great excitement exists and the copperheads are militant.

A Memphis despatch reports Forest at Jackson Town, apparently arranging to travel North. Gibson's cavalry are all out, and will give Forrest trouble.

APRIL 6.

While General Grant was at Fortress Monroe, preliminaries for satisfactory exchange of prisoners were concluded, and approved of by him.

A special despatch from the army of the Potomac, to the New York Herald, says that it rained seven out of the last ten days, and that it would take four week's sunshine to dry the ground, so as to allow any part of the army to move. Reorganization of the army nearly completed. The report that the Sutlers had been ordered out of the army is untrue.

Federal steamer Fairhaven ran ashore on Cape Henry on the night of the 1st inst., with over four hundred soldiers on board, who were all saved.

The authorities at Bangor, yesterday, arrested Frank Jones, alias Ketchum, on the air line stage from St. John, Teller of the Bank of St. John. It is supposed that he is connected with Alexander Corrie from St. John, who committed suicide here last Sunday.

General Franklin's forces arrived at Alexandria on the 24th ult., without opposition; the country through which they passed was deserted by whites and male blacks, they having gone to Texas.

The advance column, under General Smith, left Alexandria on the 27th, and the gunboats probably will follow.

It is expected that Shreveport will fall without resistance, and Confederates be driven from the entire country east of Red River.

The Confederate General Harrison's command is moving towards Shreveport, and there is a report in circulation at Vicksburg that the Confederates are re-occupying their old lines, on Big Black and Yazoo.

General Sherman, of the Army of Cumberland, has been appointed to command the cavalry of the Potomac Army.

APRIL 7.

A Memphis despatch reports that Grierson's cavalry had an engagement with Forrest near Summerville, on the 2nd inst. Forrest being reinforced, and Grierson's support not coming up, the latter fell back, but would not renew the attack.

The election in Maryland on State constitutional convention question resulted in not less than 15,000 majority for convention. The unconditional emancipation ticket receives a large majority in the convention. There will be 20 majority for immediate and unconditional emancipation. Baltimore gave nine thousand in favor of and 80 against it.

Colonel Clayton, in Arkansas, by a ruse, captured nearly four hundred Confederates.

The National Bank or Currency Bill was defeated in Congress by a large majority.

APRIL 8.

Arrangements are being made for investing Culpepper with cordon of fortifications, with a view of rendering it a permanent depot for military supplies.

Senate Military Committee have reported against confirmation of Major Gen'ls. Schofield and Gilmore.

Monitor Canonicus has been ordered to join the Tecumseh and Onondaga, at New York, to proceed with their convoys to the Southern coast. The Sangus and Manhattan will soon follow.

General Hooker has been assigned the first corps consolidated from the 11th and 12th corps.

Governor Dallas has given permission to pursue Sioux Indians into British territory.

Mr. Collins has returned to Washington, after two years absence in Russia and England, negotiating for right of way for construction of telegraph across Asiatic Russia, Russian America, and British Columbia, so as to connect Europe with America, via Behring's Straits. Matter brought to satisfactory conclusion, under very favorable terms, and now awaits final action of Congress.

Government price of gold 165, until close of business, April 16th.

Five thousand applications already made by seamen, to be transferred from army to navy.

Stated that National Bank or Currency Bill will soon be passed by Senate.

APRIL 8, (P. M.)

St. Louis Democrat's despatch, dated Fort Smith, 6th inst., says Gen. Steele's army has driven Confederates from Arkadelphia, and is now advancing on Price in direction of Camden and Washington.

Hilton Head advices report a few shells occasionally thrown into Charleston.

The rams on the stocks at Charleston have been much injured by Federal fire.

Confederate prisoners admit their loss at Paducah three hundred killed and nine hundred wounded.

Refugees report Lee's army being largely augmented, expecting to start on Spring Campaign with about 90,000 men.

General understanding in Richmond that Confederate Leaders have decided upon defensive line of operations this Spring.

THE CIVIL WAR.

Still once more a comparatively bloodless week has passed by; the military events may be dismissed with a few words. Admiral Porter, U. S., following up the advantage so cleverly gained by his co-adjutor, General A. T. Smith, in the capture of Fort de Russey, on the Red River, duly appeared before Alexandria in Western Louisiana; it surrendered without firing a shot. General Banks, U. S., is not known to have taken the field. For the rest, to use the remarkable words of the summary of news by an arrival from Port Royal, "matters in the Department of the South are generally quiet." Is it that the "anaconda" is stealthy in movement, or that there really are no movements to chronicle? The latest accounts add that Natchitoches has also fallen to the Unionists, who took four guns and two or three hundred prisoners.

But however it may be with the Federals, the gentlemen of the broken backbone give evidence of life and energy. On the 24th ult., General Forrest, C. S., with 2,000 men—so the story goes—captured Union City, Tennessee, and its garrison of 400 cavalry, after the latter—so the story goes—had thrice repulsed their assailants. The threatened raids into Kentucky have also commenced. On Friday of last week, the above named Southern officer, with a strong force, took possession of Paducah, in the State. He was, however, driven back, with heavy loss, on attacking the fort, and was subsequently shelled out of the town by three Union gun-boats. According to Northern accounts the raiders' advantage was momentary and dearly bought. On the other hand, these Confederate incursions, for the raiders are said by no means to have abandoned Kentucky, are almost simultaneous with the outbreak of new troubles where they could scarcely have been expected. Several hundred "Copperheads" in Coles County, in Mr. Lincoln's own State of Illinois, have suddenly taken up arms, have done some damage, caused considerable alarm, and necessitated the presence of a large military force in order to put down this new "rebellion." Still, there is in print the usual mystification about the extent of the affair, and an unusual taciturnity regarding its origin and causes. Is there any sympathy with the South involved in it? Is there a weariness at the indefinite prolongation of the war? Is there annoyance at the idea of vigorous drafting and unlimited taxation? Or, has this explosion been brought about by the pressure of military rule in the West, which is unquestionably severe, and may be repulsive to men habituated to freedom in its widest sense? Is it moreover in any way connected with certain secret associations, inimical to the Washington *regime*, whose existence has been often whispered? On these points we are not informed. The journals settle all doubtful points as to the source of these spasms, by a free use of the term "Copperhead;" and they are cured, according to the same expounders, by free application of U. S. bayonets.

It has been remarked that we are verging towards a government by Proclamations. Scarcely a week now that does not bring forth one; and on Saturday last accordingly Mr. Lincoln favoured his people with another. It may be termed, like an Act explanatory of an Act, a Proclamation explanatory of a Proclamation. The main object was to cut off C. S. prisoners, on parole and otherwise, from the benefits of the amnesty already proclaimed. We don't think it can especially interest our readers.

This is what we proposed—a very brief epitome. Nevertheless it is fair to add that the daily journals are as full as ever of plans and plots, small occurrences magnified, and offerings upon the insatiable altar of national vanity.—N. York "Albion," April 2, 1864.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TENANT MEETING AT ROLLO BAY CROSS ROADS.

A large and influential Meeting of the Tenantry residing on Townships Numbers 43, 44, and 45, was held at Rollo Bay Cross Roads, on Monday the 4th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the present distressed and deplorable state of the Tenantry on said Lots and the Island generally. The Meeting having been duly organized by the calling of Mr. Donald H. McDonald to the chair, and the appointment of Mr. Patrick McDonald to act as Secretary, the Meeting was opened by a speech from Mr. William Henderson, in which he clearly explained the oppressions the tenantry had so long endured and would still continue to endure if they did not take immediate steps to evade those calamities. He next reviewed the fruitless efforts that had hitherto been made by the Government to settle this important question, and the want of a disposition on the part of the Proprietors to come to any arrangements with the suffering Tenantry, unless upon the most ruinous terms imaginable. The meeting was largely represented by both leaseholders and freeholders, and they all cordially agreed that nothing short of a right of purchase on equal terms with the settlers on the Selkirk Estate, Lot 11 and Lot 54, could allay the disaffection existing among the tenantry of these Lots and the Island generally. Therefore, the following Resolutions were proposed and unanimously carried, viz:—

Moved by Mr. A. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Ronald McPhee—

Resolved, That this Meeting is of opinion that if either the Delegates or Sir S. Cunard's proposals were adopted by the Government, they would prove ruinous to the tenantry of those Townships and the Island generally. At the exorbitant prices specified in both those proposals the tenantry could not afford the opportunity of converting their respective leaseholds into freeholds. Therefore, be it resolved, that this meeting concur with the rest of the tenantry throughout the Island who have held similar meetings, to *resist the further payment of rents until such time as an amicable arrangement of the long agitated Land Question be arrived at.*

Moved by Mr. S. Kelly and seconded by Mr. N. Leslie—

Resolved, As the opinion of this Meeting, that in the present distressed and impoverished state of the tenantry on said Lots, it is utterly impossible to comply with the proposals of Sir S. Cunard and colleagues, and that nothing short of a right of purchase on equal terms with the settlers on the Selkirk, Lot 11 and Lot 54 estates can allay the disaffection existing among the tenantry throughout the Island.

Moved by Mr. L. McPhee and seconded by Mr S Kelly—

Resolved, That this meeting is of opinion that the Proprietors should prove the validity of their titles, as required by the 5th section of the Land Purchase Bill, before the tenants should be required to comply with any proposals, however amicable.

Moved by Mr. A. McPhee and seconded by Mr. C. Deagle—

Resolved, That this meeting has no confidence in the sincerity of the Government in settling the Land Question—therefore, be it resolved, that the tenantry on these Lots do act in conjunction with the rest of the tenantry throughout the Colony, in forming a "Tenant League," to defend their rights, until the time arrives when they will be granted fair and equitable terms.

Moved by Mr. E. McKie and seconded by Mr. S. McLellan—

Resolved, That the minutes of the Meeting be published in two of the independent journals of the Island.

PATRICK MCDONALD, Sec'y.

Rollo Bay, April 4, 1864.

TENANT MEETING AT NEW LONDON.

A large and very respectable meeting of the Tenantry on Townships Nos. 20 and 21, met at the New London Mechanic's Institute, on Friday, April 1st, for the purpose of taking into consideration the now important and long agitated Land Question, as well as the dissatisfied and oppressed state of the tenantry of said Townships, and the Island generally, in consequence of Proprietary influence and oppression, and a want on their part of a disposition to afford the suffering tenantry of this neglected Colony a just and efficient opportunity of converting the present rent-paying system into that of freehold, which would inevitably contribute to the peace, harmony and prosperity of this Island. The meeting was ably represented by tenant and freeholder, the prevailing opinion being that nothing short of freedom from the tyrannic grasp of the slaveholding system, and a right of purchase, upon equitable and like principles as afforded the tenantry of other lands purchased by the Government of this Colony, will reconcile the disquietude now at large in this Island, exasperated and outraged at the exorbitant and gigantic exactions of Sir Samuel Cunard and colleagues, which if carried into effect, will be detrimental and ruinous to the interests of Prince Edward Island. The meeting was declared organized by the appointment of Mr. John McLeod to the chair, and John G. McKay acting Secretary. The following Resolutions were submitted and unanimously carried, viz:—

Moved by Peter Sinclair, Esq., seconded by Mr. Wm. Rottenbury—

Resolved, That on account of the settlement of the Land Question affecting directly or indirectly the prosperity of every inhabitant of this Island, and all attempts that have been recently made for an equitable settlement of the said question, have been frustrated by duplicity and proprietary influence, this meeting believes it to be the duty of the people to interpose in behalf of their rights, and not rest satisfied until the tenantry throughout the Island shall receive an equal privilege with those on the Selkirk and Worrell Estates, in converting their leaseholds into freeholds.

Moved by James Pidgeon, Esq., seconded by Geo. McKay, Esq.—

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that no action be taken by the Legislature on the Bill offered by the proprietors for the settlement of the Land Question, or that proposed by the delegates, both being extremely objectionable.

Moved by John McLeod, Esq., seconded by Mr. Edward McEwen—

Resolved, That this meeting believing that the Estates purchased by the land purchase bill, the report made by the Land Commission, and also the price of wilderness land in the sister Colonies, plainly proves that land in this Island is not worth over prices ranging from five to ten shillings an acre, the back rents cancelled to 1862, and six years to pay for it; these terms this meeting is willing to accept, and urge their representatives not to exceed them.

Moved by Mr. Alex. Smith, seconded by Mr. George Mallett—

Resolved, That this meeting concurs with the sentiments expressed by the several meetings held in the several sections of this Island for the settlement of the agrarian question, and amelioration of the Tenantry, and sympathise with them in their distress, and will freely assist them in cordially bringing this vexed question to an advantageous issue for our common benefit.

Moved by Mr. William Stewart, seconded by Mr. E. McEwen—

Resolved, That all journals in the Island be and are hereby requested to publish the foregoing resolutions in their columns.

After a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, the meeting gave three hearty cheers for our beloved Queen, and then dispersed in order, harmony and unanimity of sentiment.

JOHN GRAHAM MCKAY, Sec'y.

New London, April 1, 1864.

TENANT MEETING AT LOT 48.

A large and respectable meeting of the tenants and freeholders of the lower end of Lot 48, was held on Wednesday, the 6th of April, in order to co-operate with the rest of the tenantry on Lots 48, 49, 50, and the Island generally, in devising and executing means to throw off the galling yoke of the leasehold system.

Four or five Townships were represented by delegates, who gave most cheering reports of the success of the tenant movement in their different districts. After several addresses, bearing on the present state of the land question, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. Moved by Mr. Robert Stewart, seconded by Mr. William Hooper:—

Resolved, That every expedient having been tried in vain to bring about a settlement of the long agitated land question, without any good results, we think that the time has arrived for the tenantry to unite for self-defence, until terms are offered which will enable them to buy.

2. Moved by Mr. Maurice Carrol, seconded by Mr. John Stewart:—

Resolved, That we agree to pay for our land at at the same rate per acre as the land sold by the Government, namely, the Selkirk, Worrell, Montgomery Estates, &c.

3. Moved by Mr. Daniel Ferguson, seconded by Albert Kelly:—

Resolved, That the freeholders and others pledge themselves not to buy any property seized for rent, and that they discountenance, to the utmost of their power, the slavish leasehold system.

4. Moved by Mr. Charles Smallwood, seconded by Mr. James Stewart:—

Resolved, That we have an equal right with the tenants on the Selkirk and the other estates, to have our land bought at the public credit.

Three hearty cheers were given for Her Gracious Majesty the Queen, and three for the tenant movement, after which the meeting dispersed.

ROBERT STEWART, Sec'y.

To THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR:—The conduct of a certain Capt. B in whipping an Indian who stole some of his clothes, has been brought before the public by the Georgetown correspondent of the *Monitor*, and since commented on in the *Examiner* of the 4th instant, by a correspondent over the signature of "Roger Riddler," who evidently is acquainted with the circumstance only from the exaggerated, untruthful and distorted version of it which appeared in the *Monitor*. The facts were as follows: On the morning in question Capt. B discovered that some shirts of his had been stolen off his clothes-line during the night by a drunken Indian, whom he soon found with the shirts in his possession, and which he acknowledged to have stolen. He accompanied Capt. B. to his residence to restore the property. On the way they met a Magistrate who, handing his whip to Capt. B. told him the best thing he could do would be to give him a good whipping, and let him go. The Capt. took the whip, and while he made the Indian replace his property where he found it, gave him a few lashes of the whip—not on his bare back, as stated by the *Monitor's* correspondent, but over his clothes; and I, in common with others who saw the proceeding, thought it was much better than sending him to jail, to fatten at the public expense, for the next three months.

If your correspondent "Roger Riddler" had seen some of the doings in Georgetown lately, he would not have written as he has done on this subject. When a J. P. sells spirits by the glass to persons till they lose their reason, and become excited by it, and then has the power to put those persons in jail, and pocket the fees for doing so—I say, that it shews clearly that no J. P. should be a retailer of spirits. If the law is to be respected, it is high time that some of our J. P.s, who now degrade their office by selling spirits by retail, were struck off the list. It does not "cause the law to be respected" to see drunken brawls occurring frequently at the doors of a tavern kept by a J. P., while he may, at times, be seen in the midst of the crowd, gesticulating like a madman, blaspheming and swearing at his peaceable neighbours for not assisting him in what he terms "*keeping the peace.*" Or again, in taking a rowdy, doubtless a good customer, who had brutally ill-treated an unoffending person, and concealing him in his house from the officers of justice who were trying to take him to jail.

I may, at some other time, call your attention to the shameful negligence and mismanagement occuring in our local Post Office, but do not wish to occupy too much of your valuable space by giving you the instances at present. Our wharf and landing slip are in a most disgraceful state, and the slip has been so for the past twelve months, but whether this is owing to the neglect of the Government, or to the incompetency of the Commissioner, I know not. The latter officer is a very useful hanger-on of the Orange party at elections and scrutinies, when any swearing is to be done, and doubtless this constituted a sufficient qualification to entitle him to office; for, would you believe it, Mr. Editor, there has not, for the past twelve months, been a place at the Georgetown Wharf at which a female could, without great danger, land from a boat. During the Liberal administration the slip was always kept in good repair, and our Post Office was a model of good order and punctuality; but the change has been very much for the worse.

Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space, I am yours,

ON-LOOKER.

Georgetown, April 14th, 1864.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, April 18, 1864.

STEAM COMMUNICATION.

WHILE the House was in Committee of Supply on Saturday last, an animated debate arose in reference to the new contract for steam communication with the neighbouring Provinces. It was contended by the Leader of the Opposition that the contract which the Government had lately entered into with the owners of the new Steamer *Princess Royal* would actually cost the country fifteen hundred pounds a year more than the rate at which Mr. Boultenhouse offered to perform the service—and would involve a loss to the country of fifteen thousand pounds during the period of the contract. Besides, Mr. Coles shewed that Mr. Boultenhouse engaged to perform the tri-weekly trips with his steamer for a longer time in the fall than the owners of the new steamer did; and he pointedly alluded to the fact, which was patent enough to every one, that the circumstance of there being four members of the Government in the new Steamboat Company secured them the preference and favoritism denied to an independent competitor. The Government side attempted a denial of Mr. Coles's allegations; but they were signally weak in defending the monopoly of the new Company. In extenuating the preference given over Mr. Boultenhouse, they alleged that he was not a trustworthy person — that his securities were insufficient—that his boat was not ready for service; and that it was better to give the money for the contract to a domestic company, even if it were a larger sum, than to a comparative stranger. The incorrectness and fallacy of these allegations were promptly met and refuted by Mr. Coles; but we have not space at present to notice his arguments in detail. Suffice it to say that the Government vote was carried, which secures to members of the Administration a very handsome share of the public funds.

THE PROPRIETORS' BILL.

THE Government Bill for the settlement of the Land question was submitted to the House to-day, and read a first time. It differs in no material points from the proprietors' Bill, submitted about two years ago after the failure of the Land Commission; and it cannot be of the least service to the tenantry. It confirms proprietary titles to the fullest extent, and proposes fifteen years purchase—all the money to be paid down—and no remission of rents unless to those who are able to purchase their farms, and pay the money in full for them. We shall advert to this Bill more particularly in our next. There is no doubt that it will pass here. The Government party have had several caucus meetings during the past week; and this is, no doubt, the offspring of one of them. The proprietors cannot well object to the Bill, for it proposes to give them all they have asked, and more than they could reasonably expect.

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

THE House of Assembly was engaged this morning in debating the question of Colonial Union. It appears to be the intention to appoint Delegates to go to the other Provinces—(another good job for Messrs. Pope and Palmer)—to confer with Delegates there upon the question; but evidently the Government have no real regard for the measure. So far as this Island is concerned, we believe the agitation of the question will come to naught.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

No. 5.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Saturday, 9th April, 1864.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, having moved that a certain Tabular Statement of Public Accounts, which he held in his hands, should be printed—

The Hon. Mr Coles rose and said, with reference to an alteration or correction which had been made in one of the documents included in the motion for printing, of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, that no Document, signed by a Public Officer, should be altered on motion of any hon. member of the House without the consent of the officer by whom it had been signed; but as the Hon. Colonial Secretary was anxious to have the Documents published before the Committee on Public Accounts, had reported, he, (the Hon. Mr. Coles,) as one member of that Committee, had made no objection to *their being* printed at once, as the Hon. the Colonial Secretary had proposed; and he had, therefore, during the morning, at his desk, looked through the voluminous documents, so as to make himself aware of their nature; and in doing so, in one Table, *showing the imports and exports*, with a balance of £40,996 4s. 7d., struck in favor of the Colony, he had observed a slight mistake of only £264,090 in one statement of Imports, which made a Balance against the Colony of £170,131 4s. 7d., instead of one of £40,996 4s. 7d. in its favor. And in two other Tables of Excise Duties, one in Currency, the other in Sterling, there appeared a mistake of £1,251 6s. 10d. against the Colony, as shown by the Classified Table of duties in Currency. Now, said the hon. Gentleman, as these Tables appear to have been preparad for the purpose of affording information at the expected meeting of Delegates, to be held for the consideration of the proposed Union of the Provinces, it certainly behoves us to see that they are correct; for should they be published in their present inaccurate state, and one of the delegates from the other Provinces should take them up, and, on examining the Tables, discover the mistakes which I have pointed out in them, what would be thought of our accountants?

The Hon. Mr. Speaker, sustaining the view taken of the matter by the Hon. Mr. Coles, said it was quite irregular to make any motion for the printing of any Documents containing statements drawn from the Public Accounts before these accounts had been examined and reported upon by the Committee appointed for such purpose: and thereupon the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, by leave, withdrew his motion.

Mr. Howlan said, these accounts I find very incorrect, for, besides the error of £264,090—no small item in itself—I find that there is also a mistake of some 4 or 5000 gallons of molasses, and another in the export of barley; also, in the import of Tea, one of 10,000 lbs, or thereabouts, and I could name several other errors; but as the Hon. the Colonial Secretary has withdrawn his motion, I do not consider it necessary to point them out particularly.

RESOLUTIONS moved by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, condemnatery of his Grace the Duke of Newcastle for refusing to submit the Act passed by our local Legislature, last session, to incorporate the Grand Orange Lodge of P. E. Island and the subordinate Lodges in connection therewith.

The debate upon these Resolutions was a very animated one, and was protracted to great length. The opinions, touching the Orange question in general, which in the course of it, were enunciated by hon. members on both sides of the House, are deserving—albeit for different reasons—of particular notice; and, therefore, in the next No. of our Notes, we shall lay them—although in an abstract form—fairly and fully before our readers. In the mean time, we give below both the Resolutions submitted by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and the counter Resolution, submitted by the Hon. Mr. Whelan, and also the divisions which took place thereon respectively.

1. RESOLVED, That Orange Lodges—the Institutions for the incorporation of which this House in its last Session passed the Act, intituled "An Act to incorporate the Grand Orange Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and the subordinate Lodges in connection therewith"—are not forbidden by any law in force in Prince Edward Island; and further, that Orange Lodges, although they have existed in this Island for several years past, have not, in the opinion of this House, proved detrimental to the best interests of this Colony.

2. RESOLVED, That it is the constitutional right of the Legislature of this Island to make and ordain such laws for the public peace, welfare and good government of this Island and of the people and inhabitants thereof, as may be considered necessary, subject only to the proviso, that such laws be not repugnant to the laws and statutes of Great Britain.

3. RESOLVED, That therefore, His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, by refusing to submit the Act intituled "An Act to incorporate the Grand Orange Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and the Subordinate Lodges in connection therewith," for the Royal allowance, deprived the Legislature of this Colony of its constitutional right to make, ordain and carry into effect a Law, which was deemed expedient and desirable by a large majority of this House—(the motion that the Bill do pass hav-