Local and Other Items.

E. A. Sothern, the actor, is dead.

Hay and fuel are scarce at Summerside.

North Bedeque has a lively Debating Club.

Halifax has a branch of the Irish Land League.

Swear not at all, but if you must swear, swear off.

A trotting match is spoken of for Saturday on Hillsborough ice.

The rumor that the Governor-General intends to visit British Columbia next summer is without foundation.

Hon. Mr. Bagot, who succeeds Capt. Harbord as A. D. C. to the Governor-General has returned to the Capital from England.

The *Patriot* is apparently under the impression that a stringency of the money market is a good thing; but the majority think differently.

The colliers' strike in the north of England is spreading so rapidly that a coal famine is feared unless the masters and colliers come to terms.

It is reported that although Mr. Mackenzie is now entirely out of danger, he will not be able to take his place in the House again this session.

The *Pioneer* announces that the *Progress* newspaper has been purchased by the proprietors of the *Journal*, and that the two papers are to be amalgamated.

J. R. Calhoun, Esq., of Summerside, has purchased an interest in the Mill Valley Woolen Mills. Success to the Mills—and to Mr. Calhoun.

Mr. Fletcher lectured in Ludlow Hall, Summerside, last evening; and he will lecture again in the same place to-morrow evening This evening he lectures at Kensington.

The steamship "Prince Edward," which sailed from Baltimore for Liverpool on the 31st ult., arrived, all well, at St. Michaels, Azores, a few days ago, where she put in to coal up.

The Bank of England rate of discount is now 3½ per cent., and the latest financial exhibits of the bank, as well as the latest revenue returns are more favorable than they have been for some time past.

The Diamond Bookstore man says that although it is well at times to be *seen* and not *heard*, the case was reversed shortly after five o'clock, Tuesday, when one of the candidates for the Mayoralty was *Heard and not seen*.

After all the misrepresentations, etc., etc., etc., the Anti-Syndicate petition which went up from this Province, contained but four thousand names, and it is said that a very large proportion of these, were those of dead men and children. Well! well.

A free fight occurred the other night at a surprise party in Adelaide township, Ont. It was provoked by a collision between two rivals for one young lady's attentions. Several bruised and cut heads, a broken leg, and general smash-up of the furniture were the results of this most agreeable surprise party.

Conviction.—On the 11th inst., before J. H. Bourke, J. P., Mill View, John McLean was convicted and fined in the sum of $4.13, with costs, for entering the house of Hugh McKenzie, Lot 50, and there doing damage to his doors and windows, when in a state of intoxication.

The *Patriot* is informed that Donald Farquharson, Esq., is about to start a Starch Factory at Long Creek, and that he intends to call a meeting of the farmers in that vicinity in a few days to place before them an agreement for a supply of potatoes which is now prepared. Success to Mr. Farquharson and this enterprise.

A six-days walk between Wm. Vaughan, of Chester, England, and Daniel O'Leary, of Chicago, and a six-day go-as-you-please race between Charles Rowell, of Chesterton, Cambridgeshire, and John Dobler, of Chicago, have been arranged to take place in New York the second week in April for £1,000 a side.

Sarah Bernhardts Earnings.—In fifty-seven performances Sarah Berhardt, cleared the sum of $206,950; that is to say, a grand average for each performance of a little over $3,639. Of the total amount the great actress has received as her share no fewer than $70,000 in round numbers, which is a much greater sum than any other dramatic artiste, living or dead, has ever earned in the same time.

In 1856 the averaged assessed value of twenty two wards of New York city was $14,671,980. The average value of the same in 1880 was $38,318,737. Two wards having now an assessed real estate value of $22,901,985, have been added to the city's territory since 1856. The total assessed value of the real estate of the twenty-four wards, as appears by the assessment books of 1880, is $942,571,690.

Lord Dufferin, in a work on Ireland, suggests a remedy for the agrarian trouble. He proposes that the Government should buy the land, and obtain repayment by means of an annual tax thereon. But if the tenants will not pay rent to landlords, would they pay it to the Government, in the form of a tax? If they found that they would, by paying become owners of the land, subject to this tax, they might make an effort to pay. But most people pay governments more unwillingly than they pay individuals.

A crime which has not a parallel in the history of this Province was committed, a few days ago in a wretched hovel situated on St. Peter's Road, near this city. It was committed by a truckman named White upon his wife, and its details are so repulsive as to prevent publication. We understand that the authorities are in possession of the facts of this case, and although they are of the most criminal nature, no attempt has yet been made to arrest the brutal assailant.

Rose-Belfords' Canadian Monthly for January is at hand. It contains several articles worthy of careful study and a pleasing assortment of light literature. One or two of the poems are really poetical. The poem entitled "Memor et Fideles," by G. J. D. Peters of Windsor, N. S., contains some lines of rare beauty and on the whole is much above the average of magazine poetry. The second portion of Mr. Bourinot's paper on "The intellectual development of the Canadian people," gives the history of our common systems, and is very interesting.

A couple went to an Auburn (Me.) parson to be married a day or two since. The parson did the most natural thing under the circumstances—married them. After the ceremony the man said, "Parson, what's yer bill?" The clergyman said there was no regular fee. "Wall, what do you usually charge?" again asked the fellow. The clergyman said in reply:—"A gentleman usually pays according to how much he thinks of his wife. Perhaps you'd better wait a while and find out how much you think your wife is worth." The man thought seriously for a while, then brightened up and said: "Wall, parson, I guess I will wait and give her a trial. I guess 'twill be the safest way."

The energetic management of the Intercolonial, in transmitting European freight promptly from Halifax to the West, has quickly defeated the scheme of landing Canadian freight at Boston instead of Halifax, importers having ordered their freight to be landed here. Goods discharged here from the "Moravian," on the 11th, were received at Toronto the 16th, the goods landed at Boston not having arrived. The "Sarmatian," which reached here on Friday the 14th, discharged over 700 tons of freight for the Upper Provinces, and, notwithstanding the extreme severity of the weather on the North Shore and the St. Lawrence, the freight trains with their goods reached Montreal on the 17th, only twelve days from Liverpool. The *Gazette* justly says this is "a feat which is highly creditable to the Allan Line, Intercolonial and Grand Trunk Railways."—*Hx. Herald.*

Presentation to Dr. Orlebar.—The *Lancet* has the following: "On retiring from the office of Resident Medical Officer at the Victoria Park Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Dr. Orlebar was presented with a handsome ink-stand and writing case, and a beautifully bound Bible, while the porters and servants of the Hospital have taken the opportunity to give as their present a very complete letter paper-case for the table. The feeling that induced sisters, nurses, porters and servants thus to mark their appreciation of the services of one who is leaving the Hospital to the great regret, but with the sincere good wishes of the whole medical staff, cannot but speak well for the efficient and harmonious carrying on of all the work connected with the care of the patients in the wards of the Institution." The Dr. Orlebar referred to is a son of Admiral Orlebar, formerly of this Island—now of St. Leonards.

Political Notes.

The Municipal Council of Gloucester County, representing the constituents of Mr. Anglin have requested that gentleman to support the Governments Pacific Railway Policy, and vote for the ratification of the Contract. Mr. Anglin has not complied with the request.

A journal hitherto very friendly to Mr. Blake, the Montreal *Star*, says that "there is a half of suspicion" about the prairie section syndicate. It trusts that the suspicion is unfounded, but feels constrained to admit that "there is not wanting evidence that the rival scheme was conceived in insincerity and born in deception. We fear the new syndicate is the progeny of political exigencies."

Mr. McDougall characterizes the new offer as a political dodge, and rather than that the scheme for putting the building and operation of the Canada Pacific in the hands of a private company should be balked, he heartily supports the contract. He evidently considers that it is better to bear the ills of the present contract than to risk flying to the ills that would exist should a Grit Government come into power and the construction of the Railway be continued as a Government work.

The Halifax *Herald's* Ottawa correspondent writes:—"The talk of the hour is the speeches of the Hon. Wm. MacDougall and Hector Cameron. I telegraphed you a pretty full summary of the former's. The universal verdict here is that Mr. MacDougall represents the sober second thought of the country. The Grits are terribly disappointed and disgusted. They were sure that Mr. MacDougall would support Blake's 'amendment in two volumes.' He was not only opposed to the amendment but declared that it meant nothing and would end in less, that in fact it was simply a synopsis of Mr. Blake's speeches in and out of Parliament, and besides meaning nothing, was, properly speaking, out of order. This being a deliberate blow between the eyes to Blake's knowledge of Parliamentary law, coming so soon after the exposure by Sir John of his ignorance of Chancery law is particularly galling.

The St. John *Sun's* reporter says:—

"A point in Hon. Mr. Macdougall's speech which has attracted much attention was that with reference to the expense which would be entailed on the Syndicate in the disposal of their lands. The Opposition have been talking as if nothing would be necessary for the Company but to set down quietly, and rake in from 125 to 250 millions of dollars for their subsidy. In a conversation with one of the members of the Syndicate on Saturday, he stated that, viewed in a financial way, they would have been perfectly willing to accept twenty million dollars cash in lieu of the 25 million acres, but he did not deny that the land would be of great benfit to them in this way, that it would enable them to inaugurate and carry out a thorough system of immigration in the interest of the railway. He admitted that it would cost a large amount of money to plant settlers along the road, but repudiated the idea that the lands would be locked up and held for higher prices, as this would have the effect of depriving the railway of an enormous amount of traffic.

The *Monetary Times*:—In connection with the Syndicate debate, some one has called attention to the fact that, when the last census was taken, all the land in cultivation in Canada was less than eighteen millions (17,780,921) of acres. If it has taken so long to bring these lands under cultivation, how long will it take to make arable the twenty-five million of acres which the Syndicate is to get? The past, it is fair to say, is but a poor guide to the future; for prairie lands brought under the operation of capital, can be cultivated with a rapidity quite unapproachable when wood lands have to be turned into grain-fields by settlers almost wholly destitute of capital. Still, in valuing the twenty-five millions of acres, we must make allowance for the long time that must necessarily elapse before they will be in demand for cultivation. The value, when they can be sold, is the only realizable value for the holders; their value now is arbitrary and must be deduced from some estimate of the rate at which they can be sold.

Kensington.

Donald Montgomery, Esq., Superintendent of Education, visited and examined the school on Thursday last. There was a large number of scholars in attendance in both senior and junior departments, and quite a number of gentlemen assembled to hear the examination. The scholars acquitted themselves well, and shewed, by their ready answers, that the labours of their energetic teachers to impart instruction was not in vain.

In the evening, Mr. Montgomery delivered a very interesting lecture on the subject of Education to a large and attentive audience in the public hall at Kensington. There could not have been less than two hundred persons present. The lecture occupied about 1½ hours, and was well delivered. The interest was well sustained throughout, as manifested by the perfect attention of the overcrowded audience. After the lecture, several gentlemen present, among whom were three or four teachers, made some very appropriate remarks on the subject of Education. It is very pleasing to notice the great interest which is being taken by parents and the public generally in this important subject, and it is cause for congratulation that the Island has secured the services of such a competent person as Mr. Montgomery for Superintendent. He seems to be very popular in this part of the Island and, indeed, in every part of the Island which he has visited, and he certainly shows by the deep interest which he appears to take in the schools and their prosperity that he thoroughly understands and appreciates his position.

Visitor.

The St. Peter's Penny Readings.

The second night of the course passed off in a very agreeable manner, notwithstanding that two of the readers were unable to fulfil their engagements, on account of indisposition. Major Freeland was interesting and amusing in both reading and song. Miss Barr was well received by the audience, and read in a quiet humorous manner, the troubles and drawbacks of choirs. Mr. Bambrick's reading had a superabundance of demons, opium, razors, and suicide in it, and consequently was rather depressing.

The music of the evening was first rate. Foremost were Messrs. Worth and Earle, who played with their accustomed accuracy and taste. Miss Palmer sang her song splendidly ann deservedly received an encore. Masters McNab and Cummings, sang a duet written specially for them, and heard for the first time at this Reading; the young fellows received quite an oration from the audience and were obliged to repeat part of the duet. Miss Lochhead's voice was very sweet in her song and shewed a clear and telling power for chamber music. The instrumental piece played by Mrs. Brown was executed in a very thorough manner, and shewed that the lady had a command both of the technicalities and the taste of the selection; her song of "Kathleen Mavourneen" was sung with much feeling. The "Beautiful Mountain Home" of Mrs. McNab and Miss DesBrisay was as happy and bright as the combined voices of those ladies could make it; the echo in the duet was very finely rendered. The quartette, an old French air, was a pleasing composition, and considering that it was in the minor key and without accompaniment, it was sung acceptably by the voices.

The next "Readings" will take place on Tuesday, February 8th, and a strong programme is promised.

A correspondent of the *Argus*, writing from Bothwell under date of the 18th inst., says: "This section of the country has just been visited by the grandest and yet most destructive silver thaw that ever was seen here, even by that much belied person called the 'oldest inhabitant.' It commenced raining and freezing on Friday night, about 10 o'clock, and continued almost incessantly until midnight last night, (Monday) and the destruction caused by the ice forming on the fruit and ornamental trees is simply complete, for those that are not stripped of their limbs are broken off at their trunks. Even the forest has suffered. The sight is simply grand as well as melancholy, for the ice is about two inches thick on every tree and twig, which to look at this morning in the light of the sun's rays was grand in the extreme."

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements or opinions of our correspondents.

The Alley-Duchemin Case.

HOW IT IS VIEWED IN NEW YORK.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

To-night's mail has brought me the Examiner and *Patriot*. The most interesting thing I find in them is an account of a legal fight between Mr. Alley and Duchemin Bros. Charlottetown always was a stick-in-the-mud town, and there is probably no other place in the civilized world where an injunction restraining a steam manufactory from running would be granted, and where it would be considered a "nuisance" if located near private dwellings. The world still moves; but it evidently leaves your Courts a long way behind. In the same city, I remember, about eighteen years ago, an effort was made by many persons overburdened with nerves, to have the steam whistle of Dawson's tannery indicted as a nuisance. Away back in Putnam County in this State the innocent backwoodsmen still vote for Andrew Jackson for President. If Mr. Alley's sensitive nerves are disturbed by modern machinery, let him emigrate to the western prairies. The Astor House, on Broadway, with its thousands of guests, is adjacent to buildings where a hundred printing presses are run at the highest rate of speed, *night and day*, and although their never-ending rumble is heard and felt by every one in the Hotel, the one who complained would be looked upon as an imbecile. The public-spirited and progressive citizens should raise a fund and enable the defendants to carry the case to a higher court, where justice would surely be done.

John B. McLean,
60 Barclay Street, New York.

The Alley-Duchemin Case.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir,—The following article, clipped from the *Journal* of the 11th inst., the most popular paper published in this city (Boston) will, to a certain extent, give your numerous readers an idea how the well-informed—for the author of the article clipped is a man of wide experience—look upon the Alley-Ducheman outrage (for such it is) perpetrated upon two of Charlottetown's best citizens, by Thomas Alley, at the instigation of his son George:—

"Something that Looks Like Injustice. A paragraph published in the Charlottetown (Prince Edward Island) Examiner of December 28, states that on that date Judge Peters of that place condemned Messrs. Albert and and Edmund Duchemin to jail 'for working at their trade of blockmakers in the old homestead of their father.' The paragraph further conveys the information that the Messrs. Duchemin had been previously 'driven from their shop, erected on the site of the old factory in which their father and themselves worked as good citizens for upward of thirty years, and were compelled to turn their dwelling house into a workshop.' The facts in this case make it appear as though the people of Prince Edward Island are obliged to live under laws the impartial execution of which would repress every kind of mechanical industry. During the first half of the present century Mr. Watson Duchemin established himself as a pump and block maker in Charlottetown on the spot where, until recently, the workshop occupied by himself and inherited by his sons has stood. Some years later a dwelling house was erected upon the adjeining lot of land. After the death of their father the Duchemin brothers built a new factory upon the site of the old shop, and and had prepared for carrying on their business with improved facilities, when Mr. Thos. Alley, the owner of the adjoining property, sued out an injunction to prevent their carrying on their business on the premises. The ground for action was that the noise from the factory constituted an annoyance to Mr. Alley's family and detracted from the value of his property. The case was tried before Judge Peters, whose decisions throughout have been so contrary to the popular conceptions of justice that one of them was followed by the holding of an indignation meeting. Mr. Alley, however, has been relentless in his prosecution, and Judge Peters has continually decided in his favor. Finally the matter has gone so far that the Duchemin Brothers having removed their business into their dwelling house, which is separated from Mr. Alley's house by the factory, have been condemned to jail for disobeying the injunction, in that they have continued to carry on their business upon the *premises* designated therein. It would seem as though the Duchemin Brothers had a vested right to maintain their factory in a location which had been so long occupied for the business to which it was devoted, but Judge Peters has decided otherwise. Under the circumstances it is difficult to see why any factory in Charlottetown cannot be shut up by any person who chooses to build a dwelling house beside it, and then complain of it as a nuisance. From this part of the world it looks as though a great outrage had been committed."

Your obdt. servant,
Justice.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 15, 1881.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir,—In your paper of this evening I read, with much pleasure, the following paragraph:

"It is stated that the Royal consent was refused to the first draft of the Queen's speech presented by Mr. Gladstone to Her Majesty."

By this I am encouraged to hope that the Royal Perogative, held by the Sovereign, for the purpose of preserving the lives, the liberty, and the property of British subjects, is not dead and buried, in England, whatever it may be elsewhere; and as it certainly has been, with regard to property, in this Colony Let the three "F's," as the modern phrase runs, be applied impartially to high and low, rich and poor, landlord and tenant, and all would be well; and not, as the London *Punch* says, to mean France, Farce, and Fanaticism. Alderman Sir William Curtis, the friend and boon companion of King George the Fourth, once gave, as a toast—either at the London Mansion House (the Mayor's nest,) or at Carlton Palace, now no more existing,—"the three 'R's—Reading, Riting, and Rithmetic, with three times three, Hip, Hip, Hurrah!"

Your paragraph pleases me so much that it has inspired me with the following Quatrain, submitted for your acceptance. I am, by nature or inclination, a Lieutenant rather than a General; so I am proud to follow in the track of my Sovereign, when I can consistently do so, as in the present case:—

O! come the day, as come it may, when Royalty once more
Shall hold its own upon the Throne, above sedition's roar!
When England's wealth and Scotland's Peers, once more shall bear the sway!
O! *may I live, while yet on earth, to see that glorious day*!!

I have much more to say; but your space is limited, and I must not too far intrude upon it.

Your constant reader,
Vich Dhomnuil nan Ord.

P. S.—As to the three F's., freedom of purchase implies freedom, and not compulsion to sell. Fixity of tenure should apply to the owner as well as to the occupier of land. Fair rents, imply or exclude (by no unreasonable extension) fair taxation, and not a redoubled penal tax upon wilderness land, levied for the express and avowed purpose of confiscation. Fair play is a jewel.

Card of Thanks.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Dear Sir,—Permit me, through the columns of your useful journal to thank the Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, New York, for their prompt and fair settlement, through their Agent, Mr. J. DesBrisay, of my claim for loss by fire of my barns and their contents a short time since. I understand that there has been destroyed within the past four months, in this Province, about twelve thousand dollars worth of farm property, and I am the only one who had any insurance. I must say, from experience, that it is a great mistake to go uninsured and trust to chance, when protection can be had for a small consideration in such an old and responsible Company as the Agricultural, which covers against loss from lightning as well as fire.

Yours respectfully,
James Stewart.

Kensington, Jan. 10th, 1881.

The Maine Beet Root Sugar factory has been given up as a bad job, and the machinery, a report says, has been moved away. Whether any better success will attend the movement in Quebec, remains to be seen. Maine is rather a poor farming district, however, and it is claimed that besides superior land, the French Canadians will have the advantage of cheap living, enabling them to grow beets at a price that the Maine farmers could not hope to approach.

The "Circumstances Have Changed."

(From the Toronto Mail)

Mr. Gladstone was indentured to the Tories, and circumstances have changed more than once in Mr. Disraeli's long career. In both cases, however, the process of conversion was comparatively slow. The fact is, British statesmen are as far behind Canadian politicians in political athletics as British oarsmen are behind Hanlan and Ross in the science of driving a boat through the water. Circumstances change here with appalling suddeness. Paul's adventure on the road to Damascus is repeated every day in our political life. A statesman maintains in October, 1873, that it is scandalous that a people of four millions should require thirteen Cabinet Ministers; yet in November he becomes the fourteenth member of the Ministry. It is not that he is afflicted with the curse of Reuben; it is simply that in one revolving upon circumstances have changed. Another gentleman makes a sturdy protectionist speech in 1875, and in 1876 speaks with equal force and eloquence in behalf of the most cosmopolitan kind of free trade. He, the statesman, had not altered his views, but such is the swiftness of Canadian progression, circumstances have changed. A third statesman writes in the "Parliamentary Companion" of 1873 that he is opposed to the construction of the Pacific Railway, believing it too vast an undertaking for our strength and resources. Yet, in 1874, he supports and in 1876 becomes a member of an Administration pledged to build the road from end to end by 1891. This statesman was not unstable—philosophers are never unstable; he simply had to succumb to a change of circumstances, over which he had no control.

It will probably be said by Englishmen that these extraordinary phenomena of change must render it somewhat difficult for the Canadian electerate to tell just where their representatives are. We admit that there is some force in this. When a member doses his constituents with Horace Greeley in the spring, and Administers Adam Smith in the fall, their minds are temperarily unsettled. So also when a political party offers terms for the construction of a great public work in 1877, and in 1880 denounces a much more advantageous bargain as ruinous, infamous, and so forth, its supporters lose interest for the time being in the discussion of public affairs, because they are not exactly sure what to-morrow may bring forth. These are certainly disadvantages, but we beg to point out to our English critics that there are seasons when the movements of our statesmen can be determined with mathematical accuracy.

The British War Office.

A general high up in the French service, and a thorough-going friend of England and her army, which, he says, he learned to respect in old Crimean days, has been speaking some wholesome truths of the policy of the British War Office. He says:—"As there is hardly a family of the middle or upper class that has not at least one member in the army, it is amazing to me that they do not see that the system is so utterly wrong that it must lead to disaster. You have to keep India, where your *prestige*, having suffered from your retreating from Cabul, and your reported intention to evacuate Candahar, may at any moment lead to another insurrection. You have serious business in hand in Ireland. You have this unfortunate business at the Cape; and at the same time you mean to hold your position in Europe. All I can say is that, with your army, you cannot do that. The other day, when my old friends of the 94th met with a disaster in South Africa, just illustrates what I mean. You send out two hundred and fifty men when you should employ two thousand five hundred, and waste valuable lives simply because you will not realize the fact that your army is numerically too weak to enable you to enforce the policy and vindicate the position which, as a great power, you are entitled to carry out and assure. People give England full credit for her power, but in military affairs credit goes for nothing, and two hundred and fifty men, whatever their training and courage may be, must be beaten by five thousand." There is more fact than fiction in these remarks.

A Great Telegraph Scheme.

THE IMPORT OF THE RECENT COMBINATION—AN ALL ROUND THE WORLD CONNECTION.

New York, Jan. 21.—The *World* to-day discloses that the recent telegraph consolidation is only a step in a gigantic enterprise for establishing the telegraphic independence of America. It says:—"The consolidation is but primary to the rapid development, under general management of General Eckart, of a grand telegraph network extending around the world, having its centre, not at London, but at New York. For some time past Cyrus W. Field has been agitating the subject of establishing such a network. The certificate of the Association of the American Telegraph and Cable Company was filed at Albany on Wednesday, with a capital stock of twenty millions. Under the consolidation the three telegraph companies, the American Telegraph and Cable Company, co-operating with the new organization will at once proceed, not only to increase the existing cable facilities between this country and Europe, and extend southward the cables which now connect this country with Cuba and the West Indies, to secure for the great coffee trade of the United States direct telegraphic communication with Brazil but also to lay cables from San Francisco to Honolulu, from Honolulu to Japan, connecting there with a cable from Itoka to Shanghai in China, and another by way of Ellices Island and the Friendly Isles to New Caledonia, and thence to Brisbane in Australia, where it will connect with the Australian and New Zealand cable system in one direction and with the Australian and Straits system in the other direction. It is not the intention of the company to ask a Government guarantee on the Pasific lines. Should the Government desire it, however, a connection may be made from Vancouver Island by way of Alaska with Petropaulovski, and thence with the north of Japan, and for such connection Russia and Japan, as well as the United States, should assume a reasonable pecuniary responsibility."

A Madrid despatch says inundations have caused the destruction of half the crop of oranges and lemons of Spain, and the loss is estimated at $40,000,000 to the agriculturists. Seville, Condeva and Burgos are flooded, but the loss of life is slight. The loss to the shipping on the coasts is supposed to exceed one hundred vessels, and the damage to vessels at Huelva, Bilboa, Cadiz, Barcelona and Santandar is estimated at several millions. After ten days of gales and floods they have cut off telegraphs and made trains forty-eight hours late, and interrupted lines in the north and northwest, we now have a snowfall of unprecedented magnitude in the centre, and even south of the Peninsula. Madrid lies under a foot of snow; also Faden, in Andalusia—Malaga and Baleasic Isles, besides blocking all passes and railways in the north of Spain for twelve days.

The Naples *Perseveranza* reports that a very interesting experiment was lately made at Milan of Signor Mainetti's invention for instantaneously detaching a horse from a carriage. The simplicity and certainty of the apparatus were highly praised by the spectators, many of whom expected to see the horse carry off the splinter bar and the shafts, which, in case of a horse taking fright, would only irritate it the more, and while the occupants of the carriage would be saved endanger the lives of passers-by. But such was not the case. The horse, put at a gallop, was detached without the least shock, leaving the carriage behind, and only carrying off the harness on its back. The contrivance consists of a lever within reach of the coachmen, who with the slightest effort withdraws two little iron pegs which fasten the traces. Now, as all the harness on the horse is fastened to two iron bolts fixed on the shafts, and these bolts are only held in their places by the traces, it follows that the moment the latter are loosened the bolts slide out, and the whole of the horse's harness is detached from the carriage, while the shafts and bars remain in their places.

The Credit System.

REFLECTIONS OF A COUNTRY SCRIBBLER.

BY J. M'C.

Writing, writing, ever writing
Morning, noon and night,
Writing without ever ceasing,
Till mine eyes have lost their sight.

From the day-book to the ledger,
Always posting—ever will,
From the ledger then to paper,
Steady goes the good old quill.

First in winter comes the lumber,
Most abominable stuff,
Timber-dealing, late and early,
Always puts me in a "huff."

Then again the oats and 'taters,
And the eggs and butter too,
Makes an awful pile of trouble—
I dinna ken what I shall do.

But I think I yet could fix it,
If I could but have my way,
No more credit I would give them,
Make them pay from day to day.

What an endless lot of labor—
To all parties it would save,
And b'lieve it would be better
If for 'tick folks would not crave.

But I'm heart-sick, sore and weary,
With this scratching constantly,
And I pine for days acoming
When no credit there will be.

Latest News Notes.

The Cyprus garrison has been reduced to 500 British troops.

The revenue of England increased by over £1,000,000 last year.

There are 6000 British solidiers of all ranks in North America and the West Indies.

It is said in Washington that Secretary Evarts opened the season with a cork-screw.

In Ireland alone there are 31,000 soldiers of all arms, including marines, and 12,000 armed constabulary.

About three hundred of the employees of the New York Post Office are members of the Temperance Society, and it is unpopular there to drink or swear.

Sir Garnet Wolseley will be sent to India in a few months to reorganize the Indian army, whose expense is continually growing, while its efficiency is constantly diminishing.

Further reports confirm the news of the great distress among the Russian peasants. In one province alone a million people are said to be in absolute want, while in the Province of Saratoff 750,000 peasants are reported to be starving.

The German Emperor has made a doctor a Count for bringing him to his eightieth year, and offers to make the Count a Prince if he shall bring him to his ninetieth. The old fellow does not go about humming:

I would not live away.

A German corresdondent of the "Pall Mall Gazette" writes that the financial distress in Germany is very great. Selling prices and land rents are falling frightfully low. The result is that debtors on mortgage cannot pay the interest of their debts, and are dispossessed and their properties frequently sold at half the value they had some time ago. This depreciation cannot be attributed to foreign competition, as the importation of corn and other produce has been taxed. It is generally believed that the fall in prices is due to the scarcity of cash.

Indiana is to have a compulsory education law which should both enrich the State and compel the children to become learned. Under its provisions all children between the ages of six and sixteen who are physically able to attend school, and who do not attend a private school, are required to go to the public schools, and the parents or guardians will be fined not less than $2 or more than $5 for each child not attending school, and the same fine will be collected for each day that each child is absent. That is something like a compulsory law, and won't the truant be brought to his senses when the pater has to hand over five dollars for the child's disobedience!

Hudson River Ice Crop.—Engaged in the ice industry along the Hudson are about 6,000 men and boys and 1,800 horses. An estimate places the harvest, when completed, at 2,500,000 tons, and the cost of gathering it at $2,000,000. In 1873 the total quantity housed was 1,408,500 tons; in 1879, 2,061,500 tons, and last winter but 150,000 tons. These 2,500,000 tons, which will make this year's crop, can be taken from a surface of 2,500 acres, that is, supposing the cakes to be twelve inches in thickness. The waste in storing and handling is estimated at from thirty to fifty per cent, which would leave the amount for actual consumption at from 1,250,000 to 2,426,000 tons. During the two first weeks of the present havest more ice was gathered than during the whole of last winter

Another of those dare-devil feats which before now have resulted in death, and which never can benefit anybody by their performance, is announced to take place on the Queen's Birthday. J. Tilley, of Niagara, is reported to have wagered $500 to $250, put up by one Donaldson, a submarine diver, that he (Donaldson) will not, on the day mentioned, jump from the Suspension Bridge at Niagara Falls. In the first place it is much to be regretted that Tilley has five hundred dollars to wager, and in the next if Donaldson should kill himself Tilley should be tried for manslaughter, for aiding and abetting him. Better, however, than the trial of men like Tilley for manslaughter after the event would be the passage of laws by both countries concerned forbidding such exhibitions, and inflicting a penalty for witnessing them.

A Good Story.—A laird of Strathaven, who owned a quarry, and who was reported to be worth "a gey twa-three bawbees beside," was curling one day, and his foreman, whose name was Lawrence, was playing with him on the same side. The laird was very anxious he should play a certain shot, and he cried out in this fashion:—"Noo, Jock Lawrence, d'ye see whaur my broom is? Lay your staun doon there, and as sure as death, I'll gie you my dochter Jean if you do." Birr rushed the stone out of Jock's hand, and went trintling along to the very spot where the laird wished it. "Capital, Jock, capital! Ye couldna hae done better, and ye can get Jean the morn if ye want her." "Ye maun gie me something else than Jean, laird. I hae got her already. We were married six weeks ago, and we've been thinking o' asking your blessing ever since, but something aye cam' in the way." The laird was dumfounded when he heard this, but he compromised matters by saying, "Aweel, aweel, Jock, I'll let by-ganes be by-ganes. A man that could lay doon sic a pat-lid like is worthy o' the best and bonniest lass in Lancashire; keep her an' welcome, and ye'll may be get the matter o' sax hundred wi' her. Keep her, Jock, and if ye hae ony laddie weans atwehn ye, bring them up in the fear o' the Lord, and be ye sure ye dinna forget to mak' guid curlers o' them."

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Reliable Remedies.—In wounds, bruises, sprains, glandular swellings, enlarged veins, neuralgic pains and rheumatism, the application of this soothing Ointment to the affected parts not only gives the greatest ease, but likewise cures the complaint. The Pills must assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders, whilst the Ointment cures the local ailment. The Pills remove constitutional disturbance and regulate every impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the disease rarely recurs, so perfectly has been the purification performed by those searching yet harmless preparations.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The remains of the late Chief Justice Moss will be conveyed from Havre to New York by the steamer Ferdinand de Lesseps.

Gen. Garfield declares that as yet he has not made a single selection for his Cabinet, and that all rumours as to Blaine and others having been offered portfolios are untrue.

Jane Gray Swissholm declares that "this world will be grossly mismanaged until there are as many boys born as girls. Mrs. S. is right. This is the only way to prevent mis-management.

Mr. Elliot Stock, the London publisher, announces that he has sold 400,000 of his 'Penny Testament,' which is a marvel of cheapness. The sale is expected to reach a million before the close of the year.

Four Nihilists, who were recently arrested at Kieff were found to have in their possession a whole arsenal of revolvers, daggers, and axes, in addition to machinery for the manufacture of forged passports, and the usual amount of literature of the sanguinary type.

It is said that there are some two thousand loyal Boers in Pretoria, and that hundreds are likely to desert to the British when the latter make their appearence. The insurgents endervoured to incite the Swazi King against the British, but completely failed.

The Winnipeg "Times" congratulates the Conservative party and the country upon the fact that "The Mail" has made such rapid strides upwards and onwards to a front place in the ranks of the journalism of this continent. The Mitchell "Advocate" says:—'"The Mail" publishes a sworn affidavit to the effect that the weekly edition of that journal has reached the enormous circulation of 47,000 copies. "The Mail" for some time past has been unrivalied as a newspaper; it is now also the most widelycirculated journal in the Dominion.'

A Bachelor's Excuse.—A clergyman past middle age, after having united a loving couple in the holy bond of matrimony, was asked by a person present at the marriage feast how he a bachelor, could consistently engage in such cermonies. The good man's answer was significant—in a man's life there are but two periods when he is likely to marry—one when he is young and has no sense, the other when he is old and lost his sense. He was glad to inform them that he was past the one and had not yet reached the other.

On the 1st of Sanuary, of a total of 183,942 non commissioned officers and men in the British army, 122,793 were English, 14,450 Scotch, 38,375 Irish. 1,869 were born in India or the colonies, 2361 were foreigners, and 4,094 are returned as "not reported." As regards religious denominations, it appears that of the total of 183,942 non-commissioned officers and men 115,264 were members of the Church of England, 14,024 Presbyterians, 7,309 other Protestants, 42,361 Roman Catholics, 152 Mahomedans, Hindoos, Jews, etc., while the religions of 4,830 are not reported; pobably these latter were agnostics. One important fact is, that 7,859 British soldiers could neither read nor write.

Sir Cavendish Foster is a pattern Irish landlord, and if there were more like him Land League agitations would be simply impossible. He is a clergyman in Essex, and owns land in county Louth, Ireland. Not long ago he instructed his agent to reduce rents twenty per cent., but his tenants replied with a unanimous refusal to accept the reduction. They did not wish for more consideration—they asked for none at all. Being able, they were willing to pay their just rent in full. They told the agent to inform the landlord that such habitual justice as he gave them made it unnecessary for them to ask, and they were too honest and grateful to abuse, his generosity. He explains what happened by saying that the rents were reduced at the time of the last famine in 1847, and they have never since been raised. The result of a gentle use of the landlord's power is proved by two remarkable circumstances. When the late landlord died, the tenants spent $2,000 in putting up a monument to him. The agent—the usually hated agent—died. A similar monument was put up to him. Such a thing as an eviction, it is said, has never been known on the estate.

The Exile of Siberia.

Almost every one has read or heard of a work, once highly popular, called "Elizabeth, or the Exile of Siberia. It was published originally in French, the author being Madame Cottin. The letters containing the romantic story on which it was founded, written in the year 1805, have recently been given to the public. It appears from them that the real name of Elizabeth was Prascovy Gergoria Lupulova. Her parents had once been employed in the service of the Empress Catherine, but, the father having been convicted of some petty theft, was banished to Tobolska. When she grew up, their daughter was always brooding over the sad fate which condemned them (innocent, as she believed) to perpetual exile and, at the age of sixteen, she formed a plan for traversing the long distance to St. Petersburg, where she intended to cast herself at the feet of her Sovereign and ask for pardon. It was not until she was about twenty-two, however, that she was able to execute her brave project. How she managed to accomplish the journey of nearly 3,000 miles she could hardly tell herself, but she at last arrived at Moscow, where, having told her story to some charitable people, she was given means to take her to St. Petersburg. There she was fortunate enough to be introduced to a lady famed for her humanity, and through her she was presented to the Emperor, who not only pardoned her parents, but gave her 3,000 roubles. The family were sent for, and parents and child lived happily in Novogorod until Pauline's death, which took place about three years after their return, her constitution having been irreparably injured by the fatigue and anxiety of her long journey. Before she died she read the story in which her adventures were embodied.

You Have no Excuse.

Have you any excuse for suffering with Dyspepsia or Liver Complaint? Is there any reason why you should go on from day to day complaining with Sour Stomach, Sick Head ache, Habitual Costiveness, palpitation of the Heart, Heart burn, Water-brash, Gnawing and burning pains at the pit of the Stomach, Yellow Skin, coated Tongue and disagreeable taste in the mouth, coming up of food after eating, Low spirits, &c. No. It is positively your own fault if you do. Go to your Druggist and get a bottle of Green's August Flower for 75 cents your cure is certain, but if you doubt this, get a Sample Bottle for 10 cents and try it. Two doses will relieve you.

The Kourds.

The Kourds, of whom we heard a good deal last year, occupy a territory of about 100,000 square miles, partly in Asiatic Turkey and partly in Persia. They number from 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 souls, it is thought. The region consists of valleys and table lands—the result of a peculiar mountainous system, and the occupations of the people are chiefly nomadic and pastoral, some of them, however, being engaged in agriculture. A large proportion of them are descendants of a fine race (the Carduchians) with which Xenophon came in contact during his retreat, with his soldiers, after the battle of Cunaxa, and some tribes of which were then noted for their warlike spirit and love of freedom. According to Strabo they were akin to the Parthians who gave the Romans so much trouble. They had then an abundance of provisions, with which they are not always favored in the present day. They are still a well-formed, handsome and vigorous people, energetic, good horsemen and well skilled in the use of arms. Some of the women are said to be beautiful, though they soon fade. They enjoy a greater degree of liberty, and are generally better treated than other oriental women. The dress is picturesque, though to Western people it woul appear intolerably clumsy, yet it does not interfere with their active exercises, while it adds to their natural gracefulness of the Kourds who are used to it. Story-telling and music are the in door, and equestrian feats the out door amusements. The agriculturists consider themselves much superior to the wandering tribes, whom they treat with contempt. The creed of both is, for the most part, Mohammedanism in a corrupt form, but there are also some Nestorian Christians.

Mother Shipton's venerable star is wandering. A mightier soothsayer than she has arisen in the person of a Kingston, Jamaica, philosopher, who deducts from the second chapter of St. Mathew's gospel the startling conclusion that the Star of Bethlehem in its periodic revolution of about 315 years, will appear as a bright star in 1887, and that the earth will then undergo convulsions, physically and morally, with civil strife notably in North America. Strange, too, for that is not a Presidental election year. However, this is not the first prophecy relating to 1887. The Rev. Abel Pierson, of Tennessee, many years ago evolved from the book of Daniel a formula by which he computed that about the 12th of March, in that year, the millennium would begin. There is evidently a wide discrepancy between the two prophecies. Probably more people will favor the lattee one, on account of its more venerable age, its greater definiteness of date, and particularly, its more agreeable character.

MARRIED.

In this city, on the 26th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite, Miss E. Lavinia, fourth daughter of John Jury, Esq., to Mr. Colin Campbell McNeill, of North Rustico.

At the Methodist Parsonage, on the 26th inst., by the Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite, Mr. Henry A. W. Morris, to Miss Fanny Amelia Bonnell, both of Charlottetown.

At the residence of Mr. Geo. Green, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. A. F. Carr, A. M., Mr. Albert Best, to Miss Gertrude Sherlock, both of Alberton.

At the residence of the bride's father, on the 12th inst., by Elder D. Crawford, Mr. Daniel Macdonald, of New Perth, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Stevenson, of South Rustico.

At the Manse, on the 20th inst., by the Rev. J. M. McLeod, Mr. Alexander Wyand, to Miss Caroline Laird, both of Cavendish.

On the 5th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Dr. Knox, Mr. George Stewart, of Brudenell River, to Catherine, younger daughter of Mr. Duncan McCallum, of Lot 48.

DIED.

In this city, on the 22nd inst., of paralysis, George Cahill, M. D., in the 41st year of his age, leaving a sorrowing wife and one child to mourn their loss.

In this city, on the 18th inst., of dropsy, in the 29th year of her age, Mary, the beloved wife of David Johnson, and third daughter of the late Mr. Daniel McKenzie, Victoria Cross, Lot 51. (St. Andrew's N. S. *Bay Pilot* and Island papers please copy.)

At Kingston, Aylesford, Wednesday morning, 19th inst., Rev. Charles Tupper, D. D., in the 87th year of his age. Dr. Tupper has been in the Baptist Churches of the Maritime Provinces upwards of sixty-four years.

At Hillsboro' Head, on the 12th inst., after a lingering illness of paralysis, Ellen Maria, the beloved wife of John McDonald, in the in the 52nd year of her age, leaving a sorrowing husband and ten children to mourn their loss.—*R. I. P.*

On the 6th inst., at Marshfield, St. Peter's Road, Clementina, daughter of the late Mr. Robert Robertson, aged 32 years.

At Port Hastings, C. B., January 13, Emily Mary, daughter of James G. McKeen, aged 23 years.

To Whom it may Concern.

Agency of Dept. Marine and Fisheries,
Charlottetown, P. E. Island,
27th January, 1881.

The Agent would hereby notify Keepers of Light Houses, Fishery Wardens, Harbor Masters, and all other persons having demands against the Department of Marine and Fisheries, that the Agent's office is situated in the Post Office Building; that the practice of mailing cheques and receipts for salaries cannot be adhered to, and that from this date, all claims against the Department will be required to be presented personally, or by agents duly authorized to receive the payments. Salaries will be payable within seven days after becoming due. Accounts must be rendered in duplicate and properly certified before presentation for payment.

This notice is given to prevent any future trouble or delay, and to facilitate the better working of the Agent's Office.

ARTEMAS LORD,
Agent.

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AUCTION.

To be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION, on the premises of John Gillis, Bradalbane, Lot 67, on TUESDAY, February 1, 1881, at 11 o'clock, a. m., his Rotary Saw and Shingle Mills, and Ninety-seven acres of Land. These Mills are in close proximity to the Railway, and a Siding has been erected there for the convenience of the Mills. There will also be some Lots, covered with a splendid growth of Wood, offered for sale, together with a quantity of Boards, Scantling and Logs.

Immediately after the above, 100 acres of Land will be offered for sale at the Junction Road, Lot 67, 40 acres of which are cleared and in a good state of cultivation, the remainder being covered with a splendid growth of hard and soft wood. Also, 100 bushels oats, 100 bush. potatoes, Hay and Straw, 4 Cows in Calf, 1 Heifer (1½ years old), 2 Calves, 1 Mare (8 years old), 12 Sheep, 2 Pigs, 1 Single-seated Wagon, 1 Jaunting Sleigh and Harness, 1 Cart (with Sharp's make of wheels), Cart Harness, 1 Plough, 1 Revolving Rake, 3 Wood Sleighs, 1 Cook Stove (Improved No. 3 only 12 monthe in use), 1 Loom, together with Household Furniture and other articles too numerous to mention. Terms made known at sale.

Should the Mills or Farm fail to sell, they will be offered to rent for a number of years.

G. McKAY, Auct'r.

Bradalbane, Jan. 24, 1881—2i wkly 1i