many of its brother-officers of state—doing its *bona-fide* duties in person, and those of mere *show* by deputy.

Having made these few rambling, though not, we trust, uninteresting remarks, let us close the lid of the neat morocco box where we first found the subject of our article, and leave it in its quiet resting-place, till next Michaelmas term shall again call it forth to active operation.

MADEMOISELLE RACHEL IN EGYPT.—It will be remembered that Mdlle. Rachel embarked early in October for Alexandria, where she arrived in perfect safety, in time to participate in the excitement created by the arrival of the celebrated great actress indeed formed, with her sister, part of the group of terror-stricken females which assembled in the great square of the town, and added to the horror of the scene and to the alarm of the Franks by their exclamations of wailing. But the native population, from the elegant and peculiating Effendi down to the poor but enthusiastic donkey-driver, were of opinion that Allah is great and that an earthquake was rather a merciful dispensation than otherwise. The natives therefore maintained their phlegm and kept their eyes open; they affirm that "Hermione," in her flight, rushed from her house in a costume which partook rather of the natural than the classical. The warm unvarnishable air of the Nile has been recommended to Mdlle. Rachel (whose lungs are affected) by her medical advisers, and she has determined on following out their instructions in an original and comfortable style. On the ships of the Pharo at Marseilles, there is now in course or construction an immense barge, formed on a model which is peculiar to the Nile, where it is known as a barge. This barge, which is to be launched in a few days, is furnished and internally with great luxury. It will contain a drawing-room, a library, bath-rooms, &c., and is to cost, according to the contract, £1000 sterling. A portion of the furniture of the residence of Mdlle. Rachel in the Champs Elysées has already been despatched to Marseilles, and will be fitted to the barge which is to be taken in tow to Alexandria, by the next steamer, "Hermione" will at once take up her quarters on board this vessel, and will pass away the winter in cruising up and down the Nile, doubtless to the tantalised dishonest Bedouins and to the supreme discomfort of the genus crocodile. The enemies of the great actress, and they are numerous, assert that the success of Madame Ristori has in a great extent influenced her present decision, and that Mdlle. Rachel, sore in spirit, and disgusted with this inconstant world, determined on retiring to Jerusalem, where she will reside after the fashion of a Jewish Lady Hester Stanhope. This I do not believe, for notwithstanding that the model is not an inglorious one, and that the eyes of the gaping world would be condemned with renewed admiration on the magnificent spectacle which abandoned the sceptre of the stage, when in full possession of its glory and power, it is nevertheless improbable that Mdlle. Rachel will retire to the land of her forefathers—for it would not pay. It is however, certain that Mdlle. Rachel will undertake a pilgrimage to Jerusalem as soon as her health will permit her to undergo the fatigue.—*Paris correspondent of the Globe.*

CANADA.

THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY CELEBRATION.

Montreal, Nov. 12.—The grand features of this day's festivities have been brought to a close. The streets are jubilant with bands and blaze; with artificial glory; and all human voices, barometers of blithe and joyous spirits, fall upon the ear as sweetly as the chimes of a marriage bell. Staid old Montreal, dull old Montreal, with her forged garb of sanctity endorsed by her numberless crosses and spires and churches and colleges, more cold and cheerless hitherto than the city of the pilgrims and the settlement of Penn, is really beside herself with the joy of the solemnization of the banns now taking place in her midst between the Father of the Waters and the boundless ocean.

THE PROCESSION.

The firemen, trades, civic societies, this morning formed a procession, which was a brilliant affair, and was gotten up in true Boston style. It was accompanied by about a dozen bands, which discoursed excellent and spirit-stirring music, while the banners of England, France, and United States and Turkey were everywhere in the ascendant.

The New England delegation, with their beautiful banner, having emblazoned on its face the "Landing of the Pilgrims," made a splendid show for numbers, and added their well known enthusiasm to the occasion.

THE DINNER.

This part of the programme surpassed anything we have ever witnessed, on this side of the great water. Imagine, dear reader, a mile and a half of tables groaning with all the delicacies of the season, and over 5000 guests—a motly assemblage of nobility, clergy, guests, statesmen, military men, merchants, mechanics and farmers, in a building of, to the eye, almost immeasurable distance, and sprinkled with the scarlet garb of the sons of Mars, fresh from the Crimea with their honors, their scars, and their medals, and you can form some idea of the exciting scene, before us, the privileged partakers of this glorious celebration. The band of the 29th foot, only a little over a year since marshalling its brave hosts of warlike heroes to deadly conflict added to the splendor of the occasion, while the singing of "God Save the Queen," by Britton, Celt, and American, wrought up the feelings to enthusiastic pitch.

THE TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION, &c.

Dinner over, all separated to their quarters to supper, after which there was a very respectable torchlight procession formed in Bleury square, which traversed the the principal streets of the city, and brought up in Haymarket square. It was wholly a fireman's display, and was accompanied by six bands of music; was somewhat short of a mile long, and was undoubtedly its way by continuous displays of every form of illumination.

We hope, that this fraternal gathering of a great race will have its beneficial effects, not only for commercial purposes, but for national, in fastening the grand scheme of universal peace among the brotherhood of nations and the scattered family of man. To-morrow morning, an excursion will be made to the wonder of the new world, the Britannia or Victoria Bridge over the St. Lawrence, one and three-fourths of a mile long. Then will follow the military review before the Governor-General, Sir Edmund Head, and lodged by the Crimea veteran, General Eyre, first successful stormer of Sebastopol, and the sole possessor for a day of the country within the municipal lines. The grand ball takes place to-morrow evening, and the festival concludes with a brilliant display of fireworks.

COLONIAL.

The Halifax *Morning Journal* in noticing the despatches about the placing of troops in this garrison says:—We take the P. E. Island papers, that the Home Government decline complying with repeated requests to station a detachment of Troops at Charlottetown, as had been the practice from the first settlement of the Colony, until about two years ago. It seems a pity to abandon good quarters, where men can be supported cheaper than in Nova Scotia, and where the climate is so healthy.

A P. E. Island paper speaks of Sir A. Bannerman late Governor of that Colony, being the successor of Governor Darling in Newfoundland—But we have seen no official announcement of the fact.—*Halifax Journal.*

Files from Bermuda are to the 5th inst. The *Bermudian* of that day says:—We regret that we have to report several new cases of fever, which have shewn themselves within the last five days. Indeed, it would seem that this dread malady had taken a fresh start in the central parishes. Pembroke, Devonshire, Paget and Southampton, are badly scourged. St. George's, Somerset, and Warwick parishes are almost free from disease. The British ship of war Vestal, is still suffering severely of sickness and water, and receiving on board some invalids, had sailed for England.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, November 29, 1856.

We were not a little astonished to find that the Collector of the Import and Excise duties insists upon demanding and taking the same duty upon wrecked goods—whether damaged or not—as upon goods regularly imported and landed. Upon a superficial view of the Act, his conduct would, however severe, appear to be in strict conformity with it. A more comprehensive view of the provisions of the Act, will, we think, warrant the belief that the Collector takes an erroneous view, and that in taking the strict letter of the act for his sole guidance, he loses sight of the true intent and meaning of it. In the table of import duties attached to the 3d clause of the act are the words '*ship stores and cargoes saved from wrecks, or sold in a vessel stranded, to pay the same duties as if imported.*' Where a vessel not belonging to this Island is stranded and condemned or sold whilst stranded, a duty shall be paid, or the amount of sales of her hull, rigging and materials, whether she be again got off, or be there broken up £5 per centage *ad valorem* on every £100 currency value per invoice." The collector we suppose takes the two last words as imperative, and referring to the first part of the clause, which we have put in *italics*, a little reflection will show that such is not intended, for the whole cargo might consist of spirits which pay no *ad valorem* duty. Wrecked goods pay therefore the same duty as if they had been regularly imported, varying from 2 to 20 per cent *ad valorem*. But it is said, that this must be according to the invoice value. All this is very true, when the wrecked goods are landed in what may very properly be called their normal state, that is the same or nearly the same value as when exported. The question is only the *prima facie* value a ready and easy criterion whereby to ascertain the real value, and the Collector of Excise is very properly not tied down to it, for by sec. 45 if he think the goods invoiced at too low a rate, he may add ten per cent and the charges of importation to the invoice price, and take the goods and sell them, and put half the profit coming from the sale into his own pocket. But it is evident and clear, that the act does not insist upon the invoice being conclusive at least as to quantity; take sec. 80 when on shipping cards, a difference does not agree with the entry, the true quantity is sought for and the difference either way ascertained and the duty charged or secured accordingly. Let us suppose goods wrecked and sold, of which there is no invoice a contingency which is almost certain to happen in the case of a foreign vessel, how is the amount of duty to be ascertained in such a case—obviously by appraisement or by the amount of sales. If by appraisement, then by what criterion—the value of the same goods at the place from where they were imported or the value as they stand deteriorated? We think that the true method in such a case would be a compound of the two; first ascertain the value of the goods at the place from where they were imported and deduct from that the proportion in which they are deteriorated and the residue is the true value on which the percentage *ad valorem* should be laid. In such cases as the wrecked goods of the Majestic on a neighbouring coast. Suppose the goods sold there and imported here then the invoice price would be the bill of parcels of the auctioneer and the duties paid accordingly, why should the same goods because they are sold here be liable to a duty on the original invoice, 75, 80 or 90 per cent or more above their real and intrinsic value? Take a case of a Liverpool warehouse for instance worth when exported £100 stg. when sold not worth £5 currency; in such case however the Collector of import claims £7 10s being at the rate of £5 per centage *ad valorem* on the original invoice, amounting to £100, on chests of tea which are totally spoiled, and which the master enters and lands for the sake of securing the freight; is the Collector of excise to charge 25s or 20s duty, on what can be of no use to any conceivable being of mammal? Is this right, is this according to the dictates of common sense or common honesty; It is worse than nonsense to say, that the underwriters pay—they should be protected by law and not allowed by it.

We have thrown out the above hints in the hopes that in the ensuing session of the assembly such an anomaly may be explicitly charged against, and the same justice done to the importer of dry goods, as is meted out to the importer of rum, gin and brandy, and that the goods which are injured by the act of God should not be considered in the same category as those which by the same Providence come to hand uninjured.

HIS Excellency the Lieutenant Governor by proclamation, has ordered, Thursday, the 11th day of December next, to be kept as a day of *Public Thanksgiving*; in which proclamation he recommends all the inhabitants of this Island "reverently and devoutly to observe the same, and that all ministers do hold public service in their respective Churches and Chapels on that day."

☞ From an advertisement in another column it will be seen that a troupe of "Ethiopian Minstrels" is about to visit our town. Four of the gentlemen of this troupe, Messrs. Pease, son, Warren, Packard, and Chandler are already favourably known in this community, and no doubt their friends here will give them a bumper house. Their performances are highly spoken of in the Halifax papers, and the best evidence that the praise is deserved is the fact that for ten successive evenings, they have had crowded audiences We confess to enjoying, in a high degree, a clever representation of this character, and cannot join in the cry of "vulgarity" that is sometimes raised against them. No representation of the kind can be vulgar unless it be true to nature, and with performers such as compose this troupe, the representations of negro life are seldom over drawn. whether they exhibit the conceit and vanity of the gentleman darkey of the free states, or the "coon" "kema Kimo" of the debased, ignorant and unshaven, but frolicking and careless "nigger" of the plantations, they give equally faithful delineations of the character of this peculiar people under different circumstances. Besides, the music given on those occasions, without pretending to be of the highest class, is always pleasing and often excellent. We believe the "Metropolitans" will be worth hearing.—*Advertiser.*

The Metropolitans perform this evening at an earlier hour than usual, being Saturday.

HIS Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council has pleased to appoint Mr. Asa MacCabe, Wharfinger for the Wharf at Cascumpec, in terms of the Act of 18 Vic. cap. 13.

HIS Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. Richard Hayes, of Souris, Sealer of Weights and Measures for Townships Nos. 43, 44 and 45.

DISSOLUTION—It is currently reported through the city to-day, that the House of Assembly has been dissolved.

GRAND DIVISION OF P. E. ISLAND.

Officers for 1856—7.

G. W. P., Rev. C. I. Burnett; G. W. A., Mr. John Rider; G Scribe, Mr. P. DesBrisay; G. T., Mr. G. R. Beer; G. Chaplain, Rev. J. McMurray; G. Conductor, Mr. James Evans; G. Sentinel, Mr. John Scott; P. G. W. P. Mr. J. W. Morrison; General Agent, J. Arbuckle.

The Annual Session of the G. Division was held in this City on Thursday, Oct. 30th. The election of officers and all the proceedings of the Meeting were conducted with the unanimity and cordial courtesy that characterise the Brotherhood. Several representatives from the Subordinate Divisions in the rural districts were present, "good men and true," who gave unmistakeable assurance of their unflinching devotion to the cause of God and humanity.

The following Reports were ordered to be published:

PETER DESBRISAY, G. S.

To the Representatives in Grand Division Assembled.

Brethren,

It affords me much pleasure to meet you on this interesting occasion, and in welcoming you to engage in the solemn deliberations that are to occupy your attention. I sincerely regret that from personal inspection I am unable to report minutely on the progress and condition of the various Divisions within this jurisdiction.

Conscious of my inability to discharge satisfactorily the duties of this honorable office, I was reluctantly induced to undertake its responsibilities by special brethren, who promised me their aid and advice; and it affords me unspeakable gratification to acknowledge my obligations for their comfort and counsel, and my indebtedness to all the members of Division for their kind official intercourse, for their respectful consideration of my position.

I am not aware of any matters of importance that have occurred in this jurisdiction during the year, worthy of more special detail. The severe affliction which obliged our agent Mr. Arbuckle, to suspend his visitations, resulted from an injury sustained on the duties of his mission. He is restored to comparative health, and his services especially as a lecturer he has claims on the sympathy of our Brotherhood.

For financial and numerical statements I would refer to the Report of our zealous Brother, the Grand Scribe to whom I am indebted for prompt assistance when the interests of the Order required it.

To propose plans for future action devolves upon the brethren who are elected to hold executive appointments for the ensuing year. I therefore conclude this report, with assurance of my unfeigned, heartfelt thankfulness for the generous support afforded me while presiding over the council of this Grand Division; and of my confidence that God who witnesseth your devotion to the cause of humanity, will delight to make you worthy instruments of his providence—may *He* bless your labours and render fruitful your resolutions.

All of which is respectfully submitted in the bonds of the Order.

J. W. MORRISON,
Grand Worthy Patriarch.

Charlottetown, October 30, 1856.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON G. W. PS. REPORT.

The Committee on the Report of G. W. P. respectfully Report,

That in the estimation of this Committee the Order on this Island, still maintains an important position in the cause of moral progress; and especially as a bulwark against the wider encroachments of intemperance, claiming the countenance and support of all those who profess to be benefactors of our race. Though in several subordinate Divisions within this jurisdiction, we are greatly hindered in the prosecution of their work by local circumstances, and by the opposition of many whose influence, were it employed on the right side, would be mighty for good, yet your Committee re gratified to believe, that for the most part our brethren are energetic in their purpose to labour for the prohibition of the liquor traffic, until that consummation of our hopes be attained.

Your Committee are happy to find that our esteemed brother P. G. W. P. Arbuckle, is so far restored to health as to warrant the hope that he will be able to resume his labours as the Agent of this G. D. with efficiency, and your Committee venture to believe that his claims upon the practical sympathy of the various Divisions and temperance associations throughout the Island, will be responded to with cheerfulness and liberality.

All which is respectfully submitted in L. P. and F.

J. M'MURRAY,
C. I. BURNETT,
GEO. W. MILLNER.