

self. The several ceremonies of the church are a curious mixture of Christianity, Judaism, and ignorance.

Soldiers are the curse of the land. It is so much more in accordance with the character and tastes of the people rather to live on others than to work, that it is difficult to understand why even a few labor, whilst so many live by execution and plunder.

Beggars are necessarily numerous. First, because many prefer begging to work, and the *otium cum dignitate* to the easy profession of arms; secondly, so many peasants are reduced to the utmost poverty by the lawless bands of robbers and soldiers that infest the land, that, homeless, and without any means to cultivate the soil, they are forced to appeal to the charity of others.

Curious to say, the peasant is despised; his very name is applied as an insulting epithet. The priest is not much respected; the soldier stands higher in the social scale, but the ragged, itchy, leprous beggar is exalted above all. Beggary is the only honorable profession in Abyssinia.

The few merchants in this country trade with Metemba or Massowah; export ivory, gold, wax, honey, cattle, &c., and import cotton, cloth, red Suret cloth, tobacco for snuff, silks, &c. As a rule they are rich, and held in good repute. Their profits are enormous, but their risks are also great. Often after a long life of toil, they are spoiled by the sovereign of the land of all their property under some trivial pretext. Silversmiths, blacksmiths, carpenters and those more or less skilled in handicrafts, are looked upon with suspicion by the ignorant mass. They are supposed to have intercourse with the devil and with evil spirits, to be powerful magicians, &c. From these reasons they are generally avoided, and few are strong-minded enough to follow their well-remunerated but despised trades.

DRSS.

The Abyssinian dress consists principally of a large piece of cloth, and is alike the garb of the menial, the peasant, and the noble. The only difference is that the texture of the poor man's cloth is coarser than the red striped shama of the higher classes. Priests alone wear turbans. Old men and women who have adopted a monastic life cover their heads with a small white cap; all the others protect the head with a thick coating of butter.

The Pasha of Egypt has succeeded to the request of Lord Stanley, and has received the native Egyptians whom he sent to join the British Expedition in Abyssinia. The comments of the American papers on the arrest of Mr. Train have been received in London, and have evoked much press discussion of a temporary and conciliatory character.

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TRAIN'S TRANSFORMATION SCENE.

(From the New York Times)

On Sunday last, Train stood on the very pinnacle of the world, grand, gloomy and peculiar, wrapt in the solitude of his own individuality. Through him the American eagle had fastened its claws;—on him the British lion had fastened its claws;—around him, and for him, horrid war was to be waged;—already he heard (and we heard) cannon to right of him, cannon to left of him, booming and thundering;—and as two mighty nations fought for his body, dead or alive, and myriads fell prone that he might hold his head erect;—it seemed as though the apotheosis of Train had come, and a new divinity was about to be added to the brief roll of our American gods.

Nothing could be finer than this dramatic episode, in all its parts, as it first appeared. Train advances upon England, single-handed, and defiant;—in the distance the British lion crouches, with glaring eyes and claws unsheathed;—in the air the British eagle, with fire and vengeance as he approaches;—and suddenly, in the very act of craning his first stump-speech down the enemy's throat, the latter takes an undue advantage, slips a pair of handcuffs on his wrists, and marches him off to a dungeon to await the further wrath of England and brood over the coming vengeance of America.

Thus the case appeared on Sunday, and thus it continued till midnight of Monday. The flood of America was beginning to boil, and a million tongues were quivering with speeches that could hardly be heard of being transmitted in Minie bullets and stinging battalions. Not a young American but found it hard to hold up his wrath; not a Congressman but felt his fingers itching to begin the forging oratorical thunderbolts; not an Irishman but waxed eloquent as Train himself. Train was on everybody's lips, if not in everybody's heart; and even the modern sphynx opened his mouth to give vent to the feelings of his soul. After firing a fresh Havana, Grant called for a chart of the British Channel, and with compressed lips inquired of Adam Badeau how many men in armor ordinarily guarded the Tower of London.

It is grievous to have all these theatrical effects spoiled. It hurts our pride, when the transformation scene takes place, to see, instead of the Leonine monarch advancing upon the bird of Jove in all the pomp and circumstances of his ferocious nature, a Hibernian constable, with the warrant of a local magistrate in his hand, walking off with Mr. Train to examine whether he had come to the land of St. Patrick with the intention of being a disturber of the peace. And when it appeared that all the proceedings following this were equally dull and common-place, when it was found that he was immediately discharged, and only taken in custody again till the authorities were informed of his arrest and had time to order his release—the visions of war and glory and America triumphant were dissipated, and in their stead we saw Train descending from the pinnacle of notoriety and striking his place again in the ranks of 'widy habbers.'

It is very hard for Train, and very hard for

the American eloquence which was all ready to burst forth. But there is no help for it so far as we can see. As the arrest was made by the local magistracy, and without the orders of the Government, the latter at once reversed the action of the former, and the Foreign Secretary has doubtless by this time given all necessary explanations to Mr. Seward. It is not painful to see a spectacle which opened so thrillingly turned so quickly into such a fizzle?

NEWS SUMMARY.

The Italian Government is about sending out a naval expedition to Rio La Plata. Nothing is known as to the cause or object of the movement. A French paper says that Admiral Farragut has sent to Caprera a promise to support the Liberals of Italy, and he only awaits the reply of Garibaldi. The announcement was made in both Houses of the Italian Parliament on the 1st February, but Crown Prince Humbert has been formally betrothed to Princess Margherita of Genoa. Garibaldi has written an eloquent and enthusiastic letter to Admiral Farragut in which he congratulates the United States on encouraging, by the presence of an American fleet, the National aspirations of Italy. It is reported that Pope Pius IX. is willing to resume negotiations with the Imperial Government for a revision of the Concordat.

It is said Emperor Napoleon has accepted an invitation from the Sultan of Turkey to visit Constantinople next summer.

The King and Queen of Portugal and their suit, while returning from a hunting party near Braga, were fired upon from the roadside. The Guard returned the fire, killing some of the assailants and wounding others. The Royal Party then rode rapidly into the town. The King and Queen were unhurt.

Letters from Killarney say that the Clergy of that town who refused to say masses for the souls of Allan, Larkin and Gould, who were executed at Manchester, have ceased to receive any money from the Parishioners who refuse to contribute to their support or that of the church.

The cabin of London are on a strike. A terrible gale was felt throughout England on the night of the 1st February; and disasters both to life and property on sea and land are apprehended. In London and in Liverpool chimneys and signs were blown down and houses moved. Many people were struck down by the falling objects, and some were killed outright. No marine disasters reported.

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Fenianism has not yet been altogether eradicated, but it has quieted down a good deal. One of the gates of the city of Cork was recently undermined and blown up, and at the same time all the telegraph lines leading into the city were cut. The prompt action of the police prevented any further outrage. David and John Berry, two brothers, have been arrested on a charge of robbing one of the gun shops of a large quantity of powder. A man named Fitzpatrick was also arrested, when taken he had some 'Greek Fire' in his pockets. He is supposed to be implicated in blowing up the gate in Cork. This is all the news of any importance from the Fenians we have at present. Perhaps Train is helping to quiet the Fenians rather than excite them. His arrest having probably cooled down his courage; at all events the Fenian scare is becoming less.

It is reported that the French Government is likely to withdraw the new Bill for the regulation of the Press. Minister Rouher made a long speech on the subject. He said he was unwilling to oppose liberal tendencies, but the Empire and the people demanded that some restraint be imposed upon the Press; four millions of those who voted for the constitution were gone but for millions of their successors required the same guarantee. The clause of the bill abolishing the preliminary license to publish was adopted by almost a unanimous vote.

Napoleon has introduced a new gold coin. On one side is stamped, '5 dollars =25 francs.' This is the first step towards a universal decimal currency, adopted to all nations.

The 'Debatte,' a semi-official journal, says that Great Britain has requested the European Powers to stop removing fugitives from Canada.

The latest advices from the Abyssinian Expedition are very discouraging, as they forbid the hope of a successful or safe move this season. The army was well supplied, and the advance under General Napier had reached the harbor of Antolo.

SHIPPING INTERESTS FOR 1868.—According to the Annual Trade Review of Messrs. Rucker, Oiler & Co., of London, there ought to be a revival in Ship-building in the Colonies this year. They further say—and the prediction is contained in several other circulars now before us—'although dangerous at all times to assume the office of a prophet, we anticipated better freights during the present year on several grounds. The production of ships in this country, our North American Colonies, and the United States, has been very limited during the last two years, and at the same time the loss of shipping by casualties has been unusually heavy.—We need only refer to the cyclones and hurricanes in India and the West Indies in proof of this; but not only has the

but our amount of tonnage decreased, our commerce, which has suffered so long through over-trading and financial disturbances, may now be expected to revive, and create a more active demand for shipping with a reduced supply; these considerations, combined with the facts that the carrying trade must exist, and that it cannot do so unless made remunerative, warrant us in looking forward to a season of steady prosperity to the shipping interest.'

The same circular says of Timber measurement—

'Some inconvenience having been felt with respect to the measurement of timber cargoes, consequent on the Customs duty continuing to measure wood goods for duty, the directors of the Custom's Benevolent Fund and Bill of Entry Office have undertaken to measure cargoes at every port in the United Kingdom on very moderate terms, and as this will secure a measurement certificate from the officers of Customs, we recommend the insertion of the following clause in all bills of lading:—'Freight to be paid by Customs bill of entry, calipre measure.'

UNITED STATES.

It appears that Secretary Seward is not done with the Alabama case yet. The New York Tribune's Washington correspondent announces that he will soon issue an exhaustive State paper on the subject. It is his intention to review the whole matter *ab initio*, and to review the doctrines of international law and lay down and define the duties of belligerents. The document, we are told, will then consider the respective positions of England and the United States at the outbreak of the late rebellion, and the next chapter will be devoted to a severe censure of the alleged indecent haste in which the proclamation of neutrality was issued by the British Government.

The new British Minister, Mr. Edward Thornton, was introduced to the President on the 7th, by the Secretary of State, Mr. Thompson, with the following address on the occasion:—

'I have the honor to deliver into your Excellency's hands a letter addressed to you by Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, according to her Majesty's Minister to your Excellency. I have also received Her Majesty's orders to assure your Excellency of Her sincere friendship and of the deep interest she takes in the welfare and prosperity of the Nation over which you worthily preside. Her Majesty's Government and the English Nation are deeply grateful for the warm sympathy shown by the people of the United States on the occasion of the death of my lamented predecessor. Allow me to assure your Excellency that I shall do my best to take his place in their affections and to strengthen the relations of cordial friendship which happily subsists and which it is our earnest desire and our duty as kinsmen to maintain between the two countries. In this pleasing task I am confident that I may count upon the support and assistance of your Excellency, as well as the distinguished statesmen who comprise your Cabinet and the Legislature of this Nation.'

The President replied to the address as follows:—

'Mr. Thornton, your Queen enjoys more highly than any other Sovereign the respect and sympathy of the American people. The people of the United States will believe that she is entirely sincere in the kindly message which, under her command, you have delivered to me; and this belief will encourage them to hope for a speedy and amicable adjustment of the matters in difference between her Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States.

Your late predecessor, Sir Frederick Bruce, without any disrepute to instructions or any want of regard to British interests, won the respect and esteem of this Government and nation. Sir Frederick's sudden death revealed to ourselves the fact that the friendship we had for him had even acquired the intensity of paternal affection. It will be a pleasing duty for me to extend to you the same consideration and confidence which he so eminently enjoyed.

In regard to the political relations of the United States and Great Britain only one thing seems to be necessary, which is, that the statesmen and people of the two countries may carefully and consistently study to conform their measures to the political logic which in every region where the English language is spoken so distinctly manifests itself in increasing love of Constitutional freedom and the rapid march of a common irresistible and individual civilization.'

The New York Tribune, commenting on the depression of business in the United States, says:—'In the meantime how are business men to keep afloat? Prudence and economy, of course, are the two great lessons to be learned; but there is one part of these lessons which in dull times is especially apt to be forgotten. Be sure of one thing; whatever you have to sell, there are many people ready to buy, even in the most depressed seasons. Find them out, show them your wares; persuade them to buy of you rather than another. When buyers are reluctant, sellers must be active. It is neither cheap nor sensible to sit behind your counter and wait for the bubble of trade to revive. When business is dull that is the very time to advertise. In the first place, that is when most need to advertise; and in the second, that is when people devote most time to reading newspapers, and when your advertisement consequently is most generally seen.'

Over one thousand young men are out of employment in Detroit, in the state of Michigan.

A despatch from London of the 20th says:—George Francis Train is delivering lectures in Cork, on American and Irish subjects.—He is very popular with the Irish people and his houses are jammed.

NEW DOMINION.

A Victoria (Vancouver Island) telegraphic despatch says that a public meeting was held on the 20th to discuss the expediency of the Colony applying for admission into the Dominion of Canada. A resolution in favor of consolidation and declaring that an overland wagon road to connect Victoria with the Dominion of Canada is essential to the prosperity of Victoria was unanimously adopted and a committee appointed to wait upon the Government and ascertain the progress made and take further steps with reference to the Union of the Colony with Canada.

The Pioneer, of Houlton, Me., is out earnestly in favor of Reciprocity of Trade between Maine and Canada. It shows that Maine's geographical position, as she is, by Canada's territory, makes it necessary that she should have extensive dealings with her British neighbor.

A fire in the Finlay Market, in Quebec, on the 30th ult., destroyed a large amount of property, fully insured. A fire in Kingston on the 8th inst., destroyed three buildings on King Street; loss estimated at twenty thousand.

NOVA SCOTIA. A great diversity of opinion exists as to the course which the Nova Scotians ought to pursue. For one part we are free to admit that, in our judgment, a very serious crisis is upon the Dominion; in a few months, perhaps in a few weeks, at all events as soon as the Imperial Government replies in the negative to Nova Scotia's demand for Repeal, the Government of the Dominion will have on its hands a task as momentous as ever fell to the lot of a Colonial statesman.

The Montreal Daily News offers the Nova Scotians some sensible advice couched in gentlemanly language; a recent editorial concludes as follows:—

'But Nova Scotia occupies an exceptional position; her mines, her fisheries and her noble harbors would invite the envy of any nation; and, if she is to stay in the Dominion, she must be shattered to fragments. It would be like taking out the keystone from the arch—the fabric reared with so much care would crumble to the ground. Neither England nor Canada can consent to such a calamity. The Nova Scotians know full well that the power of the Empire would be put forth to avert such a disruption, and they know furthermore that twice fifty per cent. would be added to their duties, and all retrograde steps in Washington, should they annex themselves to the United States. We cannot believe a race so pre-eminently distinguished for their loyalty attain any meaning to the menaces which which find expression in the Repeal journals. We suffer equally with the Nova Scotians the consequences of an unwise infatuation; but we see a fortune before us of better omen, and we counsel them to intimate our patience, and seek, with our co-operation, a remedy in right and persistent economy.'

LARGE YIELD OF GOLD.—One of the richest yields of gold ever obtained from a quartz mine, was brought into town on Tuesday from a new mine at Mount Unalake. A lot of fifteen tons of quartz, from a lead six feet thick, opened last fall, yielded the large amount of 255 ounces, or nearly sixteen ounces per ton. When it is considered that a three-inch lead, yielding three ounces to the ton, is considered a good investment, the enormous value of such a property as this, must be apparent. The quartz from which we got 165 ounces of gold, was the product of two men's labor from Christmas until Saturday last, 25th inst., and together with between \$200 and \$300 worth of specimens picked out of the rock while mining, gave a net yield of a net \$230 per day for each man employed. The fortunate owners of this valuable property are said to be Mr. Samuel Kelly, P. S. Hamilton, Esq., and four or five other gentlemen, whose names we have not learned.—H. Citizen.

The Halifax Express states that the Local Government of Nova Scotia will at once appoint delegates, who will proceed to London, and demand a Repeal of the Union Act. The House will, it says, likely remain in session for about a fortnight, and adjourn for three months. In the meantime the delegates will have time to transact their business, and receive their final answer from the Home Government.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The money market of St. John, is said to be in a comparatively easy state at present. The Banks are discounting freely. Large bags of gold has lately been carried into the Banks. Flour is selling for \$3.60 and \$3.45. The Charlottetown comes to us this week dressed in the habiliments of mourning for the loss of Dr. A. W. G. of Trinity Church, St. John, who died in Halifax on the 17th inst. The deceased gentleman was held in high esteem by all.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The latest advices from St. John's says:—The stock of fish in store on the 31st December last was estimated at 1,212,850 qts. in St. John's, and 71,000 qts. in Harbor Grace. Of the former 31,482 qts. have been exported since the 1st inst., and there are several vessels yet to clear. Supplies, however, very scarce, and at this critical juncture alone may retard the large stock of fish still remaining.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

SIR:—Having noticed in the Island papers a series of resolutions passed at a meeting held in the Crapaud Hall last New Year's evening, I beg to correct a few misstatements in respect to the publication of that meeting.

The chairman in his report stated that the meeting was largely represented by people from all parts of the Island, and that he had under a very great mistake, as only four or five people represented the West, as the people of the Western Division had come to the conclusion that they would have nothing to do in the affair, as Mr. Locke was determined to extend a warf from his vicinity out into an arm of the Basin. Previous to this a Committee had been formed to make a survey on the harbor, and to report; consequently Mr. William Lea, of the men who were present at the meeting, in order to give in his report, and in doing so showed very clearly that it was not building was at a practicable West side of the Basin was the most fit and proper place. They passed a resolution, proposed as an amendment by Mr. Lea to the one Mr. Lock brought forward, and which the chairman read to extend a warf into the Basin. This Mr. Lock tried very hard to crush, but failed, and the people were not to be gulled into a thing so easy as that.

Shortly after this we had a visit from our members, Messrs. Sinclair and Montgomery, to hear our grievances. Another meeting was called, which was fairly represented; each party being afforded an opportunity of expressing their opinions as to what was the most beneficial way of improving the harbor. The proceedings of this meeting the chairman has thought proper not to send in to the papers. We had great pleasure in listening to the debate, and particularly to hear the members, Messrs. Sinclair and Montgomery take such an interest in the affair. They requested us to petition the Government to send us an Engineer to make a general survey and report thereon, where and how the work was to be done. This we have done, and will send the petition into the House, trusting they will hear the prayer of it.

I have also to make a remark on one very great feature in these resolutions, which is, that they have tried to gull the public into an idea that Dredging has not proved successful, and that they have had to fall back to the necessity of building and constructing a warf into the Basin, as the only way out of too much of your time and columns, I will not for the present go into the practicability or impracticability of it, suffice it to say, for the benefit of the public generally, that Dredging has not proved a failure. That before the Harbor of Crapaud was deepened we could only admit of craft drawing six feet of water, now we can admit of Barges of from 200 to 250 tons, which can come up to the wharf and take the best part of their load, and move out in the Basin. It is very uncharitable for any party or people in a community to try and pour dust in the eyes of the public to suit their own cunning convenience.

We have to remark, that when the channel was dredged, one place at the entrance of the Basin was dredged through a sand bar; this we don't deny had considerably sanded up. It had been taken 150 feet to the West where it was mud, we believe it never would have filled in one inch. As a proof of this, where the channel has been deepened, it is there that the Victoria wharf, it has not lessened its depth of water one inch; but I believe on the contrary, it has increased.

If you think this worthy of a place in your valuable column, you will oblige, Yours truly, CHARLES COLLETT. Victoria, Feb. 10th, 1868.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents as a guaranty of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

THE NEWS.

WHILE all the world resembles a vast camp of war, the different parts of which are in antagonism to each other, and but awaiting the signal of strife, no one seems just yet prepared that signal to give! The first months of 1868 are wearing away, and the hush of inaction yet rests on the vast armies of Europe. The English papers record nothing very startling. Campbell's description of the British fleet coming into action at the battle of Copenhagen may apply to the times.

'There was silence deep as death And the holdest held his breath For a time.'

We may rest assured that in the coming events of interest, England will play no mean part. Her colossal strength, and omnipotent influence in the world will not permit of this. And whether in conflict with the trained battalions of European despotism, or the well-disciplined hordes of American democracy, the steady pertinacity and bulldog courage of the Saxon will not find its match.

The subject of Education continues to excite great interest at Home. 'The future master' of the world, as some one calls the little fellows now running about in frock and knickerbockers, are to be fitted for their place by compulsory education. Certain politicians are protesting that the Government have their hands full enough, and are already burdened with the Scottish and Irish Reform Bills, measures against bribery and corruption, &c., without just now taking up Education. But the nation demands haste in this business, and is asking for a system of compulsion, that a few years ago would have been regarded as most un-English and arbitrary.

The loyal Fishmen of London are well represented by an address to the Queen, bearing thirteen thousand signatures. Mr. Digby Seymour is at the head of the movement. We might take a hint! If some testimonial of sympathy with the mother country, and of attachment to our beloved Sovereign were to emanate from the people of these Colonies, it would do much to enlighten the eyes of English statesmen as to the deep feeling of loyalty which breathes through all classes of our own people. Exposed as we are to republican influence, and separated from the old land by three thousand miles of ocean, blood is yet thicker than water, and British pride and love of country too strong for the wiles of any annexation charmer, charming ever so wisely. Never may a banner but that of England wave over this land!

Repeal meetings are being held in Ireland. At some of them resolutions were passed demanding a national legislature for Ireland, and declaring that by a Repeal of the Union they did not mean 'separation or weakening of the empire, but a union of consolidation and progress.'

Mr. Dawson, member of Parliament, at an agricultural society's dinner, at Londonbury, made particular reference to the subject of an Irish Reform Bill. He said, 'Let the broad, notorious fact go forth far and wide, to the utmost limits of the world, that there exists in the north of Ireland, a body of men, powerful in numbers, in influence, in character and in resources, who are determined to remain devoted subjects of the British Crown, and, at the same time, ardent protesters against any proposed separation from the Crown which they all love so well.' He alluded also to 'the miserable seam of society, half foreign, half indigenous, who had brought Ireland to a condition of ruin.'

Napoleon the III. has come out in a new character—that of Agriculturist. It seems that in the south west of France there exists a vast desert, celebrated for nothing but its sandy soil, its fir trees, pools of water, and general insularity. Reids and heath complete the picture. The victor of Solferino has given this name to some thousand acres of grey sand without a particle of vegetable matter, and concentrated upon them all the powers of scientific cultivation. Farms have sprung up, reclaimed from the desert, and plantations of fir promise great future wealth. A village has been erected, and the tenants of the farms are promised absolute possession, in their own right, after a certain time. In this example of beating the sword into a plough share were only followed by the other powers that be, how soon would the world assume a different aspect.

The Russian *Lavdi*, after a lengthy introduction to an article in its columns, stating that though the Czar has long kept an unselfish watch over the peace of Europe, he will, perhaps, by his dearest interests, be forced to adopt a different policy in the future, proceeds to discuss the effectiveness of the Russian army and arms. 'The good looks and intelligent behaviour of the soldiers, proves that the new system of educating, clothing, and victualling, has already begun to bear fruit.' At Moscow, Petersburg, Danaburg, Brest and Kietz, are workshops which each annually turn out 75,000 uniforms—a number that might be greatly increased by the employment of additional workmen and sewing machines.

In 1867 alone, were completed 1800,000 breech loading rifles, of the Karl pattern. In the case of our American cousins, the Republican system seems to be working badly. The trouble is to tell who is master. The house is divided against itself, and no one can tell whether the President or Stanton has the chief power. This is truly an amusing spectacle for lovers of British institutions. Johnson has ordered Grant to disobey Stanton, Secretary of war, which has had the effect of bringing up the impeachment question again. Whether this will be pushed it will be hard to say, but altogether we advise our officious neighbors to settle their own affairs before they begin regulating those of other nations.

The State has a tangible existence, and is defined to be: 'a political establishment, formed on the principle of division of labor, and consisting of those persons whom the community, either unanimously, or by a majority of voices, agrees to invest with political power, that power consisting of the portion of each individual's personal liberty and right of property, which he is satisfied to surrender in exchange for protection in the legitimate use of the remainder.' The right or privilege to manage and navigate this ship of state has been the occasion of innumerable and sharply contended political battles; it has afforded ample scope for the subtle politician to propound his political formula, and for the aspiring demagogue to effervesce with visionary theories. So keen have been the contests, and so many the subterfuges and stratagems resorted to by the artful and designing, that a successful politician—that is, one who is skillful in gaining place and power—is looked upon by not a few as the personification of intrigue and chicanery. The rivals for this privilege are somewhat numerous, if we reckon them by the different intensities for their doctrines, or if we descend to minutiae in their principles for a classification; but by taking their cardinal doctrines as our criterion of classification, we find that they resolve themselves into two great and distinctive parties, namely, the party of Conservatism and the party of Innovation. Both parties are very old, being almost coeval with civil government.

Conservatism, as the meaning of the word denotes, is that party whose policy is, to use every effort to preserve what is established. It aims to preserve the existing institutions of a country, from ruin, innovation, injury, or radical change; not in any way to get and be satisfied; not in any way to jeopardize what it possesses, for the chance of receiving better. It is peculiarly the doctrine of the rich and opulent, and has established the nobility and hierarchy.

The party of Innovation, on the other hand, agitate for change by the introduction of some new element. It holds the possibility of new ideas and the necessity of general progression. It honestly admits that what is possessed may be good, but asks the question: Why idolize it when better may be procured? This doctrine again is peculiarly that of the populace, and has ever been the hobby of the ambitious demagogue. We trust that we will not be trespassing on the domain of the politician, if we remark that both parties are necessary to the stability and perpetuation of free and enlightened governments. Their antagonism has ever beget the happiest legislation. Either one alone, in its integrity, tends to extremes in theory, and would be impossible in practice.—Conservatism for ever hugging and cobbling antiquated usages and innovation staking everything on the doubtful issue of experiment.

New light thrown on the science of government, as well as experience and necessity, have effected wonderful modifications in both systems; they hold their original doctrines only under certain conditions and limitations. Many of the asperities of Conservatism have been softened down, it has consented to sanction change when it sees a positive and undoubted necessity, so long as 'it is the reformation that draws on the change, and not the desire of change that pretends to the reformation.' And Innovation has grown more cautious and circumpet in its operations. Sore experience has taught it the lesson, that a reformation is not an essential consequence of a political revolution; that a radical change experimentally and prematurely introduced, is often the precursor of anarchy and desolating civil wars.

Governments are not the matured plans of men, which have been set in full blast, in a moment; but they are generally the effects of small beginnings which have gradually increased by the light of science and the concurrence of unforeseen events. As the people become civilized, they become less compliant with the dictates of arbitrary power, and more fearful of licentious freedom. In the politics of Great Britain at the present day, we have a very striking illustration of this trimming of principles to suit the times and circumstances. In that country at one time, Conservatism bestrode its high horse with a desperate meaning, and sternly upheld some of the absurd, dogmas and pernicious enactments apparently with no other reason than that they were established. Innovation, on the other side, agitated for sweeping reforms with such a tempestuous energy, that when folk in its purposes many of its advocates resorted to emigration. Within the last twelve months we have seen the most noted champions of the former actually passing a Reform Bill of a decidedly radical tendency. And when the latter were in office, changes were always effected with an almost conservative caution.

FRID.—On Saturday last about three o'clock, p. m., the cry of fire was given, and it was discovered to be in a stable owned by Mr. P. Brown, attached to the house occupied by Mr. James Gourlie. The wind was very favorable, and the fire was prevented from spreading. The stable was totally destroyed, together with a horse, &c., belonging to Dr. Casey, and a quantity of hay belonging to Mr. Gourlie. The scarcity of water was very much felt. We would suggest to the consideration of the Fire Wardens the necessity of having at least two Tanks in the most public parts of the Town.

THE ladies of the Presbyterian Congregation of Woodville and Little Sands, intend holding a Tea Meeting on Wednesday the 4th of March.

THE annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Bank of P. E. Island, will take place on Tuesday the 3rd of March next.

WE have added over twenty new subscribers to our list, during the past week.