

he is not more Magistrate in the impartial discharge of his duty than in the least danger of any manifestation of ill-feeling.

- Angus Martin, Alexander Martin, Alexander MacKinnon, Murdoch MacKinnon, James MacKinnon, George Turner, Hugh Campbell, Peter Johnston, Angus Campbell, John S. Campbell, Malcolm Nicholson, Angus McLellan, Kenneth McLellan, Malcolm Matheson, Archibald Matheson.

THE TREATY OF PEKIN.

The following telegram has been received at the Foreign Office, via Trieste, from her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Alexandria:— Mr. Loch has arrived with despatches from China, and leaves this day for Malta. The ratification of the Treaty of Tientsin was exchanged, and Convention of Peking signed October 24. The English and French Ambassadors took up their residence in the capital, and would remain there until November 9. The French army retired from Peking on the 1st November. The English would remain till the Ambassadors left. A large force to remain at Tientsin till Treaty conditions be fulfilled.

of this kind quite superfluous; or that any care need be taken at all with these very essential fire implements, which have no shelter, notwithstanding that they have cast a large amount of money!

Then, again, when the late City Council, including the Chief Engineer, became so extremely sensitive about the citizens that they did not like to have their eyes filled with dust, seized upon our Fire Department water casks, and had several of them converted into machines for watering the streets, and which, after using much of their brains, all their knowledge of Hydraulics, and more of our money on, proved a decided failure; and the Chief, ashamed of his folly, had these mutilated casks laid in the Messes Stewart's yard, for which we will no doubt have ground rent to pay. Since the last fire, however, two of these interesting casks have been on exhibition at the Police Station, while the remainder of them are scattered round in their late depot, partially covered with snow, while the carriage are in fact! Now, these long spouts to these casks have no plugs to them, and at the last time one of the Truckmen reported that our Engine that he would have been much sooner to get with water, only that after he had put in what water he thought would have half filled it, he looked into the cask, and found it empty, and then discovered, to his sorrow, that he must get some sort of plug, or he would be able to take no water at all! A nice state to have our water casks kept in, and a nice time to discover it!

NEW BRUNSWICK AFFAIRS.

Recently, the diocese of St. John manifested its high spirit in a manner alike honorable to itself and worthy that cause which the Catholic Church venerates, and for which the life-blood of its noblest sons has driended the soil of fair Italy. It has given proofs of its capacity to be the vindicator of national rights, the denouncer of usurpation, the faithful friend and substantial contributor to an exhausted Papal Exchequer. This, and more than this, it has shown in obedience to the characteristic impulses of its faith, and with a

\* Fidelity, that neither bribe nor threat Can move or warp.

Its clerical and layal voice has been united, with a precision of the most exquisite harmony, to that of two hundred millions in Christendom in corroborating the public condemnation of that vile and atrocious warfare now contaminating the domain of the Holy See, and poisoning the atmosphere of Italy with the remains of Garibaldi's noxious and golden breath. But I cannot refrain from remarking that the Revolutionary exhilarating emotion in perceiving that the Revolu- tionary demagogue is halting in his career of spoliation—re- treating from his scenes of ignominy, and knows not how to achieve the object of his perfidious ambition:

No nice extreme a true Italian knows; Bid him go to he will not care.

A short time since the Cathedral was filled with what might be termed, in Irish rebel phraseology, a monster meeting, convened for the purpose of sympathizing with the head of the Catholic Church in his present affliction, and of giving publicity to their sentiments concerning the aggressions of Victor Emmanuel's heretics. The meeting was presided over by the Rt. Rev. and indefatigable Bishop of St. John, who, in an excellent survey of the times, and growth, and effect of that war whose ostensible design is to annihilate the most venerable dynasty in the civilized world, and produced irre- futable arguments, fortified by the opinions of eminent Protestant writers, in favor of the temporal jurisdiction of the sovereign Pontiff, and commendatory of the unalloyed policy of his beligerent assailants. His Lordship's speech, on the occasion referred to, has been one of the unanswerable by the adversaries of the Papacy, and has elicited commendations from the leading Protestant press in this city.

Resolutions, composed in language "pregnant with celestial fire," were submitted, and stamped with the concurrent approbation of thousands of Catholic hearts. Then came the subscriptions, which rolled in from the high and lowly, rich and poor, and all in an inextinguishable ardor, in defence of the cause for which they professed so warm an attachment.

The amount collected on this occasion—being the contributions of only one moiety of the Province, reached the handsome figure of four thousand dollars; and which, I understand, has been already transmitted to aid in replenishing a treasury robbed of its legitimate and time honored tribute by a rabble and profligate soldiery.

The "Emigrant's Aid Society" is the name of an association organized here last spring under the Episcopal auspices of Dr. Sweeney, and including, besides many influential citizens, some two hundred of the humbler classes. Its objects are to promote colonization, to facilitate the means of procuring for emigrants titles to lands in the most available localities, to afford information and pecuniary assistance to all persons desirous of becoming agriculturists, but whose circumstances in life have been reduced from competence to penury by the "slings and strokes of outrageous fortune." The society has provided 500 applicants with the essentials of immediate farming operations, and who, under the provisions of the Labor Act, can attain to the position of free holders by the performance of a small amount of manual labor on the public road most convenient to their premises. It would redound to the credit of quasi-proprietors of land in another colony were they to follow, even to a small extent, the example of this association, and place within the reach of every honest man an incentive to honest exertions, and a prospect of realizing that, when his days be spent, he leaves behind him a posterity liberated from the trammels of pauper and obsequious servants who, "frozen at heart while speculation shines," misrepresent the condition of the people subject to their rental exactions, and, instead of landowners, expect but cursors from an insulted and impoverished tenantry, by the in- terposition of superior authority, become disenthralled from the fetters that clog their progress, they will regard such freedom, not as a favor best owed to rough philanthropic motives, but as Catholic Ireland did her emancipation, as a right extorted from fear.

A declaration of war has been proclaimed here against the existence of a theological doctrine which has hitherto maintained the most anomalous intercourse with the enlightened nations of the earth. It is a scheme devised for the purpose of exploring the labyrinth of Holy Writ in a more liberal and consistent manner than has yet been conjectured; and one that promises to be productive of very salutary consequences to all who enroll themselves under the banner of its famed and original champion, who, be it remembered, undertakes the enterprise entirely on his own hook.

The erudition and persuasive faculties of this accomplished scholar—all the way from Scotland's romantic hills—have been employed with marvelous zeal, in the enforcement of his opinions, and have enraptured delighted audiences with the vigor and profundity of his illustrations, the brilliancy of his rhetorical phrase, but above all with the gratifying deductions of his unrivalled ratiocination.

The abolition of the observance of the Sabbath, declares this reverend and scriptural ambassador, is a command from the Giver of all laws, and may be found in various parts of the inspired writings. For instance: "It is high time to awake out of sleep; for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."—Romans xiii. 11. and further: "That will by no means save the guilty."—Exod. xxxiv. 7. Such, then, being the respectable authorities by which this gentleman's interpretations are supported, it would seem clear that all rational beings could justify their conduct in following his footsteps; and the only regret is that such consulting intelligence should be hidden in that book of books for so long a time, or concealed in the "ark preservative of all arts" from the knowledge of erring mortals. Somebody is to blame, but who is it? However, good news, like the remembrance of joys that are past, never come unwelcomed.

\* No virtuous wish can bear a date Earlier to ours or to late.

Hence arises the question what next? "A man named McGuinness, residing on Hammond River, near Snow's mill, committed suicide on Sabbath last by cutting his throat with a razor."—Morning News.

Capital punishment has been for some weeks past a prominent subject of public discussion, and has been the source of unpublishing grief to gray-haired parents, boon companions, and innocent children. Newspapers have published opinions uttered by the unrelenting supporters of law and inexorable justice; and more compassionate pleadings for the frailty of humanity have found the same medium for expressing their views so important a question. Clergymen have come forward and declared from their pulpits sentiments in favor of and in opposition to the infliction of the death penalty. Jurors, under whose agonizing obligation their fellow man has been pronounced a murderer of life and honor, Sheriffs whose duty it was to perform the part of a common executioner, citizens whose voices have made the laws of their country, and who have declared that the supremacy of those laws shall be maintained, have abdicated their solemn compact, and called upon the Representative of Royalty to exercise the authority of his station, and rescue two human beings

from the terrors of the scaffold, and the ignominy of a felon's grave.

On Christmas morning Sheriff Harding received information from the Lieut. Governor that the sentence of death pronounced upon John Bean had been commuted to imprisonment in the Penitentiary for the remainder of his life, but that in Munford's case the sentence was to be carried into effect. While in jail since his trial, Bean conducted himself in the most extraordinary manner. He undertook to make himself a madman in the hope of being sent to the asylum, and escaping hard labor, and would spend hours kicking at the stove, growling at the top of his voice, and going through capers of wonderful novelty to the edification of his visitors; but on being handcuffed and lodged in a dark dungeon, his senses—such as they are—returned with wonderful spontaneity. He has proved himself an impostor of the deepest dye, and would make a suitable acquisition to the Political Alliance in Charlottetown, were his hypocritical manoeuvres, *marinæ* performances, and abandoned nature, could be properly appreciated.

Preparations for the execution of Munford, on receipt of His Excellency's fiat, were commenced, and the condemned convict bore the destiny of his fate with a resignation, and mildness of temper which, while painful to behold, rendered him an object of sympathy. The morning of his two remaining days arrives, and now a final effort is made to save his life; accordingly the High Sheriff and three Jurymen leave for Fredericton to intercede for the unfortunate sufferer. They return without accomplishing the object of their humane mission. One day more and he goes to those "mysterious worlds untravell'd by the sun," and yet a faint hope whispers that mercy will extend her hand and snatch him from the gallows. Friday morning dawns; the awful doom hangs upon the malefactor's head, ready to take away what God only can give, and yet

\* The wretch, condemn'd with life to part, Still, still, on hope relies; And every pang that renals the heart His expectation rises.

The prerogative of mercy did prevail; the hangman's uplifted arm has been stayed, and the community is saved from witnessing the barbaric exhibition of capital punishment.

The Legislature of this Province meets "for the despatch of business" on the 12th of February, and is likely to have the usual amount of wrangling on the tapis. Then comes the tug of war between contending statesmen, all, as a necessary consequence of political morality, accusing his antagonist of sinister motives, and by telling away about his own virtues and the British Constitution.

The new Suspension Bridge over the River at the Grand Falls, has been erected, where its predecessor fell two years ago, and is now open for traffic; length 204 feet; height from bed of river 110 feet; cost \$28,000. The old year is gone; and its successor made its appearance here at twelve o'clock on Monday night last, of which I am sincerely glad, and was ushered in by a roar of cannon from the Volunteers. Calls, alac, interchanges of civilities, bowing and scraping to the St. John beauties' have been the order of the programme; but to tell the truth—at this holy season—I didn't call at home; however, *tempus fugit*.

I shall now conclude, Mr. Examiner; and in doing so permit me to wish you and all my friends in the Island a very happy new year. Let me also present my compliments to the learned Editor of the Examiner, and to the Chief Secretary in the Councils of Lieut. Governor Dundas. Aint it nice, Mr. Pope, to be remembered at this spring season, by one who knows nothing of you, except through the reputation of that *inimitable* administration to which you are so bright an ornament? P. E. I. St. John, N. B., January 4, 1861.

News by the English Mail.

RE-COMMENCEMENT OF THE BOMBARDMENT OF GAETA.

Adriatic Gaeta announces a successful *coup de main* made by a small body of Royalists. They succeeded in surprising the Piedmontese outposts, and blew up two houses of the Borgo, having burnt the magazines of gunpowder with them for that purpose. The fire of the Piedmontese against the fortress had increased. A large shell burst in one of the squares close to the King. Some of the houses have suffered dreadfully, and 15 persons were wounded by the bursting of a shell in the hospital. The King has issued a proclamation to the troops, praising their courage, and calling upon them to defend the fortress to the last.

The bombardment of Gaeta will recommence in consequence of the non-acceptance by King Francis II. of the proposed conditions to surrender Gaeta. The King has issued a manifesto, calling upon the Neapolitans to make a last effort to preserve their nationality. He guarantees to maintain their liberties and grant distinct Parliaments to the Two Sicilies. He also promises an amnesty. If compelled to succumb he will maintain the firm hope of returning to his dominions.

WAR IN THE SPRING.

The correspondent of the *Delates* at Turin says:—General Benedek has informed his troops that they must be prepared for war in the spring, and that it is in Mantua he means to crush Garibaldi and his adherents. The *Turin Gazette*, a very moderate journal, likewise says that the Venetian question must be settled, and no Ministry could stand for a single day which gave up Venetia, which is quite true. Therefore, if diplomacy wishes to avoid a conflict, it must make the best use of the months of January and February.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes an article, signed by its chief editor, Mr. Grandguillot, on the above question. M. Grandguillot states that it is instinctively felt that a decisive crisis is approaching. All Europe seems to have apprehensions for the coming spring. He is convinced that the wisdom of the Government of the Emperor will know how to prevent a struggle, henceforth without any object. The situation of Austria in Venetia, is deplorable. Everything is possible in Venetia, except that which now exists. M. Grandguillot expresses his conviction that Austria, who knows how provinces are gained, will also remember how they are lost. He believes that Baron von Schmeisinger sees things in a different light from General Benedek, and that the Baron has already weighed the chances of a new struggle.

THE AUSTRIAN FLEET.

The Archduke Maximilian has just resumed the command of the Austrian squadron, which has been placed on a winter footing. The Prince has hoisted his flag on the Emperor steamer of the line, lying at Pola. Rear-Admiral Bourgoignie is second in command, with his flag on board the *Schwartzburg* steam-frigate. The Archduke was to leave Pola on the 20th, on a visit of inspection along the Austrian shores of the Adriatic.

DISCONTENT IN INDIA.

The Bombay Mail arrived on Thursday. We take the following from the *Bombay Gazette* of the 26th November:— "The condition of the India question will, we fear, continue to demand for some time to come the anxious attention of the English people, and will require for its final solution some more energetic interpreter than the ablest Minister of Finance. The mutual feelings of suspicion and dislike which the mutiny first developed between black and white still subsist in their full force—the European army is discontented, and part of it mutinous, the native troops are not to be trusted, and the whole population is bitterly dissatisfied with the Government that has imposed the Income-tax. We have announced that a soldier of the 5th Bengal Europeans Rose's general orders, confirming these views, have now been received. They present a melancholy picture of the state of helplessness of the officers to restore a healthy tone to the regiment. The determination of the Commander-in-Chief to disperse the mutineers through the remaining regiments of the local army has caused much discussion and some apprehension. The popular dissatisfaction with the Income-tax remains as great as before. Foiled, since the substitution of simple forms, in the attempt to excuse their resistance by declaring they could not comprehend the complicated forms first issued, the malcontents now seem disposed to refuse the payment of the tax altogether. Many of the wealthier natives condemn this disloyalty, and do their best to discourage it by loyally sending in returns of their incomes. But the bulk of the small merchants and shopkeepers continue obstinate to all warnings. At Poona there has been a great demonstration of a rather ludicrous character, several thousands of

natives assembling in front of the Collector's office, and tearing up the Income-tax forms publicly. Strange to say, the Government takes no notice of this rioting. A few policemen might have put an end to the agitation in a moment but no one interfered. The Bombay people have taken courage at this; and they yesterday went down, to the number of at least 2,000, to the Apollo Pier to receive the Governor (who was expected to arrive here from Vingola), and to remonstrate with him against the tax. Again, none of the police were present. Fortunately, the Governor did not come, and after waiting two hours in vain the disappointed crowd peaceably dispersed. But unless the Government act vigorously things won't end here; indeed, it wants little now to entirely stop the collection of the tax."

THE TORTURED FRENCH SOLDIERS IN CHINA.

Despatches have been received by the French Government from China which disclose some rumors that were about regarding the condition of the army. Instead of the troops suffering dysentery, as was said, their sanitary condition is excellent, and no deficiencies whatever are complained of. The number of French who died from ill-treatment is stated to be six, of whom one was a colonel, and another held a high post in the administration of the army. The description of the way in which the French were tortured to death is appalling. The cords with which they were bound were renewed frequently over the same places, causing intolerable suffering, and for which no excuse could be offered by the cold blooded brutes.

CHARLOTTEVILLE, P. E. I., January 21, 1861.

MR. PALMER ON THE LOAN BILL.

The following remarkable letter from the Leader of the Government appeared in the *Islander* of Friday last. As it is likely to command some attention, we give it a place in our columns.—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ISLANDER.

Sir.—In the last two numbers of the *Islander* you have expressed an opinion in favor of the scheme of obtaining a loan from the Imperial Government for the purpose of purchasing out the rights of the Proprietors to the Township Lands in this Island.

Believing that the *Islander* has an extensive influence on public opinion, I deem it not improper to recommend to your more serious consideration, the question whether an attempt to carry into effect such a project as you propose could be ventured upon, more especially at the present time, with a proper regard for the interests of the inhabitants of the Colony generally?

As a member of the Legislature, and more particularly as a member of the Government, I should most assuredly refrain from sharing in such a serious responsibility; and in this view I have every reason to believe I am borne out by all my colleagues in the Government. It is not my purpose, at present, to give reasons why I am still, as I always have been, opposed to the scheme you have adverted to. I have already done so when the question was discussed in the House of Assembly, and nothing has since transpired to induce me to alter my mind, but much to confirm me in the opinion I had formed against the proposition. As circumstances such a measure in the Legislature are well, I think, to be a body of faith with the Imperial Government, who have granted the Land Commission prayed for by the House of Assembly, and that at a time when we were looking forward to the award of the Commissioners as likely to result, upon just and equitable terms, the question before a Proprietor and Tenant, which have unhappily so long been the subject of discontent among so many of the Townships of the Colony. I remain Sir, your devotd.

Charlottetown, Jan. 16, 1861. EDWARD PALMER.

When the *Islander* recommended the adoption of the policy of the late Government with respect to a purchase of Township lands, it did so, we presume, not in anticipation or independence of the award of the Commissioners, but as supplementary to that award. Mr. Palmer's question is therefore out of place. He asks the *Islander* to consider "whether an attempt to carry into effect such a project (as a loan) could be ventured upon, more especially at the present time, with a proper regard for the interests of the inhabitants of this Colony generally?" And he states that the adopt of such a scheme would be a breach of faith with the Imperial Government, pending the Commissioners' award. Now, no one in his senses ever dreamt that a loan, or any other measure affecting landlord and tenant would be entertained by the Legislature until after the Commissioners finally disposed of the duty entrusted to them; but it is very proper to prepare the public mind for entertaining such a project at that time. The award of the Commissioners, if it ever furnished at all, cannot be delayed long after the meeting of the Legislature; and it appears to be well understood on all sides that a principal feature in that award will be a recommendation to purchase the claims of the proprietors, at a certain fixed rate. How can that purchase be effected without money? The local Government is very considerably more in debt than it was when it passed into the hands of the Tories, and that Government have not a shilling to spare. There has been a disposition on the part of the Imperial Government, for a long time, to guarantee the payment of a loan; and when the Commissioners shall have made known the oppression and hardship under which our tenant population have suffered, it may be reasonable enough to expect that the Imperial Government would, if earnestly solicited, contribute a very considerable part of the sum required for the purchase of Township lands in this Island. If Mr. Palmer thinks that the questions which have unhappily so long been the subject of discontent between proprietor and tenant, can be set at rest by the latter purchasing his farm from the former when he can raise money for the purpose—he is grievously mistaken. If the tenant be left to deal directly with the proprietor in this matter, the discontent is sure to become ten times greater than ever it was.

Mr. Palmer speaks about the Commissioners settling the questions between landlord and tenant "upon just and equitable terms." Does he himself know what he means by using those general terms? If the Commissioners awarded an excess of all the township lands for the non-fulfilment of the original conditions, Mr. Palmer would be one of the first to exclaim that it was not a "just and equitable" settlement. If the Commissioners compelled the proprietors to give up the fishery reserves, or pay the arrears of quit rents—if they affixed a price for the sale of lands, less than Mr. Palmer sets upon his few dirty acres at Lot One—no one would be more ready to resist the award taking effect than Mr. Palmer himself.

We are not surprised to learn that the Leader of the Government is as strongly opposed as he ever was to the principle of a loan. "The time has not arrived" for such an original step to adopt liberal and progressive views on any question of Colonial policy; and he would find fault with his colleagues in the Administration while they will be slow or fast. It is of very little consequence whether they will be slow or fast. The people will soon disprove with their services. The country has most unequivocally declared that the land tenure shall be speedily abolished. We can hardly hope that the Commission will abolish it by means of a general exchequer; and the only other means for extinguishing the claims of the proprietors is by a purchase of the Township lands. To accomplish this, there must be funds raised under the authority of the British Government; and if the Government do not take the responsibility of procur-

FRENCH BOOTY IN CHINA.

The recent arrival of news from China, viz St. Petersburg, observes the *Constitutionnel*, has once more demonstrated how rapidly land conveyance can bring intelligence to Europe from that great Empire. The communications announcing the surrender of Peking and the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace did not consist of a few lines transmitted by electricity, but of complete accounts. It is, therefore, evident that the Russian government has organized, *viz* Kiatcha, a postal service which works with great regularity and despatch.

THE PLUNDER OF THE SUMMER PALACE AT PEKIN.

The following is the letter written by General de Montauban to the Minister of War, in France:—Head-quarters under Peking, Oct. 8.—"Monsieur le Maréchal, General Grant and I agreed to proceed to Yuen-tsing-Yuen, the summer residence which the Emperor almost always occupies, four leagues to the North of Peking. The country by his army was a road, woods, &c., that General Grant with his army missed his way, and I arrived alone in the evening before the place, which was protected by a guard of Tartars. In spite of a long and painful march, I had the place occupied by seven in the evening and, in forcing an entrance to it, I had two officers and some soldiers wounded. The Tartars at last evacuated the place, and fled to their safe Keping, and lost some men,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir—I am not certain that there is any particular day in January for the section of Fire Engineers, but believe this is the month in which they are generally appointed, and I hope for the interest of the Fire Department there will be a whole new batch made, even a new Chief; for this department has decided suffered under the late engineers. We want men here, Sir. It will take an interest in our engines and the whole apparatus belonging to the department. But how much of this quality has been displayed of late? None whatever, unless it be to drive the department down hill, and this has been evinced to an interesting degree; for instance, the Engine House on the corner of Great George and Richmond Streets, instead of being raised up, new wells put under it, and it moved away to the rear of the Police Court, to save the extravagant ground rent that is charged for it, has been suffered to settle down several inches below the surface of Great George Street, so that plank has to be laid under the engines, to enable the firm men to get them out and in with facility; and if in a dark night strangers should rush in to help the engineers to get them out, they should slip off the stages, it would be an immensely awkward job to get them up again; but what cares the chief or other engineers for this? Then there is a long new pump made for the purpose of being placed at either of the wharfs, in case of fire, whereby salt water can easily be procured, suffered to lay part of the summer in the dock and mud in the rear of the Post Office, and has since been thrown on a pile of stones in the rear of the Engine House, without a bolt for the handle to work on, and with the handle frozen in the ground, and covered with snow! Certainly nice and handy of a cold storey night for speedy use! Why could not a few brackets have been nailed on the rear of the Engine House, and this pump laid upon it out of the reach of the drow, and in such a state that it might be ready for use at a moment's notice? Then, again, when the Prince was expected, the city authorities were so afraid His Royal Highness might see the water carriages and caeks arranged around the Police Office, where they would be in a *smithy's* care, that them all hid away, some in one place, and some in another. Two of these, then, a good order, were hid behind the Engine House, and now neither of the caeks are fit for use as formerly: one has a peck split out of the end, where the plug used to be, to let the water out, so that it requires a new one; of head in it, while the other caek has had its end sawed in, and carried away for firewood, while the caek, with its iron broken, lies in the water, and is no good. When the carriages were frozen into the ground, the Chief Engineer used to have them raised up in the full of the year with plank, which prevented them being so easy to get out of the ground, while they were ready for any call; by equipping them, in whose custody these carriages, caeks, and indeed all the fire apparatus is, seems to think any

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