

General News Items.

A correspondent to the St. John Telegraph, who has returned home from the United States, writes as follows:—

"I am a mechanic that can handle the tools of my trade better than a pen, but I take it up to war our people against those men who would lead them into such danger as that proposed by Mr. Cadlip. I never saw such misery in this Province as I saw in Boston among the working people there. It is worse in New York, as I was told by those who saw it. There were in Boston when I left it, 319 families receiving support from public soup kitchens, and it was sad to see respectable people thus reduced to beggary. Our people can get their food and clothing for their labor, and some money too, but there I saw neither. I am back again, have learned wisdom by sad experience, and the man that would advocate such folly as to join that country I only hope that he may be the first to have to be fed by the soup kitchens."

The St. John News call attention to the fact, that the debate on the dis-establishment of the Irish Church lasted only four nights, and asks:—

"What do the tiresome twaddlers of our Legislature think of that? Here was a great measure involving the disposal of £16,000,000, and touching interests held to be of the most sacred character by large and influential classes of the British people, that was expected to be discussed for four long nights in succession—but which it was thought of afterward might be exhaustively debated in less time, as in point of fact, we believe, it was. How long would it take our copious men to exhaust themselves and everybody else in a measure correspondingly important to this Province? Four nights? They would scarcely be half done at four weeks, judging by the interminable talk on the want of confidence motion. Oh! gentlemen, time is short and precious; pray condense yourselves and cultivate the blessed art of silence when you have little to say; and that has been already said."

The same language might be applied to the members of our Local Legislature.

THE HUDSON BAY CLAIMS.—The propositions to which the Canadian ministers in London have agreed are as follows:—

- 1. To pay the H. B. Company £300,000 (\$1,600,000) for all their territorial claims and rights in Rupert's Land, or what is commonly called the North West Territory.
2. The Company to retain all its stations and the land around them, not exceeding in all 40,000 acres.

3. The Company may claim a twentieth part of every township or district laid out in the fertile part of the Territory.

4. The Company shall not be subjected to any exceptional taxes. These terms were to be submitted to the stockholders of the Company on the 21st, and if accepted by them, the Canadian Minister will endeavor to secure the assent of the Canadian parliament. In our view, the last three conditions would have been amply sufficient, and perhaps more than sufficient, without the first, which is altogether unnecessary and unfair. Why a company in London should be paid for land which it never owned nor occupied in America, is what we cannot understand. If any one should be paid, it is the Indians.—Montreal Witness.

FORGED BANK NOTES.—It is said that altered \$5 and \$10 notes are in circulation here. It becomes our people to be very careful in looking at the money they receive, so that these impostors may be detected at once.—St. John News.

THE STAFF OF LIFE.—The intelligence from the great wheat growing regions of this continent is encouraging. Fall sown wheat in the United States and Ontario has survived the perils of the winter, and given promise of an abundant harvest by and by. In Europe, particularly in England, the winter has been an exceedingly wet one, and fears have been entertained that the wheat fields would suffer material damage in consequence. But we believe these apprehensions have not been verified to any great extent. If the spring sown wheat should do as well proportionately as that sown in the fall, we may safely anticipate full granaries in the autumn. Should that prove to be the case, as we hope it may, it will be a boon of great value to the working man, both in the old world and the new: for the price of bread would rule low.—Jb.

The potato fever rages. It is reported that a farmer in Vermont has been offered \$20,000 for from forty to fifty bushels of a new description of potatoe—being five-sixths of last year's crop of that particular kind.

It was lately stated that four Europeans had become Mahomedans at Madras. The report is confirmed, and it is also explained by the further statement that they are all about to marry Mahomedan wives.

A Connecticut rogue stole a horse and carriage, and then borrowed money of the Litchfield county Sheriff, to pay the expenses of pursuing an imaginary thief.

Minnesota is in luck. It has inexhaustible springs of mineral paint, which most obligingly flow red, green, brown, white and yellow paint at the desire of their owners.

Melbourne, Australia, has a newspaper that is printed in Chinese characters edited by an Algerine; and corrected by a native of Buenos Ayres.

London covers 122 square miles, contains 400,000 dwellings, with an average of eight persons to each, and has a population of nearly 3,200,000.

A Georgia editor, to make delinquents pay up, offers to distribute by lot among those who settle, a gold watch and other prizes.

Sugar planting has been very successful in Louisiana this season, and the crop is estimated at from 250,000 to 300,000 hogsheds.

Queen Victoria wears her hair as she did 25 years ago. Colifours, waterfalls, chignons, curls and back hair are naught to her.

A married woman, aged 13, was divorced recently in New York from her husband.

A New York paper, the World, is envious of the financial position of this country. In issue of Tuesday it says:—"The revenue of the Dominion of Canada for the month of March last was a trifle less than a million; expenditure, something over half a million. So much for bloated despotism. Would that our despotism would bleed a little in the same way."

There is about \$2,000,000 worth of goods in the bonded warehouses in Portland, besides a large amount of sugar elsewhere stored, waiting transportation to the Canadas.

BONNER has engaged Mrs. M. K. Dallas to write exclusively for the N. Y. Ledger, at \$1,000 a year.

STEAM COMMUNICATION FROM CAPE BRETON.—The Cape Breton News says: "It is to be hoped that arrangements will be made so that the Pictou and Prince Edward Island steamer may make Ship Harbor the place of arrival and departure, instead of Port Hood, as formerly; at the least once every week. The inconvenience and difficulty of travel between Westport and Port Hood were the grounds of unceasing complaint from travellers on the Lake route last year. If the proposed change be adopted, passengers would be conveyed to and from Ship Harbor to West Bay, to which latter Port the Sydney steamer would proceed weekly or semi-weekly as the trips of the Gulf steamer would render necessary. Since the withdrawal of the Newfoundland Steamer this is the only route by rail and steam available to travellers to and from these parts to Nova Scotia, and it is right that every improvement contributing to their comfort and the public good, should be adopted without delay."

A newspaper published in the Ottawa county, the Carleton Place Herald, regrets that some of the farmers of Renfrew County are killing their cattle to save them from starvation, it being impossible, owing to the length of the winter, to obtain provender for love or money. Matters are bad now, but will be much worse, according to our contemporary, before the grass has begun to grow. It suggests a special meeting of the County Council, to devise means whereby the cattle may be preserved, and the farmers enabled to carry on their labors for the present year. A similar story might be told of several other parts of old Canada. In the district west of Montreal, as far as Cornwall, and in other border localities, the cattle have suffered terrible this winter for lack of fodder, which has been three or four times as dear as in ordinary seasons. Farmers gathered miserable hay crops, last year, in consequence of the drought, and the severe, unusual snow blockade of February and March prevented them obtaining supplies from more fortunate localities. Fine cattle have thus literally starved to death in this St. Lawrence district, the owners being unable to pay such prices as \$14 to \$16 per ton for hay. In some cases the animals killed, for want of food, have proved a total loss, their flesh being in a condition unfit for food. It is also a fact that the ill fortune of the farmers in some districts last year, and their necessities and hardships, during the winter, have caused a pretty extensive emigration to the United States. Many who have not left the country are greatly discouraged, and anything but resigned to the prospects which a longer stay in it presents.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF ILLNESS AND TRANCE.—A remarkable case of suspended animation has occurred at Millom, in the neighborhood of Whitehaven, in West Cumberland. It appears that some 18 or 19 weeks ago, a girl, about 11 or 12 years of age, residing with her parents at Millom was ill, and the medical attendant advised a removal for change of air. The patient was taken to Old Hall Farm, leased from Mr. A. Brogden by Mr. W. Toughton. She was attended to with every care, but made no progress towards recovery, and in a short time fell into a lethargic state resembling that of a person in a trance. In this condition she remained for many weeks, but at length woke up to a state of consciousness, and calling upon her mother who was in attendance upon her, related how she had been in heaven and seen many glorious angels and her brother, who died sometime ago. On being questioned to that effect, she expressed a desire not to recover from her illness, but to go to the happier land of which she had had glimpses. At that time she is described by her attendants as having a most "heavenly expression of countenance," and although she had been for many weeks without one particle of solid food, her face was plump, her cheeks suffused with a lovely lue, the lips alone being devoid of the colour natural to age when in health. The power of speech remained only for a short time, and the girl then relapsed into her former state, or nearly so. She lies in a lethargic condition, but when a question is put to her, she manifests her powers of understanding it by a slight moving of the head, or some motion to indicate that she is sensible to the sound of human voice. The only sustenance, it can be called by that name, the girl has received for fully 15 or 16 weeks has been the occasional moistening of the lips with brandy and water or tea. Within the last few days the girl's limbs have become gradually more rigid, as though foretelling of no very distant dissolution.

How to ride a velocipede—straddle a saddle, then piddle, and skeddadle.

Naples was recently covered with a yellow dust, brought by a tempestuous south-east wind from Africa.

A newspaper in Southern Illinois notes the passage of a Virginia filio in route for the far west, consisting of the old man, the old woman, fourteen children and eleven dogs! A canine family, that!

Burglars are still operating in Toronto and other parts of Canada.

Portland, Me., seems dreadful unlucky in the matter of fires. The building of the Portland Picking Company was burned lately, involving a loss of \$40,000.

During the last week no less than nine bodies of men and women have been found in the streets and waters of New York, nearly all of whom seemed to have been mysteriously murdered.

Unusual activity is said to prevail in the American Navy yards.

The Sun learns that the handsome sum of one million of dollars was lately offered for the New York Times newspaper establishment, including its valuable real estate. The offer was declined.

A new weekly paper under the title of The British Mail, has been started in Chicago. Its aim will be to keep the British residents of that city thoroughly informed upon matters relating to the Old Country and these Provinces.

A CURE FOR CATARACT.—The Paris papers mention the discovery by Dr. Tavignot, of cure of partial or total blindness from cataract, without a surgical operation. He merely instills into the eye an oil containing a small quantity of phosphorus. The latter substance is said to have the property of dissolving the obscured crystalline, and to form a new one. Experiments made at the Government Veterinary School, of Alfort upon horses and cattle, have satisfactorily proved the reality of the discovery.

The Postmaster-General has received information from Mr. John Burns that as the Cunard contract has been ratified, two powerful screw steamships of upwards of 3,000 tons each, specially adapted for the requirements of the North American Mail service, have been contracted for. These vessels are to be named Alyssinia and Algolia.—Halifax Express.

We should not hesitate to recommend to any friend of ours, Parsons' Purgative Pills; they are scientifically prepared, and are adapted to all the purposes of a good purgative medicine.

Very Latest Telegrams.

London, April 30. The estimates in part for 1869-70 were brought down to day.

Estimates for the public debt \$5,282,363; Civil service est. \$701,051; Administration of Justice, \$313,866; Police, \$18,440; Legislation, \$148,862; Geological Survey and Observatory, \$39,700; Arts, Agriculture and Statistics, \$6,000; Immigration and Quarantine, \$55,370; Marine Hospitals, \$31,500; Pensions, \$35,072; Public Works and Buildings, \$3,638,385; Ocean and River Steam Packet Service, \$352,911. The expenditure under these heads is nearly \$180,000 less than 1868-69.

The salaries of Chief Justice of New Brunswick, and Mr. Justice Parker are made \$4,000 each; Puisne Judges in New Brunswick, \$3,200 each. \$750 is set down for an Observatory in New Brunswick, and \$4,000 for Emigration agency at Miramichi.

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There is another point on which Mr. SUMNER, who has been all his life a strong anti-slavery man, pours out the vitals of his wrath against England.

In substance, that it is an enormity—a crime against civilization—that the countrymen of Wilberforce should have sympathized with a slave-holders' rebellion in the United States. The countrymen of Wilberforce do not love any form of slavery, and they did, what the United States never attempted,—never even seriously entertained—poured out their treasure by millions to remove that evil from every spot of the earth's surface where the flag floated. But they never recognised the issue of the late war of sections on this continent as between slavery and anti-slavery. They saw that the Confederacy attempted to be set up with a slave power; but they saw also that the constitution sought to be maintained was a slavery-protecting one. And yet further, in a formal proclamation, that protection to slavery was offered as a reward for returning to obedience, and its abolition made the punishment of continued disobedience. It is quite true, as was stated by General Averill on a public occasion in this city, that the "mills of the grind fine," and that by a great convulsion the anarchism of slavery has been crushed out of North America. It did seem to us, too, that the infatuation of the South in favor of this "institution" was the cause of its punishment; for long after the blacks had been used with great success in the Northern armies, the South, up to the very last, refused to take one step in favour of emancipation, or using them in their armies. Had they proclaimed emancipation and made soldiers of the blacks, they would have won more sympathy from the civilized world, and they might have maintained their cause. All these, however, if curious, are idle speculations now. The simple point that we wish to establish is; that the men whom Mr. SUMNER so violently assails had no more sympathy with the cause of slavery than he has, and made much more practical sacrifice, instead of mere mouthing, to remove the evil from the world. Many of them also saw that if the dissolution of the United States had taken place, and the South set up a purely slave republic, the chances of abolition would have been sooner and nearer from that state of things than with slavery protected and sanctified by the free North; and that, better directly brought face to face with the civilized world, without any buffer or shield afforded by connection with free institutions, it would sooner fall before the universal opinion of mankind. At any rate all these were opinions which might be held without giving just cause for any national rancour; and we think it is greatly to be regretted that, for any reason whatever, Mr. Sumner should lend his services in any so unworthy a vocation.—Montreal Gazette.

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Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1869.

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 NORTH WEST TERRITORY.

The New Dominion has lately received a large accession of territory. The Hudson Bay Company laid claims to an immense tract of land north and north west of Canada. Their title to it was at least questionable, but they held on to it with great tenacity as long as they decently could. Very little was known about the Hudson Bay Territory until lately. The policy of the Company seems to have been to keep people ignorant of the nature and resources of their possessions. Most persons imagined that those possessions were of no great value to any one except the owners. They were thought to be cold and sterile, fit only for the habitation of foxes and other fur yielding animals, and their hunters, white and red. The Company, as we before hinted, were well pleased to keep the world in ignorance of the true value of their immense preserve. They well knew that colonists are the great enemies of wild animals of all kinds. Experience told them that the hope of their gains would be gone if the country were once opened up for settlement. They were therefore content to allow millions of acres of some of the best land in America to remain the abode of the wild beast of the forest and the plain for an indefinite number of years, in order that they might draw a large yearly dividend on their invested capital. They had a legal title to the land, they said—a charter given them some two hundred years ago; and had they not right to do what they liked with their own? If they saw fit to keep land which was capable, if settled, of yielding a comfortable subsistence to millions of human beings, in a wild and unimproved state, supporting only a few hundreds of half-starved, degraded Indians, and an indefinite number of minks, martins, beavers, foxes, squirrels, and the other wild creatures, big and little, whose business was it to interfere with them? Could they not show their parchment, with its great seals, leaden or waxen, as the case might be, also duly signed and delivered? What better title was required? Could any English landlord produce a better one for his preserves? Canadians found out that this North West Territory was a goodly land, well watered with broad streams, and containing fertile valleys and extensive plains. They began to grumble and to find fault with the improvident Mother Country, and the greedy dog-in-the-mangerish Hudson Bay Company. They asked one another the question always asked when a land monopoly is established on this American Continent. What right have these British traders, stock-jobbers and noblemen, to deprive the people of the realm of this fair portion of their heritage? Are these prairies, and valleys, and woods, and streams to remain forever unimproved and unused, except by a few traders for the benefit of a few monied men? The monied men, when they heard of these questionings and murmurings, set up a great cry about vested interests and the sacred rights of property and all that sort of thing. Spoilation was a word continually on their lips. The Canadians, however, did not pay much attention to the clamor, but kept on sturdily declaring that these capitalists had no right to the land, and that it was a sin and a shame to keep good land, capable of yielding food for man, in a state of pristine wilderness, just to please a few rich men who would neither cultivate it themselves or allow others to cultivate it. The Dominion Government took the matter in hand, and sent Delegates to London to see if terms could not be made with the Imperial Government and the Company. The Downing Street officials were, it appears, much more civil and obliging to the Canadian delegates, representing some three millions of people, than they ever were to delegates from this little Island, who were sent there more than once on a similar errand. The North West proprietors, like the Island proprietors, made a dreadful fuss, and as they were numerous, rich and influential, they had a pretty good prospect of success. But the Canadian delegates, keeping in view the three and a half millions at a home, were firm. An offer was made of \$1,500,000 for nineteen twentieths of the land. This offer was scouted by many of the members of the Company. They declared that they were going to be robbed. The meeting of shareholders convened to consider the proposal was a most unruly one. Such language as was held by the indignant landholders on that afternoon, is not by any means unfamiliar to the ears of landlord ridden P. E. Islanders. They have heard the same arguments and the same protests a thousand times in almost precisely the same terms. But it was all of no avail. The proprietors had powerful Canada to deal with, and not weak little P. E. Island. The Colonial Minister was inflexible. The screws were tightened, and the proprietors were for once obliged to "cave in." Something that looks marvelously like a compulsory sale was effected. Take what you are offered, says Earl Granville, or it will be worse for you. The shareholders, if they had their own way, if they were not afraid that a worse thing would befall them, if they held out much longer and insisted on better terms, would not have sold a foot of their highly prized territory. The Canadians on their part say that they ought to have got the land for nothing, that the company had no right to it; but all things considered, they concluded that they might have done worse. The land which they have thus purchased amounts to 50,000,000 acres of good land, be the same a little more or less. It is watered by the Saskatchewan, Assiniboine, the Red River, and their tributaries, and contains numberless lakes, large and small. The climate is by no means so cold as one would imagine. A Methodist Minister, the Rev. Mr. Campbell, writing from Fort Edmonston, on

the 30th of December, says that up to that time there had been hardly any snow, and the cattle and horses fed on the plains. The winter has been mild. The country is healthy; all sorts of vegetables grow well, and wheat yields from 40 to 60 bushels to the acre. Coal is plentiful in that region, and gold has been found there. Altogether, the country is a very fine one. The worst thing about it, however, is, that like a great many other good things, it is pretty hard to be got at. There is no good road to it from Canada as yet, but one is being made. The best route to this new land of promise is through the State of Minnesota. When you get there, you are from 500 to 1000 miles from a market, which is not a very pleasant consideration. We do not think that this North West Territory will be made available for the purpose of colonization as soon as some people seem to think. There is too much unoccupied land in more accessible situations on the continent, to render it likely that intending settlers will choose a home so very far out of the world as the banks of the Saskatchewan, tho' that country be the earthly Paradise which its admirers declare that it is.

LOGICAL VERY.

In order to convince his readers that the Government of the Mother Country keeps the people poor, the editor of the Examiner abuses the JOURNAL, and maligns a gentleman who, he supposes, contributes to its columns. This is characteristic. As it requires some knowledge and some ability to reason, (any block-head can scold), and as it is much easier to string falsehoods together than to construct an argument, the Examiner's anti-British scribble replies to our article in favor of British Institutions, by a violent and an unscrupulous personal attack. We accused the Examiner of having in its editorial columns violated every rule of good sense, good taste and good manners. The venacious editor, by way of proving that our strictures were unjust, inserts an article in his next number, which any man possessing either the honor of a gentleman or the morality of a christian, would scorn to indite. It is very unfortunate that the newspaper which claims to be, par excellence, the advocate of a religious education, should be mainly conducted by men whose writings prove them to be wholly regardless not only of the amenities of civilized society, but of the restraints and sanctions of that religion for which they profess so unbounded a reverence. We do not know who the writers for the Examiner are, and we do not want to know. We judge them solely by their writings. We freely admit that there is one among them—though we differ widely from in opinion—who writes like a gentleman and a scholar, and we have no doubt that he is heartily ashamed of the company which necessity forces him to keep; but the rest of the motley crew are rapidly achieving for the Examiner a bad pre-eminence among our newspapers, for vulgarity, scurrility, venomous malice and unscrupulous falsehood.

Mr. Kirwan's Valedictory Address.

As editor of the Progress, appears in the last issue of that paper. Though it contains much that provokes discussion, we will not argue with him now; we are not in the mood. We wish our parting with him to be without the faintest tinge of acrimony or ill feeling. We have had our little disagreements and bickerings, it is true,—on review they now seem very small indeed,—but for rival editors in a small town, we have joggled on, side by side, without in any very unusual degree disturbing the