

WHY ITALY MUST HAVE ROME.

Carlton, in The Boston Journal, thus forcibly puts the Roman question, in its national phase. It shows how inevitable is its absorption into the nation, whatever be the fate of Garibaldi, the will of Napoleon, or the cry of the Pope.

To comprehend the situation, we are not to forget that the inhabitants of the Papal States are all Italians, speaking the Italian language. They are of the same race and lineage as the people of Italy, animated by the same hopes and aspirations for a united country. They are separated from Italy by an arbitrary boundary. There is no broad river, no mountain range between the countries. The line is as arbitrary as between Massachusetts and New Hampshire or Massachusetts and Connecticut, a surveyor's line running from monument to monument to stakes and stones. The territory of Italy encloses that of the Pope on three sides, the sea bounding the papal dominions on the west. The only railroad connection of France and the northern portion of Italy with Naples and the south is through the dominions of the Pope. Victor Emmanuel, if he would go to Naples by land, must either travel across the country, over the Albanian Mountains by private conveyance along the poor country roads, or else pass through the territory of the Church and the city of Rome, subject to the vexatious restrictions of the police. No citizen of Italy can go to Naples, even if he does not stop in Rome, without undergoing a rigid examination of his baggage at the frontier. If he spends a night in Rome he must pay one dollar into the papal treasury before he can get back to Italy. Not being a citizen of Rome, every time he enters the city he must pay a dollar for getting out again. To see the situation from the Italian stand-point, we may think of New York and New Jersey as being under a different government from that of the rest of the United States. New York is the metropolis of America, as Rome is of Italy. In one sense Rome is much more the Metropolis of that classic land than New York can ever be of the New World.

Rome has been the center of the world, the center of civilization. Around no other city cluster such glories as around the seven hills on the banks of the Tiber. It is the city of the Cæsars, of Cicero, Livy and Horace—the metropolis of art and science, literature and law—which gave civilization to the western world. When an Italian thinks of these things, when he recalls the glories of the past—what Rome has done for the world—what she has been—his heart bounds, his pulses leap to make her once more the capital of a united Italy. Think now of New York, without any such glorious past, as being under a despotic government—its laws diverse, oppressive, vexatious—under a close administration, restraining all liberty, permitting no newspapers unless edited by a censor of the police; allowing no public assembling of the people; no discussion of public questions; no form of religious worship except that prescribed by the government; making arbitrary arrests without form of law; imprisonment without privilege of habeas corpus; trial by ecclesiastical court with closed doors; ecclesiastical rule enforced by the bayonet; soldiers patrolling the streets; secret agents of police in every coffee room, hotel, eating room, and restaurant; spies dogging the steps of citizens, watching the movements of all strangers; the postmaster peering into all letters; houses entered and searched at pleasure; no free transit through the city, but a tax of a dollar every time you enter it—think of all this if you would see Rome from the Italian point of view. The Italian of Florence is just as free as the citizen of Boston. He is under constitutional law. There is perfect freedom of the press, right of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of conscience. He steps across this arbitrary line. He is on Italian soil—that which used to be Italian—meets brethren speaking the same language, who are denied all these rights and privileges. What American is there, be he Protestant or Catholic, who would not be ready to work for the overthrow of such a government in any portion of the country? Is it any wonder that Garibaldi—a man who overthrew the Bourbon rule in Sicily, is bent upon sweeping away the despotism which prevents the unification of Italy? Is it any wonder that the whole Italian nation eagerly to see the thing accomplished, notwithstanding the Convention of Victor Emmanuel with Napoleon to prevent any attack on the part of Italy?

GENERAL DULLNESS IN BUSINESS.—The present condition of our leading commercial houses is calculated to alarm the minds of the most careless and reckless, and make people reflect seriously on the cause of such a state of affairs. Everywhere the same complaints of stagnation of trade are heard, and the largest establishments are conducting their business on a scale equal only to some small retailer, or one-third their usual requirements. As a consequence of this general dullness in trade, hundreds are thrown out of employment, and the city is filled with clerks, salaried, seamstresses and others, unable to procure the means of daily subsistence. A glance at the advertising columns of the Herald will be sufficient to convince any one of the immense increase of "situations wanted." It has been estimated that there are no less than ten thousand women in this city seeking employment in any capacity by which food and shelter may be procured. The list of commercial failures this year is almost sufficient to cause a strong feeling of distrust and suspicion among all circles, and auction sales are extensively resorted to by some of the largest firms to keep up their business.—New York World.

A NEW SECT IN GERMANY.—A singular new religious sect has recently been formed in the city of Berlin. It numbers, as yet about twenty or thirty male members, as the sect with its ideas seems not to exercise any attractive influence over woman. In a room, with its walls covered with dark gloomy paper, opening on a back court, its windows carefully excluded with curtains, the devotees are held. Not every one is allowed to enter the sanctuary; admission is only granted by permission of the eldership and after a painful, careful examination. In the evening, at a late hour, the brotherhood assemble. In an ante-chamber where brilliant illumination forms a strong contrast to the dark back room, which is the chapel for prayer, they put on the ceremonial tunics or talars. Silently, one after another, they enter the sanctuary, carefully avoiding even the least sound of footfall or other noise. Arrived here, they set themselves before the desks here, they kneel down, on each of which lies a book, and they begin to read in those books. In this attitude and occupation they spend about half an hour. Then the Eldership ascends an elevated rostrum or tribune, and, dressed in black, and uttering a short prayer, all strike their breasts three times, and close the Holy Scriptures. Their ceremony is now ended. Silently as they came they again leave the room; not a word is said to each other, what they have written on strips of paper and hand to write on small strips of paper and hand to each other. After a silent pressure of hands, each other, they all rise and receive by imposition of the hands the blessing of the Elders, who all allow them one by one to pass on; and himself attends them to the putting out of the lights.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The English Parliament adjourned on Friday, the 6th inst., to meet again on the 13th February. In addition to a pretty full and not very pleasant debate on the Abyssinian question, a most interesting speech on education was made in the House of Lords by Earl Russell. This veteran statesman proposed four resolutions, which were, however, quietly shelved by the Government moving the consideration of the previous question. The resolutions were,—

"First, that it was the duty of the State to guard and maintain the right of every child in England and Wales to the blessing of education; second, that the education of the middle classes should be aided by a better administration of the charities and endowments; third, that the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge might be made more useful to the nation by the removal of restrictions and a better administration of their revenues; and, fourth, that the appointment of a Minister of Education by the Crown, with a seat in the Cabinet, would be conducive to the public benefit. Earl Russell addressed the house in support of each of the above resolutions, but devoted his attention chiefly to the first. He pointed out the defective education of the masses of the people in the country, and contended that his scheme for a more comprehensive system was a practical one, which might be carried out partly by local rates and partly by larger parliamentary grants. With regard to the religious part of the question, he thought that any difficulty might be surmounted by adopting the concisest clause, or by establishing secular schools and secular education. If once national education were obtained, it would be found to include religion and morality although they were not expressly taught in such schools."

The French Parliament has evidently had a more exciting time than the English. The speech of M. Thiers, Favre and Monnier, on the Italian question, have stirred the French people to the uttermost province. While England has, through her press and her legislature, complained of the necessity for spending ten millions sterling to neutralize the effects of not answering King Theodoros' letter, their neighbors have praised or blamed the Government for its march to Rome, according to their predilections. Out of the French debate has arisen a pamphlet which has created a sensation in France, and is said to embody the views of that veteran statesman, M. Thiers. It is entitled, "La France et l'Europe," and gives the programme of M. Thiers' party—disapproval of the French Government as to Germany; the maintenance of the temporal power of the Pope; and the extension of political liberty and the Parliamentary franchise.

Among the rumors that titillate the delicate feelings of the Parisians, are the following:— It is said that during the last few days the sanitary condition of his Holiness has excited considerable anxiety, the energy and firmness which he displayed during the recent political events having been succeeded by a reaction which occasioned great debility. A report of the death of the Pope was circulated in Paris a day or two since, and some of the journals actually announced the decease of the Holy Father; but an official contradiction has been given to the rumor.

There is a rumor in France that King Victor Emmanuel, on the dictation of France, will make a coup d'Etat in Italy, govern sine die without a Parliament, and agree to join France and Austria in an offensive and defensive alliance, on the promise that when the present Pope dies Italy shall have Rome. The authority for such a report is not given, and by most persons in Paris is devoid of truth. The Italian journals state that there will not be any speech from the Throne at the opening of the Parliament.

From Austrian news we clip the following interesting item:— "The Emperor of Austria has advanced another step in the march of constitutional progress, by notifying to the Government at Rome what course will be pursued, without regard to the obligations of the Concordat, if the Pope refuses to release the Emperor from a treaty into which he entered while ruling as an absolute monarch."

About Italy, we are informed that Garibaldi's release from prison and his return to Capri on his parole have given intense satisfaction to the Italian people; that large bodies of Garibaldians are concentrating measures for a more vigorous and better organized attack on Rome—though the statement is contradicted and asserted to be only a ruse to keep the French from evacuating the Eternal City;—and that though there is a homeward current of French Troops from the Pontifical States to Toulon, there is also a counter current of Volunteers from France and other places for the Antibes Legion, the Zouaves and the Swiss Rifle Regiments; and lastly that a plot has been discovered in Italy, having for its object a general insurrection and the destruction of the Italian monarchy under the superintendence of Mazzini.

On Russian matters we note that the Pall Mall Gazette gives the following particulars of the movements of Russian Troops:—

"The movement of the various divisions of the Russian army westward, which we noticed the other day, has been completed; and the Government is now in a position to send 203,000 men to the Turkish or Austrian frontier at a few days' notice. 45,000 men are stationed between Dunaberg, Polotsk, and Vitolsk, 20,000 at Berdov and Orza, 18,000 at Minsk, 50,000 in other parts of Lithuania, and 70,000 at Tchernogov, Zytomir, Kiev and Ostrog. Speaking of the warlike preparations, the Gazette says:—'Our Government may continue to circulate peaceful phrases among the public in Paris, London and Vienna, but we know that war is imminent.'"

Prussian Bismarck has sent a "note" to the Government of Hesse, with respect to its ready acceptance of the French invitation to the conference, which is likely to create a small stir in France. The Grand Duke of Hessa is plainly told that he had no business to take a step which implied individual action and opinion on a subject of European interest, without consulting Prussia and the other States of the North German Confederation," and warned of the danger which would arise from his taking up a line of his own at variance with Federal interests.

The Lower House of the Prussian Diet has resolved to assimilate the Prussian constitution to that of the North German Confederation in so far as concerns the liberty of speech in the Legislative Chambers.

Coming back to England in search of domestic matters we learn that the Fenians are giving an immense amount of

trouble, and stirring John Bull's more than King Theodor has been able to do. Of the effects produced the Dublin Freeman publishes the following extract from a letter written by "A Catholic Irishman, long resident in Liverpool":—

"The Fenians have done a terrible harm to the poor working men about all the works in town, and at the dock and timber works in this neighborhood. It is next to impossible for an Irishman to get work, and if he does he is tortured and lullied out of it. These Yankees who get up a row and then cut and run, are of all contemptible scoundrels the most vile, and yet there are such fools found as believe in them."

That is the serious side. Here is the ludicrous. An "Ulsterman" writes in true Libberian style to a Dublin paper as follows:—

"Dear Sir, I beg to forward you the enclosed two shillings for the relief of the three Irishmen executed in Manchester last Saturday." He is a true countryman.

The birth-day festivities of the Princess of Wales were on Monday, 2nd inst., celebrated at Sandringham. Hundreds of school children cheered the guests as they drove up the lawn, and were then taught a lesson in that truly English study of eating, by being set to work at a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding.

The contract with the Cunard Company for the conveyance of mails between Halifax, Bermuda and St. Thomas, at the cost of £10,500 per annum for ten years, with power to terminate the contract within five years, has been approved.

A fearful storm swept along the whole of the eastern and western coasts of England and Wales at the beginning of the week, and it has been fearfully disastrous both in the loss of property and life. It was of the nature of a cyclone.

Full particulars are given of an incident which occurred at a place called Ida, on the River Niger in Africa. It seems that Bishop Crowther went there in the way of his duty, and was seized by the natives, and a ransom equal to the price of 1000 slaves demanded. The Vice-Consul, Mr. Fell, went with a steamer to demand the return of the bishop, which he obtained—but at the expense of his own life, an arrow piercing him to the heart, after he had the satisfaction of welcoming the bishop on board.

Latest by Telegraph!

London, Dec. 15. Rumors are current that Col. Kelly the Fenian prisoner who was rescued at Manchester is in England notwithstanding the stories to the contrary, and he is still directing the movements of the Fenian Brotherhood.

There are those who openly assert that the explosion at Clerkenwell was the result of one of the schemes of Kelly.

Despatches have been received which go to show that the English captives in the hands of the Abyssinian King are alive and well. In the meantime measures are progressing for their release.

A large force of Egyptians consisting of four thousand fighting men have joined the English expedition at Massowah.

Despatches have been received from Massowah which report that the British Expedition had advanced a considerable distance into the interior of the country, but at last accounts the troops were suffering from a scarcity of water.

The new Austrian Constitution after a long debate has been adopted by the Upper House of the Reichsrath.

London, Dec. 16. The excitement occasioned by the recent bold operations of the Fenians has not abated. The press continue to denounce the outrages and demand vigorous measures for their prevention in future. The Times has an article on the subject, saying that Fenianism must continually tend to a repetition of such acts as the Manchester riots and the Clerkenwell explosion.—Open war on the part of the Fenians is out of the question. Arson and secret murder are their only weapons of success. Last night an apparently organized attempt was made to set fire to several warehouses in this city, but was not successful. The incendiarism is generally supposed to have been the work of Fenians, though none of the parties engaged in the plot were caught. These events cause much alarm throughout the metropolis and magistrates are swearing in special policemen by hundreds.

A man has been arrested at St. Albans on suspicion of having engineered the explosion at Clerkenwell jail. It is said that he is the person who lit the fuse. His examination will take place to-morrow.

Casey was again brought from his prison to-day and examined, but no evidence in regard to the explosion was elicited and he was remanded.

Legal proceedings on the charge of seditious conduct have been commenced in Dublin by the Government against John Martin, President of the Irish National League, Alexander Sullivan, editor of the Dublin Nation, and other gentlemen who took a prominent part in the Fenian obsequies on Sunday, the 8th inst., and to-day the accused were brought before the Police Magistrate for examination. They did not deny their participation in the funeral services; and those who made speeches on that occasion freely acknowledged the language charged against them.

London, Dec. 17, eve. The last despatch received from Massowah report that the British Expeditionary force in Abyssinia had reached a place called Senpe where there was abundance of water and the natives were friendly.

The Paris Tribune this morning indignantly denies that there is any truth in the report which has been current that the French Government has sent an Envoy to Mexico.

A terrible explosion occurred at Newcastle on the Tyne to-day. The authorities last night received information that a quantity of Glinoin or Nitro Glycerine had been secreted in that place it was supposed by Fenians.—The Sheriff and his town surveyor with a large squad of policemen proceeded to the spot indicated and discovered red oil packed in the usual manner. While the men were removing it the substance exploded with a tremendous detonation. Several of the policemen were instantly killed, and but few escaped injury. The men who were nearest the packages of glinoin were blown to atoms. Both Sheriff and Surveyor were badly hurt and are in a critical condition.

Gold 133 1/2. London, Dec. 17. The Times strongly objects to the financial plan proposed by Secretary McCulloch as a violation of the axiom that local taxation should be met by all means and thinks the Secretary's plans would substitute new evils for old.

An inquest was held to-day on the bodies of the persons killed by the attempt to blow up the wall of Clerkenwell prison. A large number of witnesses were examined, but nothing satisfactory was elicited as to the perpetrators of the crime.

A rumor has reached here from Vienna that a change in the Austrian Ministry is impending, and that Count Von Taaffe is to form a new Cabinet. The report needs confirmation.

The truth of the report which reached here by Atlantic Cable that Spain has offered to sell the Islands of Cuba and Porto Rico to the United States is denied.

Written for the Journal.

THE PAST.

The year 1867 is drawing to a close, and as we listen to his dying sighs, they seem to breathe of the long, long ago. Who does not love to go back to the past—to open memory's portals, and gaze on a picture in its enchanted halls, and gaze on the beautiful pictures which are hung upon its walls? Here beam the countenances of loved and cherished ones, which are hung in tear-bejewelled frames. The pure radiance of their brows now shining in the light of heaven, encircled with a golden diadem. Forms which we loved and played with in youth's bright morning, with every prospect of long life and happiness—now they are breathing the melody of some requiem. The hands which gathered the wild flowers of spring with us, are now sweeping the chords of the golden harp; or perchance we see among the number a baby's brother or a darling sister, whom the angels caught up, ere the sweetness of life's fair morning had faded, bearing them away to that bright, beautiful land beyond the river, to dwell in the presence of God forever.

So, we see the faces of some who have gone out into the cold wintry world to seek wealth and fame, in its many paths, and who have succeeded; but how changed the reality from the dreams of their childhood. Others have on the mighty deep found a grave far down among the ocean waves, where they will sleep among the hidden treasures of the deep until the sea give up her dead. Another fell a victim to the demon alcohol, until every spark of manhood was quenched in his blood, and he who was made in the image of God, sunk even lower than the brute, until at last the cold winds of death blew out the flickering rays of life, and alas, he died without hope. Why, oh why, is the liquor traffic sanctioned by a Christian Government?

As we proceed on, we notice other pictures, beautiful and sweet, but the blinding tears hide from our view the cherished scenes of the long ago! December 26th, 1867. M. D. B.

THE OLD YEAR.

It was the last night of December, and slowly the great hands of the clock were nearing the hour of midnight. The freight and shaded lamps cast fantastic figures over the furniture in the dark corners of the room, and a glitter of marvelous frost pictures grew upon the walls. Voices of the night wind were moaning and sobbing among the branches and in the chimneys and eavesments. Without, though I saw not, I knew that great drifts of snow were whirling and piling in the darkness.

During all the weary hours my thoughts had been dwelling sadly among the graves of my past. Again my soul had put on her armor, and in her armor days that had been laid away for midwinter vestments. But now strangeness came over me. I heard no sound of footfall, but silently was born away from my fleshy and found myself at the portal of a wondrous cathedral. The walls were cruelly white, and covered over with mysterious figures and hieroglyphics. The roof rose hundreds of feet above, and was supported by the sculptured figures of angels. Long corridors, and a light from the eye could not see. Masses of vapour hung swaying from the dome, and on all sides, over the whiteness, there was a constant flickering of blue and opal. All was hushed save a low sound, like a requiem of sighs, that came echoing from the dim corridors, and chilled the heart icily. Bewildered and trembling, I would have hastened away from the dazzling whiteness, and wildness, but strange influences held me stationary.

Then behind me I heard voices, and suddenly was surrounded by a numberless crowd of human beings. Passionately they hurried along, thronging into the cathedral, still I was carried on like a leaf on the surging ocean. On, on, but now like a phantom through noiseless and death-like, for even the footfall on the stone pavement awakened no echo. But soon the crowd moved slower, and I saw we were approaching a high, arched opening, dimly lit by Nearer, and we stood mute and breathless, for before us, lying low among faded flowers and eave leaves, wrapped in his winding sheet, was the Old Year we had loved so well, white, rigid, and dead.

The weight of his last days had pressed heavily and his face was furrowed and sad to look upon. Around him in mockery upon the soiled pall, were scattered the gifts he had given. All his worth of hope and glory had perished, and the earth angels gazed downward with pitying faces; ever and anon smoothing the gray thin locks, for he was one of their children. From censers near the blue incense curled upward toward the white stone angels, and made them seem stern and grand as the angels of the East. Still the stillness wave of human life surged onward. Some came eagerly as if to see a joyous thing; others with lingering footsteps, and few with aching faces; but as they one by one looked upon the pale face and laid some treasure or some burden down, feeling that the year was indeed dead, they turned away more sadly, and some with tears.

They were bringing their cares, and sorrows, and fancied ills, and uncompleted tasks. Each striving for his own, care heavily laden, thinking it possible to bear all burdens or a great, or even a poor dead, but passing to find the burden little lighter and but little left behind. Some came with gloomy faces, whose cares were in imagination, and some more bitter griefs. Many mourning veiled laid down cheerfully handfuls of ashes. These were they whose ills had been broken, and beautiful smiles crumpled in dust; still they reached the altar to the hearse, and still they went away mourning. An old man, tall and gaunt, along under the weight of a huge bag, from which a yellowish dust was sifted as he walked. With great effort he reached the pier, and, with a sigh, gazed on the dead, still clutching the dust that all his long life he had called treasure. But as he turned away he staggered and fell, and when they lifted him up and brushed the gold dust from his glaring eyes, he uttered a cry, and his hands were locked down their broken toys, and felt no glowering sadness for the strouded figure. Many a youth brought resolutions, and dead ambition, and lifting high his right hand made solemn vows to redeem the future. The middle aged laid down many an ills wish or holy thing and called them folly. One strong man, weary and heavily laden, knelt on the cold floor, clasping the shroud, and prayed. When he arose a light more than earthly broke over his face, and he went onward with the music of a new song in his soul.

While yet they were urging in with their voiceless weariness, a bell commenced tolling in awful tones that woke echoes in the corridors and rent the vestment of incense that shrouded the angels. Then the phantoms lifted and bore the dead year through the portals of Time's cathedral. And the multitude followed the noise of their burials. Ere long they reached a stream, and by and by, where firmless boatmen waited to bear the dead to the ocean. As I stood mournfully gazing, I remembered my own withered garland, a hope and dream or two twined in the bright days when the year was young, but now dead and worthless, so I threw it, thinking it might rest on the pier. The boat moved slowly off, and my flowers sank in the bottomless waters; for the name of the river is Time. As with saddened hearts we looked after the shadowy thing that grew mistier in the distance, we heard the sound of music and laughter, and turning, saw that the new year had come golden and glorious. The children shouted for joy, and the youth pressed forward to greet him. Even some of the sad ones, who had sighed so for the dead year, lifted their heads and smiled as he scattered his treasure. But I turned from these things I had seen so often, and from the sad, dead year, and soon forgot in my dreams that all years, freighted with human hopes and sorrows must pass from Time through Oblivion to the ocean of Eternity.

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1867.

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.

MEMORIES OF 1867.

Spirit, who sweepeth the wild harp of time, It is most hard with an untroubled ear, Thy dark inwoven harmonies to hear. COLERIDGE.

In our present number we are called upon to bid farewell to the year 1867, and in doing so it is but proper to glance at a few of the events which it introduced to our notice. Of those of the year 1866 which ran into 1867, we may mention the closing of the issue relating to Ex Governor Eyre, of Jamaica—the result of the position of Maximilian in Mexico—the permanency of the Atlantic Cable—the consequences likely to result from the depression of Trade—the agitation of Reform in Great Britain, together with the Cretan and Roman questions.

Our readers have already been made aware that Ex Governor Eyre was not found guilty, while Maximilian was captured, condemned and put to death. In the execution of Maximilian, the Emperor Napoleon received a lesson which he improved to the best advantage in his power, by extending an invitation to the crown heads of Europe to pay him a visit. The opening of the Paris Exhibition affording a good opportunity for an invitation which was responded to so generally, that the Emperor has been enabled to extend his hospitalities to all the Potentates of Europe, our beloved Queen, if we mistake not, alone excepted; and thus the "man of destiny" still holds his position, in the full enjoyment of all the luxurious splendors of the Tuilleries, endeavoring by every possible means in his power, to relieve himself from the self-imposed task of upholding the temporal power of the Pope—a task which a restless Garibaldi, and a shrewd Bismarck, are rendering daily more difficult to perform.

The amiable and accomplished Carlotta is alive; but, we are sorry to add, with a continued impaired intellect; a sad wreck of Napoleon's scheme for the establishment of Monarchy in Mexico. It is, we think, not unworthy of note, that in the month of June A. D. 1862, Montezuma II was put to death by the cruel Spaniards, in Mexico, and that in the month of June 1867, Maximilian was executed by the Mexicans. Montezuma was basely betrayed, imprisoned, and, according to one historian, was by order of Cortez, slain by a Spanish soldier, who stabbed him with an cel-spear. Maximilian was also basely betrayed, imprisoned, and by order of Juarez pierced through the body with a rifle ball. The dead body of Montezuma was, by the command of the Spanish general handed over to the Mexicans; the corpse of Maximilian was at the instance of the commander of the Mexican troops, delivered to the Austrians. Both of these men appear to have been of a kind and conciliatory disposition, and both have fallen the victims of treachery and deception. In the death of Maximilian, 347 years after the death of Montezuma, and in the same month, the proud House of Hapsburg has been made to know that the princely blood of Austria was no more highly prized by the Mexicans than was the kingly blood of Montezuma by the worse than savage Spaniards, in the year 1520. The event and the coincidences convey a lesson which is not unworthy the attentive consideration of Rulers.

The Atlantic Cable continues to prove a success, and hereafter will mark an important event of this century.

The gloom which hung like a pall over the avenues of trade, at the opening of the year, has been gradually dispersing, and upon the whole, we think we are warranted in saying, that "the course of our commerce has been steady and uniform, rich and regular, like one of those trade winds, with which it is connected."

England had the honor of a visit from the Sultan of Turkey, and the Viceroy of Egypt. What renders the visit of the former so pleasing is, that it is the first time since the establishment of the Ottoman Empire in the fourteenth century, that one of its Monarchs left its shores, on other than a warlike expedition.

The Reform Bill was successfully carried through the Imperial Parliament. An idea of its importance may be obtained from the following words of Earl Derby:—"It was a question which was a source of chronic irritation and feebleness to the State. It embarrassed the Crown, made parliament ridiculous, and England contemptible in the eyes of Europe. Our Government for fifteen years declaring that a redistribution of power in the State was necessary, and no one competent to bring it about."

The Cretan and Roman difficulties are still unsettled. A contemporary says "Rome and Turkey will not be allowed to go their own way. The Pope has a friend in the Catholic world, represented at this moment by the Emperor Napoleon. The Turk has a foe in the Christian world, represented by the Emperor of Russia."

The inauguration of the Dominion of Canada, marks an important era in Colonial history, and an event which we hope may prove beneficial to her people, and more satisfactory to her Parliament, lately passed by her Parliament, in their first session, seems to be to the citizens in the mercantile centres of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Probably such a Tariff is required to meet the demands made upon the exchequer of the rising nation, and it is only fair to allow the Government time to mature, and bring forward well digested proposals for the development of the great and varied resources of the Confederated Provinces.

The Halifax Express says:—"The products of Newfoundland and P. E. Island are admitted into ports of this Province, on the same terms as before the new tariff went into operation. A man named William Murphy, a native of this Island, fell overboard from a scow loaded with deals, at the mouth of Dorchester River, in New Brunswick, on Wednesday evening, the 26th ult. He was in the act of emptying a kettle of water when he fell over, and though assistance was at hand before he was got on board the vital spark had fled.

therely affording them a fair opportunity for carrying measures which, in their practical results, may tend to unite her people in a truly patriotic attachment to their common country.

In the United States, last year, Congress was about taking measures for the impeachment of President Johnson. This year in the result of the State Elections, the people have virtually impeached Congress.

In our Island we have had within the year a General Election, and as one of its results, a change in the Executive Government. Our Agriculturists have been blessed with an abundant harvest, and as people we have been preserved by a kind Providence from contagious diseases, and are, we believe, as well governed, as prosperous, and in general, as contented as any of our neighbors.

Death has, during the past year, claimed some of our most distinguished men as his own. We may mention the names of Haviland, Stewart and Whelan, as among those who for many years filled important offices in our Island. In the death of the two former, the Citizens of Charlottetown have been deprived of the services of two able and efficient officers. In the demise of the latter, the Hon. Edward Whelan, the Island Press has been deprived of one of its most gifted ornaments. As a public writer, and eloquent speaker, Mr. Whelan may be fairly ranked among the ablest in the Maritime Provinces. The oldest newspaper Proprietor on this Island, James D. Hassard, Esq., is still living, from which circumstance the Journalists of the Island are admonished that youth or talent have no charms for the fell destroyer death, Mr. Whelan being comparatively a young man when called upon to engage in that combat from which there is no discharge.

As a Journalist we have endeavored to discharge our duty to the public, and feel thankful for the patronage so cheerfully extended to us, in all parts of the Island where we have had an opportunity of introducing the Journal. True, we in common with others, have had our trials and troubles, our faults and failings, but "to err is mortal."

THE COMING NEW YEAR. "PREPARE, prepare, for a guest most rare, Who cometh at morn's first prime, Who draws not birth from the shadowy earth And but visits its humble clime, Whose blessing is uttered where'er man dwells. As his pilgrim flight draws near, Ring out, ring out, ye merry merry bells, Give joy to the sweet New Year."

Our readers will have entertained this welcome visitor, before we next address them, and we have no doubt but that he will receive a cordial reception. The old year, in several instances, has caused the heart to bleed, and has drawn tears from many eyes; yet he has left numerous blessings behind him, as he passed along, as a legacy which will aid thousands in extending a more cordial reception to the coming "guest." No doubt, around several tables, a vacant chair will be noticed, but yet:—

"The memory of the past will stay, And half their joys renew," by recalling pleasing recollections, and incidents, inseparably associated with the name of the dear one, who once sat in the unoccupied seat. But on the other hand will there not be found at many a table, an equally loved and cherished one, who came within the year, to add new joys and hopes, to mingle with those unnumbered ones, so happily diffused over the length and breadth of our happy Island.

Friends and Patrons, we wish you a Happy New Year, nor do we doubt but that you will all unite most cheerfully to "Prepare for a guest most rare, and in a grateful and proper manner "Give joy to the sweet New Year."

The Supper at North Bedoue, under the auspices of the British Templars, came off last evening. A large number were present, and everything was very well arranged on the part of the managers. The tables were well spread, and this alone, to say nothing of the fair ladies who waited on them, would be an inducement to one to sit down. We did not wait to hear the addresses, but from what we know of those who were to take part, we would say they were good.

REMEMBER the Christmas Tree at Margate, TO-MORROW, Friday. A good time may be expected.

The English Mail arrived here on Monday last. We give in another column a very interesting summary from the Halifax Reporter.

Mr. Edward Rielly has been appointed Queen's Printer, in the place of the Hon. Edward Whelan, deceased.

As soon as we can obtain an account of the trade of Summerside from the Custom Officers, we will lay it before our readers.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor will hold a Levee at Government House on New Year's Day, 1st January, 1868.

We would remind our readers of the Proshyterian Tea to be held in the Drill Shed here on New Year's Day. We understand that extensive preparations are being made for it, and that a great number are expected to be present. All the "good things of the season" will be found on the tables, and in the evening there will be music and addresses.

Should New Year's Day prove stormy the Tea will be held next day.