closing the lips over it, and having held it so a moment she withdrew it, and raised it above her head, keeping the other finger closed. The finger thus warm and moist from the mouth was very sensitive, and she easily detected the direction of the current of air into which she had raised it. That current did not come from the entrance. It came from a point directly opposite.

'I think,' said Nina to herself, 'that there must be some opening in that direction: this air comes as though from roomy space, and it surely bears the odor of the sea. *Santa Diosa!* I may find a path which the Gipsies know not of.'

With these words she started to her feet and looked around. Her mistress had fallen asleep, and there were none of the Gipsies in sight. She dared not take the candle which the Gitana had left burning upon the table, but she had in her possession quite a piece which had been left with them on the previous evening, and having lighted this, and concealed it as well as she could, she glided carefully away towards the inner extremity of the cavern. When she reached the rear wall she saw a sort of alcove: turning to the right out from which came quite a fresh current of air, and it she had not adroitly protected her light she would have lost it. At first this alcove offered no further passage, and had it not been for the sweeping breeze Nina would have turned back without further examination. As it was however, she knew that there must be some opening beyond this point, and she set herself at work to find it. In one corner, where the water had worn a channel in the rock, and deposited a mass of dirt and small stones upon the floor, our adventuress discovered an aperture, and having pulled away two or three stones from around it she found it grow larger. Presently she came to two stones which were wedged down. With some difficulty she lifted one of them, and she other fell through; but this was not all. The two stones thus removed had acted as key-stones to an arch of rubbish, and when they were gone the whole mass went tumbling through into the darkness below.

At first Nina felt weak and frightened, for she feared that the noise of the tumbling of those stones might have reached the ears of the Gipsies; but after a while her strength returned to her, and she descended through the opening she had made. Here she felt the fresh sea-breeze very plainly, and being satisfied that she had found a secret passage from the cavern, she concluded to return for her mistress, and thus have company during the rest of the venture. She found everything in the main cave as she had left it, the guard outside having suspected nothing. She then aroused Estelle and whispered into her ear:

'For the love of Heaven, dear lady, make no noise. As I live I think I have found a way of escape. Come—I have a candle—enough to last us a while. We must not touch this one. Remember it is life or death!'

'Lead on, good Nina. I am not afraid to follow you.'

Slowly and carefully, without noise enough to awaken an echo, the two girls glided away, and were soon beyond the confines of the prison within which their captors believed them to be safely lodged.

(To be Continued.)

European News.

FROM ENGLAND.

HALIFAX, January 14

The R.M.S. *City of Manchester*, from Liverpool, via Queenstown, arrived here at 1.30 p.m., on Saturday. She brought only a few passengers, but a considerable quantity of freight for this port. We append the most important items of news not anticipated by telegraph:

Sir F. Crossley, M.P., for South Derbyshire, is dangerously ill.

A telegram from Erzeroum announces that the British Consul in that town has been wounded by a Turkish officer garrisoned in that town, while the consul was endeavoring to put an end to a dispute between English travellers and that officer and some of his comrades. However, the wound, inflicted with a sword, is not very severe.

Petitions have been filed against the return of Lord Crichton for Enniskillen, on the grounds of bribery, treating, and intimidating; against the return of Sir J. Ennis for Athlone, on the grounds of bribery, treating, and corrupt practice; and against the return of Lord St. Lawrence and Sir R. Bennerhassett for Galway, on the grounds of bribery, treating, intimidating, and undue influence.

A remarkable case of determined suicide has occurred in London. The friends of a man named Bouchier gave him into custody for making an ineffectual attempt on his life, but on his way to the station house, whilst in the street, he broke away from the constable, and before he could be overtaken inflicted, with a knife which he drew, a mortal cut on his throat, dying almost instantly.

A very improbable story is told to the effect that the Government of the United States, in expression of its sympathy with the Cretan insurrection, is prepared to lend to the candidates, through the intervention of M. Commanduros, the late chief of the Greek Cabinet, a sufficient sum of money to achieve their independence, to be repaid five years after that achievement. It is also said that some parties in the United States are building, or ready to build, for the Cretans, a submarine war-ship, estimated at £60,000.

The report that Lord Mayo is to be recalled is now generally disbelieved, although it is by no means certain that this ungracious act was not at one time contemplated by the Cabinet. But there is one of the statements, which have been in recent circulation, which has received the most emphatic contradiction. The Marquis of Salisbury in a letter to the *Times* states that there is not a vestige of foundation for the rumor that he had placed his services at the disposal of the present Government with a view to assuming the post of Viceroy of India.

Mr. Disraeli prophesied, with shrewdness, when he predicted that the Liberals would infallibly quarrel about the plunder to be obtained in disestablishing the Irish Church. In Ireland they have even already begun. The *Freeman's Journal* is alarmed and disgusted at an article in the *Times* which, perhaps foreshadowing the Government proposal, suggests that a fixed property in land be given to the Irish Church, and nothing at all to the Presbyterian or Roman Catholic bodies. This, our contemporary exclaims, is not equality. But the fact which most deserves to be noted is that there is here a tacit confession of what many people have been denounced for saying or suspecting—that the Roman Catholics are really anticipating a share of the spoil. Let them, however, not be too eager; Mr. Gladstone, who was lately so exuberant in promises, is now in office, and it will be his care, we may depend upon it, to pare his pledges down to their very lowest terms.

FROM IRELAND.

THE DUBLIN MAYORALTY.—Sir John Gray, M. P., has declined the office of Lord Mayor of Dublin for next year, to which he had been elected, during his absence in London, by a vote of 38 to 7. Fearing a possible misconception of his motives in the course he has taken in the council, Sir John Gray "feels coerced by a deep sense of duty to the cause upon which the national heart and hopes are now fixed to make the personal sacrifice of declining the office." It was rumored on Tuesday that on its being known that the member for Kilkenny felt obliged to decline the honor conferred on him by the Council, a Conservative candidate was named to seek the office as "a Liberal Conservative." Mr. Purdon is said to be the gentleman selected. It is also stated that Sir William Carroll, the present Lord Mayor, has intimated his intention to seek re-election, while Alderman M'Swiney and Alderman Campbell are also stated to be 'willing' to serve the office.—*Freeman's Journal.*

The *Irishman* makes some characteristic observations on the change of Ministry. It is glad the Tories are out, but see no reason to rejoice that the Whigs are in, and entertains no sanguine expectations of advantage to the country until the Parliaments meets "within the hallowed precincts of College-green." It proposes the following three tests by which the people are to judge of the sincerity of the new Government:—

"1—Will it instantly repeal the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act? 2—Will it grant an amnesty to all Irish political offenders, prisoners or not prisoners? 3—Will it decline the services of those who, under Russell, established Protestant ascendancy in the 'Court of Justice,' and bade every Roman Catholic 'stand aside?'

A CITY OF SEVEN THOUSAND INHABITANTS DESTROYED BY FLOODS AND WHIRDWINDS.

Whole Streets and Blocks of Houses Swept Away—The Loss of Life and Destruction of Property—Various Accounts of the Terrible Calamity.

MAZATLAN, Nov. 25, 1868.

The city of Alamos, situated in the southern portion of the State of Sonora, has been swept out of existence by a visitation of nature—namely, a combined attack of the two great furies, wind and water. The terrible event occurred during the great sea storm, lasting from the 15th to the 18th ult. From private letters received in this city, we translate the following accounts of the destruction and loss of life:—

We have endured awful suffering. Torrents of rain, for forty-eight hours, inundated the city during the greater part of the 16th and 17th, followed by another torrent of forty-eight hours, so that the houses not in the immediate way of being swept off by the force of the swollen floods, were crushed in by the strength of the rain falling upon them. Senor Diego Perez measured the water in the tank, and found that forty inches had fallen in 72 hours. Alamos is no more. You may rest assured that unless some new and rich mines are discovered, it will never be rebuilt. We are impoverished and ruined.

Another letter says:

A horrible event has struck us with consternation, and ruined a large proportion of the inhabitants of this city. On the 15th it commenced to rain, and after seventy-two hours, at ten o'clock at night, the sluices and dams on the mountain broke loose, a furious wind arose, the waters came dashing like fiends, from the mountain sides, and brought us face to face with the most terrible dangers. This circumstance made us forget all things except that which is more precious than all things—life, and especially the lives of our little ones. Three minutes after the full tide of the flood, and everything was swept away as by a tornado. We sought refuge in the mountains, from where we could hear the crashing in of our houses. Everything we had is lost. There must be considerable loss of life, but as yet I am not able to ascertain the truth.

The fullest and probably the most reliable account, is that of an American gentleman to one of his friends here. We copy from a private letter:—

The agony that we have all gone through, within the past few days, is impossible to describe. Probably you will have heard ere this, that the city of Alamos is in ruins; but as you may not have had all the particulars I will give you what I know. On the 15th it commenced to rain, and on the 16th a genuine rain and wind storm set in, lasting until the 18th. It seemed as if the very flood-gates of heaven had opened, and that a second deluge was pouring upon the world. The wind, too, roared with dreadful fury, and all the elements seemed combined for some dreadful carnage. We little thought what was in store for our beautiful city. But soon the tale was told and the destruction complete, or almost complete. The storm lasted until late on the evening of the 18th. During its continuance it appeared as if no human being could live within its reach. The Alamos river was swollen to a great height, and, in its wild headlong course, carried everything before it. Houses were swept away like so many straws, and whole blocks of buildings were thrown down like so many rotten trees. The wind was no less terrible than the water. Houses were unroofed and blown to shatters; tiles and like material were scattered through the air like chaff; and strong trees were uprooted as if they had been cornstalks. The best part of the city is totally destroyed. About the only buildings saved, worthy of mention, are the mint, the church of the old State College. Those stood on high grounds, and this advantage, with their solidity, saved them. Dr. Hill, an American resident, had three houses carried away, and is a loser to the amount of about $10,000. [illegible] Robinson Bours, an American doing a banking business here, had his banking house swept away. Others have suffered severely. The loss of life has been quite large. Sixty dead bodies have been picked up. Some of them were mangled fearfully and could scarcely be recognised. Many of the bodies were found miles down the river. Undoubtedly, the number found will be largely increased by other unfortunate ones. I have written you those few lines hurriedly, but do not attempt to describe or explain this most extraordinary phenomenon of a seventy two hour's whirlwind and deluge.

The ruined city of Alamos was the Athens of North-western Mexico, or, at least, had that reputation. Its women were reputed to be the loveliest and most intelligent throughout the republic, and its citizens were highly spoken of as contrasted with those of other populations. There was a great deal of wealth, refinement and luxury among the better classes. It was a sort of sanctified Jerusalem, where the proud Spanish blood and brain held ascendancy, and would not be poisoned with Indian and negro mixture. Alamos, as a city, had fame before the great metropolis of New York was known. It is old among the many old towns of Mexico. Surrounding it have been some of the richest mines in the world, and from which the city has its chief support. At the time of its destruction it contained a population of about 7,000 souls, though geographical dictionaries place the number at 10,000, which is at least 4,000 too many. Unhappily for its people, the number is lessened through a terrible misfortune, and the "City of Poplar Groves" has fallen to the dust (even as man falls) in its strength.

A SISTER'S OATH OF VENGEANCE—THE RENO TRAGEDY.

The Louisville *Courier Journal* of the 16th contains the following interestingly details which did not appear in the hastily prepared reports, first published of the lynching affair at New Albany:—

Fran Reno and Charles Anderson were married. After they were laid out upon the floor in the jail hall, the wives of these two men and Miss Reno, the sister of the three brothers, were permitted to enter the hall to take their last look of those who, although covered with crime, were in their lives all the world to them. Ah, what a scene was there! What unutterable woe! what grief and anguish! The three women entered paler by far than the dead bodies stretched out so stark and ghastly upon the prison floor. First came from these despairing women such piercing shrieks as love only can utter when it feels that all it lived for is lost forever. Then tears like rain, bursting from overflown fountains, and moans so touching in their plaintiveness and utter despair, that not even the most stolid could keep from weeping. Then followed that quiet, almost stolid look, a sort of blank, purposless agony, that tells that hearts are breaking, that grief's work is perfectly done. Great God! what a spectacle of utter woe it was! The outburst of grief ended, the quiet of despair settled upon the faces of the women. But not long did one of them remain under the burden. The sister of the three Reno brothers, an intelligent and handsome young lady, dried her eyes with her handkerchief, then, taking the grief stained piece of linen, she placed it over the face of her brother William, who to the last declared his innocence; then she kneeled beside the dead man, and laid her left hand over his heart and, raising her right hand towards heaven, she took a terrible oath: "Oh! my poor murdered brother, may God curse your sister if she avenge not your death terrible and fully. This I will do, so help me God!" What a tragic scene was this,—the dark, strong walls on all sides, and cold stone floor under her knees—the sable garments of the bereaved sister, the pale faces turned upward and the white hand pointing heavenward! What a tableau of death, despair, love and revenge.

JUDSON'S MOUNTAIN HERB PILLS.—The best medicine in the world. For Bilious Diseases, Indigestion, Headache, Dyspepsia, Bowel Complaints, and all disorders of the Liver, Stomach, Bowels, and other intestine organs, arising from impure Blood, use the Mauochan, or Great Medicine. Sold by all dealers. Get our Almanac.

DENOMINATIONAL *vrs.* GODLESS SCHOOLS.

We learn from the January No. of the *Catholic World*, that a General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which recently sat in New York, among other subjects that of EDUCATION engrossed the attention of the Convention; and the principle, so long acted upon by the Roman Catholic Church, was actually adopted in preference to the *Neutral* or Godless system.

It was resolved to establish Parochial Schools, wherever possible, in order to save the young from preversion by the many popular errors of the day, and the earnest hope is expressed that the resolution will generally be acted upon. The *World* truly remarks:—

"It is quite evident that any denomination's *positive doctrines* to teach must take care early to teach its children the principles of faith, and that a system of education without Christianity is effectually an infidel system. When the Episcopalians shall have built their parochial schools, they will be able to appreciate the labors of Catholics, who, far poorer, and far more numerous, have *never been willing* to trust their children to the public schools. Then perhaps they will unite with us in asking the state legislature for a just proportion of the funds raised by taxation and devoted to the education of the young. We could never see anything but simple justice in this demand. The action of the Episcopal Convention, if carried out, will be an advance in favor of our practice, and an argument for the propriety of our claims."

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Yesterday morning a young woman stepped into a store in the vicinity of King's Square, and called upon the clerk either to marry her, or to witness her death by poison as the consequence of his refusal. The clerk, not suspecting anything serious, declined to wed, whereupon the young woman placed a phial to her lips and swallowed its contents, which proved to be an ounce of laudanum. Dr. Berryman was at once called, but on the young woman refusing to take anything of a medicinal character to neutralize the effect of the poison, she was removed to the Public Hospital in a coach. The efforts to relieve her proved successful, and she is now in a fair way of doing well.—*St. John News.*

RED RIVER DISTRESS.

The following is an extract from a letter dated at "Red River Settlement, 10th December." The writer is the Rev. John Black:—

"The famine is sore in the land. It is as hard to get provisions, even when at Fort Abercrombie. Yesterday had the honor of receiving a communication from Mr McDougall, the Ottawa agent at St. Paul, intimating that 320 barrells of flour had been purchased by him with a remittance of $3,000 from Halifax, Nova Scotia, which were to be at Fort Abercrombie on the 5th instant. This, of course, I reported at once to the Committee, and we are trying to get sleds off for it.

"Mr McDougall also reports having received $1,000 from Toronto.

"JOHN BLACK."

The Mayor of Toronto has remitted $1,900 and 110 barrels of flour to Mr. McDougall which had not arrived at the date of the letter.

Latest News by Telegraph.

FROM EUROPE.

London, Jan. 5.

It is asserted that Russia urges a meeting of the conference now that Crete is quiet, with the view to prevent the expulsion of the Greeks from the Ottoman territory. It is intimated that the representatives of the Porte will leave the Conference if this point is introduced for discussion, and warns Russia of the danger of another Crimean War.

It is said that Greece will introduce the claims of the Cretans in the conference about to meet in Paris, and will demand that they be allowed to declare who shall be their rulers by plebiscitum.

A Carlist conspiracy has been discovered in Barcelonia with ramifications in Sarragossa and other places. Many persons have been arrested for being implicated in the conspiracy, among them Costello, a noted Carlist.

The peasants in Andalusia, pressed by poverty have organized into plundering parties, and are pillaging the rich landholders.

London, Jan. 6

Latest advices have been received from Paraguay. The War news was meagre and unimportant.

Mr. McMahon the American Minister to Paraguay, had had an interview with President Lopez, and the result was understood to be eminent satisfactory, full atonement for the recent outrages to the American flag having been guaranteed.

London Jan. 7.

The feeling among the tenantry in some parts of Ireland is very bitter against land holders, and many cases of agrarian violence are reported.

London, Jan. 8.

Consols 92¾. Liverpool Markets exhibit little change.

The reported discontent among the Irish tenantry is unfounded.

London Jan 8.

The request of the Sublime Porte for a postponement of Conference on Eastern question for a few days, in order that time might be gained for instructing the Turkish representative, has not been acceded to.

The Session of the Conference will certainly open to morrow. The Sultan, consequently has been compelled to telegraph at length from Constantinople his instructions to Djamel Mehemet Pacha, the Turkish ambassador at Paris. There is no question but that a part of these instructions are that if the discussions in the Conference extend beyond the Sublime Porte and ultimatum to the Grecian Government, that the Turkish representative shall immediately withdraw.

The "Ferquis" the official newspaper at Constinople in its issue of yesterday said that if the Turkish representative withdraws from the Conference war with Greece is inevitable.

Havana, Jan 7.

Last night, by order of the government all statutes of Queen Isabella and other symbols of the late dynasty were removed from the squares and public buildings in the city.

General Dulce has issued his anxiously awaited proclamation it is addressed to Cubans. He says: "I will brave every danger and accept every responsibility for your welfare. The Revolution has swept away the Bourbon dynasty, tearing up by the roots a plant so poisonous that it putrifies the air we breathe to the citizen shall be returned his rights, and to man his dignity. You will receive all the reforms you require. Cubans and Spaniards are all brothers. From this day Cuba will be considered a province of Spain; freedom of the press, the right of meeting in public, and the representation in the National Cortes—three fundamental principles of true liberty—are granted you." General Dulce concludes as follows:—"Cuban and Spaniard, speaking in the name of our mother Spain, I adjure you to forget the past, hope for the future, and establish union and fraternity."

Plymouth, Eng., Jan 6

A vessel put in here to-day which reports that the British ship "Southern Emperor," Capt. Dunlap, foundered at sea, in a heavy gale on the 3d inst., the Captain and every one of the crew were lost. The "Southern Emperor" sailed last from New Orleans on the 13th of November, for Liverpool, laden with cotton, at which port she was owned.

London, Jan. 6.

Advices from Spain report that quite formidable republican demonstrations at Seville and Jerez de la Frontera. At the latter city the Insurgents made a futile attempt to seize the arms and ammunition from the Arsenal. Gen Rodas immediately sent a strong force of soldiers to hold the town and remove the arms to Cadiz for safety. A proclamation has been issued raising the state of seige at Madrid. Gen Prim, in an official circular, declares that the Provisional Government does not intend to disarm the volunteers. Senor Fargto, Minister of the interior, has issued a circular in which he ascribes the recent troubles in Cadiz and Malaga to the intrigues of the Reactionists, and he charges that their object in fomenting these disturbances is to prevent the taking of a plebiscitum.

London, Jan. 7.

The Sublime Porte has sent a communication to Paris asking for a postponement of the Conference on the Eastern question for eight days, in order that instructions may be prepared for the representatives of the Turkish Government.

London, Jan 7

The disturbances in Italy caused by the collection of the unpopular taxes continues. There is also much agitation in Reggio and Bologna. Lieut General Cadova, Commander of the Military Division of Florence, has been dispatched to Parama to restore order in that city.

Paris, Jan. 7.

The dullness of the Paris Bourse on Tuesday, and the National decline in rents were due to the demands said to have been made by the Russian Emperor on the Sublime Porte.

London, Jan 8

The firm attitude of Turkey on the Eastern question excites much alarm.

London, Jan 9

Consols 93 1-4. Liverpool markets quiet and unchanged.

Thirty-nine more of the missing passengers and crew of the steamer *Hibernia*, which was lost at sea in December last, have been rescued.

Madrid Jan 8.

The Spanish Government is about to establish a Corps of Observation on the Pyrenees. Rumor is current that an insurrection has broken out in Milan. Despatches report that much agitation prevails in all parts of Spain.

London, Jan. 9.

Advices from Candia by mail fully confirm the previous report of the submission of the Cretans to Turkish authority.

London, Jan. 12.

For some unexplained reason the Grecian Ambassador at Paris, who, it was supposed, would represent Greece in the Conference, has been refused participation in its Session. He has protested against his exclusion, and appealed to the Government at Athens for instructions. The Conference will await the action of Greece in this matter, and the Session announced for to-day will probably be postponed for a time in consequence.

London, Jan. 11

The indications of the first day's session of the Conference on the Eastern question leave little if any doubt of ultimate success.

The Turkish Government, through its representative, consented to maintain the present status until the close of the Conference.

It is the general impression that but one more session will be held, and that war between Turkey and Greece will be obviated.

FROM CANADA.

Montreal, Jan. 6.

The Ontario Legislature re-assembled this afternoon. The session will last about two weeks.

Near Bowmanville, Ontario, a woman, in a fit of insanity, drowned her two children in a barrel of water and attempted to drown herself.

The Red River Executive Co-operative Relief Committee make another appeal for contributions. They report 484 families in absolute want, who must receive assistance or starve.

Montreal, Jan 8.

Patrick Doody, lately confined at Ottawa on suspicion of Fenianism, died here this morning.

Hay and Straw have reached such a price here that gentlemen keeping horses are purchasing sawdust for bedding, and carrots for a portion of fodder.

Delegates are daily expected at Ottawa from Newfoundland to negotiate for the admission of that Province into Confederation.

Rose leaves in a day or two for Nova Scotia to have an interview with Howe on the affairs of Province and if possible come to a satisfactory solution.

Markets firm for Flour. Prices going up.

Montreal, Jan 8th.

Synod Church of Scotland at Kingston unanimously resolved to raise by contributions not less than One Hundred Thousand Dollars to maintain Queen's College, now deprived of usual government grant.

Montreal, Jan 9

The news from Red River is that Government work on the road to the Lake of the Woods is being prosecuted with vigor. Famine is widespread in Red River, but relief is pouring in from all parts.

Rev. Mr. Sparrow was assaulted and stabbed by one Christie last night, near Madoc, Ontario.

The Court House and Gaol for Ottawa County was destroyed by fire this morning.

The Quebec *Chronicle*, the *L'Evenment* and other Conservative papers strongly condemn Chauveau for irresolution, inefficiency, meddling and general unfitness for leadership, and declare that he is not to be trusted by either party or nationality.

The Report of the Civil Service Commissioners will be presented to the Privy Council next week.

There are only 21 ships on the stocks at Quebec this year against 34 last year. Imports at Montreal last year were six million dollars less than 1867. Members of the Ontario Legislature have petitioned the Governor General for a duty on American salt.

Flour five cents dearer. Markets firm. Raining heavily.

Montreal, Jan. 12.

At the Dinner to the Mayor last night, Sir John A. McDonald responded to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers." In the course of his speech, he said that he was certain that in a few months Nova Scotia would in name and heart bear its part in the Dominion, and he had no doubt but that British Columbia and Newfoundland would soon be admitted into the Union. He said the great Ship Canal would be undertaken by the Government at an early day.

The speech is logged upon as highly important.

The Intercolonial Railway Commissioners have arrived home having travelled over the entire line of the Intercolonial from Halifax. They were presented with addresses at Shimoski and River Du Loup, and entertained at a public luncheon at the latter place.

The safe of the Bank of Montreal at St. Catherines was blown open last night, and $60,000 in Canada Legal tenders stolen.

FROM THE STATES.

New York, Jan 6.

General Lersundi, ex-Captain of Cuba, sailed for Spain yesterday. The policy of his successor, General Dulce, is not known, and his inaugural proclamation is awaited with much anxiety. The Liberals draw favorable conclusions in this connection, from the fact that he has already relaxed the rigid censorship of the Press, and has allowed full liberty in the preparation and transmission of Telegraphic news despatches.

Washington, Jan. 6.

In the Senate yesterday, Mr Ferry offered a resolution requesting the President to transmit a copy of his late amnesty proclamation with a statement of the authority by which he issued it. Mr Ferry said that he offered the resolution because, although he favored an amnesty, he doubted the right of the President to grant it in this sweeping way, and he wished to have the question settled. The resolution was adopted.

New York Jan 6

Messrs. Cambleng & Pyne, 14 Wall street, had £135,000 in Bonds and Currency stolen from them during the interval between New Year's eve and Saturday. A confidential clerk, who is missing, is suspected of the robbery.

The money and gold market remain without quotable change.

New York Jan 8.

A serious disturbance, growing out of resistance to a Sheriff, is reported in Princess Anne County, Virginia. Three negroes were killed and one soldier mortally wounded. The excitement in the country is very great, and the troops have asked for reinforcements.

Money Market unchanged. Gold quiet. Business is very dull, and within the last ten days failures to the amount of $10,000,000 have occurred among the Jobbing and Commission Dry Goods Houses. Other Disasters are feared unless the times speedily improve.

New York, Jan. 7.

At Rochester last evening the floor in the school house of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church gave way while crowded with people attending a holiday festival. Three hundred persons went down, and eight were instantly killed. The wildest excitement ensued, and it was some time before the wounded could be taken from the debris.

A despatch from Vienna asserts that the representatives of the Greek Government at the Paris Conference will not be permitted to offer any proposition; but will attend only for the purpose of giving information in regard to the subjects under discussion. The Conference will frame a project of settlement, which it will be the duty of Greece to adopt after its acceptance by the Sublime Porte and the withdrawal of the Turkish ultimatum.

Havana, Jan. 8

The proclamation of Captain General Dulce is favorably received by the Majority of the people, but is disliked by the extremists of both the Spanish and Cuban parties.

It is rumored that an an interview will soon take place between Gen Dulce and prominent revolutionists in Havana. Should the meeting be successful it would tend materially to the restoration of peace on the Island.

It is asserted that the revolutionary chiefs have concluded to issue a proclamation making all slaves free, and fixing a day after which they shall receive pay for their labor, and they propose to carry his resolution into immediate effect.

New York, Jan. 12.—The ice in the Hudson River above Albany, broke up yesterday, causing the water to rise considerably, and threatening immense damage to the piers and warehouses.

Despatches from Albany dated at midnight say that property to the amount of half a million had been destroyed, or was in imminent danger of destruction up to that time, but the fears of a general inundation, which were excited early in the day had somewhat abated.

The Sun of Medicine.—Dr. Morses Indian Root Pills.—If you are suffering with diseases get this medicine. Gradually but surely it will eradicate the seeds of diseases, and by removing the cause render the sickness impossible. Get the Rescue of Tula Almanac. Sold by all Dealers.

JUDSON'S PILLS.—We give you in this Medicine the result of a lifetime of Study and Trial; before this Medicine all others are but Nostrums. We ask you to use them because we know their virtues. Trial is the touchstone by which to prove them worthy. Get our Almanac. Sold by all Dealers.

DR. MORSES INDIAN ROOT PILLS.—Before them all diseases surrender. Get our Almanac and read the information therein of their discovery and effects. Sold by all Dealers.

We would advise all those who wish to improve the horse, cattle or sheep, to use Carlton's Condition Powders.

WORTHY OF NOTE.—an exchange says, there is scarcely a day passes that we do not hear, either from persons coming into our office or in some other way, of the success of *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment* in the cure of coughs and colds, so prevalent about town just now.

If we can benefit the readers of the *Examiner* any by recommending *Parson's Purgative Pills* to be the best anti-bilious medicine in the country, we are willing to do so. We have had about as good a chance to know as any one.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, January 18, 1869.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.

As this question is now agitating this Island from one end to the other, and as we have been often asked by our friends to place the question plainly before the public, we shall endeavor to do so in a calm, impartial manner, without any desire of wounding the feelings of any portion of our citizens. Our task is not an easy one; but, as we have studied the question pretty well, we venture on the task of ventilating it with the desire of propagating true principles, without offending either Roman Catholics or Protestants.

The *Examiner*, before we became the editor thereof, published some able articles on the subject to which we are about to address ourselves. The gentleman who wrote those articles is generally believed to be a Protestant—a Presbyterian, in fact. We think that the belief is true; and we believe, further, that his articles were the outpourings of a sincere, outspoken, generous lover of his country and of justice, and of a genius who can, when a befitting opportunity presents itself, give expression to his sentiments, in a style and dignity, not unworthy of the Poet Laureate of our Mother Country. One or two of our contemporaries will be sorely "exercised" to discover all about ourselves. Their labor will be in vain. If we write what is just and true, let them grant it, and approve of it; if we write what is unjust and untrue, they are at liberty, as a matter of course, to "trip" us as often as they can. But we beg to tell them that we shall not listen to mere bluster and sound; we must have argument; and, if either of our opponents is compelled to seek refuge in a corner, he must admit it, or remain in "durance vile." Our intention is not to give offence to any man, or denomination of men, but to vindicate the cause of justice and fair play to all.

Last winter His Lordship Bishop McIntyre presented to the Government a very moderate Memorial, asking them to amend the present School Law so as to allow St. Dunstan's College, and two or three other Schools, to participate in a fair share of the School fund. His Memorial was treated with coolness and disrespect, if not with derision, by the Executive. Roman Catholics, who placed the Government in power, felt keenly the insult offered them. Neither their Bishop nor themselves asked anything unreasonable; they merely asked for a fair portion of the money which they themselves paid out of their own pockets, and from their hard earnings, for a few schools in which they have confidence, and which are admitted by all to be of a superior character. The justice, the reasonableness, the practibility of what our Roman Catholic fellow-citizens demand have already been explained in the columns of this journal, and have been ably advocated, for months, by our contemporary the *Islander*. Every man of common sense, of ordinary intellect, concedes that the Memorial of His Lordship should have been granted. The *Patriot*, or *Progress*, has never attempted to refute the arguments advanced by the *Islander* or *Examiner* in favor of justice to Roman Catholics. The reason is obvious—their arguments were unanswerable. The *Patriot* sounded the "toesin," and the *Progress* maintained that bishops and priests should not mingle in politics. Cogent reasoning to be sure. Never did a Government commit suicide so deliberately as did the one that now rules on sufferance for a time. Not one member of that Government would have ever had a seat in the Legislature were it not for the votes of Catholics; and yet when those who placed them in power ask from them an act of justice, which is almost universally admitted as such, they are ignominiously refused. And, to add insult to injury, they expect that Roman Catholics will support their unjust policy. They entertain a strange opinion of the spirit of free men. Many of the leading minds in our midst, although differing much from the dogmas of Catholics, sympathized with the latter, and do so still, at the ungrateful treatment which they received at the hands of those whom they raised to place and power. Among the number was the Hon. J. C. Pope. On the occasion of a partial election which took place, not long since, Mr. Pope offered himself as a candidate, and declared that he thought that justice should be done to the Catholics. For openly and honestly declaring these sentiments he lost his election. The Government—to its shame be it said—used every effort to defeat Mr. Pope because his policy was one of justice to Roman Catholics. This fact makes their conduct much more odious. It is no wonder, then, that Catholics should feel indignant at the Government for the manner in which they have acted on this question. The latter are beginning to feel that they have committed a grand blunder; but we think they will perceive the full extent of their ungrateful conduct when it will be too late for *them* to remedy it. There is one point in the discussion of this subject which we wish to point out, and it is this: His Lordship the Bishop did not ask the Government to change our entire system of Education; he only desired them to improve, or modify it to a small extent. Mr. Pope did not propose, in his card to the electors of Summerside, to make a sweeping change in the same; he proposed simply to effect an improvement as to towns and villages. Now, mark the dishonesty of the *Patriot* and *Progress*. These papers incessantly circulated the idea that the intention was to subvert our whole system of Education. The effects of this dishonesty will certainly recoil on their own heads, sooner or later. When a free and independent people modestly ask for a *small share* of their rights, and are insolently refused, they are not supposed to succumb as abject slaves, but will sternly and resolutely demand *all* their rights. This is likely to be the result of the insolence and violence of the journals which we have named. Had the Bishop's very modest Memorial been treated with ordinary decency it is probable that the Education question would remain quiet for a few years. But the vituperation and unfounded calumnies of the *Patriot*, and the badly concealed threat of the *Progress* to kick out of his way ministers and priests if they presumed to offer a suggestion or an advice on a subject in which they, more than any others, are bound to take a deep interest, have caused an excitement throughout the country that will probably end in a very desirable improvement in our Educational system. Since the *Patriot* and *Progress* have provoked the discussion, we will prove on a future occasion, that our "godless" system is not the best for a Christian community, and that it is not in accordance with that liberty of conscience which a free people should enjoy.

STEAM COMMUNICATION.

We are much pleased to find that the subject of Steam Communication between Georgetown and the Strait of Canso, or any suitable place across the Gulf, is attracting and receiving the attention of our contemporaries as well as of the general public.

That a steamer, suitably constructed, equipped and manned for the service could, any year, run with comparative regularity between Georgetown and Canso, or some other point on the Mainland, for a month or six weeks after the navigation is closed in Charlottetown or Summerside, admits of no doubt. During the present season we do not believe there has been any thing as yet that would prevent a properly constructed steamer from making her regular trips. We have often heard of small schooners, produce-laden, leaving Souris, Grand River and Georgetown, for market, as late as Christmas or New Year's, and sometimes all through the month of January.

It may, perhaps, be objected that were a steamer of a suitable description placed on the above route for winter service, the people would not then rest satisfied until they had Georgetown, Charlottetown, Summerside, and, perhaps, other places connected by railroad; for we have often seen the winter supplies of Charlottetown and Summerside merchants landed in Georgetown during the month of December and even the early part of January, when they either had to be left there till spring or hauled, at a great expense, to their places of destination. Well, we can only say that if, in theory, a railroad follows as a necessary consequence, and as a matter of course, from the proposed steamboat communication, the soonger the theory is reduced to practice the better.

But would a railroad between Charlottetown and Georgetown, or any other part of the Island, pay? Now, this is not the way in which we would wish to see the question put; but by asking ourselves if a railroad would help materially to give an additional impetus to our commerce, and develop the resources of the country? Many persons will form the idea of a railroad running in a direct line from Southport to Georgetown, and then ask themselves what there is to employ a railroad on such a route for even a considerable part of the year. Instead of opening a line by the most direct route from Southport to Georgetown, our idea would be to start from Charlottetown and take the north side of the Hillsborough, through the heart of the country, with stations at the intersecting roads, through which the stock and farm-produce of the Settlements of Little York, Brackley Point, Covehead, and Tracadie find their way to market. From the head of the Hillsborough we would continue through the interior of the country till we arrive at some convenient and suitable place, somewhere between the back of Morell Settlements, Head of St. Peter's Bay and Grand River. We would form a junction somewhere in this neighborhood, with one branch running to Georgetown, and the other to Souris, a harbor that offers almost the same advantages that Georgetown does. We would also have the branch west of Charlottetown carried, as far as possible, through the most central and inland parts of the Island.

We may be told that a railroad would, in a few trips in the fall, carry all the oats, barley, potatoes and turnips that the Island could produce in one season, and might be laid up for the rest of the year. Perhaps we may also be told that a railroad would carry to one freight all the eggs and butter that could be "scraped up" in seven years. But, even admitting all this to be partly true, we should remember that a railroad, once in operation, would find many things to carry besides butter, eggs, potatoes, &c., &c. We have frequently seen supplies for shipbuilding purposes, such as iron, oakum, pitch, tar, chains, anchors, cordage, &c., &c., sent from Charlottetown to distant parts of the country by the land route. We have also seen very heavy spars, large quantities of ships' plank, and other heavy lumber, hauled from Charlottetown to the shipyards at Morell and other distant parts of the Island, with a great amount of expense and fatigue to men and horses. Would not a railroad facilitate the transit of such things with a great saving of labor and expense?

One of the greatest difficulties the farmers who have settled in the interior of the country have to contend with is, the procuring of a sufficient supply of manure for their land. No matter how good the quality of the soil may have been originally, we find, from experience, that by continual cropping and raising such large quantities of oats, the land becomes, in the course of years, reduced to a mere skeleton, and it may be said that, although the sturdy pioneer, who settles down in the forest, has many hardships to encounter for a number of years, yet there is this to be said, for the first twenty or thirty years his farm will yield better crops than it will ever afterwards. The reason of this is that it takes many years before the native richness of the soil becomes exhausted. The fact of the matter is, that too few of our Island farmers have, as yet, begun to have even an idea of proper farming. It is very true, they are cutting and clearing away the forest fast enough, and opening up large tracts of country; but, in doing so, they are, in too many cases, only reducing the country to a more barren and really desert state than it was in before the pale man ever set his foot on it.

Now if these over-cropped tracts of country are to be reclaimed, the proper remedies must be applied, and amongst those remedies we may reckon lime, an article which our best farmers now find to be indispensable. Heretofore only those living in the immediate vicinity of our towns and villages, with perhaps a few who got up lime kilns at some of the loading grounds throughout the Island, ever went to the trouble or expense of applying lime to their farms. Those living in the remote and back settlements could not think of hauling lime or limestone, or any other substitute, such a distance; but a railroad once in operation would at least bring those necessaries more within their reach. Were a few branches of railroad once started through the country, we would soon find lime kilns established through the inland settlements by our enterprising farmers. Even the mussel shells so much and so successfully employed by our most enterprising farmers living near our bays and rivers could be easily carried to the interior by means of the iron-horse.

Again, with railroads in operation, a mechanic living, for instance, in Charlottetown, might take the contract of erecting buildings through the country and furnishing all the materials, which is the cheapest and most satisfactory way of getting up buildings in town or country. He could prepare the frame, make up all the joiner work, including windows, doors, &c., place them on the cars, have them delivered at or near the building site, and all put together and completed in a few days. This is very frequently done in the neighbouring Republic, and we do not see why we may not see the same done here before many years. Brick as a building material is likely to come before long into more general use than heretofore, not only in towns, but among some of the well-to-do farmers through the country, and here again for the carriage of such a heavy material the railroad would be found most