

giving at the south in September, they progress northward until they reach Guiana in March and April. As a consequence, when the southern tributaries of the Amazon are most swollen, the northern tributaries are at their lowest ebb, and vice versa, and thus a balance is maintained between the upper and lower parts of the valley.

The temperature of the whole valley is remarkably even, varying from the minimum to the maximum not more than fifteen degrees. The temperature of the water of the Amazon is also even, the maximum being 81 degrees, and the minimum 78. In this respect, there is a feeling of comfort most agreeable to the inhabitants. In speaking of the extraordinary profusion of vegetation of the valley, Professor Agassiz said it covered the whole surface of the land, and embraced upon the water. Indeed, the quantity of water plants is as remarkable as that of terrestrial plants. The density of the land vegetation is so great that the only means of traversing the country is by the water courses, and when the traveller leaves these, he must out-hike with the axes; so that, however civilization may extend here, there can never be any extensive land communication, on account of the great expenditure which would be required for bridges. There is a peculiar charm in these water paths. In some places they are only wide enough for the passage of a boat constructed of a hollow log, and are arched with foliage. In other localities they have sufficient width for the passage of ships. These streams so intersect one another that it is often difficult for the voyager to determine whether he is sailing in a branch or in the main channel. There is no direct course in which the water finds its way; but it takes innumerable channels, sometimes at right angles with each other and all containing an astonishing number of islands. The presence of islands in the Amazon makes it impossible to see across the whole breadth of the stream; and even if there were no islands, the great width of the stream would prevent a view from shore to shore. Not till the traveller gets above the Rio Negro, twelve hundred miles from the ocean, can he see both sides of the river from the same point.

Words are wanting to express the variety, beauty and combinations of this vegetation. One of its most striking characteristics is its heterogeneity. There are not simply a few kinds found together, presenting sameness and monotony, as at the north. On the contrary, they are hardly ever two plants of the same species, found side by side. The trees do not stand alone in open spaces, but are clustered and interlaced with vines, creepers and parasites, hard to penetrate. This character of the vegetation extends over the whole basin. In the lakes the aquatic plants grow so thickly that the traveller threading his way among them with a boat sails for miles without seeing either water or earth. Nothing, said the professor, is to be compared with this view, especially when the water is covered for many miles by that magnificent water lily, the Victoria Regia, with its splendid whiteness. On these plant covered water docks of birds of high variety of the scene. Stocks, herons, and other birds run over them as if in dry land.

Professor Agassiz exhibited some of the smaller leaves and fruit stalks of the palm, to give an idea of the immense growth to which these plants attain. There are some specimens in the hall of one of them. Some of these leaves measure thirty to forty feet in length, and ten to fifteen in width; and even when dry one of them was a heavy load for one man to drag.

Professor Agassiz gives a most glowing account of the birds of Brazil. He said: "One of the glories of South America was the family of humming birds. They are found not only in the low lands, but in all the valleys of the Andes, in hundreds of varieties. It is quite remarkable, the lecturer observed, that there are no humming birds on earth, except those found on the American continent. It is also a peculiarity of the birds of brilliant plumage that those having the most brilliant colors are the least remarkable in the song."

With reference to the mamalia, the localities of the different species was still more striking. The lecturer described several families of aquatic mamalia found in Brazil, both cetaceans and pachydermatus—the tapir and the peccary being the only genera of the latter. There were evidences, he said, that the rhinoceros, the elephant and the megatherium, (the latter a genus of itself,) once had representatives in this country, and a Dutch naturalist had discovered a large number of extinct species of animals in Brazil than now exist there of living species. It was evident, therefore, that the animal world began with a small number of varieties, and some contended, then we know nothing of their beginning.

In the family of ruminants there are no bulls, cows, sheep or antelope. Even the deer, so numerous in North America, Europe and Asia, are in Brazil reduced to a few small species, not exceeding the size of the common goat. The whole host of quadrupeds characterizing northern regions are wanting, and they are replaced by many varieties of skunks.

The closing portion of the lecture was devoted to the subject of the monkey tribes, and he felt bound to express his convictions on the subject. While regarding the monkey tribes as the highest of the quadrupedal mamalia, and as next to man, he could not sanction the doctrine of the final transformation of monkeys into man, and was not inclined to admit that we are descendants of the highest monkeys. In this connection the lecturer remarked in an interesting manner upon the characteristics of the monkey, the orangutan, the chimpanzee, the gorilla and the gibbon, marking them as families distinct from man, and though in many points having affinity, yet having different parents. We should see the evidence of a thinking mind in the whole creation, and recognize ourselves as the children of God, and not as the children of monkeys.

VARNISH FOR SHOES.—It is a bad plan to grease the upper leather of shoes for the purpose of keeping them soft; it rots the leather, and admits dampness more readily. It is better to make a varnish thus:—Put a pound of gum shellac, broken up in small pieces, in a quart bottle or jug; cover it with alcohol, cork it tight, and put it on a shelf in a warm place; shake it well several times a day, then add a piece of gum camphor as large as a hen's egg; shake it well, and in a few hours shake it again, and add one ounce of lamp black; if the alcohol is good—pour out two or three teaspoonfuls in a saucer, and apply it with a small paint brush. If the materials are all good, it will dry in about five minutes and will be removed only by washing it off, giving a gloss almost equal to patent leather. The advantage of this preparation above others is, it does not strike into the leather

and make it hard, but remains on the surface, and yet excludes the water almost perfectly.

This same preparation is admirable for harness, and does not soil when touched, as lamp black preparations do.—Hall's Journal of Health.

HORRIBLE SITUATION.

Our neighbors in London occasionally present us with some revolting instances of crime and terror, which we report with feelings of disgust. But a case has just now occurred among them which in crime had no part, but which, nevertheless, is among the most horrible and fatal misfortunes. Street preachers abound there, as the police and police magistrates know to their great annoyance. One of those volunteer preachers died the other day, under circumstances which led to still another, and, if possible, more terrible disaster. The individual in question, James Sampson, was by business a lawyer, who having saved enough to be a freeholder, lived at Cross Cottage, Poplar, near London. He had been accustomed to preach at street corners, but had lately enunciated his sage views as to the approaching end of the world, together with all the particulars relating to the world to come, in a little chapel which he rented. His wife had been bed-ridden for six months and they had neither servant nor lodger. The end of this world, which James Sampson had so long and so loudly preached at length, for some days he had not been seen out of his house, and his neighbors at length became so anxious about him that they summoned the police, who made a forcible entrance. There, a shocking sight presented itself. The man was seated in his arm-chair, quite dead. His bed-ridden wife, unable to move or even to summon assistance, had for three long and, oh, how terrible days, before her eyes, her dead husband. Rendered utterly helpless, she was unable to make the first movement toward the cupboard, which was well supplied with provisions, and when found was on the very point of death from absolute famine, and her mind was already darkened. When asked how long her husband had been dead, she replied two years. The poisonous creature was removed to the nearest hospital, where skill, care and proper nourishment have been used to her to sense and promise to prolong her life.—Paris Street.

A California paper tells of a lady in Alma who became a grandmother on the day she was twenty-four years old.

A fish was caught in the Ohio river, Cincinnati, last week, the stomach of which, upon dissection, was found to contain a small morocco wallet holding a two dollar bill and a valuable diamond ring. We should like to introduce that breed of fish into this neighborhood.

When you are going to a party of mirth, think of the hazard you run of misbehaving. While you are engaged, do not wholly forget yourself; and after all is over reflect how you have behaved. If well, be thankful; if otherwise, be more careful for the future.

Mr. Seward seems to be what is known to traders as a "bad pay." A New York paper says that the Telegraphic charges on a long despatch which he sent to the American minister at Paris a month ago have not been fully paid. They amount to \$25,000 in gold, and of this sum Mr. Seward has been able to raise only \$5,000. United States finances must be in a bad way.

It is often said that the most serious discussions between married people take their rise in the most trifling and inconsiderable circumstances. It is a fact, however, that a man and a woman who settle with a pair of smoothing irons and a broomstick will so estrange a gentleman and lady of refinement that nothing but a divorce can reconcile them either to themselves or to society.

The Spanish Government has decided to send a fleet of four iron-clads to the Pacific.

Mr. Frederick Seward has gone to Havre to consummate the bargain for a U. S. naval station in the bay of Sanana, for which \$50,000 in gold is to be paid.

About twenty miles from Carson City, Nevada, are some remarkable mineral springs called "Steamboat Springs," from the noise they make. These springs cover an area of about three acres. The water is boiling hot, and cures rheumatism. There are crevices in the rocks where the water can be seen boiling at a depth of thirty feet.

The President has prepared a message voting the District of Columbia Suffrage bill.

Head Centre Stephens, has retired from the Fenian organization. Some call him a traitor and others a coward.

Candia, or Crete, contains a population of 250,000 people.

In December, 1855, the net debt of Boston, less means on hand to pay it, was \$10,410,849; in December, 1866, the debt, less the means of payment, had decreased by \$758,989.

New Mexico has been under the control of the United States for nearly twenty years, and neither the people of the territory nor the government have appropriated a dollar to make education free to all. The Catholics only have free schools.

The bark Dismark, of P. E. Island, recently reported as having struck on Cape Porpoise, at the North entrance of the Strait of Canso, was sold at auction on last Saturday for the benefit of the sick and aged. The ship being quite new, there was a good deal of competition. The hull and spars, including standing rigging, chains and anchors, were finally knocked down for \$4,840. The running gear, boats, &c., were sold in various lots at fair prices. The sails were put up in one lot and knocked down to Mr. McMillan, the owner, for \$600. The cargo of deals brought about \$1300. The vessel is said to be insured in England.—H. Reporter, Dec. 3.

Over 300 lives were lost by the burning of the steamer Fashion, on the Lower Mississippi, a few days since.

Despatches from the East state that the troubles in Lebanon have been renewed.

We hear that Miss Lockery intends giving a Concert in St. Eleanor's Court House, on Saturday evening next, for the same object for which she gave it in Summerside.

Valuable and convenient.—Brown's Bronchial Troches are widely known as an admirable remedy for Bronchitis, Coughs, and other troubles of the Throat and Lungs. They are of great value for the purpose for which they are designed, while they are usually and pleasantly efficacious, they contain no harmful ingredients, but may at all times be used with perfect safety.—Boston Recorder.

Don't squib it, mothers, Mrs. Winslow's Sore Throat Syrup, for all diseases of children, is a safe and sure medicine. It has stood the test of thirty years, and never known to fail. It regulates the stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and cures wind colic; produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain. Much sickness with children as well as adults, attributed to other causes, is occasioned by worms. Brown's Vermifuge Comfits are effectual in destroying worms, and can do possible injury to the most delicate child.

I have used J. Fitch's Golden Ointment and find it to be the best article for drawing and healing my wounds or skin disease. ROBERT McDONALD, Pictou.

Latest from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE "ASIA."

R. M. S. Asia, from Liverpool 6th, and Queenstown 7th inst., arrived at Halifax on Friday the 18th inst. The news by this mail is not of an important character.

On the 5th and 6th there were heavy falls of snow in England and Ireland, which had the effect of detaining the mails.

The Fenian trials were still progressing, and arrests were being made almost daily.

The Irish militia will be called out this year, as usual, for training; the Government being of opinion that there is no danger of disloyalty, and that the men will obey their officers, who are above suspicion.

Funds held by the Messrs. Rothschild at Paris for payment of Italian "rentes," that is interest on the national debt of Italy, have been seized under process of law, by unsatisfied creditors at Paris.

The Globe urges the Conservative statesmen at the head of the Government to sympathize with the prevailing temper of the public mind, and to give the form of the public mind at the end of a fortnight after the meeting of Parliament the character of the Government and its fate will be irrevocably decided.

The unfortunate Italian Admiral Persano, who was defeated by the Austrians at Lissa, will have a bad time of it for the remainder of his life, however his trial may terminate. The Italian correspondent of the Times says: "There are three heads of accusation against Persano—treason, cowardice, incapacity."

The first two will be rejected—the bill so far prepared by the Senatorial Grand Jury. It will be a long and howling a body, and the Senate will send it self competent to award punishment to an Admiral for having been unequal to the performance of his duty. However the matter may end, there can be little doubt that Persano will quit the service, unless he be, of which there seems no probability, honorably acquitted.

The London magistrates, finding that the infliction of fines on butchers who send to market meat unfit for human food fails to lesson the evils, are changing their tactics, and they are now sending the offenders to prison without the option of a fine.

The financial policy of Mr. Gladstone seems likely, according to the revenue returns to the end of the year, to leave his successor a surplus of a million and a half or two millions. Will this be applied to a reduction of taxation, or will the bloated armaments which Mr. Disraeli has denounced swallow it up?

Emigration from Liverpool is on the increase, but not much. During the last year the increase to the United States was 2,337 over that of the previous year. It seems that during 1866 a total of 600 ships, carrying an aggregate of 12,358 passengers, left the Mersey for foreign countries, and the colonies.

The year 1866 was a bad one for Crete, and the emigration of the last twelve months was only about a third of what then took place.

THE CRETAN WAR.—The London Times of the 28th ult., contains a letter from Athens, dated Dec. 20. The following extract shows the present aspect of the insurrection:

The whole force of the insurgents—Cretan, Christian and Greek volunteers—in the western part of the island are all being concentrated on the hills that overlook the eastern portion of the Plain of Alikiani, and is said to amount to nearly 6,000 men. Their headquarters are at Zarva, and Meskita may be regarded as the key of their position. The force is imposing, from the nature of its composition, for 2000 chosen volunteers and 4000 of the best warriors in Crete are not likely to be given, without a desperate struggle, from an entrenched position of their own selection. The Crete Government, by the way, are curing provisions for large bodies of men during the winter, and the necessity of preventing the Turks from executing their threats of burning down every village of which the inhabitants have not sent in their arms. Should the insurgents prove successful in defeating the Western Turks, they will be able to protect the Western Provinces; and should they be defeated, they propose breaking up into small parties and carrying on a guerilla warfare.

In the meantime the force detached to raise the siege of Kissamos is advancing to re-establish the authority of Mustafa Pasha in the Province of Seliass, which he evacuated when he withdrew the Cretan Mussulman families from Kandanos. This division of the Ottoman army is accompanied by a number of Crete Mussulmans, who are as eagerly bent on vengeance as on the recovery of their estates. The presence of Greek officers in uniform in the ranks of the insurgents, and of the red shirts of the Italians, has also infuriated the regular troops, for it is to their presence that the Ottoman Government ascribes the determination shown by the Christians to reject the proffered amnesty. The Turkish army is in a disposition to employ the most cruel measures against the insurgents, and henceforth the war will certainly be carried on with terrible animosity.

The Times says it is long since the Foreign Office has ever had less cause of anxiety about European affairs. If the eastern question is destined to be solved this year, there is every reason to hope that it will be so peacefully. There is but one cloud on the horizon of our foreign policy at the opening of this new year, and that cloud is not so threatening but that it may be dispersed by a moderate effort of diplomatic skill. The only nation which appears to harbor any grudge against us, is that which of all others, and for every reason, we should least wish to make our enemy, and that is the United States.—The same paper strongly urges the necessity of arranging existing disputes, and preventing difficulties in the future.

Latest by Telegraph.

Paris, Jan. 14. The Americans in this city give a banquet to-morrow to James Gordon Bennett, Jr., at the Grand Hall.

Vienna, Jan. 16. The British Minister gave a dinner last night to the Greeks in this city, at which he offered a toast to the welfare of Greece.

New York, Jan. 18. Gold 136.

Latest from St. John, N. B. On the 28th inst., at St. John, N. B., the weather for last few days has been very cold; moderated last evening and a snow storm set in, with a gale from the north-east. About ten inches snow fell last night. Roads very much drifted. Eastern mail due here this morning is fifteen hours behind time.

Fredericton, Jan. 18. One of the most severe snow storms that have been experienced here for several years commenced about five o'clock yesterday afternoon, and continued with an unmitigated severity until this morning. The Eastern wind then became less violent, but the snow has continued falling up to the present time.

On Wednesday evening about 9 o'clock a fire broke out in the Exhibition building, where between 400 and 500 troops are quartered, but fortunately there was very little wind at the time, and by the prompt action of those on duty the fire was extinguished before any considerable damage was done.

A Court Martial has been sitting here for some days on the case of a private who attempted to shoot a corporal last week. Decision not yet promulgated.

Moncton, Jan. 18. Storm commenced yesterday, with snow falling six p. m. One and a half feet of snow fell during the night. Wind from N. E.—heavy very hard and snow drifted in heaps in all directions, completely blocking up the roads.

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1867.

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

COUNTY INSTITUTIONS.

Just now when the affairs of the county occupy more than the usual share of general attention, and when public men, with a patriotism that cannot be too highly commended, are most anxious to discover the wants of the community as well as to devise the very best means of supplying these wants, we avail ourselves of the opportunity of directing the attention of both electors and candidates for election to a want that is beginning to be very sensibly felt in this County. We mean that of County Institutions. While the population of the Island was small, while the people were poor, and while there was but very little business done in places situated at a distance from the capital, it was perhaps proper enough to have nearly all the public offices situated in Charlottetown. But now since the country has become comparatively rich and populous, the system of centralization which might, half a century ago, have been both necessary and convenient, is felt to be one of the most serious of the public grievances of the colony. We wonder, indeed, that so little has hitherto been said and written on this subject. We have spoken to several persons about the inconvenience resulting to the public from the want of County Institutions, and every one of them agreed with us that the time had arrived when the people of Prince County, at least, should no longer quietly submit to the expense and trouble consequent upon having so much of the public business transacted in Charlottetown. If a Will is to be proved or letters of administration taken out, the parties concerned, no matter what their circumstances, must undertake a journey to Town. If a deed or other document is to be registered, or if information relative to documents is required, application must be made to the Register Office in Charlottetown. If a man resident at the West Point, wishes to see the specification of a public work to be erected at his own door, he must undertake a journey of 100 miles or more before he can obtain the information which he requires; and even then he may be obliged to return without getting a sight of the plans or other papers which he sought to obtain a sight of at such an expense of money and exertion. If a lad wishes to know whether or not he is qualified to become a student in the Normal School, situated in Charlottetown, he must journey to that city if 100 miles from it, in order to undergo a by no means profound examination in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and arithmetic. If a poor schoolmaster wishes to take an upward step in his own expense attend the meeting of the Board of Education in Charlottetown. We could mention the names of several parties who were forced to travel eighty and a hundred miles to and from Charlottetown on bootless errands, owing to the absence or indispension of public officers. We do not wish it to be thought that we are complaining of the present incumbents of the various public offices. We are so far from doing this that we most cheerfully bear testimony, in so far as our personal knowledge extends, to the polite, prompt and efficient manner in which they, in general, discharge their duties. The only fault we have to find with most of them is that they are too far away. We only wish that some of them, or others equally efficient, were forty miles nearer us. The people of Prince and King's Counties should require of their representatives in Parliament to provide for the establishment in Summerside and Georgetown of the offices of Judge of Probate, Register of Deeds and Superintendent of Public Works. A Board of Education and a Visitor of Schools should also be appointed for each of the three Counties. The increased expense would not be very great, and would, we venture to predict, be more than compensated by the many advantages which the establishment of County Institutions would afford the inhabitants of Prince and King's Counties.

This we think is the proper place in which to advocate the erection in Summerside of a building suitable for a Custom House and Post Office, and which will be spacious enough to contain the places of business of those public officers whom we hope ere long to see appointed for Prince County. Such a building is very much required, and the people of the District have only steadily to insist on its speedy erection, and the funds will be quickly forthcoming from the government of the day, whether Conservative or Liberal.

THE "HIGH TEA." We neglected to state in our last issue that the Entertainment held in the St. Eleanor's Court House, on the 15th inst., was a complete success. The Court House was crowded to its utmost capacity, the tables were plentifully supplied with every delicacy of the season, and the Tree which we can hardly venture to call Christmas, yielded a generous harvest of the most incongruous productions. The amount realized was, we learn, somewhat about fifty pounds, a sum sufficient not only to liquidate the debt due on the Church, but also to pay several other bills for painting and repairing the parsonage, and still to leave a small balance in hand. The indefatigable and public spirited ladies who planned the Entertainment and brought it to a successful conclusion, deserve the highest praise.

The second anniversary meeting of Granite Lodge, of the B. O. G. Templars, will take place in their Lodge room, North Bedoune, on Monday evening next, the 4th of February, at 7 o'clock.

THE NEWS.

The news by the last English mail is of the most meagre character. There is very little of any interest going on on the other side of the Atlantic. The Fenians are extremely quiet. An arrest of some deluded conspirator, and the discovery and seizure of concealed arms now and again take place, but it is evident that the heart of Fenianism is broken. This happy result is in great part owing to the firm stand made against the movement by the Roman Catholic clergy of all orders. There is hardly a doubt if the Fenian conspiracy had received the countenance of the Catholic priesthood, it would both in Ireland and America have assumed much more formidable dimensions. We hope and believe that we have seen the last of Fenianism. The remaining "wrecks of" Ireland are in a fair way of being righted in a rational and constitutional manner, and we do not despair if we do not die very soon, of seeing the Irish a prosperous and a contented people.

The Yacht race between the three American clippers has excited a good deal of interest in England. Three yachts, the Henrietta, the Fleetwing, and the Vesta, of about 270 tons each started from New York on a long race across the Atlantic. The Henrietta was the winner, making the voyage in fourteen days and a quarter. She arrived at Cowes on Christmas Day. The Fleetwing got in on the next day, and the Vesta came into port about an hour and a half after her. Taking into consideration the great distance sailed, the very short interval between the arrival of the first and that of the last vessel is something wonderful. It strikes us that the result by no means proves that the Henrietta is the best sailer, or that the Vesta is the worst. The owner of the Henrietta has, however, won the handsome sum of \$90,000 on the race. This sum, great as it is, does not represent the whole of his winnings, for as he has backed his own yacht largely, his betting book will show him a winner to a very large amount. It is much to be regretted that the Fleetwing lost six hands during the voyage. This might certainly have taken place under ordinary circumstances, but most people will not very unreasonably conclude that these valuable lives were wantonly sacrificed. We have not heard that any enquiry has been instituted into the circumstances of the loss of so large a portion of the Fleetwing's crew.

There seems just now to be a lull in the Reform Agitation. Parliament is to meet on the 5th of February, when, no doubt the matter will be again ventilated. The doings of the Confederate Delegates have hitherto been kept surprisingly secret. They have allowed very little to escape them. We cannot discover what resemblance the Act of Confederation to be laid before Parliament at its next session bears to the famous or infamous Quebec Scheme. We would like immensely to know what mention is made of this little island in its provisions, many others besides, are quite in the dark about the matter. There is one comfort, however, and that is, our suspense will not be of very long duration. In a few weeks at most our fate will be made known to us. Who can say what it is to be?

On this side of the Atlantic everything is gloomy. Boding clouds are seen to hang heavily on the commercial horizon. Trade is dull in the United States, and employment is every day becoming harder to be procured. Emigrants from the Old Countries, who expected to find America a land flowing with milk and honey, are every day returning, disappointed and disgusted, to the despoiled lands of their forefathers, wiser and perhaps better men. The financial crisis has not yet arrived, but men are looking for it with fear and trembling. We hope and trust the storm will pass over, and that our American cousins will be spared the many and great miseries which attend seasons of commercial confusion.

Since writing the above we see by the American papers that President Johnson has been impeached. We thought that the American affairs were quite complicated enough, and American difficulties quite hard enough of solution without there being added fresh complications and fresh difficulties to those which were already found to be too puzzling and too knotty for their wisest statesmen to unravel and surmount. What is to be the result of all this trouble, who can tell? Will republican institutions be strong enough to bear the strain put upon them. Will the strife of party and the intrigues of politicians do more to injure the republic and to unsettle men's faith in popular institutions than did the revolt of the southern people. We very much fear that Liberty in the United States, as in France, will receive her most deadly wounds from the hands of the most enthusiastic of her worshippers. We never dreamt that the threat of impeachment, which we thought to be the wild utterance of heated half crazed partisans, would ever be carried into execution. To expect that President Johnson will get justice from his judges, who must be either his accusers or his partisans, is out of the question. We ask again what is to be the end of all this confusion and discord?

A QUICK PASSAGE.—The Mimchaha, owned by N. J. Brown, Esq., of St. Eleanor's, and under the command of Capt. Bennet, made the run from Cape Canso to Cape Clear, in the very short space of thirteen days. It is not often that the "Mill Pond" is crossed at this season, or indeed at any season, in such a dashy manner. If the Mimchaha had been fitted out for a race she would have given the Yankee Clippers a tight run for it.

We are glad to learn that our young men, and young women too, are taking a great interest in the singing school recently opened in this town. It numbers already upwards of forty-five scholars. Mr. Huestis, who is the teacher, is said to be an excellent singer, and well able to impart to his class a knowledge of music.

SEVERAL OF THE VESSELS WHICH SAILED FROM THIS ISLAND LAST FALL FOR GREAT BRITAIN, WERE NOT INSURED, AND WE ARE GLAD TO LEARN THAT THEY HAVE ALL ARRIVED SAFE.

THE NEW MARKET HOUSE IN CHARLOTTETOWN was opened on Friday last. The Patriot says: "In consequence of the recent heavy snow and the bad state of the roads, the display of country produce was exceedingly limited. The butchers department on the other hand, was well filled with beef, mutton, pork, &c." We fully agree with the editor of that paper when he says:—

"Charlottetown has now the most commodious Market House in the Lower Provinces. Georgetown is provided with one equal to its present wants. Summerside is an important place of business, but it has neither a regular market nor Market House. Let the people make an early application to the Legislature, and have this want supplied. We shall be glad to give them every progressive towns ought to have a Market House, and is entitled to a grant of money from the public treasury to aid them in building one."

MECHANICS' FISHING COMPANY OF CHARLOTTETOWN.—The annual meeting of the above Company was held last evening, when the directors presented a statement of their operations during the past year, which, considering the circumstances of the Company in the first year of its existence, and the fact that fishing operations during the past year were everywhere unprofitably unprofitable, showed a very favorable result. The Company declared a dividend of 20 per cent. on their paid capital, after which the following persons were chosen Directors for the current year, namely: Messrs. John Cairns, J. W. Falconer, W. T. Morris, Benjamin Williams, John Ross, James Barrett, and John Quirk. J. W. Falconer, Secy.

Charlottetown, Jan. 25, 1867.

SEVERAL OF THE VESSELS WHICH SAILED FROM THIS ISLAND LAST FALL FOR GREAT BRITAIN, WERE NOT INSURED, AND WE ARE GLAD TO LEARN THAT THEY HAVE ALL ARRIVED SAFE.

THE BRIG, Kelpie, Captain Walsh, which sailed from this port, arrived at Crook Haven, on the 26th Dec., making the passage in about 20 days. Her cargo has been landed in good order and sold at a good price.—The vessel and cargo were owned by Messrs. W. T. & R. Hunt.

WHEN we stated a few weeks since that a mail would be made up and forwarded from Summerside direct to New London, semi-weekly, we were given to understand that it was the intention of the Postmaster General to have done so immediately. We believe the mail bags have been made and forwarded to the office in this place, but as yet we have seen no tenders issued for a carrier. Would it not do to have it carried during the winter months by a man on snow shoes, paid out of the pockets of the private individuals of this place? Our letters and papers would then, in all probability, reach those places as soon as they do now, considering that a letter has to go to Charlottetown addressed to an individual at Traveller's Rest, a place, distant only three miles from Summerside.

OUR neighbors, like ourselves, have been visited with a great snow storm. The description of the storm as given by the True Humorist, of St. John, N. B., is rather amusing. The account from Roberts says "Storm here has abated, so has the swearing of the track masters and switchmen. Snow one foot, and old Tuppey six feet on the level. At Ossekeag it says—"Storm has been over head for some days, is now under foot mostly. Snow thirteen inches deep, and will be deeper if more comes. One ox team came to the station to-day—driver had two bricks in his hat for foundation stone for new Reformatory. At Norton it says—"Storm wound up last night. Station clock ditto. Neither of which have gone since. Depth of snow fifteen inches. Weather like our doctor—sharp. Mercury gone up in the thermometer—gone down in the Heavens—gone "to the dogs" in physic. At Sussex it says, "Trade slowly increasing. Two loads of wood and a tub of butter come to station to-day. Storm has been fearful, and wife has been fearful. Men could not work on account of the storm."

We publish in another column a communication signed "One Who Was There," which was sent us by an esteemed friend. We would rather it had been sent to one of the political papers. We wish it to be distinctly understood, that while we are willing to open our columns to the reports of political meetings, made by the authorized Secretary of the same—so that our readers may know what is going on,—we are opposed to opening them for party discussions. We cannot in fairness refuse to publish a reply to our present correspondent's letter should any be sent, but we will not publish any other hereafter.

THE English mail was received here on Friday last. It laid in Bedoune Post Office for two days waiting for a carrier, and it would likely be there yet had not a few individuals hired a man to go for it on foot. This kind of mail carrying would just suit some folks. It matters not to them how much our business men suffer, the cry is "don't spend the public money." Truly we are progressing—like the lobsters.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Jan 19/67.—His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, has been pleased to accept the resignation of the Hon. James Duncan, as a member of the Executive Council of this Island.

NORMAL SCHOOL.—The Rev. George Sutherland has presented to this institution a valuable collection of minerals. The collection consists of 70 specimens, mostly Geological, from this and the neighboring Provinces. The number of students for the present term is upwards of 40. The next term will commence on the 13th of February.—Pat

THE New Market House in Charlottetown was opened on Friday last. The Patriot says: "In consequence of the recent heavy snow and the bad state of the roads, the display of country produce was exceedingly limited. The butchers department on the other hand, was well filled with beef, mutton, pork, &c." We fully agree with the editor of that paper when he says:—

"Charlottetown has now the most commodious Market House in the Lower Provinces. Georgetown is provided with one equal to its present wants. Summerside is an important place of business, but it has neither a regular market nor Market House. Let the people make an early application to the Legislature, and have this want supplied. We shall be glad to give them every progressive towns ought to have a Market House, and is entitled to a grant of money from the public treasury to aid them in building one."

MECHANICS' FISHING COMPANY OF CHARLOTTETOWN.—The annual meeting of the above Company was held last evening, when the directors presented a statement of their operations during the past year, which, considering the circumstances of the Company in the first year of its existence, and the fact that fishing operations during the past year were everywhere unprofitably unprofitable, showed a very favorable result. The Company declared a dividend of 20 per cent. on their paid capital, after which the following persons were chosen Directors for the current year, namely: Messrs. John Cairns, J. W. Falconer, W. T. Morris, Benjamin Williams, John Ross, James Barrett, and John Quirk. J. W. Falconer, Secy.

Charlottetown, Jan. 25, 1867.