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THE BOBCAYGEON INDEPENDENT.

Bobcaygeon, April 15th, 1871.

AFFAIRS IN PARIS.

Unfortunate Paris is in a fearful state, and grave fears are entertained that the madness which appears to have seized upon its inhabitants may spread to other parts of France. The Communists, for some time past have held the capital in defiance of the authorities, and terrible scenes have been enacted in the streets of what really seems to be the "doomed city", fighting, with great loss of life, being of almost daily occurrence between the insurgents and the supporters of the Government. Something very like a "Reign of Terror" has been established by the so far triumphant rabble, who have, it is said, committed horrible outrages, the last recorded being upon the person of the Venerable Archbishop Darboy, who, the report states, was "stripped naked, bound to a pillar, and scourged and mocked for hours by a band of 200 Reds." In this, as in all previous Parisian outbreaks of a similar nature, the great aim of the mob seems to be to ridicule and stamp out every sentiment of religion and morality; and we are not, therefore, surprised to read that churches have been pillaged, the splendid Cathedral of Notre Dame threatened, and that priests and nuns have been arrested and cast into prison, and derisively entitled "servants of a person called God!"

Outside the walls of the city large bodies of the Versailles Government's troops are assembled; and, although one report says that it has been resolved to enter Paris by storm rather than bombard the city, another account is headed "The bombardment of Paris", but this refers to the defensive outworks, not the occupied portion of the city itself. An almost constant firing is kept up by the forts in the hands of the insurgents upon the Government troops, for the most part without doing much harm; but on Easter Sunday a steady bombardment of Paris was kept up by Fort Valerien, which is held by the Government, and a partial breach was effected in the fortifications, but the Versaille troops appear no nearer obtaining admission to the city than they were a week ago. How the suicidal strife will end no one seems to predict with any degree of certainty; some apparently thinking that, with the siege guns now being brought up, the insurgents will soon be compelled to sue for peace, and others, that the Communists will eventually triumph and proclaim a Republic. The special correspondent of the London *World* says:—"Unless the Germans save us, Paris must soon swim with blood. The Commune hourly grows more desperate and resorts to fierce excesses", and that German interference can be obtained, if necessary, seems probable, as the same writer, in another communication, says:—"Bismarck has informed M. Thiers that all restrictions concerning the number of troops for Paris are removed, and that he may occupy the city with 150,000 men if necessary. He also tells Thiers that the present indecisive policy must end, and that the insurrection must end, or Germany will march into the capital and retain it until a stable Government be established".

MUD LAKE BRIDGE.—On Wednesday we had no mail from Peterborough, in consequence of a portion of the bridge over Mud Lake having been carried away by the ice. The bridge was repaired as soon as possible and some teams crossed on Thursday morning, but a few hours later it was again impassable. The mail was brought from Bridgenorth by the steamer *Norelty* on Thursday night.

NAVIGATION.—This week navigation on the lower lakes commenced. On Thursday the swing bridge across the Bobcaygeon canal was opened for the first time this season, and the *Norelty* succeeded in reaching Bridgenorth. Two attempts—one on Tuesday and one on Wednesday—were made by the *Ogemah*, which is lying at Lindsay, to get down to Bobcaygeon, but she was stopped by the ice at or near Sturgeon Point. We shall no doubt have the pleasure of seeing her here in a day or two.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A very important measure has just been carried in the House of Commons after a rather long debate. We mean the admission of British Columbia to the Dominion of Canada, an address to the throne praying for which is now under the consideration of the Senate, by whom there is no doubt it will be passed. The terms of admission, which are of course numerous, are considered, and we think with reason, unduly advantageous to British Columbia, and some of them were strongly but ineffectually combatted by the Opposition. The two most objectionable clauses are the third, which give to the applicant for admission an annual grant of 80 cents per head on the present population of 60,000 (less than one fourth of whom are whites), and the eleventh, by which the Dominion Government is bound to construct, within ten years, a railway to connect the sea-board of British Columbia with the railway system of Canada. In consideration of Canada building this line—which it is estimated will cost about $125,000,000—British Columbia is to cede twenty miles of land on each side of the track throughout the whole extent of its territory traversed by the railway. As the road is not only to be built but to be run by the Dominion, it appears to us that British Columbia is getting decidedly the best of the bargain; especially when we consider that the line will run through 2,500 miles of country, which includes the Rocky Mountains and considerable wilderness, and consequently may not pay working expenses for many years to come. At any rate, whether it turns out a safe investment or not, the risk of profit or loss ought to have been divided; but the cheerful alacrity with which our Dominion Government accept all the hazard, and jump at all the conditions of British Columbia, cannot fail to impress the inhabitants of that region with a strong sense of the liberality or *greenness* of Canadian politicians. "Oh, but," say some of the Government supporters, "Canada won't feel the expense; the railway will be built by private capitalists who will take lands in pay"; but with regard to this method of constructing the road, one of our exchanges, the Madoc *Mercury*, sensibly remarks:

"What the people have really seriously to consider is, however, whether it will be to their own ultimate advantage to hand over sixty million acres of land to any railway company. For if the road should be built and prove as great a success as predicted, the wealth and influence of the Company would enable the Directors to shape the legislation and taxation of the country just to suit themselves,—just as the few wealthy manufacturing concerns of the New England States have for years been able to protect themselves at the expense of the bulk of the U. S. population."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

On Saturday morning last, about 10 o'clock, Rev. William Richardson, Wesleyan minister, while on his way to a distant Sabbath appointment, met with an accident which resulted in the dislocation of his left arm. His mare, a quiet and usually very sure-footed animal, having spent the greater part of the previous ten days in the stable,—in consequence of having "caulked" herself badly just below the knee,—had become somewhat frisky, though the injured leg had not recovered its full strength. While crossing a piece of smooth rock near Little Bob bridge, she gave a sudden jump, her left forefoot slipped from under her, and the other (the wounded one) not being able to sustain her entire weight, she came down upon both knees. Mr. Richardson, thinking that she would recover herself in a moment, sat still; but, in attempting to rise, the mare's hind feet slipped also, and she fell upon the near shaft of the sulky with such force that it was broken, and the sudden jerk communicated to the vehicle threw the reverend gentleman out on the right side. In falling he caught hold of the shaft with his left hand, and his weight coming upon his arm while in an outstretched position, his shoulder was badly dislocated, the humerus (we believe it is called) being entirely out of the socket, and resting upon his breast. Fearing that he was going to faint, Mr. Richardson did not like to get into the vehicle, and so he walked back to Bobcaygeon, a distance of about half a mile, with his arm resting on his whip-stock, and when he got home, at once sent for medical aid. Dr. McCamus, who was first called in, made several efforts, assisted by Mr. Joseph Graham, to set the limb, but the resistance of the muscles was so great that they could not accomplish it. The patient declaring that the pain was almost past endurance, Dr. Bonnell was also sent for, and he having chloroform with him, the sufferer was soon rendered unconscious, and the operation was then performed without difficulty, as the muscles relaxed the moment insensibility was induced. Mr. Richardson, from whom we obtained the above facts, says that he is progressing favourably, and that he does not suffer much, although his rest is broken, as his shoulder pains him if he remains long in a recumbent position; indeed he tells us that he is troubled nearly as much by his breast as by his shoulder, in consequence of the necessary force applied to prevent his body from moving while the doctors were pulling at his arm. He is, however, we are glad to say, rapidly becoming convalescent; and his congregation will no doubt soon have the pleasure of again listening to his excellent discourses.

THE WEATHER.—The weather has been very variable lately. On Saturday last the thermometer under the verandah of the church of England parsonage stood at *seventy six* late in the afternoon; but since we have had two or three cold windy days with slight flurries of snow and frost at night. On Monday there was a good soaking rain, which, though not as warm as was desirable, no doubt did a great deal of good to the fall wheat. Thursday morning was warm and sun-shiney, and since then the weather has been pleasant.

FARMERS—ADVERTISE.

We often see in our exchanges, and sometimes transfer to our columns, short articles in favour of advertising; but, as a rule, the remarks are addressed to merchants and manufacturers, and, indeed, to all classes but the members of the agricultural community. Now, to our thinking, a farmer, when he wishes to buy or sell anything for which there is not a regular and steady demand, will find advertising just as beneficial as any other man. Said a country subscriber to us, the other day: "You don't know anybody who wants to buy a span of horses, do you?" We said that we didn't; but that if there was an "intending purchaser" of horses in this neighbourhood, the best and quickest way to find him was to put a small advertisement into the paper; and though this advice, if followed, would put a dollar or two into our pocket, it was *sound*, and founded on reason and experience, which a good deal of advice is not. There are almost always, in every section of country, farmers who wish to dispose of horses, cattle, &c., and others who wish to purchase, and their wants can be made known at a very trifling expense through the local paper, which is far ahead of the so much lauded "Quarterly Fairs" as a means of bringing buyer and seller together. Then, again, the advertiser has the advantage of *competition*, which may make a difference of several dollars in the price which has to be accepted, or the price which has to be paid, for an article. Many a farmer has had to keep a span of horses or a yoke of oxen several weeks—perhaps months—after he has no further use for them, at a cost which would pay for a good deal of advertising, and then sell them for less than they are worth to some tight customer who has everything his own way; while very likely there were two or three other persons within a radius of a few miles, who would gladly have given a higher price if they had only known the animals were for sale. In the States everybody advertises, and the *Rural New Yorker*, which charges *a dollar a line for every insertion*, or about *ten dollars per inch of* space, contains hundreds of advertisements every week. We notice, also, that in the older townships of Canada, farmers advertise to a much greater extent than they did a few years, and the agriculturists of other localities will be wise to follow their example. As Mrs. Partington says: "Blessed are the uses of advertising."

HORSES DROWNED.

On Monday morning last Mr. Boyd, of Bobcaygeon, lost a span of valuable horses, which were drowned, we were first informed "in a *mud* hole;" although, as we expected—and found, upon visiting the scene of the disaster—this statement was not entirely correct. Something less than a mile from the swing bridge in this village, a narrow track known as the Nogie creek road branches off from the Galway road, and about fifteen or twenty rods after it commences is, at this season of the year, completely under water. This pond or lake, which is formed by rain and melted snow, covers, we are told, quite a large area, and where the road runs through it appears seventy or eighty yards wide, the depth in the middle being variously stated at from six to ten feet. About half way across, and on the left hand side going from Bobcaygeon, there is a well-hole from which, in summer, excellent water is obtained, but in spring and fall it is covered by the pond which is then formed. Around this dangerous pass there is a new road, which was rendered necessary by the increase of travel in the neighbourhood; but whether Mr. Boyd's teamster was ignorant of this fact, or thought that the water on the old track was of only a trifling depth, we do not know; but he took the latter road, and a few seconds after entering the water his horses were out of their depth and floundering in affright. No doubt the man did the best he could under the circumstances, but his efforts, whether judicious or otherwise, were unavailing; the team swerved from the track, made a dash for the shore, plunged into the "well hole", where the water is at least twelve feet deep, and in a few minutes after were floating lifeless on the surface. As soon as the disaster was made known at the office, half a dozen men were sent down with a team and some ropes, but a raft had to be constructed before the drowned animals could be reached, and then it took a good deal of hard work to get them and the waggon drawn to shore, as the hind wheels of the latter were jammed in the hole and several feet under water. The waggon had nothing in it but two hand trucks for drawing slabs on, which were on their way to the Squaw River mill. Mr. Boyd tells us that the drowned horses were the best he owned, and were worth fully $300. We are informed that, about nine years ago, a span of horses were drowned in almost precisely the same spot, in consequence of breaking through the ice in winter.

DROPPED DEAD.—On Saturday last a mare belonging to Mr. Thornton, cooper, of Bobcaygeon, died on the road about four miles from home. Mr. Thornton, who was riding her, says that she stumbled in a mud hole, and immediately afterwards stepped as if hurt. She went a short distance, however, but suddenly fell, throwing her rider off. She then rose and walked to the side of the road, and, upon being led back to the track, fell again and expired almost without a struggle. Whether she ruptured herself internally when she stumbled, or died from some other cause, is not known, as the carcass was not opened; but Mr. Thornton thinks that possibly botts may have been the cause of death, as he had noticed the mare biting herself and appearing uneasy in the stable, but neglected to physic her. The animal, though somewhat up in years, was a good one, and not long ago was about the fastest trotter in this neighbourhood.

RAILWAY TALK.

The Peterborough press and, we suppose, the Peterborough people, are still talking about, and seem much in favour of, Mr. Fowler's new scheme. At the meeting held in Peterborough a few days ago there was a deputation from Cobourg, consisting of the Mayor, the County Attorney and three or four other gentlemen; and the two officials mentioned both addressed the meeting in favour of the extension of the C. & P. Railway, one of them stating that the contract for filling Rice Lake (could be let for $50,000. This little difficulty) disposed of, the next one is the choice of a route, and on this subject the *Examiner* says:

"It may be a matter for serious consideration, whether the route be by Buckhorn or Bobcaygeon; but there can be no two opinions on the necessity to have a road to the back country—as soon as possible.

To go by Buckhorn would open up a portion of Harvey, that the route by Bobcaygeon would not. But the Bobcaygeon route would tend to prevent rival railways cutting off the trade of the rear of the county.

The cost of construction would be nearly the same if not entirely so, by either routes. It is all, therefore, a question of trade, or of opening up the country in our rear—and at present the Bobcaygeon route appears to be the one best calculated to meet the wants of the people of the Town."

As our confrere thinks, the route is a matter for serious consideration, for if the proposed road be built by way of Buckhorn, it is the opinion of all competent judges with whom we have conversed that, from the moment a railway was completed from Bobcaygeon to any point along the front, the Peterborough line would have little or nothing to do; but if it came to this village it would no doubt get a portion of the trade. As we have stated, however, it is extremely doubtful whether Mr. Fowler's last new scheme will ever amount to anything, the engineering difficulties of the route being so great that it is hardly probable the line would pay.

ANOTHER CONTRACT.—Mr. Frederick Bick, of Bobcaygeon, who has already in hands two brick school-houses in Ops, has just obtained the contract for a handsome brick residence which is to be erected on Mr. Francis Costello's farm, about three and a half miles from Lindsay. The house, which is to be built in villa style, will cost about $3,000, and will compare favourably with almost any of the private residences in the county town. As there were numerous tenders put in, several of which were quite as low as Mr. Bick's, the preference shown him is a satisfactory proof of the estimation in which his mechanical abilities are held.

CONCERT.—Mr. James Waldron gave a Farewell Concert on Monday evening, and though it was not attended as well as it should have been—which was no doubt partly owing to the rain—there were still quite a number of the residents of the village present. The programme was varied and well selected, and the performance very good, as it is at all Bobcaygeon concerts. Mr. Waldron will leave in a few days for Lindsay, where he will probably reside for a time, but, go when he may, he will be followed by the warmest wishes for his welfare of numerous friends in this village.

STILL ANOTHER.—For bull-y blunders the Peterborough *Examiner* stands unrivalled. In his last issue, speaking of the show of Easter beef in a butcher's shop in the village of Ashburnham, he says: "The *citizens* of the *village* will therefore know where to obtain a good roast for the holidays." This is as bad as Paddy's wooden tombstones.

OYSTERS.—The best oysters we have tasted for some time past were procured at the lately established Beaver Restaurant. Mr. Bottum has plenty more of the same sort, also canned lobsters and salmon, which last is a new and toothsome luxury well worthy the attention of all lovers of delicacies.

THE VICTORIA.—We hear that Mr. Shaw's boat, the *Victoria*, is to be furnished with a new and exceedingly powerful engine, which will make her one of the fastest steamers on our inland waters.

A Novel Idea.

A MAN PROPOSES TO SWAP OFF THE PARTNER OF HIS BOSOM.

(*From the St. Joseph (Mo.) Gazette.*)

We heard yesterday of a rather novel case which recently occurred in Caldwell County. It seems an old gentleman residing near Kingston, who had for several years been married, conceived a violent attachment for a young girl living in the neighbourhood. Whether this attachment was reciprocated, or whether he even made it known to her, we are not advised. It happened, however, that a young man had also been paying his addresses to the same girl, and rumor had it that he was soon to be married to her. This coming to the ears of the old man, he determined to make a bold stroke to secure the object of his affections. His young rival was poor, while he was blessed with an abundance of this world's goods. He met the youth and deliberately proposed that he would give him his own wife and $500 in cash if he would relinquish his claim to the girl and induce her to marry him. Strange to say, the young fellow accepted the proposal; stranger still, he submitted it to the girl and she consented to the arrangement; and, what is perhaps not so strange, the wife of the first party also signified her willingness to cheerfully become a party to the transaction. Everything thus amicably adjusted, a day was fixed upon to consummate the trade, and all parties seemed in a fair way of having their wishes gratified. Just at this juncture, however, an inseparable object presented itself in the person of the father of the girl, who got wind of the affair, and entered his protest against the swap in the most decided and emphatic terms. The disconsolate husband was compelled to return to his own wife; and the young man, finding he could not get hold of the $500, submitted to the strong decrees of fate with the best grace possible, and married the girl himself.

The Black Sea.

OFFICIAL RUSSIAN ACCOUNTS OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE QUESTION.

The following remarkable article in the *Government Messenger* of St. Petersburg, gives the official Russian account of the settlement of the Black Sea question:—For fifteen years Russia has strictly fulfilled the obligations of the treaty of Paris, onerous as some of them were for her dignity. Meanwhile political events had made considerable changes in the provisions of this treaty, and in course of time the position of the European powers in their relations toward each other had become essentially modified. It was impossible for Russia to submit any longer to the restrictions which had been imposed on her on the Black Sea, which bathes the Russian coasts, after the international relations of other states had become so remarkably altered. The imperial cabinet notified to Europe by the chancellor's circular of the 10th of October that it no longer considered itself bound by the restrictions relating to the Black Sea, and that his majesty the emperor had resumed his full sovereign rights upon that sea, leaving at the same time the other sovereigns free to resume their rights in their entire extent. Notwithstanding the violent and biassed declarations of many organs of the European press, the great powers which had signed the treaty of Paris, did not look upon our circular as a provocation addressed to Europe, nor as an indication of secret plans against her peace, but as a frank and moderate notification; and they resolved, at the suggestion of the North German Confederation, to assemble in a conference for the purpose of bringing this notification of Russia into harmony with the treaty of 1856. Our cabinet gladly accepted the invitation to take part in this conference, more especially as in the circular of the 19th of October it had already been stated that his majesty was disposed to conclude any new international agreement whose object it should be to strengthen the prospects of universal peace. While securing the dignity of Russia, the labors of the Conference were greatly impeded and delayed by the contemporary political events; but from the very beginning all the powers expressed a readiness to solve the questions in a spirit of peace and justice. In yesterday's number of the *Government Messenger*, a telegram was printed announcing that a new treaty had been signed at the London Conference, which abolishes those articles of the treaty of Paris that limited the sovereign rights of Russia and Turkey on the Black Sea.—There can be no doubt that not only all the Russians, but all friends of peace and justice, will heartily rejoice at this work of European diplomacy. It limits no one's rights, it does not demand any sacrifices while it has restored rights which had been violated, removed a symbol of international distrust, and strengthened the intimate relations of the European States. It is preeminently a work of peace and justice.

Palentine Bridge.

HOW A TRAIN CAME TO BE STOPPED.

The following car scene was taken from the notes of a jolly conductor on the Central Railroad:—"Is this Palentine Bridge" inquired a sleepy passenger as the train halted at the station a little east of that place. "No," replied the conductor, who happened to be passing just then. On went the train, and when the next station was reach, the same inquisitive passenger started up and inquired a little louder than before. "Is this Palentine Bridge?" "No," shouted the conductor, with a little barshness in his manner. On dashed the train and soon halted at station No. 3. "Is this Palentine Bridge?" came with certain emphasis from the same inquisitive seat. "Now see here," said the conductor, "if you will keep quiet, I will tell you when Palentine Bridge is reached." With this assurance the sleepy and rather troublesome passenger quietly settled down for an undisturbed nap. Palentine Bridge was reached at length, and the cars made their usual halt; but it was not until they were in motion again that the conductor thought of his promise to warn his solicitous passenger of his arrival at his supposed place of destination. Ding, ding, went the bell, and down went the brakes, and the conductor rushed to Jenkins and seized hold of his shoulders, telling him this was "Palentine Bridge." Jenkins started up, rubbed his eyes, as if in no special haste. "Come, come," says the impatient conductor, "come, wake up and off." "Is this Palentine Bridge?" yawned Jenkins. "Yes, yes," said the conductor, "come, make haste and get off." "Oh! I don't want to get off," said Jenkins, "but, you see, the doctor told me to take another pill when I got to Palentine Bridge." The cars went on.

Returning Good for Evil.

(*From the N. Y. World.*)

Encouraged by the rapid growth in their trade with us, their sales to the United States steadily increasing, and their purchases declining, as our tariff-ridden producers cannot compete with their unprotected industry, the Canadians now openly declare that they no longer need to fear American competition, that they want no tariff protection against American products, and that they can afford to throw their markets entirely open to the producers of the United States. After an excited debate a resolution has been passed in the House of Commons at Ottawa, by a very large majority, removing the duty on salt, peas, beans, barley, rye, oats, and all grain and flour; and although, of course, this action is not final, the great strength of the vote, nearly five to one, shows plainly how popular the measure is.

Every day thus furnishes fresh proof that the tariff instead of protecting our industries, really destroys our ability to compete with other nations in the markets which we once controlled. Our tariff, instead of excluding Canadian products from the United States markets, simply excludes American products from the markets of Canada; and the Dominion, which at one time almost begged for a continuance of reciprocity, now sneeringly throws down its own tariff walls and defies the weakened, fettered giant of American industry to enter the open lists. Now let us add another twenty five per cent. to the tariff all round, and we shall soon have even Mexico contemptuously offering us open ports and free trade without our being able to avail ourselves of them!

Smallpox is so common a disease among the Japanese, especially in winter, as to excite but little attention. The reason of its great prevalence is found in the fact that the Japs regard it so little they never destroy their infected clothes, or take any other measure to prevent its spreading; but with each returning winter they bring out their old clothes, reeking with the past winter's infection, so that the return of the disease is as periodical and regular as the returning seasons. This winter it is more virulent than usual, and has assumed an epidemic form at Hiogo and at Yokohama.

A Pennsylvania Ghost.

QUEER EXPERIENCE OF A WHITEHALL FAMILY.

There resides on Tacony street, Whitehall, Penn., just below the bridge, at the lower side of the way, a family by the name of Sohn, consisting of father, mother and one or two children. Henry is said not to be a drinking man, or as possessing any bad habits that might otherwise lead one to to think his ideas were the result thereof, but on the contrary a hard working man. Now, since last Sept., which is about the time when the spirits commenced their work of haunting the minds of this family, Henry has been the occupant of the house in question.—Strange noises were heard at night, disturbing the family slumbers, such as the moving around of sundry articles of furniture; the inmates the while, according to Henry's ideas, were taken up by the arm during sleep and terribly shaken, until pain racked their frames, and they were let down again to recuperate their natures for the next onslaught. Another trick of these nocturnal visitors was to make the milk so thick that it could hardly be induced to leave the pans in which it was placed to let the cream rise. Then the well received a touch from the wand of the evil one, and it became dry, and from the bottom came up strange unearthly sounds, as of defiance and anger. And so things went on, day after day, until Henry saw no relief for himself and his Katrina but to leave the house. This he did, but the old love returned, and back he moved again, only to receive the same encroachments upon his peaceful desires as formerly. These he endured for a time, then left the house again. A few days saw the family back, and a few days more saw another moving of an outward nature, and the house was again left to spiritual occupants. But hope came again to the rescue, and possession once more taken of the premises by the Sohn family, but only a temporary one, for upon a renewal of the strange events that seemed to especially favour the Teutonic group, Sohn, with his frow and children, was again off for distant lands, and the house presents a deserted appearance—shutters were closed tight, and silence reigned.

GERMAN TALK OF INVADING ENGLAND.—In a letter written on the 9th of March, by a lady residing in St. Valery, on the north-west coast of France, describing the harsh and brutal treatment to which the inhabitants were subjected during the occupation of the town by German troops, occurs the remark: "The officers here talk openly of their designs on England and of an invasion." And Mr. Ferbes, the war correspondent of the *Daily News* writing from Bonn, in Germany, on the 14th of March, thinks a bitter feeling, only second in unpleasantness to an actual quarrel, may be fostered into chronic existence without the consent, and, indeed, even to the sorrow of the two parties most concerned—the English and the German nations. Not by the German people and army at large, however, but by the officers, who look eagerly to war for employment and promotion. "Wherefore," he says, "when I heard in the Officer Casino in Gonesse only the other day a knot of young guardsmen praying for more fighing; and when one lad turned to me, and, clinking glasses, benignantly announced that the Queen Elizabeth regiment would before two years are over be besieging Windsor Castle, (which he evidently took to be our strongest fortress) I did not write home to you that the German army was eager for a quarrel with England; but only asked my young friend whether he had learned to swim."

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—The energy with which the building of this great thoroughfare is being pushed forward is a guaranty of its early completion and its wise management. We learn from the financial agents of the road, Messrs. Jay Cook & Co., that at the present date the grading is nearly finished for 266 miles, from Lake Superior, through Central Minnesota, to the eastern border of Dakota, trains are running over 130 miles of completed track; the Mississippi river is bridged at Brainerd and once more joined to the Lakes by rail, and track laying is rapidly progressing westward. By September next trains will run to the Red river and the grading will probably be far advanced towards the Great Bend of the Missouri river in Central Dakota. Work has been commenced the present season on the Pacific coast and a large force of men is already employed in the valley of the Columbia river in Washington Territory. The work of construction will be pushed both eastward and westward toward the center with such rapidity as the best interests of the road may justify. Including its purchase of the St Paul and Pacific Road, the Northern Pacific Railroad Company has 413 miles of road now in operation, and before the close of the present season the length of finished track will be at least 580 miles.—*Globe.*

The Duke of Devonshire lately lost the contents of one of his houses by fire, and nearly at the same time the home of a greater than than he was in danger from a similar cause. Between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening some consternation was caused by a smell of fire at Windsor Castle. After searching the state apartments, the smell was found to proceed from the famous Zuccarelli room, so called from the beautiful landscapes of that painter which adorn its walls. A splendid oaken flooring has recently been laid in the room, and upon tearing up some of the planks, the smell of fire was found to proceed from some shavings which had been left by the workmen engaged upon the alterations.—The gas in a room underneath had heated the shavings, hence the smell. The castle is so splendidly supplied with hydrants that a fire would soon be got under even if it had made any headway, but the vast fabric is so carefully watched (all the palaces have a regular police within and without) that such a calamity would almost surely be detected before it had made much progress.

On last Thursday, the Fenian Colonel, R. Bloss Lynch, one of the party engaged in the Fort Erie affair of 1866, was released from the Kingston penitentiary, by order of the Governor General in Council, on the certificate of Dr. Dickson, Penitentiary Surgeon, who certified that further imprisonment would be exceedingly detrimental to the Colonel's health. Col. Lynch is educated and intelligent, being far above the average stamp of the prisoners incarcerated for complicity in the raids. The *Whig* says Lynch is very grateful for his release.

Should the French indemnity to Germany be paid all at one time in gold, a train of freight cars one and three-fourths English miles long would be required to carry it home, and a train of twenty-six English miles, if paid in silver. If distributed in gold, each one of the German soldiers in France would receive five pounds, and sixty-one pounds if distributed in silver. If paid in five hundred franc notes, two freight cars carrying 10,000 pounds each, would be required to carry the indemnity to Germany.

The rails on the Toronto & Nipissing Railway have been laid within two miles of Goodwood. It is expected that they will be laid to Uxbridge by the 20th.

The Emperor William desires that out of the war indemnity paid by France, a million dollars each should be paid to Bismarck, Roon and Moltke, but Bismarck is opposed to the project.

WONDERFUL ENTERPRISE.—The New York *World* has somewhere about nine columns of matter dated from London describing the marriage of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne. The New York *Leader* calculates that to have sent this by telegraph would have occupied the Atlantic cable three days, and would have cost the proprietors of the veracious sheet almost $25,000, as if the public did not know that the whole account, with the exception of some two hundred words, was written in the back office.

There is a tough time coming for poor Brigham Young, for the Lion of Utah is to be bearded in his den. The Rev. Messrs. McDonald of Boston, Boole of New York, and Inskip of Baltimore, start next month for a missionary tour across the plains, taking with them a big tent capable of holding 4,000 persons. After attending to the regeneration of California, the reverend gentlemen will move homeward via Salt Lake, where they will set up their high tabernacle, and hold an old-fashioned camp-meeting directly under Brigham's patriarchal nose. It is said that a great many Mormons were formerly Methodists and are home sick for the old fold. Our own opinion is, that with free concubinage, at least, hasn't twenty years of life in it.

SOUNDING A SICK MAN'S PULSE BY TELEGRAPH.—Within a week or two a singular achievement of the telegraph has occurred. A gentleman suddenly became ill of phenomonia in Washington. His physician, a gentlemen of great attainments and fame, resided in New York, and he was anxious this physician should be consulted about his case. A telegraph wire was taken by his direction into his room, and the New York doctor being summoned to the telegraph office, the Washington physician attending the patient, informed him of the state of the case, and even enabled him to feel his patient's pulse, by causing the wire to vibrate as the pulse did. (The doctor kept one hand on the patient's pulse, and the other on the telegraph key, so every beat was transmitted.) The case thus being thoroughly diagnosed in New York, the necessary prescriptions were sent thence to Washington. The attack, though violent, soon yielded to the treatment, and the patient is now a cheerful convalescent.

Sol Howes Sanbourne, an eccentric old hatter of Medford, Mass., has made one of the oddest of wills, and, anxious to enjoy the notoriety of it in his lifetime, has had it published. He gives his body to Prof. Agassiz and Dr. O. W. Holmes, to be placed in the museum of anatomy, at Cambridge. But he wants two drum heads made of his skin, on one of which is to be written "Pope's Universal Prayer," and on the other the Declaration of Independence; and on these drum heads shall be beaten the national air of Yankee Doodle at the base of Bunker Hill monument, annually; at sunrise, on the 17th of June. The parts of his body useless for anatomical purposes, are to be composted for a fertiliser, "to nourish the growth of an American elm, to be planted or set out on some rural public thoroughfare, that the weary wayfaring men may rest, and innocent children playfully sport beneath the shadow of its umbrageous branches, rendered luxurious by my carcass."

SILVER ISLAND.—Silver Island, in Lake Superior, and about which much has been said, lies five miles north east of Thunder Cape, at the east entrance of Thunder Bay, in the British possessions, and is about 3,000 feet from the main land. It is of a rounded and irregular shape, about 70 feet in diameter, rising not over four feet above the level of the lake when still. It is destitute of vegetation. Reports that appear to be authentic, indicate that this block rock, standing by itself out in the lake, is the most remarkable depository of silver ore ever discovered in the world.—Six specimens of these ores selected from the various parts of the shaft which has been open, are said by the Mint in Philadelphia to have yielded at the rate respectively per ton of $3,800, $4,000, $5,500, $11,000 and $17,200. The figures seem incredible, but they are duly counted for. But the ore taken out for smelting has only yielded about $1,500 per ton, which, however, of itself is an enormous yield. Mexican mines that would yield 350 per ton were considered exceedingly rich.

The New York *Sun* relates the following:—A correspondent, who professes to know a great deal about the history of Gen. B. F. Butler, writes to say that the chief reason for Butler's animosity against England was the comments of the English journals, and more especially of Lord Palmerston, then prime minister of England, upon Butler's celebrated woman order issued while he was in command at New Orleans. Our correspondent says that when the New York journals containing Palmerston's speech arrived in New Orleans, the General happened to be at dinner in the house formerly occupied by Gen. Twiggs, of the Confederate army, and very prominent on the table was the silver ware of that exiled Confederate." In the midst of the dinner the New York *Herald* was brought in containing Palmerston's speech. Having read it Butler cursed Palmerston, violently adding that he would be —— to —— if time would not yet come when he would issue the same general order in the streets of Liverpool. Our correspondent requests us to communicate his name to Gen. Butler if the General desires.

LOVE AND WAR.—Romance, we are often told, is repeatedly found in real life. Another instance comes from Missouri. Conover Ainsworth committed suicide recently in that State under peculiar circumstances. During the war he had been a "bush whacker" on the Union side. One of his exploits had been the burning of the house of a farmer attached to the Confederate cause. The reason for setting fire to the building was the suspicion that it was used at the headquarters for a band of guerrillas. While the flames were playing havoc with the house, Ainsworth ridiculed the efforts of a little girl, daughter of the farmer, in her efforts to save some of her playthings, which he interfered to prevent her from securing. The war came to an end, the bushwhacker laid aside his rifle, the little girl grew up into a handsome woman. Seven years after the commission of this wanton act the ex-bushwhacker met the little girl of former days. He became enamored of her, and sought her in marriage. The spectacle of the burning of her father's house yet remained vivid in her recollection. She repulsed the attentions of the ex-bushwhacker. For two years he continued vainly trying to overcome her youthful prejudice and repenting only to sincerely his rash deed of warfare. He could make no impression on her. At last, in a fit of despair, he sought the ruin of her father's homestead, and there, on the spot to which he attributed his misfortune, blew his brains out.

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