LONDON GOSSIP BY CABLE.

A New Move Among the Irishmen.

A CREMATORY FOR THE METROPOLIS.

Political, Social, Religious and Other Notes.

A London cablegram says: Mr. Gladstone's illness, which originally was only a slight cold, was developed, partly through neglect and partly through worry, into a serious affection of the larynx, involving nearly a total loss of voice. He continued transacting business by writing, till under his physicians' advice he left town for Coombe Warren. Since then he has relinquished nearly everything. The accounts published of his health indicate that there has been little or no improvement. Private reports admit that it will be impossible for him to be present in the House of Commons next week to take charge of the Reform Bill, and that a project for a journey to the south of France is seriously considered by the family. His colleagues are opposed to it unless it is imperative, recollecting that his last absence nearly ended in his resignation.

Cremation has been gaining ground in England ever since Justice Stephens ruled that it was lawful. The London city authorities have resolved to establish a crematory at Ilford, a suburb of the East End, on the recommendation of the medical officers that cremation is the least objectionable of all known methods of disposing of the dead.

In consequence of the smallness of the majority with which the French shareholders of the Suez Canal Company approved of the convention which M. de Lesseps had arranged with the English shipowners, M. de Lesseps declines to carry out the proposition to admit seven additional members to the Board of Directors. As this formed the leading English stipulation it is probable that the whole convention will fall through.

The Naundorff claimants to the throne of France have arrived in Paris. Prince Charles and Princess Amelia, the children of Naundorff, who died forty years ago at Delfthave, issued four citations to the Count of Paris, the Countess of Chambord, Count Bardia and the Duke of Parma to show their rights to their titles and estates. Long legal proceedings are expected, as some Paris lawyers are taking up the suit.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* indicates the tenor of General Gordon's unpublished theological work. "Instead of opening new views," it says, "the writer reminds us of the time of the Puritans, when the love of parallelisms between the Old and New Testaments was at its height, when the soldiers of Cromwell prayed aloud to be delivered from the old Adam. For every incident connected with the fall of man General Gordon traces in the New Testament not only a counterbalancing remedy to enable the fallen to recover the lost ground, but an identity of the means of recovery with the cause of the original transgression. Thus he recognizes in the act of partaking of the sacramental elements the meet and fitting remedy against sin introduced into the world by the act of eating the fruit of the tree of life."

The Lord's Day Rest Association are sorely grieved over the sitting of the House of Commons on the Sabbath, and no less than ten bishops were voting against the admission of the public to museums on Sundays at the very moment Friday night when in the Commons a resolution for their abolition as peers went within eleven votes of being carried.

Vanity Fair, correcting the New York *Herald's* account of an interview with a colleague of Miss Fortescue, denies that the rupture of her engagement to Lord Garmoyle was caused by the influence of the Duke of Richmond, or that the Queen intimated that Miss Fortescue could not be presented at court, or that when Miss Fortescue visited Lord and Lady Cairns the house was full of notables who made much of her.

The *Osservatore Romano* publishes a circular dated March 15th by the *Propaganda Fide* to bishops stating that all legacies and donations given to the Propaganda will henceforth be received in foreign branch establishments. Branches are to be established in the principal European capitals and at New York, San Francisco, Quebec and Toronto. The *Moniteur de Rome* mentions a rumor that Malta has been selected as the centre for the administration of the funds of the Propaganda under the sanction of the British Government.

The social week has been so bright, the weather having so suddenly changed from its summer sunniness and heat to penetrating wind. A score of prominent people have been compelled to keep to their rooms. The Princess Louise, who has been going about a good deal, is looking handsomer than ever. Mrs. George Bentinck has been bold enough to give a dinner at which every lady, like herself, was an American. Ladies Mandeville and Randolph Churchill, Mrs. Ronalds and Miss Chamberlain were her guests.

The Buddhist craze has spread from London to Paris. There are now 300 Buddhists there, and probably their demand for a temple will be granted.

The special war correspondents are reaping great honors from the campaign. A correspondent of the *Times* wrote his account while suffering from a severe bullet wound in his thigh. When Davies' square was broken at Tamanieb several correspondents saved their lives by using their revolvers.

Paston House, the residence of William Black, the novelist, at Brighton, caught fire the other day. The family had shut up the house and left Brighton, and the same day fire was discovered breaking through the roof. It was got under control without destroying the interior.

The English edition of "The Memoirs of Princess Alice" will be ready in April. The correspondence of the Princess with the Queen from English originals in possession of the Queen and other members of the Royal family extends from 1862 to 1880.

Mr. Parnell's new policy, that the farmers of Ireland refuse to pay the police tax imposed under the Crimes Act, is receiving practical approval in Ireland. The corporations of Limerick and Cork lead the way in opposing the tax—Limerick declines to submit to a *mandamus* directing the payment of the extra police quartered there by the former magistrate, Mr. Clifford Lloyd, and Cork refuses money for Capt. Plunkett's reinforcements.

The *United Ireland*, of which Mr. William O'Brien, M. P., is editor, in an article indicating the line of resistance, says: If the authorities at the Castle want blood money and police tax let them send policemen to lift it. Then if the people take advice from Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright they will enter upon a fiscal revolt, and show England the impolicy of punishing thousands of innocent people for the sins of the few guilty.

The announcement calling out the Irish militia has caused general surprise. It is regarded as an assured sign that the Government considers that Ireland is becoming settled. The places for training have been arranged entirely without reference to the political situation.

THE SOUDAN SITUATION.

Uneasy Feeling Regarding General Gordon—Another Proposed British Expedition—An Attempt to be Made to Surround Osman Digma's Rebels.

The feeling of disquiet in regard to General Gordon has been lessened but not extinguished by the news to March 15th. His position is regarded as extremely precarious. It is felt that the curtain has again fallen upon Khartoum at a most critical moment. Until the issue of the battle between General Gordon and the Arab army on the 16th is known the anxiety for his fate will continue unabated. But even if General Gordon was successful in that engagement, it is now generally believed that his mission is a failure. The rescue of the Egyptian garrisons from the Soudan is now admitted to be impossible without the intervention of the English forces. The absence of advices from Berber is a source of fear that General Gordon was repulsed in the battle of the 16th. He is hemmed in at Khartoum on all sides, and maintains his position in the expectation that an English army will speedily appear to give him succor. It is reported that at the Cabinet meeting to-day, despatches from Cairo were considered which stated that immediate danger of the fall of Khartoum was over, but Sir Evelyn Baring, the British Minister at Cairo, urges the dispatch of a British contingent to Berber, either by way of Korosko or two squadrons from the troops at Suakim. The Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for War, has appointed a Council at the War Office. It is believed that the Cabinet is in favor of an expedition from Suakim. In view of the likelihood of a joint naval and military expedition up the Nile, the Admiralty has directed Admiral Hay to survey the upper waters of that stream so as to learn whether it would be feasible to send gunboats thither. Several naval officers have left Alexandria to carry out the survey.

Nobody knows whether General Graham will be allowed to advance. Precious time has been wasted in waiting for General Gordon's opinion. The Radicals have improved the occasion by attacking Colonel Burnaby for preferring to shoot Arabs rather than to be shot by them. The country seems about equally divided between impatience with obstruction in the House, and impatience with continuing inaction and uncertainty in Egypt. Mr. Vincent, the Acting Minister of Finance for Egypt, it is reported is insisting that a loan of six millions sterling ($30,000,000) will be wanted to restore Egyptian finances.

The feverish suspense about General Gordon has been broken by news from the *Times* correspondent that he has rescued a garrison to the north of Khartoum, but the same correspondent describes 3,000 Arabs blockading the town, and everybody awaits anxiously the result. The future of General Gordon in any case is very uncertain, as the Government cannot make up its mind whether to desert him or to send him English troops. It is too afraid of the anti-slavery party at home to follow his advice and give him Zobehr Pasha, who would be the most effective pacificator.

The first important news from Egypt of the week appears to-day in a despatch to the *Times* from Khartoum, showing that Gen. Gordon is engaged in active and successful hostilities with the natives, and was intending to attack the main body, 6,000 strong, last Sunday.

PHOTOGRAPHIC IMPROVEMENTS

Enterprising Man Who Takes and Prints Pictures Night and Day.

A New York photographer, by aid of the electric light, takes pictures, and prints them, as well by night as day. His business has gone on all winter without interruption, while work at other studios has been hindered by lack of sunshine, and so expert have the operators become in handling the electric light, that better pictures are obtained by electric light than by daylight, and when a particularly fine picture is wanted, the sitter is always asked to go to the down-town studio. Another advantage of the electric light is that the pictures can be taken at night just as well as by day, and gradually people are getting in the habit of making appointments to sit for pictures in the evening. The work of reproducing cuts and pictures for newspapers is now done entirely by electricity, the plates from European illustrated papers being ready for the press within twelve hours of the arrival of the ship, which brings the papers.

Horrors of the Battlefield.

The London *Daily News* correspondent writes of the battle of Teb in Egypt on Feb. 29th: "Our line of march coincided with the path of retreat of the 4th of February. Beginning near the fort, skeletons half covered with flesh dotted either side of the line of advance for miles. On the scene of the massacre of Baker's square it was strewn literally with hundreds, numbers of them in the most extraordinary attitudes, and with fleshless fingers clutching into the sand. I noticed most of them lay on their faces, and showed one or more spear thrusts in the back, head and neck. It was a hideous picture—those grinning, half-decomposed skeletons, in their position so significant of abject despair, and it would have horrified the most hardened against such sights."

The bread of life is love; the salt of life, work the sweetness of life, poesy; the water of life, faith.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Cameron (Huron) asked leave to introduce an Act to amend the criminal law. He explained that the object of the Bill was to prevent the introduction into Canada of immoral prints and publications. Bill read first time.

Sir John Macdonald, in reply to Mr. Weldon, said it was not the intention of the Government this session to obtain an alteration in the law which would render Dominion official incomes liable to taxation.

Mr. Costigan moved for the second reading of a Bill respecting gas and gas meters. The Bill provided that the standard of illuminating power should be sixteen candles, which was less than in England or the United States. The Bill was read a second time.

Sir Hector Langevin moved the second reading of the Bill respecting fortifications and military buildings and their maintenance and repair. He explained that under the Bill attention to these works would be transferred to the Militia Department. It was thought the work could be done more scientifically and economically under that Department.

After some further discussion the Bill was read a second time and passed through committee.

Sir John Macdonald in moving the second reading of a Bill to amend the Indian Act of 1880 explained its provisions. Among these is the prohibition of "potlach," a terrible orgie practised by British Columbia Indians.

Mr. Mills asked if there were provisions to enable the unenfranchised Indian to dispose of the fruit of his industry. At present a purchaser buying from such an Indian took some risk, and consequently paid a lower price.

Sir John Macdonald said there was sufficient provision in the present law, where each local Indian agent was authorized to regulate the conduct of Indians under his charge. In this respect it would not do to allow the Indian to dispose of all his goods, because often he would sell out to the first whiskey trader and leave his family to starve. The Bill was read a second time.

THE FATHER OF PROHIBITION

Why Neal Dow Began His Campaign Which Has Lasted Half a Century.

A Portland, Me., telegram says: Yesterday Gen. Neal Dow celebrated his 80th birthday in a quiet manner. He is still very vigorous, and probably has lost nothing of physical or mental strength within the past few years.

Mr. Dow was a teetotaler from early youth. The custom of offering wine among refreshments at social parties in Portland was largely put down by him and his two sisters, who, the first of all in that city, entertained their friends in large numbers without intoxicants. He was drawn into the warfare against the liquor traffic accidentally.

There was a lady well-known to Mr. Dow and his family, whose husband, an educated man, holding an important public office, was a dipsomaniac. This lady sent for Mr. Dow one day and told him that her husband was away again on a time. Mr. Dow went to a certain rumshop where Mr. Blank resorted, and told the rumseller the whole story, entreating him not to sell the man any more liquor. The rumseller replied:

"It's my business to sell rum, and I have a license for it. I'll sell to anybody who asks for it who has the money to pay for it. I support my family by selling liquor."

Mr. Dow indignantly replied:

"It's your business, then, to sell rum, and you have a license for it? You support your family, do you, by destroying other people's families? Heaven helping me, I'll change all that!"

Mr. Dow led Mr. Blank home, and from that day commenced an active, persistent, unceasing warfare against the grog shops. Innumerable meetings were held all over the State, in small towns and villages as well as in large towns and cities, everywhere denouncing the liquor traffic. When public opinion was prepared for the otherthrow of the grog shops, as Mr. Dow supposed, he prepared a Bill entitled "An Act for the suppression of drinking houses and tippling shops." His friends said it was too radical. He went to Augusta with his Bill in his pocket, had a public hearing in the Representatives' Hall before a joint select committee, which agreed unanimously to report the Bill without change. The next day was the last one of the session. That night Mr. Dow had his Bill printed, it was placed on the desks of the members early in the morning, and on that day was passed through all its stages to be enacted, and went into effect on its approval by the Governor.

Within six months the jails in five of the counties were empty, as well as the houses of correction of Cumberland county. The open liquor traffic came immediately to an end.

Late Northwest News.

The only cases in the smallpox hospital at present are two diphtheria patients.—*Winnipeg Times.*

Winnipeg is to have a new drill shed at a cost of $16,000, of which the Government pays half and the city half.

Seventeen gamblers were arrested at the Lacrosse and Pacific Hotels, Winnipeg, last week. They were all fined ten to twenty dollars.

The official abbreviation of Assiniboia is "Assa."; of Alberta, "Alta."; of Saskatchewan, "Sask.," and of Athabasca, "Atha."

The Indians around Battleford are cutting wood and burning lime for a living, having 1,000 cords of wood and two kilns of lime ready.

Accident to Canadians Out West.

A Minneapolis despatch says: The emigrant party on the train which was reported wrecked on Saturday night were for Winnipeg and came through from Durham, Ont. Seventeen were injured, and a Red Wing correspondent telegraphs that two at least of that number were fatally hurt. Among the injured reported are Alex. Payne, his wife, two daughters, Nina and Matilda, and two sons, George and John, all seriously cut and bruised. The father has his arms broken. Wm. Ruddy, his wife, and infant Maggie were all wounded in the head, the child having its skull crushed.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Prorogation of the House of Assembly.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, His Honor the Hon. John Beverley Robinson, the Lieutenant-Governor, proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly, and took his seat on the Throne.

The Clerk Assistant then read the titles of the Bills that had passed.

To these Bills the Royal assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these Bills."

Mr. Speaker then said:

May it please Your Honor:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, in session assembled, approach Your Honor at the close of our labors with sentiments of unfeigned devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty's person and Government, and humbly beg to present for Your Honor's acceptance a Bill intituled, "An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money to defray the expenses of civil government for the year 1884, and for other purposes therein mentioned," thus placing at the disposal of the Crown the means by which the Government can be made efficient for the service and welfare of the Province.

To this Bill the Royal assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

"His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor doth thank Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, accept their benevolence and assent to this Bill in Her Majesty's name."

His Honor was then pleased to deliver the following Speech:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In relieving you from your legislative duties, I desire to express my appreciation of the ability and earnestness with which you applied yourselves to the arduous labors of the session.

It gave me much pleasure to transmit your Addresses to His Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne and His Lordship the Marquis of Lorne, congratulating His Excellency on his appointment to a position where opportunity is afforded for the exercise of the statesmanship that has long characterized the noble family of which he is so distinguished a representative; and congratulating the Marquis of Lorne on the close of a career in Canada marked alike by devotion to the interests of the Dominion and by sympathy with all our institutions.

I am glad to give my assent to your Bill affirming the provisional agreement entered into between my Government and that of Manitoba for referring to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council the questions in dispute between the two Provinces; and, as the Dominion Government has since intimated its willingness to become a party to the reference, I trust that, before you are next summoned for the despatch of business, a satisfactory determination of the long controversy as to our northerly and westerly boundaries will have been arrived at, and the just claims of the Province affirmed by the highest judicial tribunal in the Empire.

I read with satisfaction your Bill for the further improvement of the election laws. As the main object of the Bill is to secure the purity of the franchise and the unbiassed expression of public opinion, I trust the effect of the provisions which you have adopted will be to lessen, if not exclude, those corrupt practices which the existing laws had failed to prevent and which the Election Courts have disclosed.

I heartily accede to your request for the issuing of a Commission of Inquiry into the nature and extent of recent attempts which you discovered to have been made, but happily without success, to corrupt the integrity of members of this Legislative Assembly.

The Act for the Preservation of the Public Health will do much, I trust, to prevent the spread of contagious diseases, as well as to mitigate the sufferings of many who from poverty or indifference disregard obvious sanitary precautions.

By the Act relating to Factories, additional security will be given to a large class of our population engaged in industrial pursuits. The regulations adopted for their personal safety, and for the protection of their morals and their health, will, I trust, not only lighten their burdens, but also sweeten their labors, and promote their happiness. I rejoice no less at the wisdom of the provisions of the Act than at the generous motive by which you were actuated in framing them.

By the confirmation of Provincial jurisdiction over the liquor traffic, to which I referred at the opening of the House, the way was laid for further legislation on the subject; and I was glad to find that by the Bill to which I have assented you have done all that seems at present practicable for further mitigating the evils of intemperance by imposing greater restrictions on the sale of liquor, and severer penalties for the violation of our license laws.

The proposal to spread over a longer period of years the payment of the money heretofore voted in aid of railways has my hearty approval. By this means the funds of the Province are less heavily taxed, and our resources are preserved for the other wants of the Province.

The amendments made to the School Laws and the University Act will tend, I trust, to the advancement of education.

The measures which you have adopted to save farmers, fruit growers and others from injury, by checking the spread of noxious weeds, and of diseases affecting fruit trees, and for preventing the spread of contagious diseases among horses and other domestic animals, will, I trust, be effective for securing these objects, so important to the community, and of such special interest to our agricultural population.

I have given my hearty assent to the various measures which you have passed for further securing the administration of justice, and the perfecting of our municipal and other laws. Your private Bill legislation has been varied and important.

I thank you for the liberality which you have displayed in making the necessary appropriations for the public service, and I assure you that the supplies you have voted will be expended as economically as is compatible with the efficiency of the public service.

In bringing to a close this first session of a new Parliament, I cheerfully bear testimony to its high capacity for the discharge of its arduous legislative duties, and to its zeal in guarding its important privileges as a legislative body.

The Provincial Secretary then said:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It is His Honor's will and pleasure that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued and this Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued.

A BALL AT THE QUIRINAL.

Costumes and Surroundings at the Palace in Rome—Real Champagne—A Queen's Tact.

A letter from Rome, Feb. 26th, to the New York *Herald*, says "The ball at the Quirinal, which had been postponed on account of the death of the Princess of Saxony, came off last night and was a magnificent success. The palace was superbly decorated and flooded with light. Two thousand guests responded to the invitation issued by the prefect of the palace and the lady in waiting in the names of the King and Queen. The guests went away delighted with the kindly warmth and hospitality of their reception. Carriages began to roll into the Quirinal court yard as early as 9.30. At 10 precisely the stirring strains of the "Royal March" were heard in the ball-room, heralding the arrival of King Humbert, Queen Margaret and the nobles and ladies of the royal household. The Queen, as usual, looked radiant as she entered, smiling and bowing graciously to her guests, and took her place in the quadrille of honor with Baron von Kendell, the German Ambassador, facing Mlle. Minghetti and Baron d'Uxhull. She wore a simple but costly dress of white moire, ending in a long train and very *decollete*, which gave the *Herald* correspondent, who was standing just behind her, an opportunity of once more admiring her lovely neck and shoulders. Round her throat she had a necklace formed by eight rows of flawless pearls. A triple chain of emeralds and brilliants glittered in her corsage. Two diamond butterflies did duty as shoulder knots, and her shapely head was crowned by a diadem of pearls and diamonds given her at Christmas by King Humbert. Between the dances the Queen, attended by the Princess di Triggiano, Countess di Santa Flora, and Marchesa di Villamarina, three belles of the Italian Court, glided from room to room, chatting unaffectedly with the guests and singling out the most retiring for marks of special favor. Princess Triggiano, an American, like many ornaments of the court, hardly less dazzling than the Queen, wore a white dress *decollete*, diamond necklace and a diamond tiara. Another American lady of more mature age and no figure worth speaking of attracted both envy and admiration by the beauty of her pale pink dress, almost covered with seed pearls. The Marchesa Villamarina and Countess Santa Flora wore rich brocades and had enough diamonds in their hair to keep six German princelings in comfort for a lifetime. Among other costumes which deserve mention were those of Mme. Pierantoni-Mancini, red satin and tissu d'acier; Mme. Cairoli, faded blue satin, *a la* Watteau, *decollete* trimmed round the throat with blue ostrich feathers, and Princess Stora-Cesarini—a marvel—striped white satin and velvet, cut very low, terminating in a long train. The whole surmounted by a diamond diadem. The dancing was kept up under difficulties to the music of a capital band until 1.30, when the King and Queen withdrew.

Descent of the Dude.

The introduction of the modern slang word "dandy" as applied, half in admiration and half in derision, to a fop, dates from 1816. John Bee ("Slang Dictionary," 1823) says that Lord Petersham was the founder of the sect, and gives the peculiarities as "French gait, lisping, wrinkled foreheads, killing King's English, wearing immense plaited pantaloons, coat cut away, small waistcoat, cravat and chitterlings immense, hat small, hair frizzled and protruding." There is a good picture of the "Fashionable Fop" in the *Busy Body* for March, 1816, but the word "dandy" is not used. Pierce Egan, in his edition of Grose, 1823, says the dandy, in 1820, was a fashionable nondescript—men who wore stays to give them a fine shape, and were more than ridiculous in their apparel:

"Now a Dandy's a thing, describe him who can
That is very much made in the shape of a man
But if but for once could the fashion prevail
He'd be more like an Ape if he had but a tail.'

The dandy of 1816-24 was, in fact, the old macaroni depicted in the London *Magazine* for April, 1772. The dandy of 1816 led to several other applications of the word, such as "dandizette" and "dandy-horse," or velocipede. Of this latter *Bee* says (1823); "Hundreds of such might be seen in a day. The rage ceased in about three years, and the word is becoming obsolete." The word "dandy" has certainly not become obsolete, but after 1825 its meaning gradually changed. It ceased to mean a man ridiculous and contemptible by his effeminate eccentricities, came to be applied to those who were trim, neat and careful in dressing according to the fashion of the day.

He Went In.

They were standing at the front gate.

"Won't you come in the parlor and sit a little while, Georgie, dear?"

"N-no, I guess not," replied George, hesitatingly.

"I wish you would," the girl went on. "It's awfully lonesome. Mother has gone out and father is upstairs groaning with rheumatism in the legs."

"Both legs?" asked George.

"Yes, both legs."

"Then I'll come in a little while."—*Philadelphia Call.*

Look how night sessions wear out legislative bodies, and then look at a hen, and see how she can sit night and day for two weeks at a stretch. Where is the boasted superiority of man?

The Canada Conference of the United Brethren in Christ meets the second Thursday in April, at Forks Road Chapel, Welland County, Ontario. There are 21 pastors of the Church in Canada.

Nothing is so great an instance of ill-manners as flattery. If you flatter all the company, you please none. If you flatter only one or two, you affront the rest.