THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Severe Battle—Defeat of the Rebels.

Fort Monroe, May 8.—Shortly before noon to-day, the Monitor, Naganuck, Seminole, Susquehanna, Dacotah and San Jacinto steamed up towards Sewall's Point, Captain Lardner, of the Susquehanna, in command of the expedition. As soon as within range fire was opened with shot and shell against Sewall's Point. It was nearly half an hour before a reply was made from the Point. The Rip Raps next opened fire, and then the Nagatuck for the first time. Several shots were fired from the single gun on the extremity of the Point, when one from the Monitor struck in the vicinity, doubtless disabling the gun, as it has not fired since. The position of the Monitor was far in advance of the rest of the fleet and she continued in motion until within a mile or two of the Point, when considerable execution must have been done by her accurate firing. The Nagatuck kept in the back ground, the range of her Parrott guns enabling her to do so. Sewall's Point battery replied briskly. The Rip Raps fired occasionally, and a continual fire was kept up from the gunboats. Nothing more occurred till 2 o'clock, when the firing grew very feeble from the Point. The Monitor about this time returned from her advanced position and joined the fleet. About half-past two the Merrimac made her appearance, when the fleet returned, with the exception of the Monitor. The Merrimac is still off the Point. The Monitor is ready to attack her. There is no prospect of a fight at present (4 30).

Fort Monroe, May, 8. 5 p. m.—The Merrimac has run back under the guns of Craney Island, and the Monitor is steaming off towards her at full speed. The Minnesota is also coming up again at full speed, the effort being to draw the rebels out again. For the past hour the fleet has been moving backward and forward, but the Merrimac still lies under the guns of Craney Island. The Monitor is lying about a mile and a half from the Merrimac, and the Dacotah, Susquehanna, and Seminole are still in the rear. The Nagatuck is also moving up towards the Monitor. The Minnesota, Aragon and Vanderbilt, have gone back to their anchorage, and there is no prospect of a fight to-night. The President viewed the action from a tugboat lying about a mile in rear of the fleet. Our fleet having retired, the Merrimac is again steaming out. Of the many shots fired by the rebels, not one struck any of our vessels.

I learn by steamer from Yorktown that Gen. McClellan has advanced 12 miles beyond Williamsburg, and has had several skirmishes with the enemy, routing them with heavy loss. The embarkation of troops for West Point was progressing with great rapidity, and a heavy battle had taken place on Wednesday afternoon, between the troops under Franklin and Sedgwick and the rebels under Lee, who were endeavoring to make their way to Richmond. It is said to have been the severest battle on the peninsula, and the rebels were totally defeated and flanked, being driven back towards the forces under Gen. Johnson on the Chickahominy. The whole number of the Federals killed and wounded was 300. The enemy were driven back by our gunboats with great slaughter. They had not less than 30,000 men, whilst our whole force was not over 20,000 landed. Had it not been for the gunboats we would have been defeated. The crew of the tug that deserted from the enemy report that there was great excitement at Norfolk this morning, that Gen. Burnside with a large force is within a few miles of Weldon, and that the rebel troops are evacuating the city at all possible speed. Sewell's and Pig Points they say are already abandoned, and preparations are making to destroy the Navy-yard and other public property.

Pittkanes Ferry, Ark., May 8.—Fort Pillow is the only defence on the Mississippi that is considered secure on the waterside.—Gen. Price's army has gone to Fort Pillow and Corinth. The force at Corinth is supposed to be 110 000. Fifteen boats are now at Little Rock, taking on board 12,000 Arkansas troops for Corinth. The rivers have been very high, and Napoleon is now flooded.

New York, May 9.—The report is confirmed by steamer from Port Royal that the the Nashville succeeded in getting into Wilmington, N. C.

(*Special to Chicago Times.*)

Cairo, May 9.—The steamer Brown from the flotilla, arrived this morning At daybreak yesterday morning four rebel gunboats rounded the Point, making their way to the mortars, evidently with the intention of capturing them. Our gunboats formed in line of battle, and the decks were cleared for action. Some fifty shots were fired when the rebel boats retired. The distance was so great as to make it impossible to tell whether any shots took effect. The firing from the mortars which had been suspended for two days was renewed, and when the Brown left was going on with great vigor.

The "Merrimac" Blown Up!

NORFOLK TAKEN!

The Federals within 27 Miles of Richmond!

DEFEAT OF THE REBELS ON THE MISSISSIPPI!

Newmarket, Va., May 10.—Deserters from the enemy report that the recent Union victories have caused the greatest depression among the rebel officers, who look upon their cause as hopeless. Their soldiers are very ragged and without the means of getting more clothing. Hundreds would desert if it was known that they would be kindly received by our officers. The enemy's ranks are becoming daily thinned by desertions.—The weather is dry. No new movements of the enemy have been discovered within the last 48 hours.

War Department, Washington, May 10.—Information has been received from the Mountain Department that Gen. Shenck had, after a forced march of 34 miles in less than 24 hours, made a junction with Gen. Milroy, at McDowell, Va. A sharp engagement with the rebels ensued. The rebels appeared to have suffered severely. Our loss is six killed and 75 wounded.

Washington, May 11.—The following was received at the Navy Department this morning:—Fort Monroe, May 10, 12 P. M. Norfolk is ours, also Portsmouth and the Navy Yard. Gen. Wool having completed the landing of his force at Willoughby's Point at 9 o'clock this morning, commenced his march on Norfolk with 5,000 men. Secretary Chase accompanied the General, about 5 miles from the landing place. A rebel battery was found on the opposite side of the bridge over Tanners Creek, and after a few discharges upon two companies of infantry that were in advance, the rebels burned the bridge. This compelled our force to march around 4 miles further. At 5 o'clock, p. m., our forces were within a short distance of Norfolk and were met by a delegation of citizens. The city was formally surrendered. Our troops were marched in and now have possession. Gen. Viele is in command as military governor. Gen. Huger withdrew his force without a battle.

Com. Rogers' expedition was heard from this p. m., ascending James River. Reports from Gen. McClellan are favorable.

Fortress Monroe, May 11.

To Hon. J. H. Watson, Asst. Sec. of War.

The Merrimac was blown up by the rebels at two minutes before 5 o'clock this morning. She was set fire to about 3 o'clock. The explosion took place at the time stated.

NEW KENT, VA., May 10, 3 p. m.—The pursuit of the retreating rebels by our troops under command of Gen. Stoneman has, in every respect, been successful. His headquarters are now here, 27 miles from Richmond, the advance consisting of the 8th Illinois regiment is five miles ahead. The enemy's retreat has been most admirably accomplished, carrying almost everything with them in the shape of forage and provisions, the wagon trains in the day time, and the troops at night. The enemy covered his retreat with a line of skirmishers stretched across the country driving in their stragglers at the point of the bayonet.

FLAG SHIP BENTON, above Fort Pillow, Miss., May 10, via Cairo, May 11.

To Hon. Gideon Welles, Sec. of Navy.

The naval engagement, for which the rebels have been preparing, took place this morning. The rebel fleet consisting of eight iron-clad gun-boats, four of which were fitted with rams, came up handsomely. The action lasted one hour. Two of the rebel gunboats were blown up and one sank, when the enemy retired under the guns of the Fort. Only two vessels were engaged on our side. The Cincinnatti sustained some injury from the rams, but will be in fighting condition tomorrow.

(Signed.) C. H. DAVIS,
Captain commanding Western Flotilla, Mississippi River, pro. tem.

Great Fire in Troy.

TROY MAY 11.—A very destructive fire occured in this city, commencing on Saturday at noon and raging until sundown. The fire originated in the covered wooden bridge which crosses the Hudson at this point, and the property of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company, about 1,000 feet of this structure was destroyed. Wind at the time blowing a furious gale from the west, and firebrands of the burning bridge were carried in a southern direction to various parts of the city. Wooden dwellings and brick dwellings with shingle roofs and wooden cornices were set on fire in several places and ignited the adjoining buildings. At the east or Troy side of the bridge several stores were many of them set in flames, while there were a dozen of buildings burning a half and quarter of a mile distant. There was fire in so many directions that the fire department could not make much progress, and the high wind continued to spread the flames. After the fire had burned about half a block on both sides of River street, south, its progress was arrested at that point, but meantime it had made fearful progress in the 4th, 3rd and to some extent in the 2nd wards most of the destroyed were private residences in the wards named, many of them the best in the city. The whole number of buildings burned is believed to be between 500 and 600. The total loss approximates three million of dollars. The total insurance is not far from $1,400,000 in London, Liverpool, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Springfield, Hartford and Troy Companies.

The loss is well distributed, both among individuals and insurance companies, considing the extent of the fire. The business portion of the city has suffered comparatively little. The area burnt over is about 50 acres. The number of persons thrown out of homes is very large, and private and public measures are being taken to render every assistance. There is much suffering and destitution. Seve a of the churches have thrown open their doors to the homeless, and the citizens have sent food in large quantities; but the most melancholy part of the disaster is the fact that several persons are known to have lost their lives, and the remains have been found. Most of them remained in their houses trying to save their goods, and were suddenly enveloped in flames; others were infirm persons There are some ten more persons missing.

Arrival of the "Australasian."

NEW YORK, May 7.

The Royal Mail Steamship Australasian, Capt. Anderson, which sailed from Liverpool at 8.30 on the morning of the 26th, and from Queenstown on the 27th ult., arrived here at 6.30 P. M.

Mews quite meagre.

The Steamer Tubal Cain had left Liverpool for Nassau with a cargo of arms and ammunition, doubtless designed for the South.

The Parliamentary recess continued.

The London Star gives a report that the Austrian Government had demanded explanations relative to Lord Palmerston's late speech on Italy, so far as regards the retention of Venetia.

The Times has a sarcastic editorial on President Lincoln's proclamation for a day of thanksgiving, and thinks it quite premature, as the affairs of the time were most critical, and battles were impending. It asks the meaning of that part of the proclamation which refers to deliverence from foreign invasion and intervention. It scarcely thinks it can be for tardy justice done in the Mason and Slidel affair.

Nearly all the Irish members of Parliament had signed a petition to the House of Commons for the restoration of the Galway Subsidy.

It is reported that a bill placing at the disposal of the Emperor the amount intended to reward the army and navy, will be immediately placed before the French Chamber.

The Bourse was heavy and declining at 70f. 35c.

Garibaldi had renounced his intention of going to Southern Italy.

It is reported that Victor Emmanuel will remain some time in Naples, and then go to Rome.

The French and Italian troops had come to an arrangement for the suppression of reactionary movements on the Papal frontiers, and were acting in concert.

A Shanghae despatch of March 15th says it is rumored that the rebels intend to attack Foo Choo.

The Russian loan of £10,000,000 was to be announced in London on the 25th. But for this it is supposed that the Bank minimum would have been reduced to 2 per cent.

A weekly journal is to appear in London next week, advocating the cause of the rebels.

The Prince Dolgonrowsky has been banished for life from the Russian Empire for refusing to obey the imperial order to return to Russia.

There has been a battle between the Turks and insurgents at Alfania. The Turks lost 400 men and four cannon.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS, Saturday p.m.—Breadstuffs quiet and steady, but without alteration in rates. Provisions dull and drooping.

Queen Victoria's Court Dinners.

The London correspondent of the Philadelphia Post says:—

"Queen Victoria's little dinners always drew a certain number of invited—no, of commanded guests, for the etiquette is not that royalty requests the pleasure of one's company, but orders it. Indeed so very autocratical is the system, that, supposing you had arranged to give a dinner to a number of your own friends and received a card from the Lord Chamberlain of the Queen's household desiring you to dine, on the same day, at the Queen's table, there is no refusing or any other plea than that of positive illness. Not to go would be a sort of petty treason, and you would have to send a circular round to your own guests, stating that the Queen's commands compelling you to dine at Buckingham Palace, also compelled you to uninvite them. Not that except the honor and glory of the thing, there can be much comfort or satisfaction in having one's legs under royal mahogany. First of all, the guest must put himself into a Court dress, which makes him look like a footman in private life, with knee breeches and silk stockings, lace cravat and ruffles, amplest of waistcoats and shadbellyest of coats. Then, if he does not keep his own carriage he must hire one, looking like a private vehicle, for it is doubtful whether, since creation commenced, any one walked to a royal dinner, and the idea of going thither in a cab would probably have a mortal effect upon the enormous porter in scarlet and gold toggery, who receives your card of invitation when he admits you. Nor, supposing that you have found your way into the drawing-room and bowed to the Queen, and stealthily looked at the pictures and counted over all the time in solemn silence) the spots or flowers on the carpet, for the tenth time, and marched in file into the salle de manger—supposing all this, do not imagine that you are going to enjoy yourself. No, Indeed. None but Mark Tapely could be jolly at such a feast. Royalty has already dined, about 3 o'clock, probably off the hereditary leg of mutton and turnips, and has added the usual quantum of rice pudding, and the bit of old Cheshire, or rich Stilton, or double Gloucester cheese, and imbibed, the accustomed mug or two of Guinness or Mucx. This repast, called lunch, is really a good homely, filling dinner, and at the solemn repast, five hours later, people are expected merely to sip and taste through the several courses, so that one is reminded of the famous feast of the Bermecide. The viands are of the best the cuisine perfect, the vintages superb—but one can merely taste. Royalty's appetite was blunted on the leg of mutton and the pudding, the cheese and the bottled porter and the guests should have taken the edge off theirs by a similar process."

At these sadly solemn re-unions dull silence grimly reigns. There is not even a whisper to your neighbor—if you know him. The etiquette is, do not open your mouth unless royalty expressly condescends to speak to you. Do not expect such a compliment. That is reserved for a few favored guests in the immediate vicinity of the regal hostess. The dinner occupied from sixty to ninety minutes, and when ended the Queen rises, all other ladies rising and retiring with her. The male guests remain some ten minutes longer, silently sipping their wine, or whispering in small knots with bated breath. At last the senior officer of the household present rises on his hind legs and majestically gives "The Queen" as a toast, which every one drinks. If any male member of the Royal Family be present, he bows an acknowledgement. Coffee follows, and then the guests depart—a few to the drawing room, where the maids of honor are yawning, the rest going home, where it is to be supposed each man gets out of his livery at once, and gets rid of his gnawning hunger by means of oysters and stout. Such, I am informed by one who experienced it, is the routine of a royal dinner. He was an East Indian, and suffered much.

Prices in the South.

The following are the wholesale auction prices of a few articles, which we copy from a late Charleston paper:—

DRUGS—calomel, $6 12c per pound; copperas, 80½c per pound; cream of tartar, $2 76 per pound; soda, 86½c per pound; nitric acid, $1 75 per pound; sulph acid, 76 to 80c per pound; castor oil, $10 25 per gallon; epsom salts, 50c per pound; camphor, $6 per pound; kerosene oil, $8 05 per pound; sperm oil, $5.

GROCERIES—cheese $1 pel pound; common soap, 34 to 41c per pound; castile soap, 60c per pound, raisins, $2 25 per box, tallow candles, 89c per pound; tea, $3 85 to $5 per pound; matches, $10 per gross.

DRY GOODS—English bleached long cloth, 24 to 38c per yard; printed muslins, 4½ per yard; printed cambrics, 60c per yard; French prints, 62½c per yard; lawns, 37½c per yard; sewing silk, $27 50; spool cotton, 500 yards each, $2 35 per dozen; flax thread, $7 70 per pound; white agate pant buttons, $2 per doz.; white bone pant buttons, $1 78 per dozen.

STATIONARY—letter paper, $11 25 per ream; ruled cap paper, $15 25 per ream; commercial note paper $9 25 per ream; envelopes, $10 per thousand.

About 50 to 75 per cent is added to the above for the retail price.

Summer Rates.

We have much pleasure in inserting, for the benefit of the commercial public, the summer rates of the G. W. Railway Company.

From Montreal to London, (all rail.)

1st class, Dry Goods, &c.,	50c per 100 lbs.
2nd " Groceries, Hardware &c.,	38c.
3rd " Sugar, Syrup, &c.,	33c.
4th " Pig Lead, Bar Iron, C. Plate, Crockery, Alum, &c.,	31c.
5th " Whiting, soda, ashes (bleaching) R. R. spikes, &c.,	30c.
6th " Pig iron,	21c.
7th " Fish and Rosin,	70c. per bbl.
7th " Salt, in bags or bbls	45c.

Same clasification as above by water and rail—

1st class,	40 cents.
2nd "	30 "
3rd & 4th	27½ "
5th "	25 "
6th "	17 "
7th "	60 "
8th "	40 "

To New York, as per through clasification—

1st class,	$1 85
2nd "	85
3rd "	60
4th "	52½

Flour, in lots of 50 bbls. $1 05 each
Wool in bale, 90c per 100 lbs.

From New York to London.

1st class,	$1 00
2nd "	80
3rd "	60
4th "	32½

Immense Increase of Religious Houses in France.

M. Barouche, President of the French Council of State, in his recent report, refers to the increase of convents and nunneries in France for seven years ending in 1860. In that time the number of these religious houses had nearly doubled, having increased 890, and that the donations and legacies they had received in the same time amounted to 35,754,834 francs (nearly $7,000,000,) while for the forty-three years ending with 1845, they amounted to only $12,000,000. It is important to note these statistics and figures.—The Ministers themselves of the government of the Emperor Napoleon have dwelt with emphasis from time to time on this immense increase in the number of religious houses and the enormous sums in the possession of the clergy during the last ten years. The French ecclesiastics have not been slow in availing themselves of the extraordinary privileges accorded to them. If the measure of French piety correspondents at all to its cost, the people should be perfect models of saintliness.

Mr. Flanagan's house, Flanagan's Corners, London-road, was destroyed by fire on the 1st. Insurance in the Western for $2,000. Loss not stated.

Local Information.

MAILS.—Mails close at the Milton Post Office at 7½ P. M., and opens at 8 A. M. Daily.

COUNTY OFFICERS:

Sheriff, G. C. McKindsey Esq.—Office hours from 10 to 4.

Deputy Clerk of the Crown—Clerk County Court, and Registrar Surrogate Court, W. L. P. Eager, Esq.—Hours from 10 to 3.

Crown County Attorney and Clerk of the Peace, G. Tice Bastedo, Esq.—Hours from 10 to 4.

County Judge,—J. Davis Esq.

County Registrar, T. Racey, Esq.—Hours from 10 to 3.

COUNTY DIVISION COURT CLERKS.

1st Div.	J. Holgate, Milton.
2nd do	R. Balmer, Oakville.
3rd do	R. Young, Georgetown.
4th do	John Matthews, Acton.
5th do	S. R. Lister, Nassagaweya.
6th do	A. G. McCay, Nelson.

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS.

Warden, Wm. Clay, Esq. .... *County Clerk* F. Hamburgh, Esq—Every Saturday from 10 to 4.... *County Treasurer*, F. McCallum, Esq.,—Every Friday and Saturday from 10 to 4. *Jailor*, J. Vanallan Esq.

TOWN OF MILTON.

Mayor, W. D. Lyon Esq..... *Town Clerk*, P. McKay Esq..... Council meet every other Monday.

The Canadian Champion.

MILTON, MAY 14th, 1862.

FOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR

J.C. AIKINS Esq.

Our New Volume.

A year has passed away, since we had the pleasure of presenting our readers with Vol. 1, No 1, (new series) of the CHAMPION. With this No. we now enter on the second year, and in doing so, we cannot but express our heartfelt thanks to our patrons in the County of Halton, for their liberal support, and the warm interest they have manifested for the welfare of the CHAMPION, since its commencement. We have used our endeavors to make the paper a welcome visitor into every family; and we have reason to believe our efforts have secured the general approbation of its readers, both in town and country.

The support accorded since our commencement has convinced us, that a *fearless* and a *truthful* paper must, and will prosper in Halton; and we flatter ourselves that we have conducted the CHAMPION thus far on this broad principle—adhereing scrupulously, to the course laid down in our prospectus.

Our continued aim will be to make our paper a true exponent of sound Reform principles: to cripple extravagance in all departmental offices, and sue for the initiation of a just and economical system of disbursing the public revenues, and the properly disposing of the patronage of the State; we shall, consequently work vigilantly for the purpose of overthrowing the present corrupt Administration, whose every act has been at variance with these views.

But while we purpose watching our political rights with great care, we will continue to devote a large space to a general miscellany—news well adapted to edify and interest the general reader—together with local enterprises, desirable and needed highways, and such matters of material progress, as the public good may require.

As the CHAMPION enjoys a large and extensive circulation, it will be found a most excellent medium of advertising—therefore, persons in all kinds of business can keep their names and their wares constantly before the public, in this great medium for both the disposer and the buyer.

Ottawa buildings.

From very important documents contained in a volume just laid before Parliament, every expectation as to extravagance connected with the Government Buildings has been fully realized. We must quote a few sentences. The revelations are scandalous in the extreme. "Mr. Killaly reports the value of work done and material supplied up to December 1st, 1861, on the Parliamentary Buildings to be $706,512, and on the Departmental Buildings, $802,378—total $1,508,000! He also reports that there is yet required to finish the Parliamentary Buildings, $454,825; for the Departmental Buildings $322,394; and for external work, $267,290—making in all $1,094,509, which with the sum already expended would bring the total cost to $2,603,409! This is besides the Governor's residence, which is not yet touched. That will undoubtedly raise the total beyond the *Globe's* estimate—$300,000.

Legislative Morality.

Hon. J. B. Robinson, President of the Executive Council, has been shewing off his political principles since his return to the House. This is a piece of Legislative morality. It is thus narrated by a correspondent:—"Hon J. B. Robinson was addressing the House and giving reasons why he should vote for the separate school bill, although two years ago he had voted against a similar measure. He denied that he had got the support of the Catholics in his late election, on account of his pledge to support separate schools, and said it was untrue that he had given any such pledge.

Mr. Foley asked him about another pledge—whether he had not told the electors that he would relieve the city of Toronto of a certain indebtedness or resign his place in the Executive Council. This also he denied. Mr. Foley then read the *Leader's* report of a speech by the hon. gentleman, in which he distinctly pledged himself to relieve Toronto of $112,000 of taxation, or resign his seat in the Council. Mr. Robinson admitted the correctness of the report, and amidst uproarious cheers and laughter on the part of the gentlemen surrounding him, declared that he made the promise because he was not to be behind his opponent in giving pledges.

Such an unblushing confession by a member of Parliament, that, to secure his election, he had given promises which he had no intention to fulfil we believe, was never before heard on the floor of Parliament. Mr. Robinson has not much character to loose; but if the press does its duty, even he may be made to feel that he cannot with impunity brave public scorn, by offering such an insult to the moral sense of the country.

Bankruptcy Bill.

We have received the new Bankruptcy Bill, introduced by Sidney Smith, P. M. G. It differs but little from the Bill introduced in a session of Parliament. A new clause has been inserted giving the Chief Judge in Bankruptcy rank and precedence with the Puisne Judges of the Superior Courts of Common Law and the Vice Chancellors, according to the date of appointment, and the other two Judges rank and take precedence with Judges of County Courts, according to the date of their appointments. To the 17th clause providing for the appointment of a Registrar for each of the three courts—Eastern, Central, and Western—the following words have been added—"And no person shall be appointed Registrar who is not a Barrister at law of at least three years standing at the Bar of Upper Canada." Clause 18 is new, requiring the Registrars to take an oath, similar to the Judges, before entering on the duties of office. A sentence of half a dozen words have been prefixed to clause 21, as it previously stood, making still more clear the design of remunerating the Registrars by the payment of fees. Lastly the clause has been expunged from the old bill requiring Sheriffs, Bailiffs, and Constables, within their respective limits, to attend the sittings of the Courts of Bankruptcy and Courts of Appeal in Bankruptcy.

Sad Accident in Toronto.

On Sunday last, about one o'clock, a deplorable accident, caused by the upsetting of a sail boat, took place opposite Toronto. A young man by the name of William Ward, about 15 years of age, embarked in a sail boat for a cruise on the Bay, accompanied by his five sisters named respectively Phœbe, Mary Ann, Jane, Caroline, and Margaret. The eldest girl was about thirteen years of age, and the youngest only four.—After sailing up and down the Bay for an hour or so, when about half a mile out from Messrs. Gooderham & Co.'s wharf the boat capsized, and the five girls were drowned, the boy escaped by clinging to the boat.

Gaol Smashing.

We learn from the Picton "Times" that three men made an attack on the Jail of that town, and succeeded in liberating a man by the name of Elijah Williams. The Jailor stabbed one of the assailants named Watts with a bayonet, who afterwards was captured. Daniel Williams, brother to the person confined, was also captured.

Grammar School.

Pupils are now admitted both to the English and Classical departments of the Grammar School for the same amount of fees as in the Common School, viz: 25 cents per month.

FIRE.—We learn that on Saturday last a fire occurred in the dwelling house of Mr. Faulkner, Omagh, and before it could be subdued the house was consumed.

A DEN EMPTIED.—The inhabitants of Erin village have put to flight the inmates of a house that scandalized the place. In injuring the property they went too far.

Trafalgar Council.

PALERMO, May 5, 1862.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Reeve in the chair.

Members present—Messrs. Buck, Hood, White and Bowbeer.

Petitions were presented as follows:—

From Edward McCann and others, praying for aid to improve the 2nd and 4th lines on the Base Line between the old and new survey of Trafalgar.

From John Askin, Esq., and others, praying for aid to support Andrew Maybee and wife, who are infirm and without means necessary for their comfort.

From Wm. Hagar, President of the Agricultural Society of Trafalgar, praying for a grant of fifty dollars for the benefit of said society.

From Mr. G. Gable, and others, praying for aid to build a bridge on the 9th line of Trafalgar, south of Dundas Street.

From Thomas C. Hagaman, and others, praying for the sum of twenty dollars to aid in maintaining Samuel Pepperlane, who is ill and destitute.

Moved by Mr. Bowbeer, seconded by Mr. Hood, that the account of Mr. Mosely for plank to cover a culvert on the 7th line, South of Dundas street, amount $4.32, be paid. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Buck that the account of the *Observer* Office for printing 250 copies of the minutes, amount $43.16 be paid. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. White that the sum of $80 be granted to grade the Hills on the Base Line, between the 3rd and 4th Concessions, and that Messrs. Robt. Faux, John Marshall and Edward McCann be commissioners to expend the same. Carried.

Moved by J. Jarvis, Esq., seconded by Mr. Buck, that James Sherwood be pathmaster in Road division, No. 39. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr White, that C. C. Gibson be pathmaster in place of Thos. Coverhill, for road division, No. 14, who declines to act. Carried.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Buck, that Thomas Page be appointed pathmaster for road division, No. 15, in place of George Langtree, who declines to act. Carried.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Buck, that Matthew Richardson be allowed to perform his statute labor on the Town Line, 1st con. South of Dundas street, between Trafalgar and Nelson. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. White that H. M. Switzer, Esq., be appointed commissioner of the village of Palermo sidewalks, in place of Dr. Buck who declines to act. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. White that Harvey Muiholland be allowed to perform his statute labor, on the 2nd Concession S. D. S. between the 5th and 6th lines. Carried.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Buck, that Edward Fryer, Ezra Bray, and Ralph Bracken, Jr., Esquires, be commissioners to superintend the building of the Bridge over the Twelve Mile Creek, Middle Road, (by Mr. Peacock.) Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. White, that the sum of $10 be granted to road division No. 65, to pay for 1680 feet of plank, required to cover Bridges, and that the same be paid to Mr. William Howes, Pathmaster. Also that the sum of $6 be granted to Road Division No. 58, for the same purpose, and that Thos. H. Pattern, Pathmaster, receives the same; the Treasurer hereby authorized to pay both amounts. Carried

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. White, that Anthony and John Brownridge, be appointed commissioners to superintend the erection of the Bridges over the Sixteen Mile Creek, on the 5th line, between the old and new Survey.

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr Bowbeer, that Thos. H. Patterson James Coot and Samuel Kenedy, be appointed commissioners to superintend the erection of the Bridge, between lots 5 and 6 near the 7th line, Trafalgar. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Bowbeer, that the Assessment Roll presented by the Assessor for 1862, be accepted Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Bowbeer, that Mr. Irvin, be appointed Pathmaster for road division No. 49, in place of James Cunningham who resigned. Also John Bentnor, be Pathmaster for road divisson No. 50, in place of Patrick McConville who declined to act. Carried.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr Buck, that the town clerk be authorized to grant a License to Mr. R. Harris, to keep a Public House at Bronte Station, instead of William J. Henry. Carried.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Buck, that the sum of $100 be advanced by the Treasurer, to Mr. Peacock, as part payment on his contract for building the Bridge over the Twelve Mile Creek, is hereby authorized. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Buck, that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay Mr. Carrol, contractor, the sum of $100, on his contract. Also to Mr. Peacock on his contract, the sum of $100. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Bowbeer, that the sum of $2 be paid to S. Clements for removing a quantity of drift wood from the abutment of the Bridge near Hallida's Mills, Sixteen Mile Creek. Carried

Moved by Mr. Bowbeer, seconded by Mr Buck, that road division No. 1, be divided in accordance with the petition of Wm. Wass and others, and that James Beardsley, Esq., be appointed Pathmaster on the western division, of the same.—Carried

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Bowbeer That $50 be granted to the Agricultural Society, of Trafalgar, in compliance with a petition to that effect, and that the Treasurer be authorized to pay the above amount to the Treasurer of the said Society

In amendment it was moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Buck, that the Council have no right to pay the public money out for any such purpose, without a vote of the rate payers to that effect. The amendment having being submitted to the vote of the Council was carried by the casting vote of the Reeve.

Moved by Mr. Bowbeer, seconded by Mr. Hood, that Messrs. Buck, Appelbee, and Bowbeer, are hereby appointed and commissioned, to advertise for tenders to construct a Bridge on the 9th Line, S D. S. and other repairs, in accordance with the petition of Mr. Gable and others. The tenders to be received at next meeting of Council. Carried.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Buck, That the commissioners appointed to superintend the building of the bridge over the Twelve Mile Creek, Middle Road, are hereby instructed by the Council, to advertise for tenders to fill in the earth work from the west hill and make the approaches to said Bridge in such a manner as they may think proper. The tenders to be received at next meeting of Council. Carried

Moved by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Bowbeer, that this council do now adjourn to meet at Drumquin, on the third Monday of June next. Carried.

JAMES APPLEBE, Township Clerk. JOHN JARVIS, Reeve.

All Pathmasters are hereby notified to call at the Clerks office, in order to get correct lists of their Statute Labor.

JAMES APPELBE, T. C.

The Public Service.

Blue books are proverbially dry reading. When all ordinary soporifics fail, it is rarely that the pursual of a portion of one of these volumes does not result in producing profound sleep. The public accounts however are of a somewhat dificent nature, and are read with interest by two different parties. The unfortunate tax payer, who winds himself year after year compelled to surrender a considerable portion of his income to supply the necessities of the Government will eagerly scan the pages of this book to find where the money goes, and the happy recipient of public money curiously glances at the record to see where it comes from. We have received a copy of this important document and must confess to having risen from a hasty persual of it with the idea that the wealth of Canada is almost exhaustless, so lavishly is it expended by the people's representatives. We devote a little space to day to show the cost of our various public departments. Passing the Governor General who receives the sum of $31,111,07 per an m., the first officer on the list is that of the Governor General's Secretary. This office contains one Secretary, two clerks, one office keeper and one messenger, and cost in 1861, $7,120 66. Next comes the Provincial Secretary's office, which, inclusive of the Board of Examiners, Civil Service, and the Provincial Registrar's office, gave employment to twenty-three persons, and cost $31,500.—The Receiver General's office employed 13 persons and cost $20,335. The Finance Department, including not only the office under Mr. Galt's immediate control, but also the office of Commissioner of Customs and the Audit Office, employed thirty-nine officers and cost $49,455 18. The office of President of the Executive Council, now graced by the presence of the Hon. J. B. Robinson, embraced fourteen persons, and cost $19,081. The department of Public Works combined with the Bureau of Agriculture gave employment to thirty-five persons, who drew as salaries some $41,500. The Postmaster General ruled over thirty six subordinates, who received $36,325 59. The Attorneys General East and West kept the expenses of their offices about equal, the former costing $11,853, and the latter $11,799 88, including the item of $3,000 to the Hon. J. C. Morrison. The Crown Lands Department swells out in its expenses beyond the others; having giving employment sixty seven persons, and cost $67,205. The total cost of the Departments for salaries was $327,315 59.

This amount, however, is only for salaries to those employed in the departments. Next come several wares devoted to contigencies for the same offices. Thus, the contingent expenses of the Governor General's Secretary's office amounted to $5,726 81c; of the Provincial Secretary's office, to $11,136 53; Provincial Registrar's office, $3,678 88; Executive Council office; $6,432 35; Finance Ministers office, $8,239 58; Auditor's Office $900 97; Receiver General's office, $8,494 14; Public Works Department, $7 111 83; Crown Law Department, $8,333 15; Crown Lands Department $31,842 25; Bureau of Agriculture, $6,805 21; and general disbursements, $11,213 76—making a total for contingencies during the year, of $109,967 90, and making a grand total of expenses of civil government for 1861 of $437,285 49.—Hamilton Times.

General News Items.

A telegraph despatch from San Francisco May the 5th, says:—Twelve hundred passengers sailed last week for the Oregon and British Columbia mines. Two steamers will depart this week for the same place.

Mr. Jacob Dittrick, brother of Alva Dittrick, of St. Catharines, was drowned on Wednesday night in the Twelve Mile Creek. He was in the habit of going up the Creek to fish at night, and it is supposed that he fell asleep during the night and rolled into the water, and was thus drowned.

A telegraph from Pottsville, Pa., May 6th says:—The colliers of the several mines in this vicinity are on a strike to day, and have committed many high-handed and outrageous acts. The pumping engines of some of the largest collieries were stopped by them, causing a serious destruction of property. Heckscher's mines were the object of their united violence. The State authorities have been called on to furnish troops. Volunteer companies are organizing.

BOURBON INSTRUMENTS OF TORTURE.—The 'Campana della Grancia,' of Palermo, mentions a discovery which has just been made in the castle of that city. On digging up the floor of a storehouse of artillery, three horrible instruments of torture, used under the Bourbons, were brought to light. One was the cap of silence, consisting of two copper hoops, one of which used to be screwed tight round the head, and the other tight round the face. The other instruments were the burning chair and foot burner. The former is also of copper, on which the victim was strapped down, while plates of red hot iron were let into a cavity in the back. The other is a kind of a metal boot, resting on an iron box, in which a fire is kept up while the prisoner had his foot in it. It was rumored that these instruments were to be sent to London, to be shown to the British Parliament.

A DESTRUCTIVE BUSINESS.—From a return of the quantities of liquors distilled and brewed in the District of Montreal during the quarter ending March 31, it appears that 239 960 gallons of proof spirits, and 547,996 gallons of malt liquors were manufactured,—and that in their production 164,291 bushels of grain were destroyed. The revenue accruing to the Province from the foregoing, was $19,868 36c; but who could enumerate the crime, (Perhaps murder,) accidents, poverty, and a legion of misery, entailed upon this city and district by that liquor.—[Montreal Times.

MORE CAPITAL FOR CANADA.—An association for the investment of money in Canada, and for other objects, to be called the "Canadian Land Investment and Colonization Company," is on the point of completion at home. Some of the leading names of parties, who attended the recent meeting of the British North American Association, have long since signified their readiness to join this company. It is proposed to advance money on much easier terms as regards interest and other costs, than those paid to the "Canada Agency Company," the dividends on which have been 20 per cent, and the shares of which were some months at 300 per cent premium. The objects of the new society will not be confined to mere money lending and quasi banking operations in the purchase of exchange but will extend to the encouragement of immigration by judicious loans to newly arrived settlers who have adequate security to offer for the advance. No land speculations will form part of the scheme—the promoters of it having a personal interest in the progress and prosperity of the province.—[Leader.

The hearts of the Southerners are in the war, as is evidenced by a despatch in the New Orleans "True Delta," of the 20th ult., from Natchez, as follows:—The girls, one hundred and three rank and file, each in herself a Joan of Arc or a Maid of Saragrossa, have completed their military organization, and are in for the war. They will leave here by steamer for New Orleans on Monday morning. Give them a warm embrace.—Hurrah for Mississippi! The announcement made a great sensation in that city. The same paper asserts that a company of females formed in New Orleans would be at the levee to receive the girls from Mississippi.

A MONSTER HOTEL IN PARIS.—The new Hotel de la Paix, on the Boulevard, the foundations of which were laid hardily a year ago, will be opened, it is thought, in the month of June. An idea of its immense extent may be formed when we mention that it contains 700 bed-chambers, besides 80 fitted up as drawing, dining and other rooms, &c. Among the contracts already made for furnishing are 40.000 metres (25 miles) of wire for the bells, 30,000 metres of inlaid oak flooring, 18.000 metres of carpets, 20.000 kilos of wool, and 10.000 kilos