ther, saith the Lord. I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them."

We have lately heard with pleasure of the great numbers of the Church of England clergymen who have taken a noble stand in favor of total abstinence. I think a great deal of this is attributable to the conduct of the Dean of Carlisle. He says, "I have reaped a rich reward in the blessings of the poor, and those who are ready to perish. No one can tell till he has tried, what gratitude he has awakened in the bosoms of the working classes, not among the intemperate merely or chiefly, but among them all, when they become persuaded that for their sakes we abstain, or bear reproach. If I could but persuade my dear brethren, the clergy, only to try the matter as a question of moral influence in their parishes, they would be astonished at the results. Let it but be known that the parson has banished beer and wine, and spirits from his table, though he never was suspected of intemperance. Let his parishioners believe that for their sakes, as a mere example, he has done this, and numbers will flock to his church who never have been seen there before, and the known and established fact 'that the parson drinks nought but water' will have more effect than a dozen homilies on the evils of drunkenness, followed by the practical application of the comfortable glass at home, and the social interchange of toasts." When we see a young man going into or coming out of a tavern, or with his breath tainted with liquor, we say he has been letting his enemy in on him. I knew a clever young man who was an expert salesman in a dry goods store in Toronto. He might have been a wholesale merchant now, had he not let the enemy in on him. He was a "nice young man," fond of balls, evening pleasure parties, and the pleasure of wine with the ladies. One day, in the store, after he had served a lady customer, she whispered something to his employer who, as soon as she left the store, called him to the office, and said, "Mr. L., your breath smells strong of intoxicating liquor. This is the second time complaint has been made against you by my best customers. I shall not tolerate it an hour longer. Go, take warning, beware of a dreadful fate." So saying, he handed him his salary, and bade him good bye. At last accounts, that young man had left his wife and children, joined the Southern army, got captured, and was in a Northern prison.

When we travel by steamboat, or railroad, and see a young man frequenting liquor bars, or taking an occasional slug out of a cased pewter flask, we say he has been letting his enemy in on him.

When we see a party of friends around a festive evening board in a professedly religious family, and an occasional adjournment of some of the guests to other apartments under pretence of seeing some rarety, and returning with smiles and strong breath, we say they have been letting the enemy in on them.

When we see a jovial party of young men, members of a political or secret society in conclave, the liquor set on after business, a considerable amount of struggling to assume an air of consequence, talking of the wealthy and influential positions of their grand-uncles and maiden aunts, puffing cigars, lording over poor waiters, trying to imitate British army officers in manner, accent, and extravagant trifles, crushing sentimental and bacchanalian songs out of them, shaking the liquor up and down in them by dancing, winding up with indignant feelings for imaginary insults, breaking glasses, refusing to be pacified, extinguishing the lights, getting into a blind man's buff melee, and scrambling home in the middle of the night, after various collisions and escapes from policemen, turning into bed partially undressed, their dry mouths, cracked tongues, and aching heads next morning, their nervous efforts to dress and hurry for a soda cocktail, we say they have been letting the enemy in on them.

I have in my mind's eye at present over a score of young men who lived in the city of Toronto. They were once the joy of their parents, because promising lads, and doubtless would have attained highly respectable positions, as many of their confreres did, but by letting the enemy in on them, step by step, at social evening jollifications, by discarding their teetotal friends, by glorying in their liquor, cigars, songs and revelry, while borrowing strength from futurity, robbing themselves of tired nature's sweet restorer, and the succeeding period of life of its happiness by indulging in sinful gratifications, the result has been that every one of them has come to disgrace, ruin, and dishonest graves. One of these I was well acquainted with in the town of Enniskillen, Ireland; he was highly respectable, an attorney of good standing in his profession, and married to a handsome, amiable young lady, who, by his liquor-drinking habits he hastened to an untimely grave, leaving him two children who became chargeable on her parents. I afterwards met him in Toronto, where he told me he was reformed, and I procured him employment with one of my brothers in the legal profession; while there he occasionally gave way to the liquor, and tried hard to reform, but failed. While on a visit to a friend in Coburg he got on a spree, walked to the end of the long wharf there, and put an end to his existence by throwing himself into the lake, leaving me to pay for the suit of clothes in which he drowned himself. Often and often, with tears, he bitterly lamented having taken the first glass of liquor, cursed the custom of social beverage drinking, and in feelings of anguish and remorse he reverted to the memory of his dear young wife whom he had hurried to the grave. To him the following lines from the *Church of England Temperance Magazine* are applicable:

"Thou art slumbering in the peaceful grave,
And thy sleep is dreamless now;
But the seal of an undying grief
Is on thy mourner's brow;
And my heart is chill as thine Mary,
For the joys of life have fled;
And I long to lay my aching breast
With the cold and silent dead."

(To be concluded in our next.)

BODY OF A CHILD FOUND.—The servant man attached to the Convent of the Sœurs Grises, on Gallows Hill, while shovelling snow in the yard adjoining the convent, found a small box containing the body of a dead infant, apparently still born. The remains were handed over to the Police.—*Quebec News.*

THE UNION BANK.—The action brought by Mr. Jas. Gibb against Mr. Edward Poston, one of the director of the Union Bank of Quebec,—in the late election case was dismissed on Tuesday, with costs, in the Superior Court, by Mr. Justice Taschereau. Casault, Langlois, and Angers appeared for the plaintiff. Messrs. Alleyn & Alleyn, G. O. Stuart, and Holt & Irvine for Defendant.

NEW SUPERIOR OF THE JESUITS.—We learn from *L'Ordre* that the late Father Tellier had designated in his will who was to be his provisional successor, as Superior-General of the Jesuits in America. The will being opened, the name of the Rev. Father Perron, Rector of the Novitiate at Sault au Recollets, was found. He will, there-fore, act as Superior until the General of the Order has been heard of from Rome.

The late severe weather has had a novel effect upon the telegraph wires in all directions: The contraction of the wires caused by the cold has made innumerable breaks wherever there was not sufficient slack in the wire between the poles to allow for it. All the telegraph lines are suffering from its cause, and there is, consequently, a great reduction in the number of wires in order for telegraphing purposes throughout the United States.

SERIOUS MILITARY ACCIDENT.—Yesterday afternoon Major Smythe's Battery set out for their regular route march in the country. Upon passing the Victoria Bridge, at the foot of Ridout treet, an accident occurred which well nigh endangered the lives of some of the men. No. 2 waggon upset over a steep embankment some six or eight feet high, and fell to the bottom, dragging the horses along with it. Driver Howes was severely injured. The train immediately halted, and every assistance was afforded the injured driver, a stretcher being procured, a surgeon summoned, &c., when the waggon was drawn up to the road and refitted. The horses were terribly frightened, and capered madly about, insomuch that it required much to do to restrain them. The whole Battery then wheeled, and returned to their barracks, the injured soldier being taken to the military hospital, and provided for as his wants required.—*London Free Press.*

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

On no occasion will the names of Old Advertisements be inserted here.

R. S. M. Bouchette—American Invoices.

Special Notice—Canadian Pain Destroyer.

E. K. MacGillivray & Co.—Gold and Silver English Patent Lever Watches.

D. Whelan—200 blds. of Mess Pork for sale.

James Brough & Co.—Great clearing sale of Dry Goods.

Lost—A Grizzly Bear Skin Robe.

TRAVELLERS' DIRECTORY.

DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL OF TRAINS.

Mail Train leaves Ottawa at	8.00, a.m.
Do. arrives "	5.45, p.m.
Accommodation Train leaves at	1.30, p.m.
Do. do arrives at	11.45, a.m.

☞ These Trains connect at Prescott Junction with Trains on Grand Trunk Railway for the East and West, and at Prescott with Ferry for Ogdensburgh—again connecting with Railroads for all parts of the U. S.

THE POST OFFICE—OTTAWA.

DELIVERING AND CLOSING OF MAILS.

MAILS.	DELIV'RD.	CLOSED.
East and West, by Rail, Daily,	12.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.	7.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m.
Pakenham and North Shore of the Ottawa, Daily,	8.00 a.m.	9.30 a.m.
Aylmer & N. Shore of Ottawa "	8.00 a.m.	12.00 M.
Do. do do "	12.00 M.	5.00 p.m.
Bell's Corners, Richmond, Perth, &c. "	5.30 p.m.	8.00 p.m.
Buckingham, Grenville and Lower Ottawa, *	8.00 a.m.	6.00 a.m.
Kemptville, Osgoode, &c., Daily	5.30 p.m.	7.30 a.m.
Chelsea and Wakefield, "	3.30 p.m.	8.00 p.m.
Templeton & E st Templeton, †	12.00 M.	12.00 M.

*Mails Daily, except on Saturdays and Sundays.
†Mails every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

To all parts of Canada, if pre-paid by Stamps, 5 cts. If unpaid, 7 cts. To British Columbia, 10 cts. Letters for British Columbia, Germany and Foreign Countries generally, MUST BE PRE-PAID.

To the United States, 10 cts.—pre-payment optional. English Mails, per H. & A. Allan's Canadian Steamships, via Portland, close at Noon every Friday—postage 7½ cts.; per Cunard Steamers, Noon, Mondays and Saturdays, (alternate weeks,) postage 17 cts.

REGISTERED LETTERS must be pre-paid, and posted thirty minutes prior to the closing of mail.

☞ Office hours—8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

G. P. BAKER, Postmaster.

The Ottawa Times

OTTAWA, JANUARY 22, 1866.

☞ *FOR INTERESTING READING MATTER—SEE FIRST and FOURTH Pages.*

Subscribers not receiving the TIMES regularly from the carrier boys, are requested to leave word at the office that we may have the evil remedied.

A Cabinet Council, we understand, will meet in Ottawa on the 30th instant; shortly after which period it is probable that several members of the government will become permanently resident in the city.

A very proper precaution has been taken by the Customs Department in reference to the bringing of arms and utensils of war into the Province, from the United States. We apprehend that the circular issued to the Collector of the several ports of Canada is not directed against the legitimate commerce of the country, but for the suppression of the irregular mode of introducing munitions of war in defiance of the Imperial Statute. The following is a copy of the circular issued:—

FINANCE DEPARTMENT, CUSTOMS.
Ottawa, 12th January, 1866.

Sir,—With reference to the Act, Consol. Stats. of Canada, 22 Vict. Cap. 17 intitled "An Act respecting duties of Customs and the collection thereof," I have to state that it is considered by the Department under legal advice, that there is nothing contained in that Act which repeals or disturbs the table of "Prohibitions and Restrictions" in the Imperial Act 16 and 17 Vict. Cap. 107, Sect. 159, and that therefore Ammunition, Arms or Utensils of War, are still prohibited except from the United Kingdom, or any British Possession and consequently it will be your duty to see that the articles in question are not introduced into the Province from the United States of America.

I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. S. M. BOUCHETTE.

We hold that the columns of a newspaper do not offer a fitting vehicle for the discussion of theological questions. But there are cognate matters which concern the church—meaning thereby the fabric, minister and communicants with their several relations to each other and the administration of those secular affairs indispensible to the organization that come within the limits of popular animadversion. The Colenso controversy, originally founded on the grave subject of polemics, eventually drifted into a very worldly contention, having reference to the rights and privileges of episcopal government, and something closely verging upon repudiation of the prerogative of the Head of the Church. One of the startling facts, however, elicited by the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, before whom the case of Bishop Colenso and the Bishop of Capetown was tried, was the decision in reference to the Colonial Bishoprics. This was an event fraught with the gravest consequences to the Colonial Churches. The judgment of Lord Westbury given on the 20th March was against Dr. Gray's pretensions to coercive power, and was so far favorable to Dr. Colenso. The decision was simply upon the question of the legal authority of the assumed metropolitan, and affected no doctrine, dogma or opinion taught or held by the church. It had reference to the peculiar position of the church in the colonies, and has shown how anomalous that position really is. The London *Review* has a very able article upon the case and the situation in which the three Bishops in South Africa are left by Lord Westbury's judgment. The matter is deeply interesting as affecting the Episcopal Church in the Colonies, and we therefore give that portion of our contemporary's commentary having especial reference to the Colonies generally and to Canada in particular. In doing this we have no desire to enter into the consideration of Bishop Colenso's views or those of his opponents; neither do we wish to provoke discussion upon them. As we have said we consider such subjects are not suited to the columns of a newspaper. The object we have in reproducing this well considered article from the *Review* is to point out to those who take an interest in the Church of England, as established in Canada, the anomalous position in which the church is placed in all British Colonies having local legislatures, and whose Bishops have been created by royal letters patent only. The importance to the subject is our best apology for the occupation of so much space by the following extract:—

One of these events, fraught with the gravest consequences to the Colonial Churches, was the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, delivered by Lord Westbury on the 20th of March, in the case of Bishop Colenso, *versus* the Bishop of Capetown. That case had stood over for judgment from the preceding year, after able and most elaborate statements by counsel on either side of the views of the rival litigants. The decision as had been expected, was unfavourable to Dr. Gray, who was, moreover, mulcted in costs, and the trial and deposition of Dr. Colenso by the self-constituted South African Synod was pronounced to be of no force in law. The part of the judgment, however, which hardly had been expected, and took people rather by surprise, but yet, in a degree, gave satisfaction, was that which declared not only that Dr. Grey had no coercive jurisdiction as Metropolitan, but that there legally existed no such thing at all as a South African Metropolitan, no such thing as a bishopric or diocese of Capetown; and particularly that Dr. Colenso was not Bishop of Natal, no such thing existing as a bishopric or diocese of Natal. The episcopal combatants were found in their struggle to have both fallen to the ground—or rather, Dr. Colenso had, by his appeal to the Queen, like the woodman, cut down the bough on which both Dr. Gray and he had stood. They were, indeed, bishops in virtue of the act of Episcopal consecration, but bishops without sees, without power and without clergy.

The ground on which this decision rested was the invalidity of the royal letters patent by which these bishoprics were supposed to have been created. It was ruled that, though the Queen can, *ex mero motu*, create a bishopric in a Crown Colony, or one having no local legislature, she cannot do so in one which has such a legislature, without a special act being first passed by it authorizing her to issue letters patent for the purpose. Representative institutions had been granted to Natal in 1847, and to Capetown in 1850; and, consequently, the letters patent of Drs. Gray and Colenso, which were issued in 1853 without the necessary authorization, were mere waste paper, null and void for any legal purpose. On the same principle was the question of jurisdiction decided. If the Queen cannot create a bishopric, she cannot invest that bishopric with coercive jurisdiction. It is a settled constitutional principle that, although the crown can establish a court to administer the existing common law, it cannot create one to administer any other law. Therefore, the Synodal Court which deposed Dr. Colenso was a legal nullity of no more force than a child's play at Judges, lawyers, and an accused. Nor had the oath of canonical obedience to Dr. Gray as Metropolitan, which Dr. Colenso had taken, conferred on the former any coercive jurisdiction, for that oath was binding only in such matters as could legally be required of the latter. The result was a victory to Dr. Colenso, by which he pulled down his adversary from his high estate, but which to himself was worse than barren by the extinction of his own bishopric, and the risk of the loss of his episcopal salary in the suit now pending in the Court of Chancery. Ir is a curious circumstance, perhaps providential, that the very objects aimed at by Dr. Gray, the deposition of Dr. Colenso and the deprivation of his salary have in the end been brought about, although in a way never contemplated, through the blundering of the law officers of the Crown who advised her Majesty to issue such illegal letters. On the whole, as regards the two bishops personally, perhaps the result may be considered as not unsatisfactory; both have been well punished, the one for his extreme opinions on Scripture, the other for his ambitious graspings at ecclesiastical power. The sympathizers with either are very few indeed.

But, although a very general feeling of thankfulness prevails that Dr. Colenso has been reduced to the impotent condition of being a bishop without a see, the consequences of the judgment as regards the Colonial Churches are embarrassing enough. In all colonies whose bishops have been created by royal letters patent only, after the establishment of their local, legislatures, to the Church of England has no legal existence, or is reduced to the condition of a mere voluntary association. Its bishops have sees purely nominal, exactly as the Roman Catholic bishops have in England and Ireland, and the bishops of the Episcopal Church in Scotland. It is doubtful if the name of Church of England can be properly applied to such associations. Being self-governed, free of the control of the Crown, there is no security that will retain the doctrine and discipline of that Church, or that in course of time they may not split up into many denominations. In South Africa it is probable that Drs. Gray and Cotterill will continue to be accepted by the churchmen of Capetown and Grahamstown, as bishops of those nominal dioceses; but a schism seems inevitable in Natal. Dr. Colenso has returned to that colony, recruited by the £3,000 which his friends have subscribed to compensate him for the present loss of his salary; but it is not likely that he will be allowed to resume his episcopal duties unmolested. We learn by the latest intelligence from Capetown, that Dr. Gray has written to the Dean of St. Paul's D'Urban, reiterating his determination to excommunicate Dr. Colenso, should he do so; and it is probable he will be true to his word. The proposal also to have a new bishop appointed and consecrated by Dr. Gray, has found much favor among the Natal clergy, although the laity are in a state of much perplexity and hesitation as to the expediency of such a step, being most unwilling to break their connection with the Church of England, or to do anything disrespectful to the supremacy of the Queen. Strong feeling on this point was manifested at a meeting, held last summer in the Cathedral of Moritsburg, of lay delegates who had been summoned by the clergy to consider the appointment of a new bishop. The laity of D'Urban would not even entertain the idea, and refused to send a delegate. The representatives of the other parishes, however, did assemble, but only to re-affirm their unwillingness to separate from the Church of England; and the only result in which the meeting ended, was to pass some resolutions requesting the Bishop of Capetown to give his own advice, or to seek advice from the Archbishop of Canterbury, how a new bishop might be adopted without impugning the Royal Supermacy. It is a critical time for the church in that colony. Much forbearance and moderation on both sides will be needed. Dr. Colenso has already announced that he does not seek to coerce the clergy of Natal, that his intention is that they should have the same freedom of thought that he claims for himself. If a schism be inevitable, it is clear that a large majority of the laity, with almost all the clergy will follow Dr. Gray and the bishop appointed by him, while but a small knot only of admirers will gather round Dr. Colenso, forming so to speak, a diminutive Episcopal Church, acknowledging him as its chief. An address, signed by 130 persons of various shades of opinion, is awaiting his arrival; and it is unlikely that this small flock, with the great unwashed of the Zulus, will be about the extent of his spiritual realm. It is sad to contemplate the impression that will be made on the heathen mind by such a state of things—two episcopal sects, each claiming union with the Church of England, preaching in words the gospel of peace, but in deeds the wisdom, not from above, of hatred, emulation, and strife.

The effects of this judgment, as regards the other Colonial Churches, may be briefly summed up. As the bishoprics in India have been created by Acts of Parliament, and their salaries are paid, partly at least, out of the Indian Exchequer, they have a real jurisdiction, and are in legal union with the Home Church, and under the Crown. There is a difficulty, however, as to the future, which is curiously illustrated by the notice given this year by Mr. H. Seymour, in the House of Commons, on the withdrawal of the Lahore Bisopric Bill, that he would next year take the sense of the House on the policy of extending the English Church in India at the expense of other denominations. Is is clear that henceforth the Colonial Churches must become absolutely self-supporting as to their further extension. In Jamaica, Antigua, Barbadoes, and Guiana, where the bishoprics have been recognized by Acts of Parliament or of the local Legislatures, and in the crown colonies of Sierra Leone, St. Helana and the Mauritius, as well as at Gibraltar, there is Episcopal jurisdiction and Royal Supremacy. The Church in Canada may also be considered in a safe position, organized under its Synod Act; although, as the late synodal meeting at Montreal shows, in which a self-governing constitution was given it, that Church is now independent of the Crown, appointing its own bishops, and fixing its own Metropolitan See. The letters patent of the five New Zealand sees are, by the Colenso judgment, equally invalid with those of South Africa; but, as the bishops have lately petitioned the Queen to be permitted to surrender these letters, and form themselves into a self-governing Church under a local Synod Act, it is probable it also will become independent of the Crown. What the future of these churches, thus lopped off from the parent trunk, may be, is an interesting matter for inquiry. Left, as they will be, so much to ecclesiastical government, will they retain the free spirit and comprehensive basis of the Church of England? It is a curious coincidence that at the very time when the Church of England has made a great stride forward in liberty, so many churches should be cut off and left to the perilous experiment of self-government.

LOCAL NEWS.

POLICE COURT.—On Saturday, Martha Hetz, was brought up for vagrancy and was committed to jail for three weeks at hard labor. Three tavern keepers were brought up by License Inspector Turgeon, charged with selling liquor on the Sabbath, and were fined $10 and costs.

PROVINCIAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—We understand this company opens their office to-day in Angus Block Rideau street, for the transmitting of business East and west. The Company have made extensive arrangements to give satisfaction to the public in the business of telegraphing. Their office is in a part of Mr. Eaton's establishment.

LIST OF INSOLVENTS.—The official *Gazette* of the 20th inst. contains the following additional list of insolvents:—William Fleming, Brantford; John Mills, Harwick; Andrew Heron, Toronto; William Reford, Toronto; Archibald McIntyre, St. Thomas; M. J. Doran, Guelph: William Brooks, Sherbrooke; Benjamin Johnston, Belleville; Richey Waugh, Oxford Mills; McDougall & Davis, St. Marys; J. J Marshall, Mount Forest; Thomas Spotswood, Coburg; C. P. Cameron, Coburg; W. D. Woolsey, Quebec; Wm. Ashfield, Toronto; G. Blain, Toronto; Wm. Morris, Township of McNab; Alex. Dulmege, Napannee; Thomas Hickey, Napanee; George Mirrick, Ottawa; Daniel Conway, Cornwall; John Stratton, Napanee; Joseph Carlisle, Montreal; James Oliver, London; John Walker, Montreal; Alexander Brisler, Montreal; James Mountain, Quebec.

FIRES.

As the subject of the establisment of a proper system for the extinguishment of fires is one of some importance, and one that has, for some time, attracted the attention of the people of Ottawa, the following, respecting a recent meeting in Quebec, taken from the *Gazette* will be of interest:—

"We have the material for efficient fire companies as plentiful as any other city in the province; what we want is a system such as our neighbours in Montreal have, in order to our being saved from a repetition of those desolating conflagrations which have lately swept over our city. In this direction, a right step was taken by the meeting of yesterday, in the adoption of a resolution proposed by Mr. H. S. Scott, to the following effect:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting a fire alarm telegraph should be established without delay by the Corporation, together with a powerful and efficient brigade for working the same, as in Monteal and other cities; and that the expenses of buildings &c., will be cheerfully borne by the rate-payers generally." On this subject much valuable information was given to the meeting by Mr. A. Perry, Inspector of the Royal Insurance Company of Montreal. He shewed the necessity and the practicability of establishing a complete system of signals to be employed on the occurrence of fires; pointed out the faults in the construction of our hydrants, and recommended the adoption of the Montreal plan which admits of the hose being screwed on in the street, on taking the cap off the hydrant above and not below ground. Then he explained distinctly the *modus operandi* of the entire fire department of Montreal. The construction of the telegraph, Mr. Perry further stated, would amount to about $20,000, and if immediate action were taken upon the resolution that had been adopted, we might have one in operation by September next. In reply to a question from the Mayor, Mr. Perry said that the cost of the Fire Department in Montreal, including salaries and everything else in the way of contingencies, was not over $14,000. According to an estimate which the chairman read from, the salaries of a fire-brigade for Quebec, on the plan proposed, would amount to about $9,000 per annum. An addition of one quarter per cent., or even less, on the previous risks, would, in his estimation, be quite sufficient to meet the expenditure required for the telegraph and brigade. He did not think this very necessary improvement ought to be left solely a charge upon the corporation, which was already suffering many financial burthens, and which, at any rate, would have quite enough to do to complete the water works and other ameliorations of that kind. He might add, that an additional quarter per cent. on the risks of the Quebec office alone, would amount to some four hundred pounds. Arter some further discussion, Mr. Perry said, that if the fire committee of Quebec would undertake to issue the necessary bonds, or if he could have the assurance of the Mayor and those gentlemen—that the necessary legislative power would be sought, he might undertake to say that he could get the telegraph done. In reply to this, the Mayor explained the terms of the charter, and that every sum must be provided for and regularly voted by the corporation according to their estimates. The Mayor and corporatoan could not, therefore, pledge themselves to any assistance, but he further said, that the standing committees of the Council would be reported on Friday (this evening,) and will then be in a position to go to work."

CORRESPONDENCE.

WINTER NAVIGATION OF THE LOWER ST. LAWRENCE.

To the Editor of the Times.

SIR,—Your article of yesterday on the subject of "Winter navigation of the Lower St. Lawrence," revives many olden recollections, some of which may, not inopportunely, be reproduced at this moment, as a stimulant to public attention.

The "running of the Caughnawaga ferry," was a bold enterprize, effected by the aid of a spirited Board of Directors, but with how much of covert fear and trembling, may be estimated by the fact that the first winter the attempt was made, two steamboats were hired, sheeted with boiler plate and otherwise fortified, and that one was kept constantly fired up at the wharf, ready to start, should any mishap have befallen her consort on the river. No insurance could be made on either.

And of the risk you may judge, when I remind you that on the one quarter the boats had to encounter masses of descending ice, while, under the other quarter boiled and roared the Lachine Rapids, from which in the event of accident to boat or machinery, escape was simply hopeless.

The success of the experiment justified the hazard. The next year the *Iroquois* was built, the first boat on that part of the St. Lawrence supplied with oscillating engines, and capable of transporting a locomotive, tender and two cars. For the last sixteen years she has daily traversed the river, winter and summer, almost without interruption.

But sir, I am not here simply "to shoulder my crutch," but rather in reply to your invitation, to inquire whether the aspirations of former days may not be viewed for the benefit of the present.

The project of the Caughnawaga ferry, was at the time, merely a chip off the nugget—a feature in a much wider speculation, as to the practicability of navigating the St. Lawrence, below Quebec in the winter season. It was the opinion of many, at that time, that our system of Canadian Railroads should have followed the North Shore of the St. Lawrence, and in connection with this, predilection an impression had obtained not only that the Lower St. Lawrence was navigable in winter; but that, in connection with a North Shore Railroad, the Saguenay, from the great depth of water and force of current, might have proved so far free from ice as to have afforded a safe winter harbor.

The inquires of myself and friends had led to the conviction that the exigencies of trade compelled our merchantmen to take the bull by the horns. They are bound to get into the St. Lawrence just at the moment when the masses of ice are bound to get out. To reach Quebec in May, the Spring fleet encounters the detached and descending floes and *battures* which a fortnight earlier, *in situ*, would have acted as a land mark, or, a fortnight later, would have disappeared at sea. What is chiefly required to secure earlier and safe arrivals is a safe harbor for their protection, in the interval between the taking and the departure of the *battures*. Say, January, February and March.

Had Quebec been Wilmington there can be no doubt but that Clyde steamers and British seamen would have set at defiance all blockade, of war or climate, but it is to be hoped that Quebec will never be placed in the predicament of Wilmington, and it is our business to provide, not for an emergency only, but reliable means for docking, loading and unloading a merchant vessel at all times of tide and season. To secure this object we must find a harbor as far as possible free from ice. The harbor of Quebec, admirable otherwise, fails in this. It is never free from ice, and in some seasons is closed up by an ice bridge or pont.

Sixteen years have elapsed since the questions arose which led to the Caughnawaga experiment. Great changes have taken place since that time, and no change so important to the subject before us, as the construction of the extensive piers and wharves, which now exist below Point Levi. I believe that *there* will be found, created for other purposes, all the preliminary conditions necessary for the establishment of a safe winter harbor for Canada, and that little indeed is wanting which human genius, skill and money properly applied, will not suppy.

It will be observed that the ice bridge or *pont* always takes and terminates, sea-ward, on a huge westerly curve, extending from about the point at Point Levi, to the Beausort shoals. In this it only follows the ordinary direction of the tide, which, on the ebb, sweeps over the north and carries the descending masses of floating ice out on the Orleans Shore. I believe that but little floating ice descends the south side of the channel. Thereturning tide may more deflusively hug the Southern Shore, but the ice brought back bears no proportion to the ice carried down, and it is easy to provide against the impact of the ice, if it only approaches in one known direction. The slips constructed at Lachine to resist the effect of ice borne down by the current, in one unvarying direction, will explain what I mean.

I believe that a careful study of the question in all its bearings, on the spot, in the present condition of things, is most desirable, and am strongly impressed with the idea that a safe winter harbor may be established at Point Levi, under the guns of the fortifications there erecting.

Much more might be said in relation to this important subject, on a system of lights and signals on the coast, beginning with the Bird Rocks in the Gulf. The providing of a harbor of refuge at the Magdalen Islands, or elsewhere, where steamers could obtain coals, and refit, if necessary, and on the construction of ships for the trade, with movable bowsprits, and iron rams at the prow; but these and cognate subjects I leave to the man in Canada most qualified to deal with them, namely, Capt. Jesse Armstrong, Harbor Master of Quebec.

And, all honor to Mr. Tibbitts, before whose pluck and perseverance the Caughnawaga exploit "pales its fire." He has accomplished what I always believed to be impracticable. Let his spirit but animate some of our great capitalists, and another season will not pass without a practical effort being made to solve this great national problem—the winter navigation of the Lower St. Lawrence.

W. F. C.

Ottawa, 19th January, 1866.

CANADIAN NEWS.

The Halfday case will be tried over again at the Toronto Spring Assizes.

The increase of the Dundas and Waterloo Railroad for 1865 was $4,822 66c, and outlay for repairs, $2,026 58c, leaving a balance to its credit of $2,796 08c.

The election of Mr. Bissett as mayor of St. Johns, C. E., was started we believe with the intention of testing the strength of parties there. The conservatives brought him forward, and the *rouges* were left in an utterly hopeless case, not daring to bring forward a candidate.

Captain Nicholls, Chief of the Hamilton Police, has taken a convict named Lamb, from the Penitentiary, whose evidence is necessary to complete the case against Parker, alias "Bristol Bill," charged with complicity in the Galt Bank robbery.

FIRE IN KAMOURASKA.—Intelligence has been received in Quebec of a destructive fire at St. Alexandre County of Kamourska, which took place a few days ago, and by which a new mill, the property of Mr. Ant. Rousseau, senr., was destroyed. It was impossible to save anything. The buildings had only been completed a couple of months ago and the proprietor was uninsured.

On the 17th inst., the Presbytery of Hamilton met at Nelson pursuant to adjournment, and inducted the Rev. Adam Spencer—an ordained minister of the church of Scotland—to the pastoral charge of Nelson and Waterdown, vacated nearly two years by the death of the Rev. John Skinner, D.D. At the conclusion of the usual solemnities, Mr. Spencer received a cordial greeting from the congregation.

An accident occurred upon the Grand Trunk Railway on Saturday morning, the express train which left Portland at 1½ o'clock p.m., on Friday, coming into collision with a freight train going to Portland, near the Sherbrooke station. The engines and some of the cars were a good deal damaged, but the passengers escaped with slight contusions. The fireman on the express train leaped from the tender and dislocated his arm.

AN EXTENSIVE HORSE TRADE.—An enterprising American speculator has been here for some time buying up all the strong, serviceable horses he can find. We saw some of his purchases yesterday—decidely creditable-looking specimens of horse-flesh. Fortunately for the trader, horses have been excepted from the recent measures prohibiting the importation of cattle into the United States.—Quebec *Chronicle.*

THE ORIGIN OF THE RECENT FIRE.—Our evening contemporary has the following: "We are requested to state that the special patrol in St. Peter street, as early as two o'clock on Saturday morning, noticed a smell of fire as if woollens were burning, and told the city police of it at the station, who, instead of at once proceeding to aid the others in discovering whence it proceeded, told the specials to go to a place which we shall not mention!"—If this be correct, we think an investigation into the circumstances would not be out of place.—Quebec *Chronicle.*

A YOUNG CANADIAN ABOUT TO ENTER THE ARMY.—We learn from the Quebec *Chronicle* that Mr. Vansittart, son of Mr. J. G. Vansittart, of the Board of Railway Commissioners, has past a most creditable examination preparatory to his enterance in the military College. Mr. Vansittart acquitted himself in a most brilliant manner and stood very high upon a list of one hundred and thirty-five candidates. We are glad to see another young Canadian about to enter upon the military career, and we hope to see an increase in the number of our fellow colonists in Her Majesty's regular army.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A woman named Bella Stewart, wife of James Stewart, died yesterday while being conveyed to the city hospital. The deceased had been ill for some time, and it is intimated that her sufferings were aggravated and her death hastened by the neglect and improper treatment of her husband; but we are not in possession of the facts which warrant this insinuation. It appears, however, that gentlemen residing in the neighborhood thought proper to interfere, and procured an order for her admission into the Hospital, but death anticipated their humane designs, and relieved the sufferer just as she was being conveyed into the building.—*Hamilton Times.*

ALLEGED ROBBERY OF $3,000.—Mr. Alexander McLogan, who lives on Little Main street, has met with an extensive pecuniary loss under somewhat peculiar circumstances. Mr. McLogan is an American, and was the possessor of United States bonds to the amount of $3,000. These bonds were in a carpet-bag in Mr. McLogan's bed-room, and were last seen on New Year's Day, at which time they were all safe. On Monday night, however, Mrs. McLogan says that she "dreamed a dream," and imagined that the money was gone, and upon examination found the dream proved to have been too true. The money was gone. The fastening of the carpet-bag had not been broken, but it appeared that the bag had been opened wide enough to admit of a hand being inserted. Suspicion fell upon a German and his wife named Betts, who occupy the second story of Mr. McLogan's house, and they were accordingly arrested yesterday afternoon. Upon the man was found the sum of $30 or $40, which, however, he says he can account for, as he had just received his wages. The rooms occupied by the accused were thoroughly searched by the police, but nothing was found to criminate the parties. Betts is employed at the Great Western rolling mills, and earns $1 50 per day.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

BY SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

HEAVY RAIN STORM.

CHIMNIES AND SIGNS BLOWN DOWN.

A GALE IN THE CITY.

SPIRE OF CATHEDRAL IN DANGER.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Montreal, January 20th.

Rain this morning, but in the afternoon a high wind set in, and as I write, is raging with great violence, many people having been blown down, and signs and chimnies loosed. The stone spire of Christ Church Cathedral was at one time thought to be in danger and repeatedly seen to rock in a very alarming manner.

The Hon. Mr. Ryan, A. M. Delisle, and Geo. Stephen, a young and promising wholesale dry goods merchant, have been appointed Harbor Commissioners in place of the Hon. John Young, Thos. Cramp and Chas. Pratt. This step of Mr. Cartier's is creating quite a stir in political circles, as the dismissed are well known *rouges.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

STILL LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE "ASIA."

POLITICAL NEWS UNIMPORTANT.

MARKETS DULL AND DOWNWARDS.

Halifax, January 20th.—The steamship *Asia* from Liverpool on the 6th, and Queenstown on the 7th, arrived here this morning.

Political news unimportant.

There has been a revolt on the part of two spanish regiments under Gen. Prem, but it makes no progress and the insurgents are being pushed into the mountain.

MARKETS.

Breadstuffs very dull.

Provisions quiet and steady.

Liverpool cotton market on the 6th down. ward, tendency maket was up the sales were 800 bales.

Consols closed on Saturday at 87 @ 87¼ for money; 5:20's 64¼; Eric shares 56¼ @ 57; Ill. Central shares, 76¼ @ 77¼.

French rentes closed on Saturday at 68f. 27c.

B. R. of Holland has raised its rate of discount to 6¼ per cent.

LATEST AMERICAN DESPATCHES.

MORE OF THE MEXICAN TROUBLES.

THE BANK ROBBERY.

EXECUTION OF MARTHA GRINDER AT PITTSBURG.

THE BLACKS AND WHITES IN VIRGINIA.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN BUFFALO.

TWO HUNDRED PERSONS THROWN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Despatches recieved by the War Department from Gen. Sheridan, contain a disavowal of any officers or men under his command having taken part in the fillibustering attack on Bagdad and on Sclonbotedad, and state that his orders to subordinate officers have been to preserve a strict neutrality. He disbelieves that there has been any connivance or participation on their part, and transmits the correspondence in full between Gen. Weitzel and Gen. Mejia, Imperial commander at Matamoras, and Gen. Crawford, the American Gen. of the Mexican Republican army, in relation to the Republican prisoners condemned at Matamoras to be shot in accordance with Maximilian's decree for the execution of all those found in arms against his forces.

The Imperialists are reported preparing for a new and vigorous campaign in the North.

A statement of affairs in Mexico, prepared by the Imperialists for circulation in Europe, and suppressing the alarming condition of matters under Maximilian's rule, represents that the Republican military forces have nearly disappeared, and that the remnants of the opposition to Maximilian have degenerated into merbands of robbers, and that order and civilization are being rapidly established throughout the country, under the benign rule of the Emperor.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The execution of Martha Grinder at Pittsburg, yesterday, is described by the *Herald's* telegram, as an awful scene. The unhappy woman fell a distance of about three feet, but owing to an oversight in adjusting the rope connected with the upright beam under the drop, her fall was not sudden; her neck was not broken, and she slowly strangled to death. Her contortions and writhings for a time was most agonizing to behold. The knot, too, had slipped, and the circulation of the blood in the right side of the neck was wholly unimpeded. Her death was literally a hard one.

The cashier of the Farmers and Citizens' Bank, of Brooklyn, modifies the statement that their messenger boy was robbed of $70,000 in checks. It was $7,000, making the total amount stolen $18,000.

The *World's* Richmond telegram says: Virgin