were to be with us next day (roads permitting.) It really was pleasant, their coming so soon, for our curiosity had been raised to the highest pitch, and had as yet nothing to allay it—not a single particular as to the young lady's age, looks, manners, accomplishments, nay, nor even her name. My mother had thought to write to Uncle Jacob, asking a few questions as to these matters, 'to shew just a little kindly interest,' she said, but had not done it, my father having looked things unutterable at the bare idea.

(To be continued.)

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

W. Spragge—Oil Lands in Enniskillen.
John Ashfield—500 Tois for sale.
J. McLaurin, M.D.—Card of Thanks.
Hersey & Johnson—Notice of Co-Partnership.
Edward T. Dartnell—Barrister, &c.
P. LeSueur—Lectures on Jamaica.
Dr. Olive: Martin—Dentist.
Dr. C. A. Martin—Dentist.
Dr. W. J. Henry.
Friel & Co.—Publishers' Notice.
" —Notice.
Thomas Mackay—Flour and Oatmeal Mills.

TRAVELLERS' DIRECTORY.

DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL OF TRAINS.

Mail Train leaves Ottawa at	8.00, a. m.
Do. arrives "	8.45, 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 "	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, "	5.30 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 24 cts.; per Cunard Steamers, Noon, Mondays and Saturdays, (alternate weeks,) postage 12 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 27, 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.

The *Leader* of Thursday eagerly adopts a silly rumor about the future residence of the Governor General. Our contemporary can hardly be sincere in his affected belief that Lord Monck is about to reside permanently at Quebec while the government is at Ottawa. It is possible that His Excellency prefers to return to Spencer Wood rather than go into a new residence at this season of the year. The winter, however, is far advanced, and two months will carry us fairly into the spring. We don't desire to spoil the *Leader's* exultation over what he thinks is Ottawa's disappointment, and therefore give his paragraph entire, accompanying it with the advice that it be taken with a modicum of salt:—

Two Quebec papers, the *Daily News* and the *Chronicle*, state that extensive repairs are now going on at Spencer Wood for the reception of the Governor General, whose return from England is expected next month. It is added that His Excellency will spend not only the winter but also the whole of next summer at Quebec, only visiting Ottawa to open and close the session. This agrees with a rumor that reached us recently that all the Cabinet Councils will be held at Quebec, during the remainder of the winter, after the return of Lord Monck. The difficulty is that there is no building at Ottawa fit to House the Governor in decency and comfort. At the same time we observe that M. Chapais, Commissioner of Public Works, has removed with his family to Ottawa. The inconvenience of having the departments in Ottawa, and the Governor in Quebec will be very great; but it seems impossible to have them all together until a Vice-regal residence has been built in the new rural capital.

Dr. Ryerson, the Chief Superintendent of Education is exciting considerable commotion in the school districts of the west by agitating for certain reforms in the practical working of the common School Act. The grand feature of the Superintendent's scheme is an alteration in the supervision and management of the schools. He proposes to place the administration of affairs in the hands of township boards of School Trustees in place of the present system of sectional or district Trustees. Dr. Ryerson would make the township Councillors the township School Trustees also. This part of the projected reform has met with little or no favor, the more intelligent and practical men at every meeting opposing it upon the general ground of inconvenience and inefficiency. It was remarked by some of the speakers that it would be impossible for the Councillors to devote sufficient time to the just performance of the duties of Trustees over so large a tract as a whole township. Another objection was the conviction of the difficulty of getting competent persons to serve as township Trustees. The result of the Superintendent's scheme would be to abolish the existing school sections and to erect in their place one general section for each township under the control and management of a township board. It seems to us that this plan of centralization is somewhat incompatible with our whole common school system, the principle of which is government by those who are called upon to support the sectional school. The ratepayers appoint their trustees from amongst themselves; and it may fairly be presumed that they are far better judges of what the section would require than others living seven or eight miles away, at the far end of the township, where the conditions and requirements might be the very reverse. The doctor hardly appears to know his own mind upon the matter; at least there is a visible lack of harmony in his proposed scheme of consolidation and his explanations; for on being asked how the expenses were to be collected when the sections were abolished he replies "that this matter would be arranged "by the township board as they thought "best, but, of course, that part of the town-"ship which received the most benefit would "be most heavily taxed. Thus, if in one part "a school-house required to be erected, it "was right that only part should defray the "expences." But who shall say how far the "one part" shall extend? We have a case within our own knowledge of one part of a section seceding from another part on account of a new school-house being necessary, and joining a section when there was a good house already paid for. This part of the scheme looks very weak, as do, in fact, several others. That, for example, making education compulsory, and the establishment of species of reformatory schools for children of vicious parents who refuse or neglect to send them to school or amongst the cruelties of this new tinkering of our school system. The common-schools have already been over-doctored, and have lost much of their original usefulness from an injudicious and eternal meddling. Dr. Ryerson has had too much money to handle; he has far too costly an establishment at Toronto, out of all proportion to the wants and to the fruits of our common-school system. The Doctor is a great gun amongst the secretaries, and his plans are commonly received with more courtesy than manly candour. The consequence is that the true interest of our common-school education is frequently rejected in the desire to be complaisant. The *Globe* has some pertinent observations upon this head. It says we take it that Dr. Ryerson's experience in public meetings of this kind will prevent him from attaching more importance to the mere passing of resolutions friendly to the changes he proposes, than to the tone of the discussion. Unless there is a strong feeling in the matter, or an organized opposition determined to dispute with him, he may be almost certain that, as a matter of courtesy, the resolutions of which he approves will be allowed to pass. The discussion at Hamilton indicates that great doubts exist as to the practical operation of the change proposed in the school boards, and that those who advocate the change are divided as to the result which they expect and desire from it. Some expect it to reduce the number of schools, and others expect the opposite result. If Dr. Ryerson should find his meetings in the rest of the Province resulting either as the one at Hamilton, or the one at Newmarket did, we are sure that he will not go beyond recommending a permissive enactment in reference to the township boards.

Dr. Ryerson said, at Hamilton, that ultimately the township trustees would have to be paid for their services, and argued, truly enough, that they would be as deserving of pay as those who served the State in other capacities. If we were sure of getting efficient boards, the fact that they would require pay would be of small account; but where there is so much risk that the new system would not work well, the expense involved must be regarded as of some importance. While the teachers in our common schools, as a rule, are underpaid, and many of the schools poorly furnished with maps, apparatus, etc., it is not advisable to burden our school funds with a new expense of doubtful utility. Dr. Ryerson, said that under the new system those parts of a township deriving the greatest benefits would pay the heaviest taxes, and that when a particular neighborhood obtained a new school-house that neighborhood would pay for it. We do not see on what principle it is to be determined, after the shool sections are abolished, how great an extent of country is to be taxed for a particular school house. If the township board be empowered to settle such matters arbitrarily, they will never give satisfaction. The last man taxed will never understand upon what principle his neighbor, who lives but a few rods further from the school-house, is exempt. If Dr. Ryerson extended the same principle to the payment of teachers—and we do not see any reason for a difference—there would be no end of disputes. In towns and cities where one board manages all, the whole city is taxed for the support of all the common shools and every man pays at the same rate. If the township organization be tried at all, it seems to us that the same principle ought to be adopted."

Now, if Dr. Ryerson had only let the plain simple system of 1851 gone on by natural process, without any exotic engraftings or forcing by inapplicable appliances we should have had fewer pretentious dunces and many more girls and boys in the Province able to write their own names legibly. But the educationists or the Superintendents must forsooth, teach poor boys who, as men have to get their bread by the sweat of their brow, algebra and the use of the globes. The consequence is that one or two boys get all the teacher's attention, who being a first-class certificate man scarcely condescends to teach the things which should alone be taught in the common schools of the country. This mal-administration joined to incessant tinkering of the law, has so neutralised the advantages derivable from a common-school system that many, who were once its admirers and advocates, are now, to say the least, perfectly indifferent alike to its management and character. The proposed alteration can only tend to estrange still further the very people who of all others are those who should take the greatest interest in its prosperity and usefulness.

We learn by a despatch from Quebec that the splendid new Wesleyan Methodist Church on the corner of Stanislaus and D'Auteuil streets was burned down yesterday morning. The origin of the fire not ascertained.

RETURN OF LORD MONCK.—His Excellency the Governor General may be expected in Canada very shortly. He was to sail from Queenstown, for New York, by the steamer *Australasia*, on Sunday, the 28th instant, and will, probably, reach New York on the 7th or 8th of February.—*Globe.*

THE WASHINGTON NEGOCIATIONS.—We learn by telegraph from Washington, received yesterday, that a meeting was to have taken place, last night, (24th instant) at the Treasury Department, at which the Secretary of the Treasury, the Committee of Ways and Means, and the delegation from the British Provinces, were to confer "in relation to the extension of the Reciprocity Treaty.—*Ib.*

VESSELS LOST IN 1865.—The *Price Current* gives the following statement of the whole number of vessels reported lost during the year 1865, showing the number for each month, with their value:—

	No.	Value.
Total for January	31	$ 690,000
" February	26	802,000
" March	29	625,000
" April	23	795,000
" May	18	333,000
" June	18	650,000
" July	22	500,0C
" August	35	1,092,000
" September	34	633,000
" October	49	850,000
" November	77	1,500,000
" December	80	1,800,000
Total for the year	446	$9,767,000

LOCAL NEWS.

POLICE COURT.—The stillness of this Court was not broken by a single case, of interest, yesterday.

UNITED COUNTIES OF PRESCOTT & RUSSELL.—The proceedings of the above Council will be published in our next issue.

PAPER MANUFACTURE.—We learn that the Messrs. Perkins and other capitalists of this city contemplate the commencement of a new business here—the manufacture of paper. They have every facility in this neighborhood, and we wish them the fullest success.

MINSTRELS.—The Burgess, Prendergast, Hughes and Donniker Minstrels give a grand entertainment to-night. Their success hitherto has won them a host of admirers, who will rally round them in great strength on their last appearance.

LATE FIRE IN SUSSEX STREET.—Besides the losses incurred by the "Royal," we understand the proprietor of the buildings was insured in the "North British" for $1,200, and insured to the extent of £275 on the tenantal. Mr. Heney & Co., Sadlers, were also insured in the "Queen," for $1,500.

LECTURES ON JAMAICA.—On Monday evening Mr. P. LeSueur will deliver the first of a series of lectures in the Wesleyan Church on Jamaica, Enslaved, Enfranchised, Impracticable, and Suffering. The subject at this time is deeply interesting, and judging from the lecturer's ability and pains-taking method, we doubt not that Mr. LeSueur will do it every justice, and thoroughly gratify his hearers.

ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.—This institution, lately established by the Irish Roman Catholics of this city, is now opened, on the corner of Church and Dalhousie streets. The inmates of the former St. Patrick's Asylum (which owed its origin and management to the zeal of the Conference of our Lady of this city) have been transferred to the present institution. The administration of the Asylum is vested in a council to be annually elected from the "St. Patrick's Orphan Association of the City of Ottawa," assisted by the three Rev. Parish Priests of the city parishes. The Council for the current year is composed of Rev. Father McGrath, Spiritual Director; R. H. McGreevy, Esq., President; D. O'Connor, Esq., Vice President; A. Duff, Esq., Treasurer; C. McCarron, Esq., Secretary; the Rev. Parish Priests of the Cathedral and St. Joseph's; and J. F. Caldwell, W. McKay, J. O'Reilly, T. Kavannagh, J. Goulden, Esquires. The domestic arrangements are intrusted to the Sisters of Charity—Sister Fitzmaurice, Directress. Donations are respectfully solicited and will be thankfully received. Those in money should be sent to the Treasurer, Central Town; but provisions, furniture, clothing, etc., may be sent to the Asylum.

OTTAWA SKATING RINK.

FANCY DRESS ENTERTAINMENT.

Yesterday evening the grand skating carnival came off according to announcement. An entertainment or exhibition of this kind is looked forward to with peculiar interest, as well from the general desire for amusement in this merry-making season, as for the universal love of beholding a fine spectacle—one which is as yet somewhat of a novelty in Canada, and which borrows much of its mirthfulness, follity and noisy gaiety from the famous winter carnivals of Continental Europe. The skating and non-skating portion of the community had been, therefore, for several days, awaiting the advent of the interesting occasion with the liveliest anticipations—the former to participate in the sport, or criticise the performances, and the latter to enjoy the rare and attractive sights which they knew would be presented. No doubt in many a household yesterday evening there was an unusual flutter of excitement and bustle of preparation, young and old arranging all the preliminaries to put in a good appearance at the carnival. Be that as it may, from a considerable time before eight o'clock till after nine, the street leading to the rink was crowded with parties eager to reach the scene of attraction. At half-past nine about 1500 spectators thronged the passages and galleries, occupying every "coigne of vantage," and rendering promenading a work of difficulty. About 120 persons were at the same time on the ice, arrayed in a great variety of costumes, the principal being mentioned below. Among the first on the ice was the inevitable nigger, in the shape of the youthful darkey, clad in light pantaloons and long-tailed coat, the whole surmounted by a stupendous hat; the cotton umbrella was not wanting to make up the conventional Sambo. There were other cullud pussons, of larger growth, and unexceptionable make-up, but they seemed as "sarcy" as if they had been stuffed full of ideas of equality by a New England Abolition School-mistress. The blue-jackets were also on the ice, and from the steadiness of their gait were evidently on their sea-legs, without any grog a-midship. Sir Benjamin Backbite had too much to think of in maintaining the perpendicular of his own spinal column to think of disturbing his neighbor's "dorsal" cuticle. Our old friend, Sir John Falstaff, was again on the glacial tapis, as corpulent, jolly and rakish as ever, looking nothing the worse for his well-known ducking, and other mishaps consequent upon his unseasonable amours. Our American Cousin was also "around," as sharp, and practical-looking as if on a wooden nutmeg venture, or selling clocks to the Blue-noses. To judge from his apparent enjoyment on the ice, he would certainly feel "kinder bad" to be driven from Canadian waters. But, "lo, the poor Indians," how they revel on the ice as if inspired by fire-water, or the sight of their portrait by a Great Medicine man. There is a chief tricked out in all the glory of bright cottons, war paint and martial feathers, with glittering tomahawk in his belt. He flits over the glassy floor like a Chief on the War Path, with visions of long strings of enemies' scalps at his girdle. Then, joining him in the wild flight is another brave, also in brilliant attire, with a huge bow and full quiver strung behind him. Whirling and dashing hither and thither, their thrilling war-whoop strikes terror into the hearts of their flying foes, who seem likely to be soon overtaken in the race. Seriously, the Indian character was well sustained, the Red-skins astonishing the Pale Faces by their remarkable agility. Two squaws also claimed notice, by their appropriate attire and skill on the "runners." Venetian and Spanish grandees, superbly clad, their graceful garments, glittering with gold braid and spangles, and jaunty conical hats attracting much attention, also mixed with the gay, moving throng. Clowns and Columbines, in mani-colored tights, cap and bells, went through their antics to the great amusement of the spectators. John Chinaman, with his pigtail and sombrero lent his celestial patronage to the barbarian entertainment. The proud and swarthy Spaniard, linked with the heretical Turk, their picturesque costumes contrasting as strongly as their religious opinions. There goes the London swell, looking terribly disgusted with this "blarsted country," and its wooden 'ouses, where a fellah cawnt get a dinnah werth eating; past him glides Hamlet, the Royal Dane, who seems to think they are all mad in England, and while his speed suggests a skeddadle from his father's ghost. The Sultan flits lightly about in his royal robes, looking seedy away from the golden horn, and his interesting domestic establishment. The only horn he could get on the occasion, was one of coffee, and he, doubtless, wanted nothing stronger. Our ancient friends, Punch and Judy, once more appeared, wearing the "rig" popular in our great grandmother's time, and looking hale and hearty. Judy, the rogue, seemed inclined to a little flirtation with a gossoon young enough for her grandson, which mortified no little her crabbed old lord. The other principal characters were: Ivanhoe, a Gentleman of Queen Elizabeth's time, the Stars and Stripes—two young ladies whose good-looks made "bright particular stars;" Volunteers, Uncle Sam, the Duke of Richmond, the British Flag—a Lady; Lord Dundreary, looking well after his "wuff woyage" to Amewika, the Shanty Man—a rough diamond; the Highlander, Flower Girl, Neapolitan Fisherman, Claude Melnotte, the Vivandiere, (and spite of the Police) Dick Turpin, Cricketter, Fille du Regiment, Highland Lassie, Circus Rider, Page and a sweet little Fairy. All these with other figures, arrayed in the gay and diverse costumes appropriate to the characters assumed, moving to and fro, flying hither and thither with bewildering rapidity, formed a scene of enchanting variety and brilliancy, presenting at every moment new features for admiration. The four sides of the rink, crowded as they were with spectators, appeared a vast living frame of a picture instinct with beauty and intelligence. The gay carnival was kept up till a late hour, the music being furnished by Gowan's band. We are sure that all who visited the rink were highly pleased with the entertainment, upon the success of which we congratulate the able managers. It is but truth to say that the presence of the ladies, both on the ice and elsewhere, contributed largely to the above result.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting of this Society was held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute last evening; and, considering that the claims of science are invariably discarded whenever there are unusual attractions for the votaries of pleasure, the meeting was by no means a bad one. The 1st Vice-President, read a most interesting, highly instructive, and extremely practical paper; his subject being "The ultimate effects of clearing and drainage upon the climate of Canada." At the close of an animated discussion—participated in by the President, Dr. VanCortlandt, Revd. T. D. Phillipps, and Mr Thorburn—a resolution was passed, thanking Mr. Austin for his valuable essay, and requesting him to publish it. We are pleased to observe that the Society has recently received a considerable accession to its list of members, which now includes a large number of the scientific and literary *elite* of Ottawa.

CARLETON COUNTY COUNCIL.

Friday, Jan. 26th.

The Council met at two this afternoon.

REPORTS.

The Finance Committee presented their report.

Moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Cowan, That the Finance Committee's report be received and adopted.—Carried.

The Committee on Education presented their report also, which, on motion of Mr, Dow, seconded by Mr. Berry, was received and adopted.

DEAF DUMB AND BLIND ASYLUM.

Mr. Morgan moved, seconded by Mr. Dow, that the $100 granted to the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institute in Hamilton, by this Council be paid to the Rev. Jas. Whyte, for him to hand over to the institution providing they retain the two Mutes, named McLaren for another year on the same conditions as last year.—Carried.

After some other business ot no great importance, but for a report of which we have not space in the present issue,

The Council adjourned till nine next morning.

CANADIAN NEWS.

ACCIDENT.—On Thursday last, a little boy about seven years old, named Losee, was run over by a farmer's sleigh in Lindsay, and sustained serious injurious.

The *Leader* says that at the present moment not less than $35,000 to $45,000 is due upon lands in Toronto whose owners are residing elsewhere. Where the taxes upon vacant lands have not been paid for five years the law gives to the Corporation the power to sell these lands.

A melancholy catastrophe has recently cast a gloom over Prince Edward Island—the death by drowning of Capt. Campbell, Capt. Henderson, Messrs. D. J. Roberts, Faraday, Lewis and another person whose name had not transpired. On the 21st ult., they embarked in an open boat at Cariboo, N.S., intending to cross the straits of Northumbriland to the island, but a heavy snow storm coming on soon afterwards they were carried away and have not been heard of since. By this sad occurrence four wives and twenty-one children were plunged into the deepest distress.

BURGLARY. — The *Free Press* says: The shanty of Mr. Michael Guerin, was broken into on Tuesday evening last, the 23rd inst., and a rifle stolen therefrom. The party who stole the weapon must have known the premises, as the lock of the door was forced, and he had to pass between two dogs which were chained up inside. The rifle has a globe sight, and a new walnut wood stock; the name J. S. Pittinger is stamped on the plate. Mr. Guerin lives near Turville's Mills, west of the Biddulph road. The public is cautioned against purchasing the rifle. He offers $5 reward for the conviction of the thief.

MRS. ROWLAND, a resident of Canada, having found that her husband was in possession of another wife near Oswego, spending his time pleasantly between the two, went to that city on Tuesday last and obtained a warrant for the arrest of her husband on a charge of bigamy. The police found him in company with wife No. 2, and soon separated them. The first wife, whose maiden name is Adeline Dally, was informed of her husband's faithlessness by some jealous person envious of his good fortune.

ALTERED BANK NOTES.—The manager of the Royal Canadian Bank, has called our attention to an altered note purporting to be a $10 bill issued by this bank, but which is only a $2 bill ingeniously altered in appearance so as to pass for $10. The difference between the altered two dollar bill and the genuine ten dollar bill is most palpable on a close examination, but if carelessly handled, might easily pass unsuspected. The word "Two" which is inserted successively in small letters in the margin of the genuine two dollar note throughout its entire length is carefully erased: the small figure "10" on each corner is also erased and blurred with ink; the large figure "2" on light green is crossed and a heavy green "X" substituted for it. The large figure "2" in white near the upper edge of the note is also crossed, and "10" pasted over it. There are also other minor alterations to make the fraud more perfect and successful. In addition to all these changes we have pointed out, the most prominent difference is that the vignette to the left hand on the genuine two dollar bill, which is a portrait of the Prince of Wales, remains unaltered; on the genuine ten dollar bill this vignette is the Queen. The resemblance in the body of the bill to the genuine is such as to render a little caution necessary; with that detection is perfectly easy. We hope the guilty rascals may soon be ferretted out and brought to justice.—*Leader.*

BY SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

MONTREAL SPECIAL DESPATCH.

BODY SNATCHING AT WORK IN QUEBEC.

WO CA SES CONTAINING SEVEN BODIES SEIZED.

TEN BATTALIONS OF SERVICE MILITIA TO BE CALLED OUT.

CANADIAN LOAN OF £500,000 STERLING IN THE ENGLISH MARKET.

Two cases, marked glass-ware, and containing the bodies of two men and five women, packed in snow, were seized by the police on a freight train at Point St. Charles this morning, at which place they had arrived from Point Levi. They were intended for the McGill College dissecting room, and taken from the cemetry in the vicinity of Quebec, the authorities of which city telegraphed to our police about them. They were re-packed in the cases and will go back again to-night. The students have much difficulty in obtaining subjects just now, and can no longer obtain them from New York as formerly, owing to the close of the war. They then received them by express in pork barrels, and paid 15 dollars a piece for them, a comparatively small price.

The Adjutant General of Militia has determined to call out ten battalions of Service Militia, in order to test the working of the Militia Act, and has selected Montreal and Toronto in which to try the experiment. The men who were ballotted for in December, 1864, will therefore be mustered and organized by companies and battalions under the Militia Cadets, who will exclusively officer the force. No drill will, I believe, be exacted as yet from the drafted men.

Snowing heavy here all day.

Galt is in London Market for a loan of 500,000 pounds sterling, with which to pay the floating debt of three and a quarter million dollars, bequeathed to him by Holton, and which financial agents of the Province are not disposed to carry much longer at the present high rates of interest in England.

BY TELEGRAPH.

LATEST AMERICAN DESPATCHES.

MILITARY CONSULTATION.

THE FENIANS QUIET.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS.

FIRES AND ACCIDENTS.

NAPOLEON IN MEXICO.

MORTALITY AMONG NEGROES.

NEW YORK, 26th.—The case of Mrs. Cobb against ex-Gen. Baker is still absorbing considerable attention. The plaintiff deposed that she stated to Mr. Howell, for whom she procured a pardon, that money would accomplish almost anything, and that the said Howell gave her a petition signed by General Slough, whose life he had saved during the war. No testimony of unusual interest was elicited on the trial to-day.

The distillery of Ebbing Brothers on 55th street, behind the 11th and 12th Avenues, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Loss $50,000. Henry Sherler, the engineer, was badly burned.

A return was made yesterday of the writ of Habeas Corpus issued in the trial of Chas. H Coles, charged with being one of the Lake Erie rebel pirates.

This return sets forth the facts that the prisoner was not under the control of Gen. Hooker, but in charge of Col. Burke, commanding at Fort Lafayette. After some argument in the case by the Counsel, it was postponed until Saturday the 23rd of February.

The 170th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns was celebrated last night by the Burns Club of New York, Mr. James Nicholson presiding. After dinner an address on the genius of Burns was made by Hon. B. Perkins.

The *World's* Washington telegram says, the President has appointed Capt. Nicholas Smith of Kansas, Minister resident to Greece, to reside at Athens. This is the first appointment of a Minister to that country.

The *Tribune's* telegram says ex-Governor Parson and Gen. Houston, Senators elect of the State of Alabama, are reported *en route* for Washington, and will probably arrive to-day. They come for the purpose of taking their seats in the Senate.

The *Herald's* telegram says that Major Gens. Sherman, Thomas and Meade are to assemble in Washington during next week for consultation with Government Officials concerning the military situation in their respective departments.

A report was in circulation about two weeks ago that the President would speedily issue a proclamation declaring the rebellion at an end and civil law restored throughout the late insurrectionary States. His delay in so doing is now attributed to the non-arrival of the expected official correspondence from the Provisional government.

The steamers *Germania*, *Kangaroo*, and *Caledonia* have arrived from Europe. News anticipated.

Mr. James Brennan, late O'Mahony's general organizer, has accepted a commission from the Fenian senate as central organizer. In his letter of acceptance he speaks very bitterly of O'Mahony and his convention.

Everything is significantly quiet at O'Mahony's headquarters at Union square.

It is stated upon Government authority that startling developments will soon be made which will demonstrate that the O'Mahony faction is now stronger than the organization has ever been, and that it is devoted to earnest work.

A new counterfeit has made its appearance in this city, on the National Bank of Indianopolis. The engraving is very poor, and the paper is darker colored than the genuine. The picture on the back, of the baptism of Pocahontas, is pale and poorly executed. The lettering is very fair, but the numbering is bad. The U. S. Treasury stamp is pale and poorly defined. The bill is a very fair imitation of the genuine plate.

NEW YORK, 26th.—The *World's* Washington telegram says: It is now known that the ways and means committee have indefinitely postponed Secretary McCullough's financial bill, after striking out the foreign loan clause. It is probable that the chairman, Mr. Merrill, will introduce an entirely new bill, when the subject is broached in this committee again.

The protracted encounter between the two recognized champions of the chess tournay has been decided in favor of Captain McKenzie, who succeeded in winning a third game of his veteran opponent last evening. This is the state of the score: McKenzie 3; Shanly 1; drawn game 2.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—Much damage has been done in the interior of this State by the recent floods.

The freshet at Stockton was very severe. Energetic and timely efforts prevented immense damage at Sacramento.

The severest tornado ever experienced occurred at Sierra Nevada, on the 18th inst. Houses were unroofed, and nearly every shed and out-house were levelled to the ground.

TORONTO, 26.—Hon. Ferguson Blair, the newly appointed member of the government, who was elected without opposition, recently made a speech in which he said that intelligence had been received from Washington, that the prohibition of the cattle trade was to be removed immediately.

DETROIT, 26.—The greater portion of the town of Panama, Mich., was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Loss $40,000.

NEW YORK, 26th.—The Washington telegram to the *News* says:—A private letter from a gentleman in Paris, Jan. 4th, received here describing the recent interview between Napoleon and the American Minister says:—Napoleon spoke frankly on the Mexican question, and expressed his determination to preserve friendly relations with the United States and his wish to withraw the French troops as soon as he could be assured, that our policy to preserve neutrality towards Mexico would be sustained. He intimated very plainly, however, that he would never abandon Maximilian as long as there was any danger that the United States would pull down what he built up at so much expense. All he would ask was that we would not interfere with the present Government of Mexico, the permanence and stability of which, if left to itself, he was convinced would be secure. The correspondent adds:—I have reason to believe that the despatches from Mr. Bigelow containing the full report of this interview were received by the State Department by the last steamer.

NEW ORLEANS, 24th.—Gen. Crawford has not gone to Washington as reported, but is now incarcerated in Fort Jackson by order of Gen. Sheridan. Many souvenirs of the Bagdad affair are reported found among his papers.

NEWARK, 26th.—The mansion of Edward S. Curtis, in North Orange, N. J., was burned to the ground yesterday, together with the furniture and clothing of the family. A colored man was burned so severely that he is not expected to live. Loss $20,000.

LONDON, C. W., 26th.—A block of stores on Dundas street, the property of Messrs. Mathews & Tate, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss $25,000. Goods mostly insured.

NEW YORK, 26th.—The *Post* has a report that the Chilian Government has made overdures to W. H. Webb for the purchase of the ram *Dunderburg*. It is said he will dispose of her if our government consents, by terms of contract. The vessel belongs to him until wholly paid for by the Government.

The Erie Railway Express Train due here at one o'clock to-day, ran off the track at Port Jervis. It is reported that some of the cars tumbled down the embankment. One person killed and four injured.

NEW ORLEANS, 25th.—The small pox is spreading among the negroes in the interior of the State. Accounts from the interior states that planters find the greatest difficulty in contracting for labor with the freedmen, although the highest wages are offered them to go to work.

Some of the finest plantations had been deserted by them.

CINCINNATI, 26th.—The safe of a dry-goods store at Clarkesville, Ohio, was robbed yesterday of 5000 dollars.

Several telegrams in the morning papers record numerous losses of life by murder and accident.

On Friday a man named Green was shot and instantly killed by some unknown person at Grenvida, Miss. The following night a man was shot at the same place. A man named Buchanan murdered his wife at Indianapolis yesterday,

A difficulty between two prisoners in the Indianapolis jail last night resulted in the fatal stabbing of one of them,

A flat-boat containing two families, while descending the Natchez river recently, struck a snag, and sunk; nine persons were lost.

A boat containing Mr. Pratt and eight negroes, while crossing the Mississippi at South Pickering, capsized, and Mr. Grant and six negroes were drowned.

A train was run into at Haidon, Miss., on the 7th, and a Mr. Huntington was severely wounded.

The other night the cars were again fired into at the same place.

NEW YORK, 26.—Official returns show that thirty million dollars of internal revenue have been collected in this city in 1865. This does not include sums received from the sale of stamps, which will probably be ten million more.

No returns from the tax on bank or insurance stock.

NEW ORLEANS, 25.—The schooner *Mary Jane* experienced a heavy gale on the 11th inst. She went ashore at Bagdad. No lives lost. The vessel was a total wreck.

The steamer *Dora Martin* from Shreveport for New Orleans struck a snag and sunk in the Red River. She had 600 bales of cotton aboard which will be mostly saved.

NEW YORK, 26th.—The *Daily Union and Advertiser* of this afternoon publishes a full report of Col. Buckley Engineer-in-Chief of the Russian telegraph expedition, received by the western under the telegraph company, at this office in this city. The report is very interesting and satisfactory to all concerned in the great enterprize of uniting the two continents by telegraph.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

A SCENE IN THE ITALIAN CHAMBER.

(From an Italian paper.)

To-day was the great fight in the Chamber, which satisfied its ardent longing to assail Ministers and put them on their mettle.—Pretext was taken of an interpellation by Nisco, directed against the Royal decree granting the service of the Treasury to the Bank, a grave question indeed, and which assumed frightful proportions. Boggin Crispi, Valerio, all against Ministers; even Devincenzi, the upholder of the Government, breaking out against the official bench. In defence of the poor Cabinet, Borgio alone stood up proposing a certain suspensive question—an anchor of salvation cast out to certain intentions of dissolving the Chamber. La Marmora got furious and cried out that if necessary he had courage enough to decree the dissolution. Furious in its turn, the Chamber stormed horribly. The President was obliged to quit his chair and put on his hat. Crispi shouted "Go to school Signor La Marmora!" "Go there yourself!" retorted the General. The two sides of the Chamber shook their fists at each other, and the left exclaimed: "Bismark! Bismark!" and treated La Marmora as a corporal, and inquired if Florence was in Prussia. General La Marmora tried to explain and extenuate his words, and said that if the Chamber were to be dissolved it would be done in a constitutional manner. This seemed rather to add fuel to the flame, by confirming the idea that a dissolution really was intended. Amid great agitation Borgio's suspensive motion was rejected, and Valerio's, which forbade the carrying out of the decree relating to the Treasury, voted by an immense majority. General La Mamora left the Palazzo Vecchio in company with Baron Malaret. It is well known that with the present Chamber no Ministry is possible. For this state of things thanks are due to the sagacity of Baron Natoli. The affair of the Treasury was a mere pretext. Henceforward we know how things stand, and parties have no longer any motive for hesitation and uncertainty

THE AMERICAN NAVY—SECRETARY WELLES'S REPORT—ENGLAND MUST TAKE LESSONS.

(From the London Times, January 6.)

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It is impossible not to admire the elasticity of national character which so rapidly absorbs into peaceful industry the immense resources so rapidly called into existence by the demands of war. Secretary Welles has some right to boast that, although at the beginning of the war the whole American Navy mustered only 7,600 men, it numbered above 50,000 before its close, besides artisans and workmen in dockyards. The defection of officers was at first most embarrassing. Three hundred and twenty-two, in the language of the Report, "traitorously abandoned the service to which they had dedicated their lives, proved false to the flag they had sworn to support, and to the Government which had confided in their honor and relied on their fidelity to sustain it in conflict and peril." Their places were chiefly supplied by volunteers from the merchant marine, whom the Secretary does not scruple to call "better men, educated and vastly more efficient." Seven thousand five hundred of these in all submitted to examination, and received appointments, being first instructed in gunnery and nautical routine by means of schools established for the purpose. Most have since returned to the merchant service, *and the experiment of temporary commissions thus tried by the United States in the hour of need is not without interest for ourselves as a maritime power.* Nor is this the only subject on which our Admiralty might derive valuable information from the American Navy Department. The war has been fruitful in experience of all kinds, except of engagements at sea on a large scale. it is to be regretted that we only know the operations of general Porter, Dahlgren, and Farragut from published reports, and that no scientific officer of the British navy was specially deputed to watch any of them on the spot. There must, however, be means of ascertaining such facts as may save us many costly failures in naval construction, and the adaptation of armaments to ships. It may well be doubted whether the whole significance of the revolution introduced by steam into naval tactics *has yet been appreciated by our older Admirals and naval authorities.* It has been said, with much truth, that between the ancient triremes and modern war steamers there is a closer analogy than between the latter and such men-of-war as composed Nelson's fleet. The Federal war added little to our acquaintance with this new power of offense and defence, and, having since enjoyed the blessings of peace, *we must be content to borrow lessons from our less fortunate neighbors.*

FLOGGING FENIAN PRISONERS.

[From the Cork Constitution.]

It is rumored that O'Donovan (Rossa) and Lynch have been "showing off" in their accustomed style. The morning after their arrival at Dartmoor they were ordered to begin the washing of their cells, but they refused. They were then shown into a dark room where they took to cursing the Queen and execrating the tyranny of British rule. For this they were taken out, and had twelve lashes administered on their bare backs by a Crimean practioner acquainted with the shortest cut to the sensitive part of the system. Under this they winced and yelled, but whether it reconciled them to the discipline of the prison, and whether they went heartily to work the next morning, washing and scrubbing, we have not heard. These are certainly altered times with them. It is rather a descent from the throne, even though it be of a republic, to the scrubbing brush.

The London papers of the 28th ult. say:—Messrs Baring Brother & Co. and Messrs. Glynn, Mills, Currie & Co. have notified that they will pay the interest due upon the inscription of the Canadian Consolidated Five per cent Stock on the