Thursday, and Friday, are pretty much the same with reference to Scandinavian mythology, as Mar's day, Mercury's day, Jupiter's day, and Venus's day. So this sacred number or symbol, used so often in the myths and indefinite calculations of the ancients, was applied, in the absence of any direct knowledge on the subject, to the physiological change in our bodies. But let us return to the sanitary effects of the death which is is happening to us all the time.

A healthy, vigorous man every day eats two or three pounds of food in solid form, and five or six in liquid. He takes into his body and breathes out again forty hogsheads of air, of which his body uses two or three pounds. By the chemical changes which, by means of this air and this food, are going on both outside and inside of him all the time, the bones, muscles, skin, and all parts of him, from the nails on his fingers and the hair on his head to the entrails within him, are also undergoing a constant change. A part of him is dying constantly only to be renewed into life. There is a perpetual destruction and repair. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes calculated that a man weighing one hundred and fifty pounds is completely made over at least twenty times a year, or once every two or three weeks. The blood, hair, and skin change oftener than the bones and teeth. Now, just so long as we die and live again in this regular way, just so long we are lusty and well. As Dr. Holmes puts it, concisely: "We are perishing and being born again at every moment. 'I die daily,' is true of all that live. If we cease to die, particle by particle, to be born anew in the same proportion, the whole movement of life comes to an end; and swift, universal, irreparable decay resolves our frames into the parent elements."

Thus, it will be seen, that dying is not so terrible a thing after all. The gloomy hymns and texts that teach us that we are perishing mortals, are not far out of the way, if we will consider them as scientific statements, and not as funeral dirges. It is only through carelessness or folly in eating, wearing out the functions in old age, fatiguing them by overwork, obstructing them by "catching cold," and by other well-known methods of deranging them, that they fail to keep up the repairs made necessary by our daily deaths. Then, being given over to decay, the whole physical machinery soon ceases to work at all, and is of no more use except to give up to the air, the earth, and all organized matter the elements of life contained in the corruption we bury. It is, therefore, healthy to die, if we will but constantly repair the damages.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Private Tuition.

Great Clearing Sale of Furniture—J. Boyden.

Four Keys Found.

Forty Casks Cider—L. N. Nye.

St. Patrick's Literary Association—J. Kelly.

The Ottawa Times

Office: 38, Sparks Street.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1868.

☞ *For Ottawa Markets and interesting reading see Fourth Page.*

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL attended his office in the Eastern Departmental Block yesterday, for the first time.

We understand that a deputation from the County of Glengarry and the town of Cornwall are expected in the city to-day, to present an address of congratulation to His Excellency Sir JOHN YOUNG. Mr. H. S. MACDONALD is the secretary of the deputation.

A meeting of the Privy Council was held yesterday afternoon.

The Hon. A. T. GALT left by the one o'clock train yesterday for Sherbrooke.

THE reformed Parliament of the British Empire has been elected, and though the result is almost universally estimated at a hundred and odd of a majority for the Liberal party, we do not see anything in it to justify the CARLYLEAN fears of "shooting "Niagara and after." The fact is tha men, whether of high or low degree, show themselves to be very much of one flesh, and the reformed Parliament is not likely to differ very much from its predecessors. To a very large extent, it will be composed of the same material as its predecessor. A few prominent names will be left out; several nobodies have given place to several other nobodies, and just about as much new blood as is usual at a general election has been introduced; and that is all that can be said of it.

But if there is little change in the men, there is at least a vast change in the proposed measures. Mr. GLADSTONE, who has lost his election for Southwest Lancashire, but has been returned for the Radical Borough of Greenwich, has introduced what may be called a new element into British politics. His policy for the disestablishment of the Irish Church is one that is fraught with very grave consequences; but though, from present appearances, it may be certainly presumed that that policy is to triumph, it would be a very grave mistake to assume either that the good its promoters predict, or the evils its opponents fear, will follow it. It is odd, though by no means singular, that the public should overlook the whole question of general legislation, and concentrate its opinion upon a single measure. But such has frequently been the case in England, and so we suppose it will continue. There is some advantage in this. The people's representatives, while loosely pledged to a certain line of conduct on a single subject, are left absolutely free upon all other questions; and popular opinion, as it matures, is thereby the better able to make itself felt upon the Legislature.

There is already much speculation as to who will head the new Government, and opinions are freely expressed that Mr. GLADSTONE may not be called upon, even if Mr. D'ISRAELI is ousted; but we think that the opinion of the country will be respected, and that the moment that D'ISRAELI fails, GLADSTONE will be invited to take his place. Were any attempt made at the present time to make a shuffle of the cards, whereby certain members of the old families could take the lead in public affairs, it would give a stimulus to democratic agitation for which the possessors of "vested rights" would ever after have cause to be sorry; but, on the contrary, if the "man of the day" is allowed the foremost position, opinion will speedily settle down into its usual quiet channel, and whatever changes may be introduced, by the way of reforms, will be done so quietly that scarcely anybody will be disturbed by them. England has a wonderful facility for passing through every change in a moderate, parliamentary sort of a way; and we are quite sure that even the newly-reformed Parliament will not alter the national character one iota in this particular.

We copy the following full synopsis of the new mining bill from the Toronto *Leader*:

The bill founded upon the resolutions respecting mining which have already passed the Legislature has been laid before the House, and will doubtless become law, without material amendments, during the present session. When it takes the statutory form it will be known by the title of "The General Mining Act of 1868." Its more important provisions may be summed up as follows:—

Section 2 repeals the Gold and Silver Mining Act of last Session, but the Statutes repealed by the first section of that Act are to continue repealed.

Section 3 repeals all royalties, taxes or duties which are reserved or imposed by any patents heretofore issued, in respect of any ores or minerals extracted from the lands granted by such patents; and declares that such lands, ores and minerals shall henceforth be exempt from every such royalty, tax or duty.

Sections 4 and 5 provide that all reservations of gold and silver mines in any patent heretofore issued are rescinded, and no such reservations shall hereafter be inserted in any patent granting any lands in the Province sold as mining lands.

Section 6 grants the privilege to any person to explore for minerals on any unsold Crown lands not in the actual use or occupation of the Crown, or of any public department, and not under lease or license from the Crown, and not for the time being marked or staked out and occupied. Section 7 and those following down to and including sections 12 relate to mining claims and mining locations. They provide that Crown lands may be sold as mining lands or worked as miners' claims under licenses as subsequently provided in the bill. Such lands so sold, when situated in unsurveyed territory or in townships surveyed in sections, shall be sold in blocks to be called "mining locations." In the unsurveyed territory north or north-west of the river Mattawa, lake Nipissing, and the French river (including the territory bordering on lakes Superior and Huron and the river St. Mary), these locations shall consist of rectangular blocks, 80 chains in length by 40 in breadth, and containing 320 acres. When a location in this territory borders on a lake or river, an allowance of one chain in width shall be reserved along the margin of the lake or river for a road, and the width of a location shall front on the road. In the surveyed townships in such territory, or in townships hereafter to be surveyed in sections, every mining location after such survey shall consist of half a section, divided by a line running north and south, except when the section borders on a lake or river, when it shall be divided either north and south or east and west, whichever way will give the narrowest frontage on such lake or river. In all patents for mining locations in this territory there shall be a reservation for roads of five per cent. of the land granted. In unsurveyed lands not situated in this territory, mining locations shall be as may hereafter be defined by order-in-council. Mining locations in unsurveyed territory shall be surveyed at the cost of the applicant to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands. In all patents for land sold as mining lands there shall be a reservation of pine trees standing on such lands, which shall remain the property of Her Majesty, and persons having a license to cut timber or saw-logs on such lands may at all times enter upon them to cut and remove such trees, and make all necessary roads for that purpose; but patentees may use the timber for building, fencing and fuel, or may remove the trees in order to clear the land for cultivation. No pine trees shall be cut beyond the limits of the actual clearing, except for building, fencing or fuel, and all pines, with the same exceptions, so cut and disposed of, shall be subject to timber dues the same as are paid by the holders of timber licenses.

Section 13 provides for the creation of "mining divisions" by Order in Council as from time to time may be deemed advisable, such Order defining the tract of country embraced in such division, which may subsequently be extended, diminished or cancelled; and after the publication of such Order in Council all mines situated in the division therein referred to shall be subject to the provisions of this act and the regulations made under it.

Section 14 provides for the appointment for each mining division of an inspector, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary for the purposes of this act. Such inspector shall be *ex officio* a justice of the peace, and shall have summary power to settle disputes as to boundary of claims, use of water or access thereto, damages by licenses to others, forfeiture of licenses, and generally all difficulties which may arise under this act, or offences against its provisions, or the regulations made under it; and his decisions shall be final, except when otherwise provided by the act, or when another tribunal is appointed under the authority of the act, and no case under the act shall be removed into any court by writ of *certiorari*.

Section 15 gives the inspector power to settle summarily disputes in regard to wages between masters and laborers in the mining division for which he is appointed.

Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, relate to miners' licenses, which may be granted by any inspector. Such license shall remain in force for one year, and may be renewed, and shall not be transferable. It shall authorize the licensee personally, and not through another or others, to mine on any unsold crown lands within the division not worked or staked out and occupied by any other licensee, and such license shall have the right to stake out one mining claim on such lands, and to work the same.

Sections 20 to 31 inclusive relate to mining claims. The dimension of such claims for any one person shall be 200 feet along a vein or lode, by 100 feet on each side thereof, measuring from the centre of the vein or lode; and companies of two or more persons, each of whom holds a miner's license, may stake out and work additional feet along a vein or lode by the above width, in the proportion of 100 additional feet in length for every additional miner, not to exceed 1,000 feet altogether, and work the claim jointly. Claims shall be laid out, as far as possible, uniformly, in quadrilateral or rectangular shapes, and shall be deemed to be forfeited when allowed to remain unworked for two weeks, unless sickness or other reasonable cause be shown to the satisfaction of the inspector. No person shall be allowed to work more than one claim at the same time, except in cases of registrations of claims rendered temporarily unworkable. The discoverer of any new mine shall be entitled to two mining claims, provided such discovery be reported immediately to the inspector; and if not so reported, the discoverer shall not be allowed to mine on any crown lands for one year. Provision is made for party walls—that is, a bank of earth or rock—to be left between each holding so as to secure the free access of all to the stream, where one exists. The registration referred to above applies to any case where a party is unable to work a claim through an excess of water or other unavoidable cause. In that event, he may, by the payment of one dollar, register his claim with the inspector and proceed to work another; but in case he does not return to work his claim within two weeks after surrounding claims are shown to be workable, he shall forfeit his right to the claim.

Sections 32 and 33 provide for the appointment of constables in mining divisions, and for the suppression of riots.

Section 34 authorizes the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to appoint at any time by Order in Council arbitrators or mining boards to hear and determine appeals from decisions of inspectors of divisions, and also to make provisions for the construction and maintenance of roads through the mining divisions, and generally to make such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act, which regulations shall have the force of law.

The remaining clauses provide for the punishment of offences against the act, and determine the meaning of "mine," "mining," "mining division," "claims," and other words mentioned in the act, the second section of which—that repealing the act of last Session—is to take effect immediately upon its passage.

A CABLE despatch received this morning, brings a report that Mr. D'ISRAELI has gone to Windsor to tender to HER MAJESTY the resignation of the Ministry.

—It is said that the Hon. George Brown has declined the honor of being a candidate for Centre Wellington.

New quilted skirt at the factory. 893-2m

DREADFUL SUICIDE.

A distressing event took place last night by which a respectable family were thrown into the deepest grief. Mr. William Webster, living on the corner of Stewart and Ottawa-sts, deliberately committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a shot gun.

Yesterday morning he went about his usual duties at his house, and during the day he drove over to New Edinburgh for a load of lumber, at that time seemingly in his usual health. He declined taking any dinner, and on being asked the reason by his son John, said he was not well, but thought he would soon be all right. Later in the day, being observed to sit down and press his hand to his head, he was cheered and encouraged by his family, who supposed him to be still grieving about the loss of his son Robert. But when it was proposed to send for a doctor or a minister he declined the services of both, saying he would soon be well.

About half-past eight in the evening, Mrs. Webster and her daughter heard the report of a gun, evidently in the stable, in rear of the house, but did not think for a moment of the dreadful tragedy which had deprived them of a husband and father. Shortly after a younger son, Charles, coming in, his mother requested him to go out to the stable and see what had occasioned the firing of the gun. The lad took a candle, and going out to the stable, saw the body of his father lying across the doorway leading from a small room off the interior of the stable, used for storing harness and stable furniture. He ran back and called for his brother John, when on going out they found that it was indeed the body of their father. He had tied a rope to his right foot, and fastened it to the trigger of the gun, and leaning the right side of his head to the muzzle of the gun had discharged it, the contents entering just behind the right eye, passing through the head and coming out on the left side. He had withdrawn the stopper of the gun, and held it in his right hand. When found life was totally extinct.

Dr. Sweetland was sent for, but of course nothing could be done for the unfortunate man. The body was removed to the house, where an inquest will be held this morning.

The deceased was a native of the County of Wexford, Ireland, and at the time of his sad death was about 52 years of age. He came to this city some 12 or 15 years ago, since which time he has borne a good name as a respectable and industrious citizen, and had amassed a good property, and was well to do. Some time ago his son Robert died of consumption, and this evidently preyed on his father's mind, rendering him at times subject to fits of deep despondency, during which he was well attended by his family, and great care taken of him.

The bereaved family have the sympathy of a large circle of friends, in their deep affliction.

THE PROCESSION ON TUESDAY.

The Chief of Police has sent us the following communication in reference to the bungling of the procession on Tuesday, to which, at the solicitation of very many disappointed citizens, we made a very mild allusion yesterday:

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

SIR,—In your issue of this morning I perceive that some one is severely censured, because the procession in honor of His Excellency the Governor-General did not pass through Sparks and Metcalfe-sts. As chief marshal on that occasion, I beg leave to say that I am in no manner responsible for the mistake. I led the way up Sparks-st., but could not prevent His Excellency's coachman from turning up Elgin-st. through the first entrance to the Parliament Buildings. When I received my instructions I was informed that the Governor's coachman knew the route.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
THOS. LANGRELL,
Chief Constable.

OTTAWA, December 2, 1868.

DORIC LODGE.

Election of Officers.

The election of officers for the ensuing year for Doric Lodge, F. and A. M., took place last night at their rooms, Elgin-st., with the following result:

Bro. Jas. Sweetland, W. M.
" Thos. Birkett, Senior Warden.
" Amos Rowe, Junior Warden.
" Rev. C. B. Pettit, (of Richmond) Chaplain.
" John Graham, Treasurer.
" David P. Williams, Secretary.

THE COLLEGE QUESTION.

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

SIR,—Circumstances have prevented me from noticing sooner the last letter of the Rev. Mr. Harper, and I observe that your neighbor the *Citizen*, construing, I suppose, my silence into an acknowledgment of defeat, has given forth a frantic howl of exultation over my supposed utter extinguishment, and has not failed to interlard his discourse with sundry expletives and strong words, calculated, in his imagination, to strike terror into my soul, but which do me very little harm. My charge against the Wesleyan conference, of having some years ago attempted to break up the University endowment, is met by the defence that they did not intend to slice the whole thing up, but only to get their share. Yes; they wanted to get what they were pleased to call their share; and in order to get it, they were willing to give a share to Trinity, a share to Queen's, a share to Regiopolis, a share to Ottawa, and shares to all other colleges, big or little, throughout the Province, and they were willing to leave a trunkless stump to us miserable Nothingarians. And for calling this process, sir, a breaking up and slicing, I have been stigmatised as a base slanderer, hypocritical, mean, and false. Sir, I am perfectly satisfied to leave it to the public to judge where the hypocrisy is. In conducting this discussion, I have carefully refrained from using any language that could be tortured into a departure from strict propriety, but my critics have behaved far otherwise. Their intemperate and ill-tempered objurgations have only served to show the weakness of their position.

Yours truly, NEMO.

OTTAWA, December 2, 1868.

—The Montreal *Gazette* says Mr. Hutchinson is not the only candidate in the field for Northumberland, (N. B.) Mr. J. Gough and Dr. Stafford Benson have also intimated that they will contest the county. Mr. Gough is a staunch Unionist, and will probably be elected, as he is supported by the Honorable Peter Mitchell and all the Union lovers in the constituency.

—The Montreal *Gazette* regrets to learn from the Carleton (N.B.) *Sentinel* that many of the farmers in the townships of Simonds and Brighton are in very destitute circumstances, owing to the complete failure of their crops through a hail storm, and that the Local Government is about to be appealed to for assistance to enable them to purchase seed grain. The *Sentinel* refers to State aid as if it were unusual to make grants out of the public treasury. Under the old *regime* the Canadian Government made appropriations for the purchase of seed-grain under somewhat similar circumstances, but since Confederation a change has been effected, and no relief is granted unless for work done. The Dominion Government hold, we believe, that grants of this description are within the Province of the Local Governments, and will scarcely be inclined to reverse this rule unless the destitution to be relieved assumes the dimensions and form of a national disaster.

FAT MUTTON.—Kingston boasts of good wether in spite of the snow. A fat wether has been exhibited, the lean part of a chop being about the size of a shilling, while the fat was four inches. It must have represented a good many candles.

LOCAL NEWS.

COINS is at the hoop factory for 40 cents.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Viator's" letter will appear to-morrow.

PREPARATIONS FOR WINTER.—Among other preparations for winter is the draining of the canal. The water had begun to be let out yesterday.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The next lecture under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association will be delivered next Thursday evening, by the Rev. Mr. Johnson.

THANKSGIVING.—The annual thanksgiving services will be held to-morrow in St. Andrew's Church. The morning service will commence at eleven o'clock, when a sermon will be preached by the Rev. Mr. Gordon.

THE MARKETS.—The country roads having become so much worn by runners that it is very difficult for farmers at a distance to travel to the city with heavy loads in that manner, whilst the condition of the roads is such that heavily laden wheels cannot bring in their accustomed loads; and thus our markets have fallen off within the last few days down to the old standard of which we have complained so much heretofore. A good fall of snow would mend matters, and give us good markets again.

POLICE COURT.—A. I. Dunning was charged with assaulting James F. Mitchell, in Gloucester. The complainant did not appear in time and the case was dismissed.

A youth named Waller was charged with beating a boy on the Flats. There was another youth named George Condle implicated, but he had not been arrested, and the case was adjourned till this morning, when both will probably appear.

A female vagrant was brought up and dismissed.

MUSICAL AND LITERARY ENTERTAINMENT.—An entertainment of the above description takes place this evening in the St. Patrick's Hall, under the auspices of the St. Patrick's Literary Association. We understand that an excellent programme has been arranged for the occasion, which will be sustained by well-known and talented amateurs. An attractive feature of the evening will be the presence of an Irish piper, who will, no doubt, discourse some of the sweet melodies of old Erin. We anticipate a large attendance.—See advertisement.

POPULAR READINGS.—The St. Patrick's Literary Society will commence their popular readings with music, recitations, &c., this evening. If these readings be properly conducted, as we have every reason they will, they may be made the means of accomplishing much good. The chief difficulty hitherto experienced in penny reading circles has been the disorderly conduct of boys. If our friends of the St. Patrick's Literary Society can manage those boys from the first, they will have done great things. Everything will depend upon the beginning, and we sincerely trust they will succeed.

THE PRIZE POEM.—Robert McLean Calder, of Chatham, Ontario, was the successful competitor for the above poem, and he has been most fortunate in being declared the winner, when so many others competed, and the others probably being the best writers of Scottish poetry in either Quebec or Ontario. The committee had great difficulty in awarding the prize, from the fact that the several poems were nearly equal. There is one thing certain that there never was a committee that was more desirous of awarding any prize according to the merits of the poem than the committee in this case.

CENTRAL HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY'S INAUGURATION SUPPER.—As good and loyal subjects, and brave and self-sacrificing firemen, the members of the Central Hook and Ladder Company celebrated the inauguration of the new Governor-General on Tuesday night by a supper. The place selected was Bartlett's large refreshment room, Sussex-st. The supper was served up in good style by Mr. Bartlett, who is *au fait* in such matters. After the removal of the cloth patriotic songs, toasts, and sentiments beguiled the hours, and in reply to the toast of the press, Mr. F. W. Gowan, of Toronto, made a short but forcible speech. The party broke up well pleased with the evening's enjoyment at an early hour.

ANOTHER FINE STAG.—The season in which deer could be killed legally closed on the 30th ult., and the hunters appear to have made good use of the last few days, if we are to judge by the number of carcasses lately brought into the city. Mr. John Yeilding, of the Dominion butcher shop, Rideau-st, among others had yesterday at his shop, another magnificent buck, shot by the same person who brought down the animal, weighing some 400 lbs., which we noticed a few weeks ago. The present one is nearly as large, and we are told, has been purchased by M. Kavanagh, of the "Queen" restaurant, for $30. Until the 15th, it is legal to have carcasses in possession, although not to kill; after that date, the possessor must prove that they were killed before the 1st inst.

LADIES' CONCERT.—We have pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of the concert to be held to-morrow evening in aid of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, in connection with Christ Church. These ladies have done a great deal of good in the community by means of their charity, and adopt now the fashionable, and generally effective mode of increasing their funds by giving a concert. Those who remember their bazaar and concert of last year will have no doubt as to the manner in which the present concert will be carried out. A number of lady and gentlemen amateurs have kindly volunteered their services. The direction has been placed in the hands of Mr. Fripp, organist of Christ Church, who has prevailed on Gustave Smith, Esq., professor of music, and organist of the Cathedral, to give his valuable assistance on the occasion, and one of that gentleman's solos alone is worth more than an ordinary concert. We trust, therefore, that the appeal of the ladies in aid of their benevolent institution, especially with such musical attractions as they offer, will be generously responded to by all their friends, and the public in general.

—If a man is warned of danger and does not heed, and suffers, for instance, a broken limb, that is no reason why he should be heedless still and not favor the healing process. Nor because a man is heedless, and from exposure suffers disease of the throat, lungs, liver, kidneys, or digestive organs, &c., is that a reason why he should not seek for help. And for the real cure of any of those diseases, were we asked for an opinion, we would say by all means use the great Shoshonees Remedy.

—The efficacy of Bryan's Pulmonic wafers in curing coughs, colds, and all bronchial affections, and cheering the afflicted, has passed into a proverb. In the United States, where those marvellous wafers are known, they bear down all opposition and eclipse all rivalry; the demand for them has steadily increased for the last twenty years, until now the sales average over one hundred thousand boxes a year. Eminent members of the medical profession without number admit that they know of no preparation producing such beneficial results as those wafers. When taken in season they effect a permanent cure. Sold by every druggist and most of the respectable stores throughout the province, at 25 cents per box.

—Progress, material and otherwise, is very marked in British India at present. There are about 4,000 miles of railway constructed, at a cost of £80,000,000; while internal navigation has not been merely promoted, but created, by thousands of miles of canals. The revenue is buoyant. The progress of education is also very marked. The three universities number over a thousand graduates. Schools by thousands are scattered over the country, under Government inspection; and, in general, of considerable efficiency. There are upwards of 40,000 pupils, and the number is rapidly increasing. The progress of Christian missions is also very noticeable. The Bible, or parts of it, can be read in upwards of twenty languages; while millions of religious books and tracts have been in circulation. The high price of cotton for these few years past has given an immense start to cotton growing in the East, which is expected by those best acquainted with the matter to be permanent.

FUEL.

To the Editor of the Toronto Telegraph.

As our forests recede and we become more and more dependent upon the United States for a supply of coal, it cannot but be a matter of serious consideration to every thoughtful mind what is to be the end of this? What is to become of us when we have nothing to burn but foreign coal? Leaving entirely out of view the dire eventualities of war, and the possibility of being killed by our own frosts when all our wood is gone, there remains the plain fact that without cheap fuel we can never be a manufacturing people; and that without some native production which we can burn, the price of imported coal will be entirely in the hands of its owners. It seems to be settled beyond dispute that we have no coal, and hitherto there has been no effort made to arrest the failure of our wood supply by planting fresh trees to replace, to some extent, those which are cut down. We go on the *sauve qui peut* plan, and hope that "something will turn up" to prevent the lavish destruction of our woods from visiting us with a just punishment. Already it has greatly diminished the volume of water supplied by many rivers and streams, and we only hope that it will not also put out the fire. Legislation might do something to prevent both evils. It might be made imperative that every hundred acres of farmed land should maintain a certain quantity of growing timber. The farms, especially grazing farms, would be all the better for it, and we should then be doing what we could in this direction at least, to mitigate evils which we cannot altogether overcome. There is another resource which has not yet attracted the attention it deserves, but which will shortly be pressed upon public attention in a manner and under auspices that will ensure the correct and practical ascertainment of its value. We have plenty of peat, and an experiment will soon be made on a large scale to test the extent of this resource, and to familiarize the public with the use of this kind of fuel. For this purpose, Mr. E. A. C. Pew, of Ottawa, has purchased fourteen hundred acres of peat land, in the county of Welland for a joint stock company, which is about to be organized at Ottawa, with a branch at Welland. The capital of the company is to be $100,000 in 2,000 shares of £50 each. The land has been examined by the County engineer, who has reported that the peat is from ten to fifteen feet deep in many parts of the tract, and that the general average is eight feet. Competent persons, well skilled in the manufacture, declare that it can be made ready for use for one dollar per ton. It is said to command a ready sale on the banks of the Welland Canal for $3 a ton, and can be obtained in Toronto at $4, with a profit of $2 per ton.

As to the value in use of this peat, it is found that a ton of it is equal to a cord and a half of good hard wood. If then we take the price of wood at $6 per cord, the comparison will be as 4 to 9, but as there will be less cartage, because less bulk, and neither sawing or splitting, the comparison will be still more in favor of peat. We may therefore say, upon this showing, that we shall get for four dollars fuel for which we now pay ten. This is a matter not of domestic or private importance only, but of great national moment, and should be vigorously pushed. If half the good result promised is realized, we shall have great reason to be content, and the capital proposed to be risked in the enterprise, is very small for so large a prospective benefit. It is, of course, an interesting question how far the supply of peat in this country can be expected to keep the price of coal in check, and to diminish the evils arising from the rapid destruction of wood. As to this point, also, the accounts are encouraging. The contents of the tract which the New Company proposes to work have been carefully estimated, and it is found that the 1,400 acres will yield 500,000 tons a year for 840 years. Should this be verified, or half of it, "the country is safe," if we have enterprise enough to make good use of the bounty which nature has so abundantly given us.

In the course of two or three weeks, the new undertaking will assume a more definite form, and some of the first names in the Dominion are expected to appear on the directory.

I am, sir, yours respectfully, H.

TORONTO, Nov. 24, 1868.

A RIVAL TO NIAGARA FALLS.

From the Oregon Statesman.

Snake River is the south fork of the Columbia, having the alternate name of Lewis River. The valley of the Snake lies along an almost direct line from the south pass of the Rocky Mountains, and in early days it furnished the most practicable route overland on the Pacific. In its descent over the elevated plains of Idaho, about 400 miles from whence it takes its rise in the Rocky Mountains, Snake River forms the great Shoshone Falls. The river here runs through a narrow, rocky gorge, which widens and terminates abruptly in precipitate cliffs, the summit of which is about one hundred feet above the level of the rapids, and so steep that the traveller can only descend at one point—an old Indian trail, its numerous windings making it about a mile in length. Following this trail slowly and carefully, the tourist will in due time find himself standing upon the bank of the river on a level with the rapids, and overlooking the falls. The width of the river at this point has been variously estimated—we thought it at least two hundred yards. The rapids here form a series of cascades ranging from thirty to sixty feet each in height, and just below them the river, in an unbroken mass, leaps two hundred and ten feet into the bottomless pit below. The course of the river at this point is almost due east and west; the contour of the falls is that of an irregular horse-shoe, and their width, following the course of the water, is at least four hundred yards. Although the river is not quite as wide at this point as the Niagara River, the falls are higher and quite as beautiful. The most complete view of the falls including the river above and below the rapids, cliffs, and surrounding scenery, is obtained from Lookout Point—a narrow cape of rocks projecting from the main bluff about 300 yards lower down on the river than the fall, so narrow that two persons cannot walk abreast. Standing upon this point, I will endeavor to name the prominent places of interest. The first object which attracts our attention is Eagle Rock, a perpendicular pillar of rock, about 100 feet in height, rising from the main cataract. On the topmost peak of this rock an American eagle has built his eyrie, a fitting home for so noble a bird—long may he live to occupy this unique and romantic abode! Just above, and about the centre of the cataract, is Ballard Island, a small rocky island covered with cedar and juniper trees. Several smaller islands, to the right and left of the large one, or Ballard Island, add to the beauty and picturesqueness of the scene. The two sentinels—two huge rocky pillars—are one on the north, the other on the south side, overlooking the falls, and reminding one of grim sentinels guarding their object. Lower down the river, and from a higher standpoint, one can observe a fine panoramic view of the whole—the falls, the foaming rapids, Eagle Rock, the Two Sentinels, the huge pillars of perpetual spray rising from the bottom and near the centre of the cataract, but extending, as it rises, to either side, and made beautiful by the many-colored rainbows, which shed a halo of glory upon the whole scene. Still lower down the river is Prospect Gulch. Several gentlemen of the party, actuated by the spirit of adventure, determined to attempt, through the gulch, to reach the river below the falls. They lowered themselves 50 feet on the rope down the perpendicular sides of a rocky cliff. Reaching firm ground, they managed with but little difficulty to scramble down about five hundred feet to the banks of the river. Arriving there, they found that their troubles had just begun. They were six hundred yards from the falls, to reach which their path lay around and over some huge boulders of slippery rock, winding along the foot of the steep banks, and then through the foaming and boiling waters, the heavy swells of which reminded them *strikingly* of the breakers from the seashore. Finally they reached a point about thirty feet from the falls. Their journey here came to an abrupt termination by the shelving of the rocks into deep water. The wind struck this point with such violence that they feared to trust themselves in an erect posture. On their knees, they held with their hands to the overhanging brush to prevent being blown into the river. We think that one cannot fully comprehend the immensity of the sheet of water and the sublimity of the scene, until he can gaze upward as we did. This point is the cave of the winds. The Shoshone Falls, as a whole, will compare favorably with Niagara. Those of our party who have seen both places pronounce the former superior in many respects. In beauty and wildness of scenery, the Shoshone cannot be surpassed. Niagara excels in magnitude only.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS.

The Extravagance and Public Gambling of a "Fast" Peer.

From the London Daily News, November 11.

"The earl's year" has reached its sad climax in the death of its leading actor. The spider and the fly drama is ended. The poor coronetted youth who had crowded into six years more Corinthian excitement, and weightier turf cares, than many "fast men" know in a lifetime, has laid down his weary load. He was only twenty-six in July, and he had frittered away two fine family estates. Betting is said to be the touchstone of the Englishman's sincerity, but with the Marquis a craving for the odds had really become a disease. He worshipped chance with all the ardor of a fanatic. His wits were, he considered, worth to him in the betting ring at least £20,000 a year, and he sometimes threaded his way through the mazes of trials and public running with all the sagacity of a wizard. His public *coups* were often so brilliant, that it was hardly to be wondered at that he believed in his own destiny, and his power to break the ring. He cared little whether the draining or other improvements on his Donington estate were stopped, if he only got fresh supplies for another Newmarket campaign. The ring, on the other hand, had marked him for their own, and never left him. They would cluster beneath the Jockey Club balcony of Epsom, holding up their hands to claim his attention, and catching at his replies like a flock of hungry hawks. There he would stand smiling at the wild tumult below, wearing his hat jauntily on one side a red flower in his button-hole, and his colors round his neck, and cool and calm while "the talent" made his horse a "hot favorite" at once, and a few sighed back to the ring to follow his lead. For a time he was a perfect Cocker; but he fell at last in the unequal strife, and the men who had "drawn" him most copiously were among those who sat their faces most sternly against him when he wished to see the Heath once again.

The Marquis's taste for the turf was not an hereditary one. His father's heart was with the hound and horn. He loved to halloo "the red rascal" over the rides far better than watching the Leger horses close up round the Red-house turn. The men of the Midlands will speak of him as quite a representative sportsman with Will Goodall and the "Sir Harry," whom they lost so early. He would hardly have stepped aside to see a race; but a scarcity in Charnwood Forest, or finding himself above twelve stone on the scales, would have sorely vexed his soul. His son cared for none of those things. Still he could not bear to see the Quorn without a master, and he stepped boldly into the breach when Mr. Clewes resigned in '66. He wore the horn at his saddle bow for conformity's sake, but he never blew it, and he let the field go its own way, and hunted the country on no system. A bit of a gallop, a check, and then trotting off to sift a favorite horse for a fresh fox, jumped much more with his humor than an old-fashioned hunting-run, where hounds had to puzzle it out. Often, when his hounds had reached the most, ten or twelve miles away, he was hardly out of bed, and he would turn up "on wheels," and occasionally from London by special train, and give Wilson the word to draw when half the field had gone home. No wonder that caricatures were drawn, and squibs flew gaily about, and that even Leicestershire said it would rather be bled in the purse-vein than have the country hunted gratis in such fashion. Satirical verses failed to sour him. He took the sting out of them by reprinting them at his own private press, and posted them far and wide. On the last of his mastership he slipped quietly away to the station, and when they looked for him to give him a parting cheer, he had been well nigh gone an hour.

The honor of being "the man who belongs to the Duke, or the Earl, or the Little Lecturer," was no burden to him. He took quite naturally to the turf from the first, enrolled under the wing of Danebury. In 1862 not six people at Newmarket knew who the slim lad was on the grey colt; but the ring soon saw that he was a veritable Hampshire ambassador when he put down the money so unflinchingly on a Danebury pot. To John Day's suggestion that in his position he was morally bound to have a nice yearling or two of his own, he lent no ungracious ear. When the rivalry round the Hampton Court and Middlesex park rings almost foamed into madness, and 2500 guineas and 2,000 guineas were among the yearling prices of one afternoon, he was never tempted beyond 1,650 guineas for King Charles, and 1,500 for Robespierre. The former would have been dear at 50 guineas, and the latter won well in the colors of another. His two best horses, the Duke (500 guineas) and the Earl (450 guineas) were among his cheapest purchases. The late Alfred Day first wore his colors on Garrotter in the Althrop Park stakes at Northampton, and Sam Rogers won a maiden plate on that colt a few weeks afterwards. The first great victory for the "red and white hoops" was the Cambridgeshire of 1864, with Ackworth, which had been deemed a dear two thousand purchase. Gradually his stable swelled to upwards of thirty, and about £70,000 were the spoils of six seasons. Catalogue was a great pet of his lordship's, and he did not care how much he backed her for in selling sweepstakes, and how dearly he redeemed her. A cycle of barrenness followed one of profusion, and Mr. Padwick graciously allowed him, in 1865, to have Kangaroo at, it was said, £12,000, and he never won as many half-pence, while the Duke was useless, from influenza, till half the season was over. In 1866, which produced him a One Thousand Guinea winner in Repulse, and a Goodwood Cup one in the Duke, the stable was once more at a dead lock for a Caserwitch horse, but Little Lecturer, a foal from the Sledmere sale, carried 7st. 3lb., and won, it was said, £40,000 for the Donnington party.

A winter's reflection convinced his lordship that Hermit could never win the Derby, and £103,000 was the price he paid for his thoughts. People were once wont to tell, almost below their breath, that "Davis the Leviathan," had been known to pay away £60,000 on the Derby. The present age is capable of greater efforts, as before the Monday the bankers and solicitors had consulted and the whole of the Marquis's losings were found for him. Thus panic was averted from "the corner," but the fair lands of Loudoun passed from his hand. At Ascot his lucky star rose once more. Lady Elizabeth and Lecturer were both in form, and his lordship kept backing them, and piling on the winnings again by a sort of geometric progression, gambling till he had won nearly half "his ain again." It was now the turn for reverses. His lordship rather fancied the Earl, but the stable overruled him in favour of Lady Elizabeth. The flying filly came back with a sadly chequered fame, a bad filth for the Middle Park Plate, and yet the victress is one of the most wonderful of modern matches at 9 lb. with the three-year-old Julius.

The Marquis had now fallen back again to the same "agony point" in finances as when he saw the "all-rose" hand home for the Derby. A weary winter followed, and he was so driven from pillar to post by money troubles and turf creditors that he lost his interest in turf matters and his head for calculations with it. The irritable Lady Elizabeth wasted to a shadow in her training; and how the Earl was scratched, and then became the hero of the Parisians and Ascot visitors, and how the few words that were dropped at York proved the precursor of his Leger doom, are all dark passages of turf politics and not easily forgotten. We saw the last of the Earl when he was bought in as stout as a burgomaster for 3,900 guineas at Tatersalls, and then he departed to Findon with a leg, upon whose chances of standing a preparation each man seemed to differ with his fellow.

The late Marquis had been abroad all the summer in his yacht, but no northern breezes could tan him back to health. He came to Doncaster from Norway on crutches, and looking very ill and nervous, and well he might, as, instead of having a St. Leger winner he had only the lean comfort of a veterinary certificate from Mr. Mavor. At the 1st October he was on Newmarket Heath in a basket carriage, which he only quitted to say a word to the pretty Athens, "which once was mare of mine," when she was led back a winner. As at Doncaster, he did not go beyond a "pony" or two. "Mind I'm to have this paid," said one ring man when he booked it to him, and after that week they saw him no more. Nearly seven seasons had passed by since he first came a lad of nineteen fresh from Eaton to Newmarket, and he left it a shattered man, only to die. He spent some time at Folkestone, and visited town for a few days before he set out for a winter sojourn with his wife on the Nile. Some few friends dared to hope that he might come back a new man, and live quietly in his old country home, and train the foals by the Duke. It was not to be. "All the wheels were down," and now the fourth and the last Marquis of Hastings only lives in race-course story.

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