same time avowing her determination to kill him. It was some time before he could pacify her sufficiently to get the knife from her. Domestics were called in, and the infuriated woman led back to her house, and DeQuincey, more dead than alive with fright, released from his refuge. The fact was DeQuincey had learned his sister to eat opium, of which she became as passionately fond as himself, and it was when she was under the influence of the drug that she conceived the idea, and proceeded to its execution, of killing her brother. One of DeQuincey's resorts was a drug store in Princess-st., Edinburgh, situated nearly opposite Scott's monument, if we recollect; and we remember to have heard Mr. Sinclair say he had often walked up to the city with the opium eater, seen him enter the shop and drink off a wine glass of laudanum, with as little concern and apparently as little effect as though it had been water.

Mr. Sinclair's death will be heard of with a great deal of regret by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He was privately, one of the most kindly and genial of men, abounding in information upon all subjects, and ready to talk with any one who was a ready listener. The United States had no more faithful friend in Great Britain during the war. He was influential in organizing Union societies, and enlisting the sympathies of the middle classes in the cause of the North. He addressed large meetings after night, in nearly all the cities, and his speeches attracted so much attention that the London *Times* printed many of them *in extenso*. Since the war he has been engaged in encouraging the immigration to this country of skilled labourers and the better class of Scotch and English farmers. When last in Cincinnati he had every appearance of prosperity, dressed like a gentleman; he was hospitably received and entertained, and universally liked. To what he owed the appearance of distress and poverty which the Chicago papers say was evident from the condition in which he was found, we cannot say; but one thing is certain, he deserved a better ending to his useful life.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Stationery, &c.—Ottawa *Citizen*.
St. Patrick's Day—John Kelly.
French Lessons Wanted.
Brooch, Locket and Medal Lost.

The Ottawa Times

Office: 38, Sparks Street.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1869.

☞ *For Ottawa Markets and Interesting Reading Matter see Fourth Page.*

There was a meeting of the Privy Council yesterday afternoon. It was decided that the Dominion Parliament should be called together on Thursday the fifteenth day of April.

The Western mails arrived last night, by train, about 8 o'clock, and will be ready for delivery this morning.

It would have been too much to have expected that the members of the Council of the Board of Trade would have accepted our criticism on their little bit of philosophising concerning the "direct cause" of the increase of pauperism in Britain. Accordingly Mr. Peray favours us with a letter, intending to justify the report in this particular.

Mr. Peray undertakes to illustrate the soundness of his theory that the application of mechanical science has been the direct cause of pauperism in Britain, by an appeal to the experience of the past twenty-five years. 'This "experience" would be of some service were it not lacking in two essentials: fixedness in the amount of labour to be performed, and fixedness in the number of labourers. Were these conditions established it would indeed be true that the introduction of a machine which, worked by one man, would do the work of twenty, would just cast nineteen men out of employment. But it so happens that the laws of supply and demand are varying in their operations, though the general tendency in both has been towards an increase, and that increase has been notably observable within the past twenty-five years. And so in Canada when the mowing machine does the work of twenty, then there is just so much labour saved from that work to be applied elsewhere. It is only on the assumption that these men have no other means of employment, that even to them its introduction would be a "cause" of pauperism.

But the trouble in Britain is imputed by authorities of at least equal calibre with Mr. Peray to the excess of population—the crowding of the labour market, and to the supply being in excess of the demand. And this excess of supply over demand is not caused by "the application of mechanical science." Will Mr. Peray deny that there are more men working in Great Britain to-day than there were twenty-five years ago, when, according to his theory, mechanical science stepped in to play the mischief with the workingman? Will he deny that the great body of the workingmen are not better off now than they were then? That the demand for individual labour has not quite kept pace with the supply, may, perhaps, be true, in local instances; but so long as there is a physical world to improve just so long will there be a demand for labourers, and every machine made which will serve to economize labour will render an important service to mankind. We venture to say that in every calling, whether it be mechanical or agricultural, where machinery has been introduced to assist and cheapen the cost of production, the condition and wages of labourers have been bettered, in many cases to an extraordinary degree.

—*The* Charlottetown *North Star* says: "A shocking calamity occurred at Vernon River, a few weeks since, to the family of a coloured man named Sheppard. The man and a son were out after fence rails or wood, and the boy was despatched home with the horse and a load—the father remaining behind to cut more. A long time having elapsed, and the boy not making his appearance, Sheppard went to look for him, and found that the horse had fallen a short distance from the house. He passed on, and not finding the boy returned, when to his horror, he saw the boy's feet projecting from under the horse, and quite dead, a part of the traveller having entered his back. The father's reason fled, and he returned home on his hands and knees, and in his frenzy threw a young child out of doors into a snow drift. He killed the horse either by shooting or with an axe, and we believe attempted bodily harm to his neighbour, who caused him to be placed in Georgetown jail." He has since been placed in the Insane Asylum.

Every line of railway in Canada has suffered more or less by the extraordinary severity of the snow storms during the past week. From Quebec to Windsor reports have reached us of the trains being snowbound, in some instances for days at a time. The precautions and good management of railway officials have all been insufficient to guard the public against loss and inconvenience. We doubt if any line in the country has been worked at greater disadvantage in this respect than the St. Lawrence and Ottawa railway. No sooner had one part of the line been gone over and cleared of snow, than it was found that at another point it was blocked up. The same operation was performed two or three times, and each time it was found more difficult, as the snow had to be thrown over embankments many feet high. By the arrival of the train last night we learn that the line is once more clear, and unless we are visited by another storm, no unusual trouble will be experienced in running the trains on time.

Ottawa has at last caught the velocipede fever, and in a short time many of our citizens will probably be enjoying the exhilarating pleasure of fast motion on wheels, with the rider for driver and motive power. We understand that the skating rink has been leased for four months, with the object of converting it into a velocipede school, where the art will be taught. Quebec, Montreal and Toronto have their velocipede schools in full blast, and the amusement is said to be very popular with those who have become sufficiently adept in its practice. As we have said, the velocipede will be introduced here, and in Ottawa will go doubt become as popular as elsewhere. For the information of those who have never tried the machine, but who may desire to do so, we append the following hints on "how to learn to ride the velocipede:"

"To those who have never seen two wheeled velocipedes in use, it seems surprising how the rider can keep his equilibrium. The principle of the thing, however, is just the same as that of the movement of a boy's hoop. All are aware of the fact that as long as the hoop revolves rapidly, its tendency to any lateral movement is almost suspended, the rule being the greater the speed, the less difficulty in maintaining the upright position. Just so it is with velocipedes; and we frequently see parties who have been days in learning to ride them without success, suddenly get on them and start off around the hall, quite astonished at the ease with which they can maintain their balance while in rapid motion. The very first thing to be done is to "view the situation," as it were. You very readily perceive that it would be next to impossible to get on the machine and try to balance yourself in the seat while the machine was not in motion, and that fact leads you to perceive that motion is the first requisite. To get that and at the same time to balance yourself you must first use your feet on the floor as the means of progression, learning, as you move, to balance yourself by the motion of the guide wheel to the right or left, which ever side you may lean. After you have done this often enough to admit of your going the length of the room without placing your feet on the floor, commence to go the same distance with your legs lifted higher up, so as to balance yourself with the centre of gravity higher from the base than before.

"On overcoming this difficulty you should try first one foot and then another on the pedals, so as to become accustomed to the movement of turning the wheel with your feet. Having done this, take a good start on an even balance, lift your feet into position, and then keep up the motion by pedal movement, and you will be surprised to find that all at once you can ride your velocipede. In learning, avoid looking at the wheels, but accustom yourself to looking ahead. And in your first practice, after learning to advance by pedal movement, do not try experiments or try to do too much, but keep to your balance movement. Then, again, as you become more confident, take things easier. Do not strain the muscles of your arms; there is no necessity for it, or, indeed for any violent muscular effort; for even great speed can be obtained with half of the exertion used in learning the first movements in riding. There is nothing which looks harder to learn to the novice than how to ride a velocipede; and yet, when you have acquired a knowledge, your only surprise is that you should have found it difficult. Some have learned to ride in three hours, some three days, while with the timid and stupid three months scarcely suffice. To learn how to ride a velocipede skilfully, requires no more effort than to learn to skate well; in fact, even less, and when the art has been acquired—and it may be learned in a few days—it provides a means of rapid locomotion and a source of enjoyment as much more available than skating as are the number of days in the year appropriate for the sport greater than the few odd days skating is to be had. The exercise is vigorous, and employs every muscle of the body on rough roads, while on smooth plains, the movements can be made with ease by the most delicate of youths.

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH.

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

Sir,—Permit me to let my congregation know through your columns that on my return last evening I found the rope of our unfortunate bell broken, and that the usual services on Sundays and week-days will be continued as hitherto. The hours of Sunday's services are noticed elsewhere; the daily prayer is at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

I may add that the annual collection for the widows and orphans of our clergy is to be made to-morrow, the fifth Sunday in Lent, as ordered by the Diocesan Synod.

I am, sir, yours &c.,
T. BEDFORD JONES.

March 12, 1869.

The Cobden Club Medal.—The Cobden Club, of London, last summer announced in their organ, the London *Star*, that they would give a gold medal for the best essay on "the best way of developing improved political and commercial relations between Great Britain and the United States of America." The essays were to be presented to the secretary of the club on the 1st of January, 1869, and the prize to be awarded by a committee of three of the highest authorities in England, both in economical science and in literary criticism. The cable informs us that the award was made on Friday last to Dr. Joshua Leavitt, of this city. Dr. Leavitt has been for many years one of the most earnest and successful advocates of sound economical principles in the New York press. His vigourous plea for free trade, under the head of a "defence of commerce," in the *Evening Post* of January 8th, has made a deep impression on many minds, clearly pointing out as it does the relations of the laws of exchange to those higher interests of society which are commonly regarded as independent of them. The prize essay will be published at once in London, by the Cobden Club, and will be at once republished in the United States. It will be a timely discussion of a subject which is attracting more and more attention, both at home and abroad, as the great questions of the navigation laws, intercolonial coinage and of tariffs, are becoming better understood in their influences upon international relations. —*New York Post.*

—An Italian has published seven dances illustrative of the seven cardinal sins. They are called Pride Schottische, Avarice Mazurka, Luxury Waltz, Anger Galop, Gluttony Quadrille, Envy Polka, and Lazy March. This is in imitation of Eugene Sue's seven stories founded on these seven sins.

—The late eminent English astronomer, Sir James Smith, made an eccentric bequest. He left a pocket chronometer each to the Earls of Shaftesbury and Rosse, in the fullest confidence, that they will carry them in the place where he (the deceased) was in the habit of carrying his, "namely, in the pantaloon pocket, properly so called."

OTTAWA SNOW SHOE CLUB CUP.

The following telegrams were received yesterday by Mr. Walsh, Secretary to the Ottawa Snow Shoe Club:

MONTREAL, March 12, 1869.

I think I can send you Harper, Vesburg, and Robinson for Saturday, twentieth; possibly Jones. Maltby is sick. Armstrong and Rose will go up, if any chance of dash or hurdle race being got up. Answer to-day.

LANIGAN,
MONTREAL, March 12, 1869.

I can send you six men, perhaps more, for Saturday, twentieth. Harper and Robinson will go; so will Maltby if better.

LANIGAN.

The subscriptions to the cup now amount to eighty-three dollars. One hundred and fifty are required to make the races a credit to the city.

The race for the Ottawa cup will therefore be on this day week.

With Kavanagh, Hannum and Brown for Ottawa; Maltby, Harper, Robinson and Vosburg for Montreal, such a race will come off as Ottawa has seldom seen.

NOW AND THEN, OR RECOLLECTIONS OF THE PAST.

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

Sir,—You do well to repel the nonsense written in the West against Ottawa, on account of "the snow blockade." I believe, sir, that I have been, and am still, as confirmed a grumbler as any other man, but, sir, I don't forget! I don't forget that they have had some snow and big snow storms in Western Ontario. In the winter of 1842-3 they had thirteen weeks of continuous sleighing, and any number of snow storms, around Toronto; and I recollect that on the 2nd of June, 1843, they had two inches of snow in Buffalo, New York. Neither do I forget riding in a cutter from Hamilton to Dundas and back on the 1st of May, 1853 or '53. In the winter of 1854-5 most of the roads in Western Ontario were blocked up and impassable.

But, to come down to the last two or three seasons, what are the facts? Why, sir, I recollect that I left Ottawa about the 19th of March, 1867, for a journey to Western Ontario, and that I was "snowed up" west of Toronto, for two or three days. Trains were delayed, roofs of buildings destroyed, and a most wretched state of things generally prevailed "in the West;" but on my return hither I found that the weather had been of the pleasantest nature. And even last year, while here we were in the enjoyment of delightful weather, these slanderous occidentals were "snowed up," as they themselves said, to the extent of some ten feet, and travel suspended for days.

I shall not attempt to point out the many errors into which our detractors have fallen,—the task would be as hopeless as useless; but I cannot refrain from calling attention to at least one specimen of that sort of thing. In a Toronto paper of the 9th, I read thus: "The Prescott and Ottawa Railroad is again open," and in the same column, just below, it is stated that "The mails are still carried from Prescott to Ottawa by stage, and the other night the driver had his feet frozen."

As I said before, I believe I have done as much complaining as the next man, anent this climate, but I know the whole of Canada too well to be deceived by these Western grumblers. On the whole, this present season in the Ottawa valley has been far ahead of anything in the West. Here, we have had good, continuous sleighing since the 18th of November; there, they have been alternating between snow, rain, dust, and mud all that time. God knows, I do not like this everlasting winter; but if we must have so much it, I most decidedly prefer our Ottawa winters to anything they have in Western Ontario, and I have no hesitation in saying that all this Western talk about Ottawa and its snow, is "rot."

Yours, respectfully,
GRUMBLER.

Ottawa, March 12, 1869.

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

Sir,—The Times of the 11th contains a severe and uncalled for criticism on the report of the Board of Trade, and an attempt to deduce by false logic from a proposition therein consequences which do not practically or necessarily follow.

I am perfectly willing to concede that your knowledge of mental, moral, natural, physical and scientific philosophy is far superior to all the rest of the community combined, or separately, but as a member of the Board of Trade I am not prepared to submit to the idea that you have proved the falsehood of the proposition laid down, viz.: "The direct cause of "pauperism in the British Isles is not far to "seek. It is due to the increased and increasing application of *mechanical science* to productive and manufacturing pursuits." Your treatment of this grave question is not courteous and the arguments used are puerile.

That the Board of Trade has been fully justified in charging the great social evil of the British Isles to its true cause is proved from your own statement, that "the rich are getting richer and the poor poorer" (I use your own terms) in that favoured land, while immediately after you say "wealth is increasing there as evidenced by the rapidly "growing taxable capacity of the nation." That you have entirely overlooked the cause of which pauperism is the effect, must be ascribed to the tendency of that law of gravitation, which you so aptly illustrate by *the "universal tendency of everything to go in the direction of its impetus,"* not excepting even a speculative "modern philosopher," but as the Board of Trade had to deal with simple facts, and to recommend a practical remedy, you will not be surprised that one of them dissents from your doctrines, and will endeavour to show you the data on which the controverted proposition is founded.

The subdivision of labour is carried on in Great Britain to its utmost limit—whatever department of mechanical skill an individual is best adapted to occupy, to that he is carefully trained, to the exclusion of all other pursuits. Now, sir, I have no doubt of your great mental and literary capacity, but very much question your capability of earning your bread as a farm labourer in the event of any mechanical appliance being discovered for the manufacture of newspaper editorials; and that is just the case with the English mechanic: once his peculiar labour is superseded, he is only fit for the workhouse, and this has been the constantly increasing result of the substitution of mechanical appliances for manual labour during the last twenty-five years.

It has had the effect also of centralising capital, and increasing wealth while it brings the cheaper labour of countries where the cost of living is every way less, into direct competition with the British agriculturist.

While therefore such portion of this evil with which the report deals has to be charged directly to the agency of mechanical science, it does not follow that society would be benefited, the evil remedied, or the cause of civilization and progress promoted, by any change tending to restore matters to the position they occupied before the introduction of mechanical appliances in place of manual labour, or by any measure impeding its direct application in future. The Board of Trade dealt with the fact—the remedy is to be found in the direction indicated by the report.

In order to make this matter more clearly understood we have only to take the case of constant occurrence in this country. A mowing machine will perform the work of *twenty men*. If no other opening could be found in which their labour might be rendered available would they not become objects of public charity? and this is exactly the case in Great Britain.

I would not have pursued this subject to such a length, but it appears to me that sound ideas on political economy should be disseminated throughout the Dominion, and I am happy to acknowledge that you have taken the lead in discussing the merits of a report designed to direct attention to a subject of such importance to the British Empire, especially that portion of it in North America.

I have the honour to be,
sir, your obedient servant,
GEORGE H. PERRY.

Ottawa, March 12, 1869.

LOCAL NEWS.

Temperance Soiree, &c.—A grand temperance soiree was held last night at Gloucester, a short distance from this city, and was honoured with the attendance of Hon. S. L. Tilley, Hon. Malcolm Cameron and others, who rendered essential service to the cause by their eloquence.

In Working Order Again.—With great exertion and untiring labour the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Railroad has once more been cleared of snow, so far as to be put in working order. The train which left Prescott yesterday afternoon at four o'clock, arrived at the station here at eight last night with passengers and the mail.

St. Patrick's Day.—The coming 17th of March is to be celebrated in Ottawa in a becoming manner by the Irishmen of this city. The St. Patrick's Literary Society invite all Irishmen and descendants of Irishmen to join in the procession to be formed at the St. Patrick's Hall, at nine o'clock in the morning, and march thence through the principal streets of the city. In the evening a concert will be given in the hall, at which some of the best amateur talent of the city is promised to assist.

Police Court.—George Nicholson, Thomas Beeson, and Thomas Beeson, junior, were charged with arson in setting fire to the premises where they kept a grocery store, on the corner of Clarence-st. and the Haymarket square, on the night of Thursday last. The Crown not being ready to proceed with the case it was adjourned to three o'clock this afternoon.

Catherine Whelan was charged with a repetition of her old offence of whiskey drinking, and was sent to jail for the space of three weeks.

Too Fast.—A countryman coming into town yesterday drove his horse within the limits of the city at such a pace as our venerable city fathers have very properly declared improper and dangerous. Whilst going along at a gallop, he passed a certain officer who does not wear a uniform, and who, to the fast man, was not known. The officer aforesaid, however, administered a dignified rebuke, and received in return some hard and improper words, such as should never be uttered by one man towards another under any circumstances, and especially not by a violator of the law, to one of its conservators, and being one of "Those who know their rights, and knowing dare maintain," the officer who was in his cutter followed up his man, and kept him in sight till he reached a tavern in Lower Town, where he went in to arrest him. The countryman who didn't believe that city officer could be an officer without the Peelers' buttons resisted, and was going to fight, but before the first blow was given, a blue coat with the button and baton of office hove in sight, and the offender quailed at the sight thereof and succumbed. He was taken to the lock-up, where he exhibited such signs of humility and contrition as softened the hearts of his captors, and after a short durance, he was bidden to go, and sin no more.

Alleged Attempt at Arson.—Yesterday in the forenoon it was reported that an attempt had been made to kindle another fire in the rear of the premises that were on fire on Thursday night, viz., in a shed on the premises of Mr. McCaffery, tavern keeper, York-st. The place where the fire was represented to have been attempted was that portion of the shed or outhouse, which connects the tavern and the hay scale house with the row of houses fronting on the hay market square, and extending down to the house previously on fire. The alleged incendiary was a young girl about thirteen years of age, who lives as servant at Mr. McCaffrey's. What object the girl could possibly have had in setting fire to it no one can imagine. Suspicion fell on her, however, and she was arrested and taken to the station. The signs of any attempt of the kind if they exist are very faint, and it is to be hoped that the examination at the police court this morning will show that there was no criminal design. The name of the girl arrested is Cole, and she is one of six children, who with their mother have been deserted by a worthless father and husband. The mother is said to be a respectable and industrious woman, who does the best she can to maintain her family decently. She with one of her boys obtained permission to remain with the accused in the station all night, and the three spent the night in endeavours to comfort one another in their trouble.

Natural History Society.—At the regular meeting of the Natural History Society, held last evening, four new members were proposed, and the present number of members was stated to be one hundred and sixty, and that the institution was in a flourishing condition. After the routine business the Secretary, Wm. White, Esq., read a very interesting paper on rare plants found in the vicinity of Ottawa, which was listened to with great interest. A. H. Harvey, Esq., then read a paper on the habits of spiders, giving instances of extraordinary constructive skill which had come under his own observation. Mr. Harvey said he had observed on certain meadow lands on the banks of the St. Lawrence vast networks of webs, extending over tracts of many miles in extent, which being washed away by every tide were almost immediately reproduced by the busy and industrious little creatures which, though seeming to work without any concert of action, reconstructed their work, forming a united whole in meshes so fine that it served the purpose of catching their insect prey in the most perfect manner. These spiders were described as little black creatures about the size of pins' heads. The paper elicited an animated discussion in which more interesting information concerning spider architecture was brought out. Dr. VanCortlandt and Mr. Couper, the naturalist and toxidermist, took part in the discussion. Mr. Couper announced that at the next meeting he would read a paper on the deer of Canada, illustrating the age of the animals by the appearances of the horns.

More of the Fire.—The fire at Nicholson's store on Thursday night was so strongly suspected of being the work of an incendiary, that the police felt themselves justified in arresting three men suspected of being implicated in the transaction; these are George Nicholson, the ostensible proprietor, and the two Beeson's, father and son, clerks or partners. They were arrested shortly after the fire was extinguished. The reasons for the arrests were, that besides the fire in the cellar, there was one found in the store, and attempts to make a fire in one or two other places. One of these appears to have been a box without a lid turned bottom up with shavings and bits of sticks inside with vent holes in two of the sides. This last failed to burn. Another reason was that the stock was insured in the British American company for $1,500, when at the time of the fire its value appeared, on a rough calculation, to be less than $100. The prisoners were brought up to the Police Court, and remanded till three o'clock this afternoon. Meantime Mr. Patterson and Mr. Whelan, grocers, were employed to value the stock, and found it to be less than $50. The most ingenious devices had been resorted to for the purpose of making the stock appear of greater value that it was. Amongst these may be mentioned that tea chests intended to appear for full ones, had little boxes fastened against the side of the chests inside, and which could contain no more than three or four ounces at most; these were placed with the open part against the side of the chest full of tea, so that on tapping the chest in that particular spot which might have been indicated by a private mark, or letter, tea would have come out, which might have been taken as a sample of the tea, of which the chest would naturally have been supposed to be full. This is the theory set up, whether the right one or not, or whether to prepare for a fire, we of course cannot say. For aught that we know it may have been only part of the dummy system on which many a store of grander pretensions has been stocked before. Not wishing to prejudice the cause of the prisoners, we shall leave further details to be developed at the examination to-day. It may be stated that the insurance was effected on the 11th of January last, and that the owner wished his stock to be taken at $2,000. In our first notice of the fire, we stated that there was no insurance, but this statement applied to the building.

A Wonder for the Workshop.—Every mechanic should have ready at hand a box of *Grace's Celebrated Salve*, as it is a ready remedy for accidents, such as cuts, bruises, contused wounds, burns, scalds, poisoned skin and eruptions, caused by operations in the factory, dye-house or printing office. Only 25 cents a box.

OUR PLANET—ITS PAST AND FUTURE.

The above is the title of a very interesting little volume published by Wm. Denton, Boston. It is a series of eight lectures on geology, in the popular style now so much in vogue, and is well calculated to bring science down to the level of the masses. These lectures seem to do this very successfully. They abound in vivid description, and are as far as may be, freed from the technical character of more extended works. The following extract intended to show that the resources of modern civilization will prove sufficient for the climen of the style of the work:

"As long as the world exists, then, we may be assured that man's ingenuity will keep pace with his necessities, and the human race march on to the goal that lies before them.

"Man is an important part of Nature; and his importance increases hourly. At first a helpless log, he floated on the stream, but now stems the current, or boldly directs it.

"If the land-surface of the globe should not increase naturally in the future, as we have anticipated, man's agency would, without doubt, bring it to pass, as is evident from what he has already accomplished.

"In Lincolnshire, England, four hundred thousand acres of fever-and-ague-breeding swamp land have been transformed into fields of wheat, barley and oats, and excellent meadows. In the Netherlands, lands still lying lower than the fens of Lincolnshire, and apparently much more hopelessly doomed, have been reclaimed, and become among the most productive. It has been calculated that nearly nine hundred thousand acres have been gained there by diking and draining. The Province of Zealand consists of islands washed by the sea on their western coasts, and separated by the many channels through which the Scheide and some other rivers find their way to the ocean. In the twelfth century, these islands were much smaller and more numerous than at present. They have been gradually enlarged, and, in several instances, at least, connected by the extension of their system of dikes. Walcheron is formed of ten islets united into one. At the middle of the fifteenth century, Goree and Overflakkee consisted of separate islands, containing altogether about ten thousand acres. By means of about sixty successive advances of the dikes, they have been brought to compose a single island, whose area is not less than sixty thousand acres.'

"A few years ago, an English gentleman purchased for a trifling sum a small island which was covered by the sea every floodtide, but left dry at the ebb. He enclosed it with a bank of earth thirty feet wide at the bottom, and seven feet high and four feet wide at the top, with a slope on the outside having two feet horizontal to one perpendicular. This wall, about two miles and a-half long, encircled the island, except a gap about seventy feet wide, through which the tide flowed in and out. Earth was at first used to close the gap; but the sea swept it away as fast as it was thrown in. Piles were then driven in a double row, and clay rammed in between them. This succeeded, and the little island was drained. In time, excellent crops were raised upon it, a house and barn built, and nearly three hundred acres of land, by the energy of one man, won from the sea.

"The draining of Lake Haarlem is one of the best examples that we possess of man's disposition and power to change water-surfaces into dry land; and is at the same time a prophecy of what will be done in the future, when the earth shall be as densely populated over its whole extent as it is now in Holland.

"Here was a lake fifteen miles long, and seven broad in its greatest width. 'What fine farms we might have here,' said an enterprising Hollander, 'if this lake were only drained!'—'Yes; but it lies below the sea-level, and it would be impossible to drain it.' 'Then we must pump it dry. 'Pump it dry! Who ever heard of such an absurdity?' But pump it dry they did. For this purpose, three large steam engines were employed, each pumping a million tons of water in twenty-five and a-half hours. They commenced pumping in May, 1848; and laid it dry in July, 1852. Where the boats sailed and the fishes swam are now comfortable cottages, fertile fields, and a population of five thousand thriving citizens. In the same country it is now proposed to drain the Zuyder Zee, which covers two thousand square miles. The time will come when the land under Lake Erie will be of more value than the water within it; and when that time comes, man will say to the waters, 'March!' and they will go, leaving the land for man's occupancy. Its greatest depth is but two hundred and seventy feet, and its drainage would be an easy matter. In like manner, the lands of Lake Michigan and Superior will be needed, demanded and obtained, and the sea be made to give up a large portion of its shallow shores to supply man's constantly increasing demand for room."

The remarks of the author upon the climatic changes that have occurred within the historic period, and the remains of man in connection with those of extinct animals, are interesting and instructive. Although we cannot endorse all the inferences and opinions contained in the book, we believe it to be a meritorious contribution to popular scientific literature.—*Scientific American.*

A CURIOUS INSTRUMENT.

Some weeks ago we were startled by an announcement in the military and naval intelligence of the *Times* that an instrument which could measure the hundred-thousandth part of a second was employed by the authorities at Woolwich in experiments on gunpowder. At that time one might have thought that the leading journal was merely under one of those fits of inaccuracy to which we are all occasionally liable, but having since had an opportunity of examining the instrument in question, I am led to believe that its powers were not overrated. This machine is used for measuring the velocity of a projectile within the bore of a gun, and, as far as we could judge, is quite capable of recording the time that a shot, travelling at the rate of one thousand feet a second, will take to pass over one inch. The apparatus consists of a system of toothed wheel-work, beautifully made, and driven by means of a descending weight. The velocity with which each wheel travels is progressive in the proportion of five to one; that is to say, each wheel travels five times as fast as the one in rear of it. The last wheel turns a spindle to which six brass discs are attached, each disc being thirty-six inches in circumference. When the machine is travelling at full speed these discs move at a rate of about twenty-eight revolutions a second, or in other words, about one thousand inches a second; an inch of disc, therefore, represents the thousandth part of a second. The passage of the projectile is recorded on the edge of the disc by means of a spark derived from a Rhumkorff's coil; thus the interval between two sparks denotes the time taken by the projectile in passing over a known distance in which it ruptures two galvanic circuits, and causes a corresponding number of sparks. Each disc has its own coil, marker, and a galvanic circuit, by which means the time of passing over five distinct spaces can be recorded. The actual rate at which the wheels are moving is ascertained by means of a stop-watch attached to one of the slowly moving wheels. As the thousandth part of a second is represented by an inch on the disc, we can easily understand that the hundredth part of an inch, which is by no means difficult to measure, will represent the hundredth thousandth part of a second.—*Once a Week.*

—In order to make room for spring importations T. & W. Hunton have thrown many goods into the remnant department which will be sold regardless of cost—remnants composed of cottons, prints, dress goods, woollens, fancy goods, and about fifty pairs lace curtains at a very large reduction.

—For a choice selection of New Tapestry, Brussells, Kidderminster and Imperial 3-ply Carpets, Cocoa Matting, Floor Oil Cloths, Hearth Rugs, Crumb Cloths and Door Mats; Damasks, Reppe, Curtain Trimmings, Lace and Muslin Curtains, go to Magee & Russell's new Store, next door to Mr. John Leal's, Sparks-st.

Save Your Doctor's Bills.—When Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry will cure coughs, colds, bleeding at the lungs, and arrest the fell destroyer, consumption, it does more than most physicians can do. The use of a single bottle, costing one dollar, will satisfy the incredulous that they need look no further for the required aid.

—Try Gardner's Baking Powder. See advertisement.

THE NEW EUROPEAN GAMBLING PLACES.

From the Correspondent of the London Times.

Midway between Nice and Mentone are two promontories jutting out into the Mediterranean. On one of these is a small town and a large palace, on the other there is a hell. Behind them the mountains rise abruptly several thousand feet; between them is a harbour and an olive grove. This is Monaco. The entire area of the country does not exceed 5,000 acres, one half of which are barren rocks. Here the Grimaldis have reigned as independent sovereigns for centuries. They formerly made a very pretty thing out of piracy, but they have adapted themselves to the spirit of the age, and derive a good income from a gambling establishment. They rule over "the land of the cypress and myrtle." But if this vegetation really is "an emblem of deeds that are done in their clime," the less a clime has of them the better, in a moral point of view, for the clime. Some twenty-five years ago the flourishing town of Mentone called the Prince of Monaco its Lord, but its inhabitants one morning revolted, and annexed themselves to the then Kingdom of Sardinia. Fortunately for him, France, Italy, and Austria fell out, went to war, and settled their little differences at Solferino. Mentone was handed over to France, and the Prince of Monaco, while he still retained his sovereignty over his two promontories and his olive grove, was made a French Senator, and received a pension of $8,000 per annum for renouncing what he called his rights over Mentone. But fortune had still more in store for him. The great Monsieur Blanc, the patron saint of Serene Transparencies in Germany, having come to the conclusion that the field of his operations might with advantage be extended to Italy, made him an offer of £10,000 per annum for the right to start a gambling establishment on one of the promontories. With this offer the prince at once closed, and financially neither he nor his subjects have reason to regret the bargain. The palace has been tinkered up and refurnished. The Prince drives up and down his one road in regal equipage; he has two or three carriages, and has even treated himself to the luxury of a Prime Minister. An official *Gazette* weekly informs the world on whom he has bestowed an order, and whom he has invited to dinner. The whole face of the country has been altered. The Kursaal and the Kursaal Gardens cover several acres. A large hotel and several small ones have been opened, shops are springing up, and villas are being built. A railroad to Nice has been cut through the rocks. The whole place is alive with the chevaliers d'industrie, the French lorettes, the hawks and the pigeons, who flock to a public gambling house just as gold seekers in California crowd to a new digging. Monaco is now a paradise, inhabited by people who are the reverse of angels. Before the Kursaal stretches a terrace, filled with tropical trees and flowers, a hundred feet below it the waves of the Mediterranean break against the rocks, while landwards, high up against the horizon, tower huge masses of hill, clothed half way up with the dark foliage of olives alternating with the bright green of orange trees. As I sat there this evening, drinking my coffee after dinner, I could not help being struck with the contrast between nature and man—the one so peaceful and so beautiful, the other so agitated and so vile. Through the open window of the hell I could see the greedy crowd around the green baize table, and every now and then the voice of the croupier shouting out the winning colour, broke in upon the rippling noise of the waves at my feet. That men should be such fools as to stake their money against a machine which, as long as two and two make four, must, if they continue the unequal contest sufficiently long, eventually ruin them, is an absurdity which it is difficult to account for by the rules of common sense, but gamblers are uncalculating and seldom actuated by common sense. Still I should have thought that even their natures would have felt something of the influences of local association, and that the calm sea, the bright moon, would have made them elevate their minds for a brief period beyond the fictitious excitement of a gambling table. *Rouge et noir* at Monaco is much like a horse race in the garden of Eden, or an Arcadian shepherdess dancing a cancan.

Lime in Soil.—There is said to be carried off from the soil nine pounds of lime in twenty bushels of wheat, nine pounds in fifty bushels of oats, and fifteen pounds in thirty-eight bushels of barley. There are thirty-five pounds of lime in two tons of clover, one hundred and forty pounds in twenty-five tons of turnips, and two hundred and seventy pounds in nine tons of potatoes. Some soils contain an abundance of lime for a thousand years, while other soils require an occasional application of lime as a fertilizer.

—Try Gardner's Baking Powder. See advertisement.

DIVINE SERVICES in THE CITY CHURCHES ON SUNDAY.

St. Alban's Church, Daly Street.
(All seats free.)

Rev. Dr. Bedford Jones and Rev. Bickerton A. Edwards.

Services To-morrow.—Morning Prayer, Sermon, Holy Communion 11 a.m., Litany, (choral) Public Catechising, 3 p.m. Evening Prayer, Sermon, 7 p. m.

Christ Church (Church of England)—Sparks Street.
Rev J S Lauder, M A, Rev C P Street, M A, Curate.

Morning Service at 11 o'clock; Evening at 7 Free Seats.

Chapel of Ease—Sussex Street.
Rev J S Lauder, M A, Rev C P Street, M A, Curates.

Morning Service at 11; Evening at 7. Free Seats.

Military Service—Chaplain, Rev. T. D. Phillips, M.A.—in the Sussex-street Chapel at 9 a.m.

New Edinburgh Parish—Church of England.—St. Bartholomew.
Rev. George Noel Higginson, M.A.

Matins at 11; Evensong at 3:30. All Festivals observed. All seats free.

St. James Episcopal Church—Hull.
Rev John Johnston.

Divine Service at 11 a m and 7 p m.

Methodist Episcopal Church—Le Breton's Flats.
Rev T W Pickett.

Services commence at 10½ a m; and 6½ p m. Sabbath School at 2 p m.

Congregational Church—Albert Street.
Rev. Edward Ebbs, Minister.

Morning service commences at 11 o'clock, and evening services at 6½ o'clock. Sabbath School at 3 o'clock p m.

Baptist Church—Queen Street.
Rev D McPhail, Pastor.

Services at 11 o'clock, am, and 6½ p.m. Sabbath School at 9½ in the morning.

Free Church (Presbyterian)—Daly Street.
Rev. T. Wardrope.

Morning Service at 11 o'clock; Evening 6½ p.m.
Rev Mr Moore.

Services will be held in the Church, Bank Street, at 11 a.m., and 6½ p.m.

Kirk of Scotland—Wellington Street.
Rev. Daniel M. Gordon.

Morning Service at 11 o'clock; Evening at 6½.

Wesleyan Methodist Church—Metcalfe Street.
Rev. Mr. Harper.

Morning Service at 10½ o'clock; Evening at 6½ Sabbath School at 2 p.m.

Meth. Epis. Church—Cor. York and Dalhousie Sts
Rev. S. G Stone

Morning Service at 10½ o'clock; Evening at 6½ Sabbath School at 2 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church, (Roman Catholic.)
Hours of service—Sundays and Holidays:—Morning, at 8 and 10 a.m. Evening, at 7 p.m.

Cathedral Notre Dame.
Rev. D. Dandurand, Vicar-General.

Hours of Service, 5, 8 and 10 a.m, and 7 p.m., from Easter until St. Michael's Day; 6, 8 and 10 a.m., and 6 p.m. from St. Michael's until Easter.

St. Joseph's Church.
Rev. J. P. Stillman, P P

Hours of Service, Sundays and Holidays, Mass—8 and 10 a.m., from Easter until the Feast of St. Michael; Vespers at 7 p.m.; from St. Michael to Easter, 6 p.m. week days, 7½ p.m.

Catholic Apostolic Church—Hull,
Rev E J W Bonser.

Services, Sundays, at 10 a m, and 5 p m. On week days at 5 p m; and on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a m.

DIED.

At New Edinburgh, on the 12th inst., Cecil Whitcomb, aged six months and three days.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully requested to attend the funeral this afternoon, Saturday, at 3 p.m., from his father's residence.

St. Patrick's Day!

The St. Patrick's Literary Association of Ottawa intend celebrating the 17th inst.—the national day of Irishmen—by a procession in the fore part of the day, and in the evening by a grand concert in the St. Patrick's Hall, to be held under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor-General.

ORDER OF CELEBRATION.

The members of the Association will meet at the Hall