MRS. CAUDLE'S CURTAIN LECTURES.

MRS. CAUDLE HAS BEEN TO SEE HER DEAR MOTHER. CAUDLE ON THE "JOYFUL OCCASION," HAS GIVEN A PARTY, AND ISSUED A CARD OF INVITATION.

"It is hard, I think, Mr. Caudle, that I can't leave home for a day or two, but the house must be turned into a tavern: a tavern? —a pothouse! Yes, I thought you were very anxious that I should go; I thought you wanted to get rid of me for something, or you would not have insisted on my staying at dear mother's all night. You were afraid I should get cold coming home, were you? Oh yes, you can be very tender, you can Mr. Caudle, when it suits your own purpose. Yes! and the world thinks what a good husband you are! I only wish the world knew you as well as I do, that's all; but it shall some day, I'm determined.

"I'm sure the house will not be sweet for a month. All the curtains are poisoned with smoke: and, what's more, with the filthiest smoke I ever knew. *Take 'em down then?* Yes, it's all very well for you to say take 'em down; but they were only cleaned and put up a month ago; but a careful wife is lost upon you, Mr. Caudle. You ought to have married somebody who'd have let your house go to wreck and ruin, as I will for the future. People who don't care for their families are better thought of than those who do; I've long found out *that*.

"And what a condition the carpets is in!—They've taken five pounds out of it, if a farthing, with their filthy boots, and I don't know what besides. And then the smoke in the hearth-rug, and a large cinder-hole burnt in it! I never saw such a house in my life! If you wanted to have a few friends, why couldn't you invite 'em when your wife's at home, like any other man? not have 'em sneaking in, like a set of housebreakers, directly a woman turns her back. They must be pretty gentlemen, they must; mean fellows, that are afraid to face a woman! Ha! and you all call yourselves the lords of the creation! I should only like to see what would become of the creation, if you were left to yourselves! A pretty pickle creation would be in very soon.

"You must all have been in a nice condition! What do you say. *You took nothing?* Took nothing, didn't you. I'm sure there's such a regiment of empty bottles, I haven't had the heart to count 'em. And punch, too; you must have punch! There's a hundred half-lemons in the kitchen, if there's one: for Susan, like a good girl, kept 'em to show 'em to me. No, sir; Susan *shan't leave the house!* What do you say.—*She has no right to tell tales, and you will be master in your own house?* Will you? If you don't alter, Mr. Caudle, you'll soon have no house to be master of. A whole loaf of sugar did I leave in the cupboard, and now there isn't as much as would fill a tea-cup.—Do you suppose I'm to find sugar for punch for fifty men? What do you say? *There wasn't fifty?* That's no matter; the more shame for 'em, sir. I'm sure they drank enough for fifty. Do you suppose I'm to find sugar for punch to all the world out of my housekeeping money? *You don't ask me?* Don't you ask me? You do; you know you do; for if I only want a shilling extra, the house is in a blaze. And yet a whole loaf of sugar can you throw away upon——No, I won't be still; and I won't let you go to sleep. If you'd got to bed at a proper hour last night, you wouldn't have been so sleepy now. You can sit up half the night with a pack of people who don't care for you, and your poor wife can't get in a word!

"And there's that China image that I had when I was married—I wouldn't have taken any sum of money for it, and you know it—and how do I find it? With its precious head knocked off! And what was more mean, more contemptible than all besides, it was not even genteel. Don't ask me how I know, I *knew nothing about it?* Now, how can you lie there, in your Christian bed, Caudle, and say that? You know that that fellow, Prettyman, knocked off the head with the poker! You know that he did. And you hadn't the feeling,—yes, I will say it,—you hadn't the feeling, to protect what you knew was precious to me. Oh no, if the truth was known, you were very glad to see it broken, for that very reason.

"Every way, I've been insulted. I should like to know who it was who corked whiskers on my dear aunt's picture? Oh! you're laughing, are you! *You're not laughing?*—Don't tell me that. I should like to know what shakes the bed, then, if you're not laughing? Yes, corked whiskers on her dear face,—and she was a good soul to you, Caudle, and you ought to be ashamed of yourself to see her ill-used. Oh, you may laugh! It's very easy to laugh! I only wish you'd a little feeling, like other people, that's all.

"Then there's my china mug—the mug I had before I was married—when I was a happy creature. I should like to know who knocked the spout off that mug? Don't tell me it was cracked before—it was no such thing, Caudle; there wasn't a flaw in it—and now, I could have cried when I saw it. Don't tell me it wasn't worth twopence. How do you know? You never buy mugs. But that's like men; they think nothing in a house costs anything.

"There's four glasses broke, and nine cracked. At least, that's all I have found out at present; but I dare say shall discover a dozen to-morrow.

"And I should like to know where the cotton umbrella's gone to—and I should like to know who broke the bell-pull, and perhaps you don't know there's a leg off a chair—and perhaps—"

"Here," says Caudle, "Morpheus came to my aid, and I slept; nay, I think I snored."

AN EXTRAORDINARY FEMALE.

Paris is horror-fed just now with the details of a surgical disclosure, showing the ground of a tumour which has been for some time whispered through the noble circles of Europe. It has been credibly asserted for a year past, that there was shut up, in a hotel at Berlin, a young Polish Countess, immensely rich, and wanting a husband, but who had the drawback of a skeleton head upon an otherwise healthy body. The story has been somewhat doubted, but a celebrated surgeon, Dieffenbach, has lately published an account, which we condense as follows:

On a certain evening three persons called in this celebrated practitioner. An Italian and a Polish gentleman came forward, leading a veiled lady in the background. On the retirement of the other two, the incognita timidly looked around, advanced hesitatingly, and finally uncovered her head. A man whose profession was to look on horrible scenes, was not likely to be easily moved, but from what now met his sight he started back with a scream of fright and horror. A grimacing skeleton, with the bones of the head scarcely covered with a reddish epidermis, stood before him. The tongue lay entirely visible, and all the passage of the nose and throat without a covering. In the attempt to speak, the tongue played like a serpent half protruded from a corpse. The eyelids seemed to be turned inside out, and of the upper jaw there remained but a small portion, entirely deprived of teeth.

Such was the portrait of a lady of eighteen, daughter of one of the most brilliant and wealthy families of Europe, who had been to this degree a victim of scrofula.

The narrator goes on to narrate that he could not at midnight close this interview. It took place, stand without almost intolerable dread before this frightful apparition, but she at last attempted at intercourse. She could make no articulation that he could understand, but she pointed with frantic vehemence at her throat. He at last comprehended that she wished a surgical

supply of that member to her denuded face, but he shook his head in despair. The scene of abandonment to grief which immediately followed, was, he declares, wholly indescribable. She threw herself on the floor in an agony of convulsive despair.

The Surgeon departed the next day for Vienna, and thither the lady followed him.—Another interview with her and some of her relatives, ended in his giving his attention to see what could be done. He called together a few mechanical artists, and the first result was a false palate and a set of teeth which enabled her to chew and articulate distinctly. After a few months more, he succeeded in drawing the skin over a frame nose, and finally he sent her into the world, not beautiful, certainly, but at the same time not hideous. She frequents balls and operas without a veil, and by the aid of flowers in her hair, and other adornments, passes without attracting extraordinary notice in public. It is stated to be one of the greatest triumphs ever attained in the surgical arts.—The lady's hand is now open to competition.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

The Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, appears to be placed in no very enviable situation by his appointment of Mr. Reade, which has been disallowed by the Home Government. It is not known however, publicly, whether he is answerable, or the Ministry at home, for the peculiarity of his present position. Some persons assert that he had orders to offer the first vacant situation in the colony worth acceptance to Mr. Reade, whose previous services in other Colonies, had given him a claim upon the Government. Should this be true, Sir William Colebrooke would not be much to blame after all. But who can, it may be asked, lies the responsibility? We answer thus. The British Government acknowledge it, by paying a due deference to the feelings and wishes of the people of the Province, expressed through their Representatives. They admit, by disallowing the appointment of Mr. Reade, that the Colonists themselves have the preferable claim to offices that may fall vacant, and by this one decision have established a great principle in the charter of our political rights. The prerogative to appoint remains unquestionable, but a limit has been placed which will not in future be overstepped by the Crown, except demanded by a public emergency, or required by the people themselves.—If this be the true state of the case, and we hope it will so turn out to be, there will be no necessity for the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick resigning his command, as some of the papers of that Province seem to expect he should. The retired Councillors may again take office, and carry on with him the Government in as amicably and friendly manner. The difficulty would be with those Councillors who sided with the Governor, and however good their intentions may have been, they will feel themselves in a dilemma, from which we trust they may escape with no loss of public reputation. The appointment, it is stated, will be made direct from the Colonial Office, and there is no room to doubt that it will be satisfactory to the Province at large, and allay all the excitement which has arisen upon the subject.

Halifax Times, May 13.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Newfoundland Legislature was prorogued on the 24th ult. The following is the Speech of His Excellency Sir John Harvey upon that occasion:—

Mr. Speaker, Honble. Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

Your assiduous attention to the business of the session and the liberality of your grants in aid of the public service, entitle you to the thanks of our Gracious Sovereign, which I accordingly tender to you in Her Majesty's name.

The present is not the proper occasion which to sum up the many benefits which Newfoundland has derived from its experimental Constitution, such a recapitulation will more properly belong to the close of the final Session of its Amalgamated Assembly—but it may not be irrevelent to the occasion upon which I address you to remark that, if no other advantages had flowed from it than those which connect themselves with the creation of good practicable Roads and Bridges throughout the more populous Districts of a Colony in which few or none existed before—with the support of a great number of Elementary Schools throughout the Island—with the establishment and endowment of Grammar Schools in the principal Outports, together with an Academical Institution in the Provincial Capital, in all of which the higher branches of Education are proposed to be taught—with an unprecedented extension of agricultural pursuits, and consequent augmentation of increased comfort to the inhabitants—with an increased provision for the poor and destitute generally, and I may add, with the removal of alleged complaints and grievances, by the payment of all the contigent and other charges which were unavoidably left unsatisfied by the late General Assembly. It, I repeat, no other benefits than these had resulted from the Legislative labours of the body which I now address, surely no reasonable doubt can exist that many, great, and substantial are the advantages which it has conferred upon Newfoundland.

The actual number of Bills which have been presented for my approval, as well at the close of the present as former Sessions, is comparatively small—but they are all of a character to be substantially useful to the Colony, and I deem the present a not unfitting occasion upon which to state to you [and to the country] that I have never felt desirous of urging any legislative action upon the General Assembly as at present constituted, beyond what was obviously called for by a due regard to the immediate and pressing interests of the Colony—but on the contrary, I have seen with satisfaction the postponement of many measures of undoubted weight and lasting interest, for further legislative decision, under, it may be, very different circumstances.

With these observations, I relieve you from further attendance upon your legislative duties, until the period may arrive for convening you to hold the final Session of the General Assembly, as at present constituted.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

A return showing the total number of African negroes landed, for the abominable purpose of slavery, on the islands and on the continent of America, from the year 1815, to the year 1843 (both inclusive,) was ordered by the hon. the House of Commons, last summer, on the motion of the noble viscount, the ex-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (now member for Tiverton,) and was only issued yesterday in a printed shape. It hence appears that the gross total number of African negroes so landed: during the whole of the period comprised between the years 1815 and 1843, amounted altogether to 639,145; of whom 555,831 were landed in the Brazilian territory; 76,685 in the Spanish territory; 3,423 in the French territory; 1,123 in the Dutch territory; 200 in the Danish territory; and 1,880 in the Montevidean territory. In the year 1843, 19,095 were landed on the Brazilian, and 5,627 on the Spanish territory. The number of negroes taken from Africa for the purposes of slavery, but captured and brought in, or driven ashore upon the islands and coasts of America, and there liberated, amounted to 18,042. The authorities of the Foreign office assure the house, in this return, that the reports made by British functionaries of the arrivals of slave vessels in transatlantic ports, from which the return is compiled, must not be considered as giving an account of all cases in which slaves have been imported, as will appear from the following extract from the reports alluded to. Her Majesty's Commissioners and Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeira, writing on the 1st of January, 1844, says,—"The accompanying return for this year exhibits the number of vessels said to have landed cargoes to be 37, total number of slaves as thus shown, is not one half of the actual number successfully imported. We are assured that nearly 40,000 have been landed within these provinces during that period." The Consul at Bahia writes, (July 30, 1843,)—"The great secrecy with which the slave traffic is carried on, and the facilities which this extensive coast offers for the landing of slaves, together with the connivance and venality of the petty authorities, render it impossible to obtain a correct statement of the number of slaves imported." The English Consul at Pernambuco (July 27, 1839,) writes,—"The list does not exhibit either the number of slaves landed, or the names of the creeks and inlets in which they have been disembarked; for the utmost diligence of enquiry or vigilance of research cannot arrive at a correct knowledge of those facts which are impenetrably veiled by the artful combination of those either directly or indirectly interested in the slave trade." Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, in the island of Cuba, writing on the 1st January, 1836, says—"Fifty slave vessels have safely arrived in this port during the year just expired. In 1833 there were 27 arrivals; in 1834, 33; but 1835 presents a number of arrivals, by means of which there must have been landed at the very least 15,000 negroes." The same authorities write on New-years-day, 1840, as follows:—"The average number of Africans introduced per annum is as well known as any other part of the statistics of the population; but have therefore, the less hesitation in saying that the average number of Africans brought here is said, and we believe it, to be about 18,000 per annum, and about 7,000 more into the other parts of the island, making a total of 25,000. The Commissioners at the Havana further announce on the 1st of January, 1842, that "they are glad to have it in their power to give a return of the vessels and cargoes that have arrived there or in the vicinity, including Matanzas, during the last seven years, as taken from the books kept at the store, used by the slave dealers there as an exchange or place of meeting; and supposing these formed three-fourths of the importations into the whole island, a just opinion," they believe, "may be approximated on the subject.—*London Paper.*

INTERESTING FROM AFRICA—RECAPTURE OF A SLAVER—SEA FIGHT—HORRIBLE PIRACY, &c.

The Barke Adario, Captain Brown, arrived at New York on Monday morning last, in thirty-six days passage from Sierra Leone.

A brig with 475 slaves, prize to H. B. M. ship Wasp, arrived at Sierra Leone April 11th, and a large Brazil brig with more than 600 slaves on board, prize to H. B. M. Albatros, arrived 15th April, had over 100 of her slaves taken.

From Africa's Luminary to March 15.

His Excellency the Governor returned on the 7th instant, from a visit to the leeward settlements. While at Sinoe he completed the purchase of the Sinoe country.

The commissioners appointed by the Governor to settle a dispute between the chiefs of Little Bassa, and to complete the purchase of the whole country, succeeded fully in carrying out their instructions. The whole Bassa country is now the bona fide property of the colony. The chiefs also agreed to have no more *devil palaver.*

Not long ago, a deer was killed at Cape Palmas of an unusual color, and very singularly marked, being white from the top of the fore shoulders backward, including the fore and hind legs. Forward of that point, the head, neck and ears down to the brisket, were all perfectly black; in appearance, at first sight, like a black cape thrown over those parts. The horns were smooth and dangerously sharp, as some of the dogs pursuing him [illegible] On being started, he betook himself immediately to the water, from which he could be dislodged only after death.

Correspondence of the New York Herald.

SIERRA LEONE, April 17, 1845.

On the 25th ult. the Truxton anchored off the Pongo, whither she had been dispatched by Commodore Skinner, who had received intelligence of a slaver being there under American colors. On arrival, they found H. M. steamer, the Ardent. The commanders immediately entered into an agreement of co-operation. Six boats ascended the Pongo—four English and two American—the former commanded by Lieut. C. H. Johnson, the latter by Lieut. Blunt. About 25 miles up the Pongo, in a small creek leading from the river to Faber's (slave factory,) two vessels—the "Dos Hermanas," Spaniard, and "Spitfire," American—were discovered, both securely moored. All the boats carried English colors, until the Spitfire showed her flag, when Comd't Blunt hauled down the English and hoisted the American.

The crew of the Spitfire informed against the vessel the moment she was boarded, and made no opposition to her being seized. The vessels were captured at the top of high water, and were carried down with the next ebb, Lieut. Johnson's boats assisting in towing the Spitfire, notwithstanding he had the Dos Hermanas to manage.

The most perfect co-operation existed between the two flags during the whole of the expedition. The Spitfire is a handsome clipper schooner of 95 tons burthen, sails remarkably well, and left on the 9th inst. for Boston, for adjudication.

On the 11th inst. a slaver with 450 slaves on board entered this port under the command of Lieut. Stupart, of H. M. S. Wasp. This vessel, supposed to be a Brazilian, and called the Echo, was on her way to the Brazils when captured by Lieut. Stopart, who had just captured in the "Wasp" an empty slave schooner. Lieut. Stupart, transported himself and some of the crew he had with him to the Echo, leaving a young midshipman, Palmer, with ten men, on board the other. Scarcely had the transfer taken place when the schooner bore down on Lieut. Stupart and fired three rounds of grape into him. Lieut. S., notwithstanding, got away from her, and his fears respecting a recapture on the part of the slavers has been but too certainly corroborated.

Lieut Morris of the Ardent arrived here on the 15th inst. in the steamer Albert, from Ascension, and gives the following intelligence:—

Three days after the capture above alluded to, H. M. S. Star fell in with, and recaptured the schooner. The captain of the schooner and another volunteered (on the discovery of sundry articles which were soon recognized as having belonged to some British man-of-war's men,) to give information of the circumstance that had taken place. They deposed to the following:—The deponents with some more, did not take part in any part of the proceedings, but the whole was planned and carried through by the commander of the Echo, who was ably seconded by the cook.—He, the Captain of the Echo, promised the crew ample remuneration if they would join him in murdering the midshipman and the Englishmen, and that they were certain of recapturing the full slaver as she was a dull sailer, and that he had agreed with the Boatswain of his own vessel and those of his crew left on board the Echo, to mutiny the moment they saw the peak of the schooner's mainsail lowered, which would be the signal of their having recaptured the schooner. The details are too horrible to relate, suffice it to say that none of the captors, twelve in number, have any arms, and that the twenty-five pirates overcame them and butchered them all without an exception. The instant the cook discovered that information was given, he jumped overboard and drowned himself. Twelve of his companions are in irons and awaiting at Ascension the arrival of the Rapid, which left this port yesterday afternoon with Lieut. Stupart on board, to convey the prisoners to England for trial.

The following extract is taken from an Irish paper of the last month:—

"During a brief discussion on the Army Estimates on Friday night, in allusion to a remark of Captain Bernal Osborne that "it was of the highest importance to have so fine a body of men as the Guards always ready to be sent to any of the Colonies in which disturbance should take place," Lord Arthur Lennox, who had served with them in Portugal in 1826, 27 and 28, observed, that "he had no doubt that if hostilities commenced between this country and the United States, the Guards would be among the very first troops that would be sent out to *occupy the Oregon Territory.*"

DISCOVERY OF A BAND OF SMUGGLERS!—DESPERATE OUTRAGE ON THE OFFICERS OF THE REVENUE!!—During the hours of Divine Service yesterday morning, a truck drove up to the Province Building, containing half a dozen barrels, the result of a seizure made on Saturday night under extraordinary circumstances.

We are informed that suspicions existed for a week or more past that smuggling, on a pretty extensive scale, was carried on from the neighborhood of Fresh Water Bridge: and this coming to the ears of the Collector of Excise, induced him to mention the fact to the seizing officers of his department.

Accordingly, on Saturday night, at about 11 o'clock, Andrew Richardson, Esq., Mr. Hatch, and another officer, (whose name we have not learned,) fell in with a suspicious load of barrels, which were dropped in Tremain Street, beyond Fort Massey, and left there by the carter, evidently to be taken up by some other party in the secret of the operations.

The officers coming up, asked permission of the Hon. J. B. Bland, to roll the barrels into his yard, and just as they had opened the gates to do so, they were suddenly assailed by a band of nine or ten men with a volley of stones. Mr. Richardson was knocked down five or six times—Hatch had his head split open, and the other officer sustained bodily harm also.

In the *melee*, the ruffians knocked in the heads of all the barrels except one, and then made off. The barrels are supposed to contain American Brandy. There was also a box containing smuggled shoes.

We believe that none of the offenders have yet been discovered, although two of the Officers, it is said, can positively swear to one of them.

The conduct of Mr. Bland in the affair was most praiseworthy. He took care of the Officers—dressed their wounds—and detained them at his residence till daylight permitted them to proceed home in safety.

Things have certainly come to a desperate pass in this city when the lives of public officers are jeopardized in discharge of their duty. It will be a warning for them not to proceed on such an expedition again without being well provided with fire arms and other weapons, to be ready for the most summary dealing with midnight invaders of the Law.

Halifax Post, 13th instant.

MORE SMUGGLING—SEIZURE OF CONTRABAND GOODS.—The affray mentioned in our paper of yesterday night, was followed up by proper vigilance on the part of the Police of the City, who on Sunday night, succeeded in capturing a cart load of smuggled goods, with the truckman.

There can be no doubt, now, that this system has for some period been carried on, *under the very noses of the military guards.* We have at all events good reason for believing that persons are prowling about the streets at all hours of the night, in a most suspicious manner.—*Ib.*

PROPOSITIONS.

The Washington Union gives to the public the subjoined information concerning the propositions heretofore made by the Government of the United States to that of Great Britain, for the adjustment of the Western boundary dispute:—

The proposition first made by the United States was, that the 49th parallel of latitude, which had been adopted as the dividing line between their territories and those of Great Britain, from the vicinity of the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, should be continued westward as far as the possessions of the two Nations extended in that direction, thus offering to resign their right to what lay farther North. This being rejected, it was agreed that as neither party claimed a perfect title to any portion of the country, the whole should be left free and open to the people of both for ten years.

Within those ten years, the title of Spain to all North of the 42d parallel was surrendered to the United States; and Russia engaged to make no settlement South of the latitude of 54 degrees 40 minutes. The American Government, thereupon, proposed an agreement, by which Great Britain should make no settlements South of the 51st parallel, and the United States should make none North of that line, substituting afterward the 49th parallel for the 51st; and then, in 1824, came the first definite proposition from Great Britain for a partition of the territory. The line of separation was to run along the 49th parallel from the Rocky Mountains to a large branch of the Columbia, down which, and down the main stream it was to be continued to the sea. Great Britain was to have all North and West of this line, except that the United States should possess a *small detached territory* in the angle formed between the Pacific shore and the Southern side of the Strait of Fuca, comprising one harbor for small vessels on the ocean, and one for large vessels on the Strait. Upon this the negotiation ended.

In 1826, the United States, for the first time, proposed the 49th parallel, as the definite line of boundary, from the Rocky Mountains to the open Pacific; to which the British replied by repeating their propositions, as above stated. Neither party would yield more; and so, after formerly withdrawing their respective offers, by which each declared that it was in no wise to be considered bound thereafter, they renewed the agreement, to leave the country open to the people of both, for an indefinite period; subject, however, to be terminated after a year's notice of such intention by either to the other. That agreement still subsists.

OREGON EMIGRANTS.—The Oregon emigrants, to the number of 3000, assembled in the vicinity of Independence, Missouri, made choice of Major Thomas M. Adams as Captain and Pilot, and Hiram Smith, Lieutenant. The company adopted a set of rules to secure a safe trip, and to prevent insubordination. The expedition was to leave Independence on or about the 10th of May, and the numbers going out this year greatly exceed any previous year. The St. Louis Republican says—"Many are going out with their families, stock and slaves. A great many of the old farmers in the upper part of this State have sold off their farms, and have joined the emigrants. There is a decided improvement in the character of the emigrants this year. They are generally men of respectability and good standing in the communities in which they have heretofore lived, and they carry with them not only the necessaries, but many of the luxuries of life." The *Expositor* thus describes the style in which some of the emigrants are going out:

On looking out at the passing train, we see among the foremost a very comfortable covered wagon, one of the sheets is drawn aside, there is an extremely nice looking lady seated inside, very quietly sewing; the bottom of the wagon is carpeted; there are two or three chairs, and at one end there is a bureau, surmounted by a mirror; various articles of ornament and convenience hanging around the sides—a perfect prairie boudoir. Blessed he woman! Shedding light and happiness where'er she goes! with her the wild prairie will be a paradise!

That fine manly fellow riding along by the side of the wagon, and looking in so pleasantly is doubtless the lady's husband—we almost envy him.

But they're past, and now comes team after team, each drawn by six or eight stout oxen, and such drivers! positively sons of Anak! not one of them less than six feet two in his stockings.—Whoo ha! Go it boys! We're in a perfect Oregon fever.

Now comes on stock of every description: children, niggers, horses, mules, cows, oxen, and there seems no end to them.

We are happy to see that the people of Western Canada are bestirring themselves in favor of internal improvements. There is a good deal of rivalship among the ports on Lake Erie, and the inhabitants of Port Burwell have sent and addressed an energetic petition to the Government for the improvement of their harbor. The inhabitants of Whitby and the adjacent townships have held a meeting at which they contend—

That it being now fully conceded by all parties, that Canada, from her natural situation, possesses the power of securing, by the construction of a plank or railroad communication or both between the two great Lakes, Ontario and Huron, not only the entire carrying trade to and from the southren shores of Lake Huron, and the produce of its extensive fisheries, but also a large portion of the traffic, and all the travel to and from the far west, it is evident that the route for a plank or railroad, or both, from Windsor Harbor on Lake Ontario, to Sturgeon or Gloucester Bay, an inlet of Lake Huron, by way of the Narrows of Lake Simcoe, possesses very many decided and important advantages over any other that can be found between those two great waters; for allowing the harbors at either end of that route, to be equal in safety and convenience to any others that can be named on those Lakes,—it will have the important advantage of being on the most direct line from Oswego to the Straits of Michilimackinac, making a saving over the present via Lake Erie of about six hundred miles, while the distance from water to water (not being over seventy miles) is about forty miles shorter than any other route. It is quite obvious that in the event of war with our neighbors, it would afford the Government the safest and shortest, and consequently the most expeditious means of transporting stores, troops &c., to the inland parts of the Province and the back Lakes; moreover, the country through which it would pass is as healthy and fertile as any in British America,—touching a point of Lake Simcoe, it would instantly open up and cause to be settled, by affording a cheap and expeditious outlet, the vast productive region surrounding that beautiful sheet of water, now in a state of comparative wilderness from the want of such outlet; and besides nearly one half the distance of that route is already graded and partly planked by the Board of Works, viz —from Windsor Harbor to the 5th concession of Reach, say about fifteen miles on a grade selected for a locomotive, whenever the increased traffic may require that kind of conveyance,—and at the north end it is also made from Sturgeon Bay to the Narrows of Lake Simcoe, say about sixteen miles, with a suitable bridge over said Narrows. And they urge upon the Government, by all suitable means, the great and pressing necessity of immediate steps being taken to complete the road already commenced between Windsor Harbor and Gloucester Bay, by either planking or macadamizing the same; and that whenever the increase of traffic and travel thereon shall demand a more expeditious mode of conveyance, that then rails for a locomotive be laid down upon the same grade which may easily be done, as the distance between the ditches will be sufficient to admit of both a plank or macadamized road and railway.

The following melancholy story by the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Post, is indeed a "dark shade in the character of city life."

Some few years since, two interesting and accomplished young French ladies arrived in this country, one of them as governess in the family of an opulent merchant, returning from Paris.—She remained with them a term of years, and her sister was employed as a French teacher in a fashionable Female Seminary up town. Time passed and they reached mature life, and by change of position or loss of friends, they were compelled to resort to needle-work, having hired a couple of rooms in a house beyond the densely populated part of the city. They became very poor, but with the peculiar tact of French ladies, delicacy led them to conceal the fact from their friends, who would most cheerfully have rendered them any pecuniary aid. A few days since, a gentleman received an anonymous note, probably written by some one who suspected their painful situation, stating that these ladies were in a state of extreme destitution, and one of them was dead.

He immediately went to their obscure home in the upper part of the city, and the truth flashed over his mind that three refined, shrinkingly delicate women had suffered from absolute want, without even an intimation of it to a family who occupied the other portion of the house. The surviving one was in feeble health, very much emaciated and heart-broken at the loss of her sister. Every aid was rendered and attempts were made to soothe the bleeding wounds of the survivor. But she was almost inconsolable, and although herself much emaciated and very feeble, she refused to be comforted.

Arrangements were at once made for the funeral, and on the afternoon of the succeeding day, a number of families went out in their own carriages, determined to take the surviving sister to one of their sumptous mansions. Their amazement may well be conceived, when arriving at the now lonely home of these accomplished, and once beautiful girls, to find that the remaining sister *was also dead.* Want had produced exhaustion, grief had aided the work of death, and when one sister died, the full heart of the other was broken with anguish, and both were laid in the same grave. This is no fiction. It is a solemn fact, and another dark shade in character of city life.

A GREAT FINANCIER.—The person who has passed in this city by the name of Tilden, middle sized, about forty-five or fifty years of age, with what are popularly described as pepper and salt hair and whiskers, who seems to have travelled a great deal, and talks readily on any subject, is one of the successful speculators of whom it has been our fortune to hear. He has been recently boarding at the same house up town with Mr. Asa Whitney, the projector of the Pacific Railroad, and very handsomely "did" that gentleman out of $25. Mr. Whitney, who scarcely knew the man, having only casually observed him at table, was seated one day in his room writing. The door was suddenly opened, and in come this Tilden, apparently in a great hurry, holding some papers loosely in his hand. "Have you got $25 with you?" said he, coming rather familiarly upon the table. Mr. Whitney with an off-hand generosity, or perhaps in an abstraction about his great undertaking, answered calmly that he believed he had.—Drawing out his pocket book, he counted out $25 and without offering it to the intruder, said that was all he had. "Very well," answered the other, "that will do;" and in the coolest manner possible, he picked the money up and went out, leaving Mr. Whitney in a state of considerable surprise at the rapidity of the operation. He soon forgot the matter, however, and it scarcely occurred to him until the next day he received through the Despatch the following note.

Mr. Tilden respectfully informs Mr. Whitney, that he has been compelled to leave town this morning for a few days on business of importance.

And from the fact of being required to leave at a moment's warning, which necessarily prevents him from seeing Mr. Whitney previous to his departure.

Mr. T. assures Mr. W. that should his stay be protracted longer than he anticipates, that in such a case he will address a note to Mr. Whitney, which will be satisfactory, &c. &c.

Friday Morning.

Upon enquiry, Mr. Whitney found that this speculative philosopher had left that morning, announcing an intention of going to Canada.—We wish him a pleasant summer and an easy conscience.—*N. Y. News.*

☞ THE WEATHER, during the past week has been warm and pleasant in the day time, but several nights we have had sharp frosts. Every kind of fruit will in consequence come short.

St. Thomas Standard, May 22.

BRITISH WHIG.

"Optifer per Orbem Dicor."

KINGSTON, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1845.

COUNTRY LETTERS RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST.

R. C., Montreal; P. M., Syracuse; T. C., Michigan, L. F., Bytown, remittance.

When men are busy, politics lie still; a truelsm which proves that industry is the only certain redress of political grievances. Canada never was happier or busier than at the present moment, and politics never were so dull and stagnant. In fact, except in collating the various items of news which reach him from all parts of the world, and detailing the few local matters that occur in his own vicinity, a Canadian Editor has no legitimate labor of any kind to perform: for he has nothing to write about. How he continues to fill his daily or hebdomadal sheet is a matter of the greatest wonder to us, and certainly of the greatest perplexity to him. "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb." He gets through the difficulty somehow, or whence origin those countless columns about nothing, which nobody ever reads or cares about. That brevity is the soul of wit, may possibly be known to all our editorial brethern, but if so, few of them seem to reap any benefit, or their readers either, from the knowledge.

The English News by the steamer of the 19th inst. can hardly be important. It is not probable that much progress can have been effected in the settlement of the Oregon Question, and the anticipated struggle in the House of Lords on the grant to Maynooth College cannot yet have taken place. The news whatever it may be, will be here by this day week. The affair of Great Britain and Ireland seem to be as quiesant as those of Canada. The revival of trade, commerce and manufactures in the old country, is attended with the same happy results. Industry cures a multitude of evils.

MR. H. PHILLIPS'S CONCERT.

To-night this long promised treat comes off, at the Court House, as advertised. The Town Hall would have been the better place, from its size and beauty, but the want of seats compelled the application to be made to the Sheriff. This deficiency is a great drawback upon the usefulness of this spacious Chamber. Mr. H. Phillips has given three Concerts since he went below, two at Montreal, and one at Quebec, all of which have been attended with the beauty and fashion of both cities. In noticing his first concert—the *Montreal Herald* discourses thus:—

"Mr. Phillips's voice, from its sweetness and compass, is peculiarly adapted to this style of music, (that of national songs and ballads,) his accompaniment on the Piano is *perfect*, and he throws a degree of feeling into the words and sentiments of his songs, that,

"With sweetest touches pierce the ruptur'd ear."

In so far as a male singer can do so, he reminds us forcibly of the most charming of all ballad singers, sweet Kitty Stevens, (now Dowager Countess of Essex,) and of the sad and touching melody, his "*O Gramachree*", vividly recalled to our recollection her unrivalled "Young Jamie lo'ed me weel." It is not, however, in feeling and sentiment alone that Mr. Phillips excels: his comic songs are inimitable, as none will deny who may hear the serenade to "The Widow Machree", or the Cavaliers' buchanalian "Down among the dead men"—viz., *Marines or Empty Bottles!*"

With due deference, to the Montreal Leviathan, Mr. H. Phillips sings at his Concert only Ballads and National Songs, because the want of orchestral accompaniment compels him to do so; and any one who has heard him taking a leading part in English or German Opera will be of the same opinion. Der Freyschutts for example, in which the drinking song is the sole melody of the long and laborious role of Caspar, a role which stamped Mr. Phillips, a Vocalist of first rate powers. And again, none but a Scotchman would presume to call "sweet Kitty Stevens the most charming of all ballad singers", at least if his senses had ever been enraptured with the strains of poor Mrs. Bland, her cotemporary, confessed by all, the most delightful ballad singer England ever had, or perhaps will have.

By the Advertisement in to-day's Whig, it will be seen, that the commanding officer of the 71st Highlanders has kindly given permission for the far famed Bugles of that gallant Corps to attend this Concert of Mr. H. Phillips, and thereby relieve the singer and his audience from the monotony of a single voice. We are happy to notice this kindness of Major Denny, it shows a determination to be on the most friendly terms with the inhabitants of the town—in which his regiment has come to reside for a couple of years.

☞ We understand that Major Richardson has been appointed Stipendary Magistrate on the Welland Canal. We have no doubt, but that the gallant officer will prove an efficient and vigilant guardian of the public peace.

Montreal Herald, May 24.

THE YANKEES LOOKING AHEAD—A NOMINATION ron' 52.—An evening paper of yesterday, nominates as a candidate for the Presidency in, 1852, John Van Buren, son of the Ex-President and Attorney General of this State, and who is said to be decidedly more popular with the masses than his father was. We know John well, and we have no doubt he will be a very popular man with "Young America." We therefore concur in the nomination and desire the democracy to prepare themselves for that great contest in 1852. They have plenty of time on hand.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON—The following returns were obtained by Mr. Christie, the member for Weymouth, of the candidates for medical degrees, and the number who have taken such degrees, in each year since the foundation of the new University in Upper Gower-street. From 1839 up to 1844, 268 persons presented themselves at the first examination for degrees as bachelors of medicine, of whom 176 passed; and 118 presented themselves at the second examination for the same degree, of whom 106 passed. During the same period, 33 persons presented themselves for the degree of doctor of medicine, all of whom passed. The number of colleges in connexion with the University of London appears to be 26, and the number of medical schools recognized by the said University (exclusive of 17 independent lecturers) to 53. The following are the only professional privileges attached to the degrees of this London University—viz., at the Middle Temple, exemption from the deposit of £100 on entering as a student at that Inn, and at King's Inns, Dublin, the saving of five terms in the period of studentship for the Irish bar. Graduates in medicine of the said University, being also licensed practitioners, are eligible to be medical officers of Poor Law unions. By the act 1 Victoria, cap. 56, the provisions of the 1 and 2 George IV., cap. 48, and the 3 George IV., cap. 16, relative to the admission and enrollment as attorneys and solicitors of persons who may have taken the degree of B.A. or B.L. in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin, are extended to the University of London. By the provisions here referred to the duration of the articles is reduced from five to three years in the case of such graduates.

☞ The number of thieves carrying on their operations in Paris amounts, according to M. Gisquet, to 10,000. Of these, 6000, he says, would take a purse from a room or the box of a theatre; 3000 would take it from a man's pocket; 200 would slip into your house quietly; from 1000 to 2000 would break in violently; and 600 would not only commit robbery, but murder.

DROWNED.—On Sunday last, the 18th instant, one of our townsmen, by the name of James Poland, was drowned, while attempting to swim the Canal a short distance above the town. The death of the deceased, while it is distinguished for nothing very remarkable, is still attended with a peculiar circumstance worthy of notice. In the afternoon of the day on which the fatal event took place, the deceased left his home, and walked along the bank of the Canal, as far as the fourth Lock, which is distant from the town half a mile or more. Upon his arriving there, he suddenly mounted and began to destroy a Markee, which Captain Lovelass, an individual in charge of the Lock, had erected in front or near his small habitation. Seeing the deceased in the act of cutting down his Markee, the Captain very naturally, and very properly too, went out and ordered him to desist. No sooner, however, were the words uttered, than the deceased sprang from his position to the ground, and with a knife fastened firmly to a stick, struck the Captain immediately over one of his eyes, when the flesh dropped instantly down upon his face. In this defenceless state, the captain was knocked over, and left in a state of insensibility. The deceased, seeing the great profusion of blood, and also noticing the approach of several individuals in great haste to the place where he was, took fright, and ran at his full speed along the Canal. Seeing himself pursued closely in the rear, and observing two inviduals in front of him, he stopped on a sudden—pulled off his boots and plunged into the canal. When he had nearly reached the opposite shore, he turned round, and addressed his pursuers, saying, "if you will not hurt me I will go back." Being told that no harm should