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AND
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The British Whig,

AND GENERAL ADVERTISER FOR CANADA WEST.

"OPIFER PER ORBEM DICOR."

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THE BRITISH WHIG
PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT,
BAGOT STREET,
NEXT DOOR TO THE LAMBTON HOUSE.
Every description
COMMERCIAL PRINTING
Tastefully executed at this Establishment, despatch, and at Moderate Prices.—
SUCH AS
Business Cards, Circulars, Pamphlets, Catalogues, Bill Heads, Hand Bills, Steamboat Bills, Posters, Way Bills, Insurance Policies, Funeral Letters, Blanks, Stage Bills, Book Work, &c.
Printing in Colours neatly executed.
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☞ There is always on hand and for sale at this Office, *Blank Deeds and Memorials*, of different forms, *Summonses*, and all kinds of *Law Blanks*.

United States.

A SPECIMEN OF EQUAL JUSTICE.

The American Nation has just finished the spoliation of Mexico, and the annexation to her territory of California, and other rich countries. Hear what the New York Herald says about the British policy of reducing the Punjaub under one government.

THE BRITISH IN INDIA.—From the accounts of preparations that are being made in England, for sending arms, men, and munitions of war to the East Indies, there is very little doubt that the long coveted district of India, known as the Punjaub, is about to be forcibly taken from its lawful and rightful owners, and annexed to the British Possessions. When hostilities between the Sikhs and British occurred a few years since, it was proposed to take that territory from its owners, but the robbery, then, it was presumed, would be too bare-faced. Now, however, another opportunity has occurred, and it is eagerly taken hold of. The English press is busily preparing the public mind for the first act in the drama, which will undoubtedly be the destruction of a great portion of the native inhabitants by British fire and British sword, and subsequent announcement of another brilliant victory of "British valor" over the natives for which we expect prayers and thanksgivings will be enunciated from the altars. An army of thirty thousand men was being collected on the Sutlej at the last accounts; thousands were leaving England to swell it. And Lord Dalhousie in addressing the authorities of Calcutta, recently, said "He had come to India to maintain peace; he had hoped for peace; he had striven for peace; but since the Sikhs were bent on war, they should have war with a vengeance."

The world may therefore, be prepared to hear of a gross piece of robbery perpetrated by England on India, accompanied by barbarity and inhumanity—the slaughter of men women and children, as well as the sacking and burning of cities and towns—which usually accompany British victories achieved by "British valor." How does this compare with the cry that England hopes the peace of the world may not be disturbed. Bah! She wants to remain at peace at home, because she fears a collision with the great French republic—a collision that would sink her to the depths where her corruption, extravance, tyranny, and despotism, ought to have consigned her long since.

FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION.

While the Free Traders and Protectionists are at fierce war in Canada, preparatory to the expected battle in the halls of legislation, it may be as well to see what our New York neighbors say upon the subject. Our republican contemporary appears to be forgetful, that not the slightest political discontent exists in the whole province, and "the forts and [illegible] are not to preserve the peace from the people, but to guard it against the encroaching propensities of the United States. If Canadians know little of the American Institutions, the inhabitants of the Union know less of the state of political feeling in Canada:—

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.—The project of throwing open the ports of the United States to the articles which are the produce or growth of the Canadian provinces, on the condition that the provincial parliament will reciprocate, and admit similar articles of the growth and production of the United States seems to meet with much favor in that portion of her majesty's dominions.

It will be remembered that at the last session of Congress, a bill of this kind passed the House of Representatives, but the time when it was acted upon was too late in the session to admit of its being taken up by the Senate. There is every probability, however, that the Senate, will dispose of it in a short time. In anticipation of its becoming a law at an early day, a bill of a similar nature has been introduced into Canadian Legislature, and it has actually been a work of rivalry with the Canadians to meet the United States at once with the proposition extended to them, and to push the business so that the two bills might be passed simultaneously, or as neat it possible.

The passage of this measure is, we think, almost certain, and we augur the best results from the proposed interchange of commodities of both countries. Hitherto there has not been any link or bond of union between those provinces and the United States—nothing that had any tendency to form ties of friendship or regard between them. Along the frontier, hardly anything except forts and bristling bayonets meet the eyes of the people of each country; but a small trade is carried on between them. Soon, however, the case will be different, and with this difference will spring up a sentiment of friendship that will be productive of the happiest results. It is a positive fact that the people of Canada, as a people, know little or nothing of the people or institutions of the United States. The prejudices which the government and press of England created in England and in Europe, towards the United States, have reached Canada, and flourish in full and rank luxuriance there, although in this respect there has been much improvement within a few years.—Light has gradually broken in upon them, and error and prejudice have, in a measure, been dispelled. But let these bills become laws, let an unrestricted interchange of commodities be established on as great a scale as possible, and in a comparatively short time the Canadians will be like brothers. The latter will have an outlet for their produce, canals and railroads will [illegible] Other advantages will [illegible] from the proposed measure, no doubt that in a few years [illegible] majesty's provinces of Canada, will be [illegible] into our Union.

[illegible] WITH ENGLAND.—[illegible] England and the [illegible] arrived at the [illegible] quantity of a very [illegible] receively put on [illegible] additional postage [illegible] from each country [illegible] entered in a treaty [illegible] by which intercourse [illegible] facilitated [illegible] This treaty was [illegible] the great wonder [illegible] was not effected [illegible]

[illegible] the rates of [illegible]
[illegible] 16 cents.
[illegible] 3 "
[illegible] 5 "
[illegible] performing the [illegible]
[illegible] 5 cents.
[illegible] instead

Transit through England, the inland postage and 25 per cent.
Transit through Canada, the Canada rates.
Newspapers between England and the United States, and vice versa..... 2 cents.
Periodicals weighing 2 ounces, 1 penny, or 2 " over 2 oz. and under 3 do 6 pence, or 12 " over 3 oz. and under 6 do 8 do. or 16 " And 2 pence, or 4 cents, for each ounce or fraction.

In pursuance of this treaty, the British Government directed the post office authorities in that country to remit the charge of twenty-four cents on letters taken to and from there in United States vessels; and, in return, Cave Johnson has issued a *pronunciamento* to his deputies, rescinding the order of the 29th of June last, directing them to charge a similar sum of twenty four cents on all letters conveyed to or from England in English steamers.

One of the best features of the treaty is the small rate of postage on newspapers. This will promote and encourage the circulation of American journals in England and over the whole of Europe, to an extent unknown heretofore. When the weekly communication by steamships shall have been resumed, we would not be surprised to hear of every hotel keeper in England, and on the continent, subscribing for, and keeping on file, all the American newspapers that are worth anything; and of people who never before patronised American newspaper literature, becoming, in like manner, subscribers. On the score of expense, the cost will be trifling.—Including subscriptions, postage, &c., the cost of our best American newspapers in England will be about one-third, or one-half less than charged for the London journals.

In the present condition of Europe, a free and unrestricted circulation of American journalism there will be attended with the most beneficial effects. The people, by constantly reading our public journals and watching the proceedings of our public bodies, will become acquainted with the working of our republican institutions, and thereby become better and earlier fitted for undertaking self-government than they would be by any other mode of learning. It will be to them the result of our experience at a trifling cost.

[New York Herald.

SPECIMENS OF LAWS FOR FREE TERRITORIES.

From the Chicago Tribune.

The laws of the slave States, which it is proposed to establish in territories were slaves are now unknown, forbid any man to teach a slave to read. In some of the States the act is punished with a long imprisonment. Of course they know nothing of writing. They are kept in ignorance of everything that can improve the mind, and are only weekly instructed in some of the rudiments of Christianity. They are not taught the principles of virtue; the marriage tie is only a temporary bond. A father is not responsible for the character and conduct of his children in any particular.

Here is a specimen of the laws which it is proposed to establish in California and New Mexico:

"Penalty for any slave or free colored person exercising the functions of a minister of the gospel, thirty-nine lashes." "Penalty for teaching a slave to read, imprisonment for one year." "Every negroe or mulatto found in the State, not being able to show himself entitled to freedom, may be sold as a slave."—*Laws of Mississippi.*

"For attempting to teach any free colored person to spell, read or write, a fine not less than two hundred and fifty, nor more than five hundred dollars."—*Laws of Alabama.*

"Any person who sees more than seven slaves without any white person, in a high road, may whip each slave twenty lashes. Every colored person is supposed a slave unless he can prove himself free."—*Laws of Georgia.*

"In the trial of slaves the sheriff chooses the Court, which must consist of three justices and twelve slaveholders to serve as jurors."—*Laws of Tennessee.*

"Any emancipated slave remaining in the State more than a year, may be sold by the overseers of the poor for the benefit of the literary fund."

"Any slave or free colored person found at any school, teaching reading or writing, by day or night, may be whipped, at the direction of a Justice, not exceeding twenty lashes."

"Any white person assembling with slaves, for the purpose of teaching them to read or write, shall be fined not less than ten dollars, nor more than a hundred dollars."—*Laws of Virginia*

By the revised code of this State, 71 offences are punished with death when committed by slaves, and by noting more than imprisonment when committed by whites.

"Any slave convicted of petty treason, murder, or wilful burning of dwelling houses, may be sentenced to have the right hand cut off, to be hanged in the usual manner, the head severed from the body, the body to be divided into four quarters, and the head and quarters set up in the most public places in the county where the act was committed."—*Laws of Maryland.*

LA TRAPPE MONKS.—We understand that Brother Macarius has received a deed for a tract of land near Kingston, Canada West, and is about establishing a branch of his order there, the venerable Trappists of Mount Melleray. The name of the tract is called Mount St. Bernard. He informs us that twenty-five of his brethren are expected next summer, to form the establishment.—*Galena (Illinois) Jeffersonian.*

☞ DISASTERS ON THE LAKES.—The *Oswego Times* of the 27th ult., publishes a table compiled by Captain Rounds, of the Northwestern Insurance Co., showing the number of marine disasters on the lakes during the season of 1848. It shows that 4 barks, 19 brigs, 83 schooners, 1 sloop, 2 scows, 1 boat, 1 boat, 15 steamers, and five propellers, met with disasters during the season. The loss of property thereby is estimated at $120,512, and the loss of lives set down at 75.

Extracts from late English Papers.

AWFUL AND FATAL DISASTER ON BOARD AN IRISH STEAMER.

On Tuesday sen'night reports reached Liverpool of a terrible loss of life, which had occurred on board of the steamer Londonderry, plying between Sligo and this port, and tho' the first accounts were strangely incorrect and horrible, yet when the truth became known, it was shown that the loss of life had been rather understated; while, though no actual crime had been committed, the details of the true relation were not a whit the less harrowing and distressing than those of the fabricated story first transmitted. It appears that about four o'clock on the evening of the first of December, the steamboat Londonderry left the harbor of Sligo. There were on board of her three cabin passengers, a number of sheep and oxen, and about 150 emigrants.

The vessel was crossing over to this port, whence the majority of the unfortunate passengers intended to proceed as emigrants to America. Toward nightfall a heavy gale came on, and at last blew with so much violence, that shortly after midnight, or rather 1 o'clock on Sunday morning, the decks were cleared of all except the seamen. The steerage passengers perhaps 150 in number, were crowded into the fore-cabin, men, women and children, and were driven below—driven, we say, because several struggled against those who forced them down the companion ladder. After some difficulty, however, [illegible] strances, and much opposition, the poor emigrants were crammed into the narrow compass of the fore-cabin, a compartment little more than eighteen feet long by eleven feet wide, and seven feet high. The space was capable only of accommodating about forty passengers, and here were nearly 150 of both sexes, huddled together indiscriminately, the old and the young, the robust and the sickly the adult and the infant.

Meanwhile, the sea was running high in the channel, so that the waves repeatedly broke over the steamer. Then it was that through the negligence of those who were responsible for the lives of the people on board, a measure of momentary convenience was adopted, which led to a catastrophe, the like of which has only occurred before in the prison of Calcutta. The companion, the only aperture by which the forecabin received ventilation, was closed, and over the companion was nailed down a piece of tarpaulin! This was at about midnight between Friday and Saturday. The result proved to be only such as common sense would tell every one was inevitable. The dizziness and qualms of seasickness were very soon forgotten in the unendurable sensations of suffocation. Efforts were made to force a way out of confinement; they were found to be unavailing. Shouts were raised to attract attention; they were drowned in the roaring noise of the storm.

And then, according to the description of the few survivors, ensued a spectacle such as sets the imaginations of even the most morbid at defiance. The steamer drove bravely through the tempest, while those who directed her, remained wholly unconscious of the frightful conflict for life and death which was then raging in her very entrails. The tramping and beating sounds within the cabin were rendered inaudible by the throbbing of the pistons, and the shrieks and groans of the sufferers only died away with the gale toward morning. Not till then were the seamen aware of the tragedy which had been enacted under their feet.

Out of the one hundred and fifty passengers who had been driven down by the companion-ladder a few hours before, seventy-two were found to have perished! Men and women and little children, husbands and wives, sons and mothers, were heaped about the floor of the cabin in disorder, some with their clothes torn from their backs in their tatters, some with their hands and faces lacerated, some with their features trodden into a mummy by the iron-shod 'brogues' of their fellow-sufferers; here a father locked up in the arms of his daughter; there a sister clinging to the corpse of her brother, their countenances black and distorted with the convulsions produced by suffocation. The following is a description of the scene which met the eye of the mate when a steerage passenger, who had at last forced his way out, communicated to him the terrible intelligence:

"The mate instantly became alarmed, and obtained a lantern, went down to render assistance. Such, however, was the foul air in the cabin that the light was immediately extinguished. A second was obtained, and it too was extinguished. At length, on the partition being completely removed, and a free access of air admitted, the real nature of the catastrophe exhibited itself. There lay, in heaps, the living, the dying and the dead, one frightful mass of mingled agony and death, a spectacle enough to appal the strongest heart. Men, women and children were huddled together, blackened with suffocation, distorted by convulsions, cruised and bleeding from the desperate struggles for existence which preceded the moment when exhausted nature resigned the strife. After some time the living were separated from the dead, and it was then found that the latter amounted to nearly one-half of the entire number.

"The scene on entering the steerage of the steamer, was perhaps as awful a spectacle as could be witnessed. Seventy-two dead bodies of men, women and children lay piled indiscriminately over each other, four deep, all presenting the ghastly appearance of persons who had died in the agonies of suffocation; very many of them covered with the blood which had gushed from the mouth and nose, or had flowed from the wounds inflicted by the tramping of nail-studded brogues, and by the frantic violence of those who struggled for escape—for it was but evident, that, in that struggle, the poor creatures had torn the clothes from off each other's backs, and even the flesh from each other's limbs."

We have nothing more to add to this brief but tragic tale, save that the coroner's jury found Alexander Johnstone, captain, Richard Hughes, first mate, and Nimian Crawford, second mate, of the Londonderry, guilty of manslaughter, and have expressed in the strongest terms their abhorrence of the inhumane conduct of the other seamen on board, throughout this unhappy transaction.

A GIRL HUNG BY HER MOTHER.—Mr. Wakeley held an inquest upon the body of Ann Pullen, aged fourteen and a half years. Deceased resided with her mother at No. 3, Princess St. Fitzroy-square, and it was alleged had been hanged by her parent.—Jane Pullen, the accused, stated, in answer to the Coroner, that she was the widow of a sailor; that she last saw the deceased alive at half-past eleven on Friday morning; that she locked her in the room, having listened her with a cord to the bed-post; that she returned home at half-past ten at night, and on unlocking the door found the deceased dead and cut her down with a knife. Mr. Lyman, landlord of the house, said that at 1 o'clock on Friday night the prisoner knocked at his door, saying "Ann is dead! what shall I do?" He went down stairs and found deceased lying on the floor, quite dead and cold. A rope and knife were lying on the bed. He proposed fetching a Doctor, when prisoner said, "What's the use, as she is dead?" He then said, "There must be an inquest;" to which she replied, "Something must be done, for I did it. I left her early in the morning with directions to mend some of her things. She had been kept at home from her work on purpose, when I returned at 11 o'clock she had done nothing. I told her she should have nothing but dry bread, and in order to prevent her sitting down I put the rope round her neck and made it fast to the foot post of the bed, tying the ends of the rope out of her reach." Prisoner also told this witness that when she returned deceased was in a standing position, but leaning forwards. Mr. Derbyshire, surgeon, said that deceased died from suffocation caused by hanging, the neck being deeply indented by the rope and the skin cut through. On a *post mortem* examination found the general appearances healthy, but there were no signs of food in the stomach. Mary Pullen, sister of deceased, a servant, said she had known her mother to tie deceased to the headstead or her hands together for two or three days at a time. Deceased was an idle girl, and her mother was very severe. Never heard the prisoner threaten the life of the deceased, or the latter threaten to destroy herself. It was stated that the height of the indention upon the bed-post, to which the rope was attached, was 3ft. 10½in., and that the height from deceased's heel to the marks upon her neck made by the cord was 3ft. 10in. The jury after two hours deliberation returned a verdict of "Manslaughter," and the heartless mother was committed by the Coroner to Newgate for trial on that charge.

THE NEW ELECTRIC LIGHT.—Last night a fresh trial of this new mode of producing an intense light was made by the Chevalier Le Molk, between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock. The apparatus of the operator was placed on the top of the Duke of York's Column, and shortly after 9 o'clock the commencement of the experiment was made known to the anxious crowd below, which had commenced to assemble as early as 7 o'clock, by the sudden appearance of a brilliant stream of light directed from the top of the column against the opposite houses in Waterloo-place. The effect produced was certainly most striking. Previously to the appearance of the electric light the surrounding neighbourhood, to a spectator stationed at the base of York Column, was enveloped in obscurity, for the moon was hid by the clouds, and the ordinary gas lights, through burning brightly, had not power enough to exhibit the shape and character of the adjacent houses, but marked merely the length and direction of the streets along which they were placed. But the electric light, wherever it chanced to fall, made every part of the buildings in Waterloo-place perfectly visible, and its effect might, perhaps, without exaggeration, be said to be more powerful in that limited space than the brightest sun, for it not only displayed a number of persons previously invisible, who were grouped in balconies and on the roofs of houses, but even enabled one to judge of their different styles of dress. The potency and purity of the electric light may be inferred from the circumstance that when cast upon one of the neighboring club-houses it distinctly showed to spectators at some considerable distance the red colour of a shawl worn by a lady in the balcony. The most distant object on which the electric light was thrown last night was the County Fire Office, and the luminous stream as it passed along the street towards [illegible] building manifestly dimmed the numerous gas lights which glitter in the neighbourhood, giving to them all a yellowish tinge, and making the windows of the County Fire office itself appear, by the reflected light they sent back, as if illuminated, although the architecture of the building was not recognizable, or but very indistinctly, by persons so far removed from it as those who happened to be stationed near the York Column, and whose sight of the object, it must in fairness be observed, was intercepted by a vast number of intervening gas lights. Upon the whole the experiment of last night was perfectly successful as exhibiting the powerful brilliancy and purity of the electric light within the circumscribed space to which the experiment was limited, although, it must be added, that occasionally a slight unsteadiness in its force was perceptible. Notwithstanding the darkness of the night a large concourse of people assembled in Waterloo-place and the vicinity to witness the experiment.

A MONSTER WHIP.—In the list of cases in the Secondaries' Court is one in which the Sheriff of Middlesex sought to recover from one of the secretaries of an officer in his service to amount forfeited in consequence of an alleged breach on the part of the officer. The writ, the learned Secondary told the jury was 47 yards long.—*Globe.*

AN IRISH ROMANCE.—A correspondent sends the following particulars relative to the escape of Mr. J. B. Dillon from the western shores of Clare:—"It will be in the recollection of your readers that when six of the most prominent leaders in the late insurrection held a 'council of war' in the house of a farmer on the borders of Kilkenny one of the most distinguished of the party differed from the rest as to the means to be had recourse to for the achievement of Ireland's independence. The council, I am told, broke up without any settled plan for the guidance of the leaders, and each of the party went in a different direction, distracted and almost broken-hearted. By accident, it is stated, four of them met again at Ballingarry on the late memorable occasion, and among the number was Mr. J. B. Dillon. This young gentleman was much attached to Smith O'Brien, and was resolved to follow his fortunes, come weal or woe. He kept with him so long as he saw the least chance of success, but when the affair at Ballingarry he despaired, and contrived on an escape to some other land. He parted in sadness from his companions. The words uttered were few, but to his [illegible] each man's bosom. Mr. Dillon arrived safely in the usual costume of the clerical order, and with cloak and breviary set out for the shores of Clare. He travelled through the country, never crossing police stations, but on the contrary, frequently lying near the police barracks. He moved on his way against all obstacles, determined and poker—until he arrived at the miserable cabin of Lisdoonvarna, where he remained for some days, mixing with the visitors, joining in their recreations, and drinking the waters occasionally "for the good of his health." He passed the policemen daily—conversed with them, and produced to some in an edifying manner for some days, until he was accosted one by a keen detective, who he got a hint from some friend, took to and broke fresh ground. He next put up at Ballyvaughan, whence he shifted himself on to Kinvara. Here he spent some days, and thence he proceeded to the island of Arran, whence the friendly vessel awaited, and bore him safe away from his enemies to the shores of America."—*Globe.*

HORRIBLE MURDER AT CARDIFF.—A letter from Cardiff, dated on Tuesday evening, says:—"Has been a day of great excitement here, and with a sight of which we have been disgusted, and which, the subjoined account of a condemned for short measure. The soap is some deplorable events in that town. The writer says:—"We are in a state of commotion here. On Saturday night a man, Sir Andrew Agnew, and ground to the finest walking the streets, accompanied by his wife, edge. The strop is made from an old cover was murdered by an Irishman, which has of Fox's '*Book of Martyrs.*' caused a strong feeling against all the Irish. Mr. Kent received the testimonial with Last night they broke the windows of the mixed feelings of piety and gratitude. Calling Romish chapel and the priest's house. The for hot water, he begged to be permitted to priest has left town to day, fearing for his show his thankfulness, by shaving in the presonal safety; the feeling against him is sence of the deputation. This touching request was handsomely accorded; and it says great; some persons have taken it into their heads he had harboured the murderer. The people have been mounting guard to-day over all the Irish locality, and driving many out of the town. On Monday all the Irish were discharged from the wharfs, as well as all the Irish labourers assisting masons at the different buildings in town; likewise those on the South Wales line were turned off, and, in short, there was not an Irishman employed in the town or neighborhood on Tuesday. The Superintendent of Police received a letter from Merthyr informing him that the hill-men were coming in large numbers to assist in driving out the Irish, and this afternoon some large numbers of the excavators (Irish) marched into town with pickaxes and shovels to support their countaymen; in consequence of all this a number of special constables have been sworn in, and the pensioners are on duty, and will be all night. At all events, this will not end without a display of much ill-feeling: it is a most unprovoked affair, and very horrible. The poor murdered man worked at Crawshay's wharf, and was paid about half-past 6 o'clock; he then went to assist some men, hither in loading or unloading a vessel at Rowen's Wharf, and coming thence he met his fate. He has left a widow and three children. He was buried this evening, and had a large and respectable funeral; and it is rather a strange coincidence that Irish excavators met the funeral as it was going to the church, and were coming into the town. Some say there as many as 500 of them. The inquest is adjourned till Thursday. Later accounts, we are happy to say, show that the town has resumed its usual quiet."—*Cambrian.*

Pickings from Punch.

THE IMPERIAL STYLE.

We know not whether Nicholas of Russia—like an undeserving bishop—has been shamefully translated; if not, he writes a style worthy of the statesman-like metaphors of Londonderry's "late lamented relative," who was wont to speak of "features upon which questions hinged," and "men standing prostrate on the floor of Parliament." Here is a sample of Nick's letter to Jelbichich, with an Order (for one, children-in-arms, of course, admitted):—

"Your noble endeavours generally *to rescue from shipwreck* the principles of moral order and equal justice, which *were trodden under foot* by a lawless party, guilty of the most rebellious excesses, have gained you just claim to my esteem."

No Italian boy ever carried upon his head a greater confusion of images than Nicholas here carries in it. Kings have been punished as schoolmasters. What a pleasure it would give some of Lord Dudley Stuart's Poles if Nicholas were, for a year only, exiled in London; his sword sent to Birmingham to be cut into pens; and he, the autocrat, being compelled, for just one year, to live upon them.

SPLENDID DAY WITH THE "QUEEN'S."—First Sporting Snob.—"Well, Bill, what sort of a day have yer had?"

Second ditto.—"Oh, magnificent, my boy! I see the 'ounds several times; and none of yer nasty edges an' ditches, either; but a prime turnpike road all the way."

ILL NEWS IN AN INSTANT.—A submarine communication, by means of electric telegraph, is, we understand, about to be established between Holyhead and Dublin; which will afford the means of instantaneous communication between the Irish metropolis and London. We very much doubt the utility of this undertaking. Ill tidings always travel fast enough without being expedited by the electric telegraph; and no news is good news or at least the best, that we are likely to receive from Ireland; therefore, the more slowly and less frequently we are furnished with Irish intelligence, the better.

THE LAND FOR THE LASSES.

An Australian newspaper contains the following, to those whom it may concern interesting intelligence:—

"*Attractive News for our Countrywomen at Home.*—Out of the female emigrants who recently arrived at Melbourne by the *William Stewart*, eight were married within twenty-four hours after their landing."

Australia indeed is a land of promise to the Wives and Daughters of England: to as many of the former as have more of the latter than they know what to do with; and to as are vainly desirous to be included among the former. We expect that many young ladies who have hitherto been singing, *There's no place like Home*, will now change their tune, and sing "There's no place like Australia," and that another daily popular here will be thus slightly varied for adoption to the climate of the Antipodes:—

Oh, dear what can the matter be?
Oh, dear, what shall I do?
Thousands are coming to marry me
Thousands are coming to woo."

If any young woman wishes to know when she will be married, she may satisfy her curiosity by a very easy process. Let her take her passage for Australia, calculate the length of the voyage, and add to it twenty-four hours. Within that time she will be a wife—or a voluntary spinster.

A CURATE ON SUNDAY SHAVING.

The extremely reverend Mr. Kent, curate of Upton-on-Severn, has laid an information against the local barbers for shaving on Sundays. As beards cease to grow upon the Sabbath, it is manifestly wicked to shave them on the seventh day. However, there was a flaw in the information, and the magistrates, warning the barbers of Upton-on-Severn not to shave after half-past ten on the Lord's day, dismissed Mr. Kent to his mitsage to ponder on the iniquity of Sabbath soapsuds. Mr. Kent himself—we speak upon the authority of our own correspondent—always shaves on Saturday night, so that he may, under the circumstances, appear as barefaced as possible in the pulpit on Sunday. Mr. Kent has, of course, been reviled by the grumpers of Upton-on-Severn; but, on the other hand, he has been highly honoured by the elect, who look upon a Sunday razor as an instrument no better than the scissors of Delilah.

A testimonial has been presented to Mr. Kent; a testimonial—the product of subscriptions of many worthy wives and spinsters of Upton-on-Severn. A complete set of shaving tackle, charmingly illustrative of the Kentean profession, was yesterday presented to the curate. (Regardless of expense, we have obtained the intelligence by electric telegraph.) The gift is very pertinent—very handsome.

The shaving-hush is of good, stout, morocco, fitting hedgehog, set in hickory. The soap-dish is very massive, cast out of pewter pots razor, a scraper hegged from the door-step of the house. Still the Emperor has watched the destinies of France.

Jocrisse. Vraiment?

Philippot. Vraiment. The little corporal never cancelle.

[Agent of Louis Napoleon comes forward.]

Agent. C'est juste. The Emperor has been wickedly scandalized. He has never died only withdrew from France—as belle France—that he might return like a thunderbolt upon the heads of his enemies.

Philippot and Jocrisse. Vive l'Empereur!

Agent. See here my friends, what is written here, who solicits your votes for President [illegible] France's [illegible] first pen. What? You can't read? (Aside) I thought not. Then, citizens, I'll read for you. [illegible] Histoire de Consulat et de l'Empire" from pocket, and reads (with exclamations) various passages.] "Napoleon has upon his side genius, and the auspiciousness of circumstances."

Philippot. Sans doute.

Agent (reads). "He had all society to organise; but society that desire organisation; and desires it through him; because it has in him the fullest confidence inspired by unheard of success."

Agent (reads). "We have in Napoleon a master who knows how to do everything—who can do everything—who will do everything. Therefore, it is wisdom to let Napoleon do as he may; for at the present moment, personal rivalry may be the destruction of France."

Philippot. C'est excellent! Vive Napoleon!

Agent. Ecoutez, mes amis. (Reads). "Napoleon desires the triumph of the Revolution; he desires the glory of establishing it—of consolidating it upon a state of things pacific and regular; and he desires to remain its chief—it matters not under what form of government. But to imagine him the instrument of any other power save that of Providence—it is too deep a sense of real glory, too great a consciousness of his own force, to consent to be so."

Philippot and Jocrisse.—Vive Napoleon! We vote for l'Empereur!

Agent.—Allons, mes amis! (aside.) These are not the only fools who really believe they vote for the petit chapeau and the redingote grise.

[Philippot & Jocrisse exeunt for the Ballot-Box.

BRITISH WHIG.

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

TUESDAY EVENING, JAN'Y. 16, 1849.

THE NEW MAYOR.

The City Council met on Saturday Afternoon, and chose their Mayor for the present year. The choice fell upon F. M. Hill, Esq. The Council were divided in opinion between Mr. Counter and Mr. Hill, and the vote was 12 to 8. We congratulate the new functionary upon his elevation to the civic chair. It is an honor that any man may be justly proud of. We feel satisfied that he will execute the duties of his high office with impartiality and urbanity. He is intimately acquainted with the affairs of the City, having twice filled the office of City Clerk, and having three times been returned as Alderman or Councillor. He was sworn into office immediately after his election by the Judge of the District Court, Stafford F. Kirkpatrick, Esq.

The Parliament meets on Thursday. In the afternoon of that day, the Governor General's Speech from the Throne will be delivered, and in the evening we shall have the Report for Friday Morning's publication.—This long expected document will tell the tale. By it we shall know the intentions of the Ministry, with respect to the various matters which have agitated the public mind for so long a time. Free Trade or Protection—Increased Representation or Corrupt Membership—A Religious University or Free Education—they will be no longer rumors—they will be facts; and we shall be enabled to judge of the pretensions of the present Ministry to liberality and reform, if such words are really to be found in the vocabulary, which we very much doubt.

The present Session of Parliament will be the most important for many years past. The new Ministry will have it all their own way. The Conservatives will not molest them, and the Papineau Men are too few to do anything without aid from the Conservatives, of which there does not exist much probability. Strange would it be, indeed, to see Papineau and Sir Allan MacNab, cheek by jowl, on the Opposition Benches! The people of of Canada, particularly those of Western Canada, are a fickle-minded race. Great things are expected of the men in power; more perhaps than they can possibly perform. So much the worse for them. For should disappointment be the general result of the present anxious expectation, they may go whistle for their seats, when next they present themselves to their constituents. And this will be during the present year, should the representation be increased, as asserted by the ministerial prints.

COMPLIMENTARY BENEFIT TO THE HILL FAMILY.

The town was deeply indebted to the Officers of the Garrison on Friday last, for a most charming night's amusement. The occasion was a Complimentary Benefit to Mr. Charles Hill and his Family, who have suffered greatly, both in body and purse, from the rascalities of the Rochester folks. The House was a bumper, from Gallery to Pit, and the receipts, we hope, were in proportion to the audience. In criticizing the efforts of dramatic amateurs, the same rule is applicable to them as to the dead, "nihil nisi bonum"; consequently all we have to say must be "couleur de rose"; but were the courtesy not expected, it would be with difficulty, we could find ought to censure.

The evening's amusements commenced with an *Occasional Address*, spoken by a gentleman, whose theatrical cognomen is "X Y Z," and who wore a frock coat, while delivering it. It was short, pithy and to the purpose. The first piece was the lively Farce of "The Wedding Breakfast," which was played throughout with much liveliness. Two characters were remarkably well supported. That of *Dr. Gadabout*, by a stout officer of the 20th Regiment; and that of *Mrs. Matchem*, by a gentleman well known for his able personation of female manners. They were both greatly applauded. Then followed some truly excellent Glee Singing, by four Englishmen, belonging to the Royal Artillery. They sang remarkably well, and evidently from [illegible] unanimously. That rare gift, a pure Alto Counter voice, is possessed by one of the Glee Singers in an eminent degree. The [illegible] were encored in their [illegible] Glee, and [illegible] same compliment would have been repeated to the others, but for the hasty drawing up of the curtain to go on with the performance. The last piece was another laughable Farce, "Lend me five shillings," and the same praise is due to it, that of being played with much liveliness. Here again the excellent acting of the stout officer of the 20th Regiment shone out in great relief. He really played with much humor and energy. The part of a waiter was also well done. The receipts of the female who does lady parts so well, were greatly needed in this piece, but he did not show. Malgre this deficit, the farce went off remarkably well. The Band of the 20th Regiment was in the orchestra, and by its excellent music, contributed to the evening's entertainment.

Not wishing to mix up Professionals with Amateurs, we have reserved our notice of Mr. and Miss Hill, who, as the bills express it, assisted the Garrison Amateurs. Miss Rosalie Hill is a charming actress, and every fresh appearance gives proof of this assertion. As she increases in years, she gains confidence and grace. Her "Mrs. Major Phobbs" was a spirited personation, and would have done credit to a much older actress. She sang a delightful duet with her father, between the acts, in a very delightful manner, and her whole performance of the evening gave promise of much future excellence. Mr. Charles Hill's services were chiefly behind the scenes. Between the acts he sang a Buffo Song, and accompanied his daughter in the Duett before alluded to, both very creditably.

By the eagerness with which the public patronized this dramatic entertainment, got up almost impromptu, one would think a more regular series would be highly acceptable to the town at large.

Among the charges against Mr. Smith, the late Warden, is one for using the Penitentiary Carriage for his own and his family's convenience, which we understand the Feathers-Breeched Commissioners are striving all their might to prove against him. This is, no doubt, all very right, as far as Mr. Smith is concerned, but we think it a pity that the present Warden and his good lady, who, we understand, see no harm in following the same practice: neither do we ourselves, as what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander, we should like to be informed whether it is the intention of the Commissioners to bring charges against the present incumbent for such a mighty offence. While we are on this subject, we should like further to know how it is that the Commissioners can reconcile to themselves the using of the Penitentiary Carriages for their own convenience, after having, as we have been informed, made a grave charge against the late Warden for his great extravagance in providing them at a great expense to the Province. Why do they not immediately order them to be sold, if the horses and carriages are an unnecessary expense to to the Institution? But we have a question or two to ask on this subject. Would it not have been a great saving to the country, if these gentry had, from the first, used the Penitentiary Horses and Carriages instead of hiring cabs, sleighs, and other vehicles, to go to and from the Penitentiary and elsewhere? What is the expense the Province has been already put to, in cab and carriage hire since the Commissioners came to Kingston? And after all will they be able to effect any saving in the conducting of the Penitentiary at all equal to the expenses already swallowed up by them? We may, on another occasion, have something to say of the vast improvement already made in the discipline of the Institution by those wiseacres.

☞ COUNTING POPULARITY.—A few evenings ago, an aged man, shabbily dressed, entered the bar of the British American Hotel, and took a seat by the stove. It being shortly after the dinner time, the bar was well filled. After looking round him for some minutes, he coolly asked the Bar-Keeper, "if the Commissioners were in?" Being answered in the negative, he seemed disappointed, and said, "ain't Brown in?—Can't I see Brown?" Receiving the same answer, he was about departing, when the curiosity of the bystanders, always excited by Penitentiary matters, prompted one of them (a member for one of the Midland Counties) to ask him, whether he was a Keeper, that he was so anxious to see the Commissioners. Being spoken to, he became loquacious all at once; he said he was a discharged convict; (the member drew back his chair,) had been five years in the Prison, knew all the ins and outs of the business, swore that the new Warden was a jolly good fellow, and after tiring the patience of his auditory, who when they knew his character, kept aloof from all contact and conversation, took his departure, exclaiming to the Bar-Keeper, as he went away, "tell Brown I called, and will call again." And the respectable old gentleman did call again next day, and had a long interview with the equally respectable Commissioners. Doubtless the public will have the benefit of his valuable testimony in the Report.

☞ IRISH NEWS.—The newspapers from which we chiefly extract the news from Ireland, are the *New York Herald* and *New York Tribune*; and this we do, because they are the only New York Dailies which exchange with us, and the only papers which prepay their postage to the Lines. Both these newspapers are imbued with a deadly hatred to Great Britain, on account of the Irish Question; and all our extracts are more or less tinged with an ill-natured color.—Other papers are similarly situated. Now, if the two Governments would but allow Exchange Newspapers to circulate freely, a more healthy tone, and, probably, a more correct [illegible] would be [illegible] the [illegible] until 3 [illegible]

☞ GOING TO PARLIAMENT.—The Members are dropping down to Montreal gradually. The Member for this County leaves to-day, and the Member for the City to-morrow.—The list of arrivals at the British American Hotel tells the tale of the others.

☞ TOWNSHIP OF SHEFFIELD.—We mentioned the other day the re-election of C. Wheeler, Esq., as Councillor for this Township. We ought to have made mention, that Sheffield by population is now entitled to two members in the District Council, and Ashe Donnell, Esq., once of Hazelbank, now of Sheffield, was unanimously returned as the