The Daily News,

MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 31.

☞ SEE FIRST PAGE.

RELICS OF SUPERSTITION.

A correspondent of the *London Athenæum* gives the following curious list of what he terms "wrong notions":—

That thirteen persons at table is an ill omen; so, the spilling of salt—the bleeding of the nose—putting the foot in the wrong shoe—commencing at the commencement of a speech—breaking a mirror—the appearance of a magpie—the ticking of the death watch—the withering of the bay tree—the crossing of our path by a hare, a squirrel, or a jay—killing animals for food, except at the full moon—washing hands in water which has been used by another—and the flight of a single crow.

That to beat a child with an alder stick will check its growth—that Friday is an unlucky day to begin anything—that a horseshoe fastened to the rudder of a ship will bring good fortune—that the sun dances on Easter day—that crystal is congested ice—that a dead man weighs more than when he was alive—that a man has one less rib than a woman—that the tenth wave at sea is the most dangerous—that a coffin nail on the threshold of a chamber keeps away phantoms—that rue prevents witchcraft—that a bay leaf is a preservative against thunder—that docks boiled in the toughest meat would make it tender—that if it rains on Swithin's Day, it will rain more or less for the forty succeeding days—that sheep should be shorn and pigs killed when the moon is at the full—that peas and beans should be sown when it is on the wane—that an artery goes from the wedding ring finger to the heart—that spirits are detected by candles burning with a bluish light—that a strip of tallow alongside the flame betokens death—and that the howling of a dog portends a death.

A remedy for warts:—"Take a piece of twine, tie it in as many knots as you have warts, touch each wart with a knot, and then throw the twine behind your back into some place where it may soon decay, and as it decays, the warts will disappear." That the left eye of a hedgehog, fried in oil, procures sleep—that the right foot of a dog, in some deer's skin, cures the gout—that the leaves of an alder-tree, on which the sun has not shone, are a cure for erysipelas—that a rag tied to the finger and toe-nails of a consumptive person, and then waved three times round the head, will cure him—that the hair of a child, rolled in butter, and given to a dog, is a remedy for the whooping-cough—that a ring made of communion money drives away convulsions—and that the royal touch, in the cure of scrofula, is efficacious.

In Glasgow there are 22,245 householders who had not paid poor-rates up to the last day allowed for payment in order to qualify for voting under the Reform Act. It was expected that the new constituency would amount to about 70,000, but this number is now reduced to nearly 47,000.

Under the head, "Notes from Rome," the *Pall Mall Gazette* states that, not only does the most perfect accord exist between the French Government and the Papal Court, but both the Emperor and his Foreign Minister have renewed their pledge that France will defend and uphold the Pope in every eventuality.

An ex-army officer has a scheme for the introduction of the velocipede for the rapid transportation of infantry. He proposes to have the vehicle constructed with two broad-tired wheels, one before the other on the same line, connected by a beam, astride which the soldier sits and propels the vehicle by striking the tips of his toes against the ground. The knapsack, musket and equipments are to be stripped upon the frame. His theory is that the labour of propelling a carriage thus loaded is only one-fifth that of marching; that the steed neither wants water nor forage, and cannot be stampeded; that it can be lifted over a fence impassable for cavalry; that it is quite as swift as a horse; and that it can be durably made of hard rubber at a cost of the sum required to keep a horse for a month. He does not dwell upon the irresistible momentum of a charge of velocipedes in a battle.—*American paper.*

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March 9, 1868.

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March 15, 67.

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JAMES O'REILLY, Q.C. | FRANK C. DRAPER.

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W. R. Mingaye,

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☞ All fire risks carefully surveyed, and the rate of Premium made to correspond with the risk assumed.

JAMES SWIFT,
Agent,
St. Lawrence Wharf

Kingston, Feb. 4, 1868.

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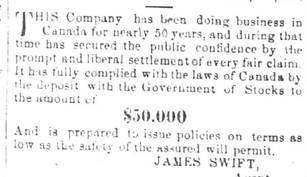

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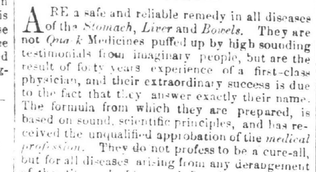

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"I consider that the purity of this oil is secured in its preparation, by the personal attention of so good a chemist and intelligent a physician as Dr. de Jongh, who has also written the best medical treatise on the oil with which I am acquainted. Hence, I deem the Cod Liver Oil sold under his guarantee to be preferable to any other kind as regards genuineness and medical efficacy."

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Medical Officer of Health, and Chief Analyst to the City of London.

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DR. BARLOW, F.R.S.,
Senior Physician to Guy's Hospital.

"I have frequently recommended persons consulting me to make use of Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil. I have been well satisfied with its effects, and believe it to be a very pure oil, well fitted for those cases in which the use of that substance is indicated."

DR. GRANVILLE, F.R.S.,
Author of the "Spas of Germany."

"Dr. Granville has found that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil produces the desired effect in a shorter time than other kinds, and that it does not cause the nausea and indigestion too often consequent on the administration of the pale oil."

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Surgeon to Charing-cross Hospital.

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VOLUME XVII.

The Daily News.

MONDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 1.

☞ SEE LAST PAGE.

THE GRASSHOPPER PLAGUE IN THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.

From the Nor'-Wester, August 7, 1868.

By the inscrutable will of Divine Providence, this land has been visited with a heavy calamity. We have had the customary fruits of the earth entirely cut off by a plague of grasshoppers, and instead of our usual abundance, we shall reap nothing, absolutely nothing in the shape of wheat, barley, rye or oats. Why the visitation has come upon us, it does not lay in the province of this journal to inquire; it is a matter for every man's conscience to consider and to duly weigh; but of the great fact, that we have now no fields ready for the harvest, it becomes us to make mention for the purpose of drawing the attention of the outside world to our peculiar position under the circumstances.

Our population, numbering in the neighbourhood of fourteen thousand souls, is nearly equally divided between two different races and their descendants. The occupations of those races are as distinct as, as a general thing, as their language. On the one hand, the English speaking community are the bread raisers and the mechanics, while upon the other hand, the half-breed descendant of the old Canadian voyageurs are usually occupied in manning the company's boats in their interior trips, or are engaged in the pursuit of the buffalo, whose flesh they convert into dried meat and pemmican. These are the summer occupations of both classes, with some few exceptions; and heretofore this diversity of employment has served to keep up a very necessary balance of production, of trade and supply; in a word, it has been the source of internal commerce and exchange throughout our settlement. In years of prosperity, when crops were abundant and buffaloes were plentiful, the latter had no concern as to his winter's supply of flour, well knowing that his English or Scotch fellow colonists would readily exchange produce with him. But this system of incessant warfare upon the buffalo has resulted in the utter extermination of that source of supply in our immediate vicinity, and the plain hunters have been obliged to go farther and farther year by year, and the result is, that now they have to travel hundreds of miles in search of their usual game—many times to return disappointed—but, as a climax to our disasters, a hard winter has come in that there are no buffaloes to be found north of the Missouri River, and, as a consequence, stern want and starvation are staring many of us in the face. Many hundreds will require to be filled during a winter rendered dreary by the circumstances of the case; and knowing the philanthropy of our friends in England, Canada and the United States, we feel that we need only state the bare fact to them.

There are many things to be taken into consideration by them. They must remember that this is a small community, almost completely isolated from the rest of the world.

That our settlement follows the course of the rivers, the Red and Assiniboine, and is within an acute angle, formed by the junction of those rivers at this place. And that a distance of sixty-five miles up the Assiniboine River, and fifty miles on the Red River, comprises nearly the whole settlement.

That within the whole colony not one bushel of any kind of grain will be harvested. And that the potato crop will be very large also, owing to the grasshoppers having eaten the shoots as fast as they made their appearance, for a period of over two months.

That the class among us who have usually depended upon the buffalo hunt are many of them too poor to buy, and they have nothing to exchange, even had there been the usual supply of grain this season. We should also be borne in mind that a period of forty years has elapsed since this country was visited with a like affliction from the grasshoppers, and at that time the buffaloes were at our doors, so to speak, and no actual want of food was experienced. All countries, or portions of them at least, are subject to visitations of some kind—either drought, or weevil, or midge, or caterpillar, or mild