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The Daily News.

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB 18

☞ *SEE FIRST PAGE.*

The Legislative Assembly of Ontario was occupied during nearly the whole of the session on Monday in a debate on the Assessment bill. The subject under discussion was not the bill itself, but the point whether the bill reported by the committee should be postponed till next session, or be made a law this session. The government asked for a postponement, and promised to make the bill a government measure next session, incorporating into it any desirable amendments suggested by experience and the reports of the municipal councils. After a long debate the House concurred in the postponement without a division. The bill reported by Mr Rykert's committee, therefore, passes over, and assessors need no longer delay making the assessments for the present year in the expectation that the law will be changed.

The state of Ireland may be said to be improving, though the spirit of Fenianism is still nurtured in certain districts. The hopelessness and utter inadequacy of the Fenian method of liberating Ireland is beginning to be established in the minds of those who have indulged in opposite expectations. In the United States, for example, public opinion has gone very much against the Fenians of late, and no sane American can be found who puts faith in this conspiracy as possessed of power to do anything more than it has yet accomplished in the way of annoying the British Government and alarming peacefully disposed citizens. It is to be noted that the improvement in American sentiment towards England, observable in many expressions of a desire to avoid cause of conflict, destroys any Fenian hope of using the forces of the American Republic for the purpose of establishing a republic in Ireland. The British government has introduced an Irish Reform bill in Parliament, and other legislation bearing upon the interests of that country is promised by Lord Mayo. The government is thus showing a disposition to deal with the Irish question, and from the disposition of the House of Commons we may be sure as much as possible will be done to remove any real causes of discontent in Ireland. Fenianism, however, the government and the country is determined to surpress. The further suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus in Ireland has been decided on by government and Parliament; and it will be the endeavour to make a firm and a liberal policy go hand in hand.

A MEMORIAL CHURCH.—The Bishop, Archdeacon, and others, in the Diocese of Ontario, propose to erect in the Town of Cornwall, a Monumental Church of stone, to perpetuate the memory of the late Venerable Bishop Strachan. The Lord Bishop of Ontario, who enters most warmly into the project, has selected Cornwall as the most suitable site for such a memorial, because it was there that the late Bishop commenced his ministerial labours in the year 1803, and it was there that he established his fame as an instructor of youth. Under his headmastership the Cornwall Grammar School acquired a provincial reputation, and from it went forth those who afterwards became the foremost men of their time in Western Canada. It is therefore felt that no more fitting place than Cornwall could be selected for a memorial to the late lamented Prelate; and that no more suitable monument than a substantial and enduring Church could be erected to the memory of one, who as Priest and Bishop, for 63 years, served God in the Ministry of His Holy Church. The friends of the late Bishop throughout the whole Provinces of Ontario and Quebec will therefore shortly be appealed to on behalf of the Bishop Strachan Memorial Church.

ANOTHER CARNIVAL.—The popularity of the recent Carnival held at the King street Rink has induced a request to be made to the directors for the holding of a second Carnival at an early day. Tuesday evening next has therefore been fixed for the event, as will be seen by reference to the Secretary's advertisement

POLICE COURT, Wednesday—The Court is still very poorly patronized, only one claimant for honours, Michael Collins, charged with having been drunk, appearing at the bar this morning. He was fined two dollars, and twenty-five cents additional to pay for the luxury of a cab drive.

THE WEATHER.—During the past month we have had not more than a week of bright sunshiny weather. This is one reason why the snow has packed so much and has had no chance of being lessened by a thaw. The cold frosty weather of the past two days has been superseded by a more moderate temperature this morning having opened like a day in spring.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

FROM WOODSTOCK.

Woodstock, Feb. 19. Jordan L. Charles, acting Collector of Inland Revenue, was discharged from duty and placed under arrest yesterday, but escaped from Mr Romain with the amount of three thousand two hundred and ninety dollars government money. There is no word of his arrest.

THE NEW ORANGE HALL.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE

The foundation stone of the new Orange Hall now in process of erection in Princess Street, was laid to-day, (Wednesday) shortly after the hour of noon. At twelve o'clock a procession, headed by Scott's Brass Band, left the Court House, where the Grand Orange Lodge of Canada is now in session. The procession, with banners flying, passed into Barrie Street, and from that into Princess Street, and contained amongst other persons the Grand Master, County Master, District Master, and other leading members of the Order, attending the Grand Lodge. Having reached the site of the building, arrangements were at once made to proceed with the great event of the day. The band was placed on the platform laid down for the occasion, and played several airs while the proper disposal of officers intended to take part in the ceremony was taking place and the stone was being placed in position by the masons. An address to the Grand Master, Colonel Mackenzie Bowell, of Belleville, member for South Hastings, was then read by Deputy Grand Master William Shannon. The address was a lengthy one, engrossed on parchment, and was replied to by the Grand Master, the reply also being written. The silver trowel to be used, a very handsome piece of workmanship, and of large dimensions, was then handed to the Grand Master by Mr George Brown, chairman of the building committee. The stone having been laid, the Grand Master gave it three taps with the handle of the trowel, declaring it to be laid in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. The Solicitor and Secretary of the Trustees then presented the following documents, etc., to be placed in a cavity of the stone —

The Holy Bible wrapped in oiled silk, and tied with Orange ribbon.

The Queen and Royal family in print.

Copy of the British North America Act.

Copy of the Orange Constitution.

List of the Governors and Members of the several Parliaments in the Dominion of Canada.

Names of the Officers and Members of the Supreme and Grand Lodges in British North America.

Grand Lodge Report.

List of Protestant Churches in Kingston.

Synopsis of the Orange Hall deed of trust.

The Newspapers of Kingston.

Canadian Coins.

Previous to the placing of these papers in the box prayers had been offered up by the Rev. Mr Burns, of Onemee. At the proper stage of the proceedings the band played the national anthem. At the close the Rev J. S. Mullen, of Clarke Mission of the Church of Scotland, pronounced the benediction. The procession then reformed and proceeded to the front of the City Hall, headed by the band where it took up a position, while the heads of the order ascended the steps. The Grand Master after a few remarks, and after three hearty cheers had been given for the Queen, dismissed the processionists, the band playing "Rule Britannia" at the close of the cheers. Three cheers, proposed by the County Master, were also given for the Grand Master, Colonel Bowell.

The stone was laid in the usual position at the East end corner of the building, and the trowel, bore a suitable inscription to the Grand Master to whom it was presented. The address was signed by William Shannon, Deputy Grand Master William Robinson, County Master, Charles Livingston, District Master, George Brown, chairman of the committee, and T. L. Snook, Secretary to the Building Committee County Master William Robinson acted as Director of Ceremonies. The stone was laid in the presence of several hundreds of persons who had assembled to witness the ceremony.

☞ At the late skating carnival one of the best characters on the ice was that of an apple woman who busily plied her trade and vended her apples among the company. The profits of her evening's work now appear in the form of the following acknowledgment handed in by the Secretary of the General Hospital:—"$1. For the Hospital, with the best wishes of the old apple woman at the Rink Carnival last Friday."

THE WOOD SUPPLY.—The supply of wood today was better than it has been for several days past, a good many loads having come in to the stand at the head of Princess street, but very few appeared on the regular wood market.

QUENTIN DURWARD.—Another specimen of the cheap copyright edition of Scott has arrived at Henderson's.

The cables for the new suspension bridge at Niagara Falls have arrived, and the work for suspending them across the river has commenced.

A well-informed American paper notices the fact that for the last two years the German immigration has been twice as numerous as that of the Irish, and, while the former is increasing, the latter is diminishing.

Nine foreign newspapers have lately been seized in Paris; among these were *Punch*, the London *Morning Post*, the *Guardian*, the Vienna *Wanderer*, the Berlin *Kreuz Zeitung*, and the Hamburg *News*.

A great event is reported from Rostock, in Mecklenburg. In consequence of the promulgation of the Federal law on the freedom of residence, the first Jewish citizen was admitted this week to take up his residence in that town.

We have reason to believe that, before many days are over, a conversion to the Catholic Church will be announced that will cause more talk than even the reception of Dr Manning, or Dr Newman, or Mr Oakeley did twenty years ago. If what we have heard is true, the conversion to which we allude is more than likely to be followed by many persons who for a long time have been anxious, but afraid, to pass the Rubicon.—*Weekly Register.*

Some months ago an account was given of an outrageous attack made by some Roman Catholics, incited by certain priests, on a Protestant community established at Barletta, a small town in Italy, in which two persons were killed, and several others wounded. A great number of persons were arrested, and the Court of Assizes of Trani has just been engaged in trying 50 of them. Of these 12 were acquitted, 10 sentenced to 18 years' hard labour, 14 to 10 years, 6 to 8, 5 to 7; the 5 others were condemned to imprisonment—1 for 7 years, 2 to 5, a woman to 3 and a man to one. Amongst those sentenced to 18 years are Father Mario, who by his preaching excited the outrage, and the Canon Ruggiero Portiglione, who organized it.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

Sir—Permit me space to set before your Church readers, the following cutting from the London Record of January 24th.

This "Church Times" had, if it has not now a Clerical agent in this Diocese.

I have it, without remarks, to the consideration of the true friends of the Church of England and Ireland.

R. V. R.

Feb 18, 1868

The Sheffield papers report a crowded meeting in the Cutler's Hall on the occasion of the delivery by the Rev. Dr. Sale (Vicar) of the first of a series of lectures. His subject was "The danger of the present movement in the Church of England." Amongst the very numerous audience were nearly all the clergymen of the town and several from adjoining villages. The Rev Doctor cited a number of proofs of the audacity of Ritualism, and amongst them the Church Times' representation of our great Reformers

"Cite the noblest names you can for practice, and you go back at most for 300 years, to men whose characters and motives cannot stand the test of historical criticism, to cowardly traitors like Cranmer; to coarse, illiterate bullies like Latimer; to hardened and shameless liars like Bale, before whose supreme mendacity even the star of Foxe, the martyrologist, wanes dim; to profligate unbelievers like Poynet; to rapacious plunderers like Barlow; to sour dullards like Hooper; to grovelling fawners like Scory."

In the course of his able lecture the Rev. Dr. said:—The Church of England could ill afford to alienate the confidence of her members and friends in the searching and trying times that seemed at hand. (Hear, hear.) She was looked to by the Protestants of Christendom with the deepest interest and anxiety, and many a prayer was lifted up for her to the Great Head of the Church that she might remain true to her principles, and stand as a beacon to hold forth to the world the light of Scripture truth amidst the storms that were coming on the Christian church. But with this interest there was entertained in some quarters a trembling anxiety as to her safety. People looked into the page of history, and began to think that they recognized certain symptoms not unlike those which preceded her downfall in the earlier half of the 17th century. In reference to this the lecturer read an extract from Hallam's Constitutional History and observed that the members of the Church of England should be warned by what occurred in the past history of their country and their church. Were not the symptoms of approaching ruin sufficient to alarm and arouse them? Not a few of their bishops had openly and plainly stated their conviction that the movement was acting with most disastrous effect upon the Church's authority. The Bishop of London had declared his conviction that if the evil went on, the number of parishes would be very great where the laity would be of one form of religion and the parish priest with his acolytes and chanters of another. The Bishop of Winchester was of opinion that the Ritualistic observances were acting to a very alarming extent on the attachment of the intelligent laity to the church—they caused not divisions only, but alienation, irritation, and angry feelings were excited, and in the end secession, just as it happened in the days of Laud. Thus he trusted he had shown there was danger, and very imminent danger, to the church, arising out of the present movement. Speaking next of the remedies, the Dr warmly exhorted his hearers to join in the movement of the Church Association.

THE LATE SIR EDMUND HEAD

Sir Edmund Head, our late Governor General died suddenly at his house in Eaton Square, London, on the morning of Tuesday, January 28th. When in Canada his health was delicate, a tendency to epilepsy, according to general report being his worst symptom. Sir Edmund was born in 1805, and consequently died in his 63rd year. He was educated at Oriel College, Oxford, and became a fellow of Merton College in 1829. He was afterwards appointed a Poor Law Commissioner, and became Governor of New Brunswick in 1854, from whence he was transferred to Canada, and remained Governor General up to 1861. His career here is too recent to call for recapitulation, and it is not necessary to quote a Latin proverb to prove that it is not well to speak ill of the dead. After his return to England, he was appointed a Civil Service Commissioner, and was also chosen Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, which offices he held at the time of his death. The English journals praise him for his learning

THE DISTRESS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Extract from the report of the Special Committee appointed by the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia to inquire into and report on the distress among the fishermen of the Province.

"The committee after careful examination and inquiry are satisfied that there exists at the present time amongst the fishing population of twelve counties great and wide-spread distress and destitution.

"Your committee are also satisfied that this distress will rather increase than diminish from the present date till the first of June next, and that unless extensive and permanent arrangements be made many may perish from starvation.

"The committee are therefore of opinion that there is an urgent necessity, not only for relief from the Provincial authorities, but for a loud call upon the charity and generosity of the citizens of this and the neighbouring Provinces."

DISTRESS IN INVERNESS.—"I might enter into details and state the actual misery of some, but this would be neither pleasant nor necessary. But just imagine a poor family feeding for a fortnight on an old horse that was turned out to starve, owing to the scarcity of hay. This is but one melancholy instance of many very distressing ones. As to the actual number of destitute people or families in Chetacamp and Margaree, it is not easy to ascertain, as those who can at all manage to do so, are supporting families now, that in a few week hence, cannot, even for *God's sake*, get relief by begging, I think however, I can safely say that 70 families must be looked to at once, or death by starvation must ensue." The above is from a letter of a Catholic clergyman of Inverness to a friend in this city. It reveals an amount of destitution and suffering appalling, and quite sufficient to awaken into action the charitable feelings of even the most miserable. We hope that early and effective measure will be taken by those having charge of the Relief Fund to alleviate the distress which the above extract plainly indicates exists in that portion of Nova Scotia of which the writer treats.—*Halifax paper.*

3,010 emigrants arrived in Australia last year, whose passage was paid by the Colonial Government, and all of whom held warrants for free grants of land.

Shirtmaking for one penny each; the seamstress finding needles and thread. Such was the pay received by Mary Yems, the wife of a Wapping costermonger, who went and drowned herself last week. At the inquest the coroner remarked that the story, as told by the witnesses, was one of the saddest of the many sad ones he had to hear from time to time. The life of the poor woman was such as might well upset her reason.—*The Record.*

An American paper says: One can scarcely wonder at the disgust of our English speaking and writing friends across the water with the way in which the English language get corrupted in this country, when the vagaries of our newspapers are considered. A Western editor defends the use of the terms *skatist* and *skatiste*, to express respectively a male and a female professor of skating as an art. He cites the analogy of *artist artiste*, and gravely proposes the introduction of *farmist*, *bakist*, *milliniste*, and the like, to signify a farmer, a baker, and a milliner, who follow their professions as arts, and not as trades! The worst of the matter is, that the word may, by persistent obstinacy in using them, get a sort of currency among us, and come at last to form a part of the language. We therefore call upon our brethren of the press to stamp them as bad at once, and put a stop to their circulation before it is too late.

THE CONVICTION OF SIR GIDEON CULLING EARDLEY FOR BIGAMY.

Sir Gideon Culling Eardley, Bart., was placed at the bar of the Central Criminal Court, London, on the 27th of January, to take his trial for feloniously intermarrying with Mary Elizabeth Allen, at the Church of St. George, Hanover Square; his wife, Emily Florence Magee, to whom he had been previously married at New York, being alive.

The London Telegraph gives the following history of the case:

A more painful case has seldom come before the public than that which was yesterday brought to a conclusion at the Central Criminal Court. No disregard of abstract justice is involved in the acknowledgment that we should gladly have learnt, not that a less severe sentence had been passed upon the delinquent, but that the circumstances had been such as to justify the exercise of greater lenity. Few men, amidst the higher ranks of English society, can have entered upon life with brighter prospects than the young baronet who commences to-day the dreary labour of eighteen months' penal servitude. Nine years ago Sir Eardley Gideon Culling Eardley came of age, being at that time heir to a baronetcy, to a very large and unencumbered property, and to an honoured name. His father not only bore a high character, but was celebrated for his active zeal and benevolence. Through his parents the young man was connected with many families of distinction, who owe their repute to their public services far more than to the titles with which those services have been rewarded. On whatever career in life he had chosen to enter, the path of success was made easy to him, and yet within nine years he stands in a felon's dock, bankrupt in purse, broken in reputation, beggared alike of friends and fortune, bereft of everything except the empty title which only suffices to render more conspicuous the story of his sin and shame

In the year 1859 the then Mr Eardley was travelling in North America. While residing at New York he made the acquaintance of a Miss Magee, the daughter of a merchant occupying a respectable position, and he became engaged to her with her parent's consent. It was stated by the prosecution that Mr Eardley deceived the lady's family by professing that he had obtained the consent of his own father to the match. Whether this is so or not it seems admitted on all sides that the late Sir Culling Eardley did not know of the marriage until after it had been accomplished. No secret, however, was made about the matter in New York. The young Englishman and his American bride were married in a fashionable church of the Empire city, by one of the most eminent of American Episcopalian divines, in the presence of a large number of witnesses, many of whom, like Cyrus Field, are well known in English society. The happy couple—to adopt the stereotyped phrase used on such occasions—came to Europe shortly after their wedding, and the fact of the union was then made known to the bridegroom's family. We are not trespassing on the domain of private life when we say that even thus early in his career Mr Eardley's conduct had been such as to render his relatives only too glad to see him respectably married; and, after satisfactory inquiries had been made, Mrs Eardley was cordially acknowledged by her husband's family.

For about four years Mr and Mrs Eardley lived together as man and wife, both in England and on the Continent. The union was notoriously unhappy; nor, indeed, could any other result have been expected from the extravagance and general misconduct of the husband. Meanwhile no doubt was entertained respecting the validity of the marriage, and the society in which Mrs Eardley was received would be in itself a guaranty for the fact that she was universally regarded as her husband's lawful wife. At last, in 1863, matters came to a crisis, a separation was agreed upon by mutual consent, and a deed was drawn up arranging the terms, the lady being described, under Mr Eardley's own signature, as having a legal right to the name she bore. Two years later, Sir Culling, who by that time had succeeded to the baronetcy on his father's death, wrote a letter filled with almost servile expressions of regret for his own misconduct, and imploring his much injured wife to return to him. His repentance, if sincere, did not last very long. Lady Eardley declined to credit his professions; and the young baronet appears to have continued on the road to ruin with even greater haste and recklessness than before. At last, after he had become hopelessly embarrassed, and had exhausted the patience of all persons connected with him, he committed an act the folly of which is even more incredible than its wickedness. His wife being still alive, he went, in the course of last autumn, through the form of marriage before a registrar with a Miss Allen, and in the marriage certificate he described himself as a bachelor. We have no means of knowing what motives induced him to enter into this engagement.

The union was conducted with as little publicity as possible; but, somehow or other a report of the ceremony was advertised in the public prints. The intelligence reached the ears of Lady Eardley's family, and at their instigation Sir Culling Eardley was arrested and brought to trial. About the facts there could be no matter of doubt. Indeed, the case was so helplessly clear that the prisoner would have better consulted his own interests had he simply pleaded guilty and thrown himself on the mercy of the Court.

As it was, his counsel had a desperate case. Acting, we presume, upon his client's instruction, Mr Montagu Williams started the hypothesis that, perhaps, there might have been something irregular in the formalities of the New York marriage. Sir Culling Eardley, he argued, might have been advised that his first marriage was not legal, and, therefore, when he married Miss Allen, he possibly did not imagine that he was committing bigamy. Even if this hypothesis could have been established—and it was supported by not one little of evidence—the act committed would still have been bigamy; and the mere surmise that the prisoner had taken advantage of some supposed technical irregularity to cast off a woman with whom he had lived for years as his avowed wife, rendered his conduct supremely despicable.

Perhaps the wretched man's conduct may be accounted for without suspecting him of such a refinement of villany. Ruined, desperate, cast off by his friends, excluded from the society of his equals, debilitated in mind and body by a long career of low dissipation, driven to his wit's end by embarrassments, he had sunk to that state in which a man hardly calculates the results of his actions, and yields to the first temptation which presents itself, without pausing to consider the inevitable penalty. There is such a state in the prodigal's career; and perhaps Sir Culling Eardley had reached that stage when he committed a crime which was absolutely certain to be detected. At the trial, the case was found to be so bad that the defence not only broke down, but actually tended to make the offence seem greater than it really was. The jury would have been untrue to their duty if they had hesitated for one moment about their verdict; and the Recorder was forced to inflict a severe punishment.

The Recorder inquired if the defendant had obtained any money with his second wife. Mr M. Williams said he was informed that he did not.

Mr Giffard said he was sorry to inform his lordship that the information he had received upon the subject was of a totally different character.

The Recorder in passing sentence, said that in the absence of any information as to the circumstances connected with the second marriage, the Court must deal with the case as it stood. The defendant had deliberately committed a very grave offence, and one that was calculated to do serious injury to the person who was the victim of it. There did not appear to be any extenuation for his conduct, and the sentence he felt bound to pass upon him was that he be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for eighteen months.

Contracts have been entered into for the construction of the great Masonic Temple at Philadelphia, to be built in five years, and to cost three-quarters of a million dollars. The cornerstone is to be laid on St. John's day.

THE POSITION OF THE BANKS.

The *Canada Gazette* of Saturday, publishes the usual Monthly Bank Statement, but still without returns from the Bank of Nova Scotia; the Merchants' Bank, Halifax; the Peoples' Bank, Halifax; the Union Bank, Halifax; the Commercial Bank of St. John, N.B.; and the Peoples' Bank, N.B. All these Banks have been ready enough to take advantage of that clause of the Dominion Banking Act of last session, which allows them to charge interest exceeding six *per cent*, to which rate they were previously limited, but they persistently ignore that other clause under which they are required to make monthly returns of their capital, assets and liabilities. The Bank of New Brunswick and the St. Stephen's Bank, N.B., and the Bank of Yarmouth, N.S., comply with the law; and we draw the attention of our Maritime contemporaries to the delinquencies of the others in the hope that public opinion may be brought to bear upon them. There are some among these Banks of which the standing is not above all question. The withholding of statements which are by law required is not calculated to strengthen the confidence in their solvency.

The returns from the other Banks show an increase of circulation and discounts since December 31st, notwithstanding a small falling-off in the deposits. The figures are (adding the Government circulation):

	Dec. 1867.	Jan. 1868.
Bank circulation	$8,851,451.50	$9,406,238.50
Government notes	4,265,242.00	4,247,742.00
	$13,116,693.50	$13,653,980.50
Discounts ..	52,827,508.57	53,406,637.14

It would seem from this that the extreme tightness which characterized business a few weeks since is slowly passing away, although this inference should be received with caution, since the discounts in January have for years past been invariably greater than in December.

Another noticeable feature is the great strength in coin, bullion, and legal tenders, which the Banks, as a whole, are acquiring. They now hold $10,098,494 in coin, bullion, and Provincial notes, as against $9,321,322 in December. To show their strength in this particular, as compared with previous years, we give the following table —

	Specie, &c.
Jany. 1868—All Banks..	$10,098,494
1868—Ontario and Quebec Banks	9,770,573
1867	8,787,164
1866	6,935,139
1865	5,772,752
1864	5,831,994
1863	5,615,519
1862	7,230,374
1861	4,340,546

Some complications exist in the above table which cannot be removed, i. e., how much of the figures for 1867 and 1868 represent Provincial notes. But we fancy we are not far astray in saying that the Banks have never been stronger in specie than they now are. Much of this is, perhaps, owing to the extreme strength which certain banks have been obliged to acquire in view of late developments. For example, we have the Merchant's Bank, which holds $527,895 of gold and legal tenders against a circulation of only $29,574, and a by no means excessive deposit line—evidently a preparation for paying the notes of the Commercial Bank, if payment in gold should be demanded, which in view of this great strength is hardly to be expected. Several other Banks are almost equally strong, in consequence, no doubt, of the restricted discounts, and of the consequent conversion of maturing notes into coin.—*Montreal Gazette.*

THE SEWARD STANLEY DEAD LOCK.

(*From the New York Tribune.*)

The candid tone of the discussion in England upon the Alabama claims should provoke like candour here. Lord Hobart bravely declares that no citizen should fear to criticise or condemn the action of his own Government upon the exploded pretense that he is thereby aiding the success of his Government in its negotiations. The principle he thus lays down for Englishmen is even more worthy to be followed by Americans

The British Government during the war declined utterly to submit the Alabama claims to arbitration. They now offer to submit them, provided no question be raised of the propriety of the Queen's proclamation recognizing the Rebellion as a state of war, and the Rebels and the United States as "belligerents," between whom the Queen and her subjects would claim the rights of "neutrals." Mr Seward refuses arbitration unless this question also be submitted as one of the points of the case. He does not ask that the arbitrator shall be authorized to declare whether or no the royal proclamation was justifiable. He only demands that all the circumstances should be brought into court, by way of evidence, and shall have such influence in determing the decision as after deliberation, they shall seem to merit. We think it would have been just and generous for Lord Stanley to admit this demand; but since he has made a point of it, it may be well to inquire whether we cannot afford to go to arbitration without it. That the Rebels ultimately acquired the status of belligerents, there is no question. The only dispute is as to the precise time when they gained the rights and incurred the responsibilities of that condition.

We do not see how the conclusion can be avoided that the first person to recognize them as belligerents was the President of the United States himself. The proclamation of blockade was issued 24 days before the Queen's proclamation of neutrality. Mr Seward admits that a proclamation of blockade is a belligerent act, and can only be enforced against neutrals. It is for our interest therefore to assume that the Rebels were belligerents at the time when the Southern ports were declared closed by Mr Lincoln. If they were not, then no war existed at that date between the confederacy and the United States, and for every British vessel seized in attempting to enter a Southern port, Lord Stanley has a claim against our Government. Some time before the royal proclamation was published, Mr Seward declared that the Rebellion had assumed the "organization and attitude of a separate political power," that it had "instituted civil war," that the Government had established "a maritime blockade." On May 4, 1861. Mr Seward informed Lord Lyons the blockade would be conducted "as strictly according to the recognized rules of public law, and with as much liberality toward neutrals as any blockade ever was by a belligerent." Thus he followed the President in recognizing the Rebels as a belligerent, and styling England a neutral, nine days before the Queen's proclamation was issued.

Our Secretary of State then used this language because he desired England to respect the blockade, as a neutral. The words used were true and honest, were used for our benefit, and accrued to our advantage. The first step for Great Britain to take, as the legal mode of warning British subjects to respect the blockade, or violate it at their own peril, was to issue a proclamation recognizing the contest as a war, and the parties thereto as belligerent; and proclaiming herself neutral. Moreover, as soon as the first seizures of vessels were made under the blockade, the same question came before the United States Courts, and, on appeal, the Supreme Court declared that the proclamation of blockade recognized a state of war as existing, made the parties thereto belligerents, and imposed on foreign Powers the obligations and rights of neutrals.

After Mr Seward, as the representative of the Executive Department, and the Supreme Court as the voice of the Judicial department of our Government, have thus declared that a state of war, belligerency, and neutrality existing several weeks before the British Government declared the same fact, the question now arises whether we can, as a nation, consistently and honourably deny the truth of the Queen's proclamation, that this state of war, belligerency, and neutrality did exist, with all its attendant consequences. If we cannot, if, indeed, it is part of our claim, why not admit it, or at least consent to an arbitration without disputing it? This may be valuable hereafter. Lord Russell has stated that such a proclamation so early in the contest was "unprecedented." If it was so, then we may thank Great Britain for affording us the precedent. As a rule, we sympathize with rebellions, and the conceded right to recognize a rebel as a belligerent will benefit no other power so early or so often as it will ourselves.

The telegraphic story of a collision between Russia and China, in Central Asia, now turns out to be founded upon an error of the operator, in writing the word China for Khiva, or Chiwa, as the Germans spell it. But it is none the less certain that Russia is slowly extending herself toward the Chinese Empire. The latest news is to the effect that she is picking a quarrel with the Bey of Samarkand and the Emir of Bokhara, the result of which will inevitably be to still further advance the Russian frontiers eastward.

A young Russian lady, aged twenty-four has just been invested with the degree of Doctor of Medicine by the University of Zurich. The speech made on that occasion by Professor Edmund Rose, son of the celebrated mineralogist, ought to be translated by the advocates of women's rights and would show that it is not America alone which has admitted women to the ranks of the medical profession. Fifty years ago, according to this speech, a woman took the degree of M. D. at Giessen. We may add, that all German towns have the institution of midwives examined by the State and duly qualified, though not allowed to usurp any of the distinctive privileges of the doctor. Prof. Rose compares the slavery of sex to the slavery of colour, and hopes that the one will not long survive the other.

ECCENTRICITIES OF WEALTHY PEOPLE.—A London letter states that the late Sir John Chandos Reade, Bart., of Shipton Court, Oxfordshire, who died a few days ago in his 88rd year, has left the whole of his property to his manservant. A maiden lady living near Brighton, who has attained the age of 80 years, but whose faculties are as clear as ever they were, although her bodily infirmities confined her almost constantly to bed, has a life interest in three considerable estates, and the command of very large sums of money. The current balance at her bankers' is never drawn below £10,000, and she takes a certain pleasure in keeping it up to that imposing figure. She has in her establishment three lady companions, to whom she pays handsome stipends, and for whose health (as well as her own) she is specially solicitous. She often telegraphs for three medical practitioners to attend her household; for slightest real or imaginary ailment, and gives them double their ordinary fees. Nothing delights her more on these occasions than to have a game of whist with the doctors and to protract it until so late an hour that they cannot return to their homes the same night. Whilst profusely liberal in one direction, she is intensely economical in others, and keeps an account of the most minute details of the household expenditure.

BUILDING IN CONCRETE.—Mr Tall said there was no portion of the country in which concrete buildings could not be put up; and as an illustration, he might mention that a nobleman had written to him to say that he could not use it because he had not a yard of gravel on his estate. The reply he made was, "This is so, but you don't want gravel, for you have a material ten times better,—you have sandstone, which, if crushed, will make the best concrete in the world." All that was required to get it was to have the proper machine to crush it; for there was no place so situated that suitable material could not be obtained within four of five miles of the building site. He contended that concrete properly prepared (and none other should be used) was not only stronger than brick, but would bear ten times the weight of brick, and ten times the pressure of wind. This was proved in the case of some houses built at Gravesend. While in course of construction, some bricklayers employed in some adjoining houses said to the men engaged on the concrete work, "Look out, or you will have your houses blown to Windmill-hill." Strangely enough, a great storm blew that night, and so powerful was the wind that it blew the scaffold-planks off the concrete houses into the adjoining field, but the houses themselves were uninjured, while the brick houses in the neighbourhood were levelled to the ground.—*Builder.*

DIED.

This morning, Feb. 19, Alice, daughter of Mr William Bailie, aged 1 year, 3 months and 10 days.

At the residence of his son, Lt.-Colonel David Shaw, River View, Pittsburgh, Mr David Shaw, of Kildyth, Scotland, aged 85 years.

The funeral will leave River View on Thursday, 20th inst., at one o'clock, via Kingston to the Waterloo Cemetery.

YOUNG'S 2s Bottle of Old Malt Whiskey is the best value in the city.

YOUNG'S 2s Bottle of Scotch Malt is the best value now offered in Spirits.

YOUNG'S 3s bottle of Old Port Wine, every Family should test its value.

YOUNG'S 3s 3d bottle of Pale Sherry Wine is nonpareil.

YOUNG'S 2s 6d Bottle of Old Burgundy Port is first rate value.

YOUNG'S Old Demerara Rum, YOUNG'S Jamaica do. } as imported.

YOUNG'S 2s 6d Young Hyson, try it.

YOUNG'S 3s 6d Mixture is equal to that sold at 3s 9d elsewhere.

YOUNG'S 4s 9d Imperial is equalled by none.

YOUNG'S 3s Congou is not to be beaten.

YOUNG'S 3s Breakfast Congou, try it.

YOUNG'S 4s Black Tea is rich and full flavoured.

YOUNG'S General Groceries are the best value in Kingston.

YOUNG'S Liquors are all pure.

Try Young's pure Virginia Leaf Tobacco.

YOUNG'S Porter and Ale is in the Best condition.

YOUNG'S Porter and Ale is the Cheapest.

VICTORIA HOUSE,

PRINCESS STREET.

Jan. 31.