KINGSTON OBSERVATORY.

N. F. Dupuis, A.B., Observer.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 14, 1868.

DAY.	BAROMETER CORRECTED FOR 32 °		THERMOMETER.		MAXIMUM.	MINIMUM.
	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.		
Sunday	.....	.....	.....	.....	39.0	33.5
Monday	.....	.....	31.0	37.5	38.5	28.0
Tuesday	.....	.....	36.0	37.0	39.5	33.5
W'dnesdy	.....	.....	23.5	26.0	26.5	23.0
Thursday	.....	.....	23.0	36.0	37.5	18.5
Friday	.....	.....	36.5	40.0	40.5	33.0
Saturday	.....	.....	36.5	43.0	44.0	32.5

JOB PRINTING.

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

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Travellers' Guide.

Trains arrive and depart from the Kingston Station as follows:

GOING EAST.

2:55 a.m. | 2:35 p.m. | Mixed train 6.15 a.m.

GOING WEST.

5:10 p.m. | 5:40 a.m. | Mixed train 6:45 a.m.

[This is by Montreal time, from which deduct 12½ minutes for the difference between Montreal and Kingston time.]

☞ Single copies of the CHRONICLE AND NEWS, containing the news of the week, may be had in wrappers for mailing. Price 3d. each issued every Friday.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Anonymous communications can receive no attention. Everything forwarded for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of authenticity. It is also requested that correspondents will only write on one side of the sheet of paper. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Daily News.

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 16.

☞ *SEE FIRST PAGE.*

The English newspapers bring us the reports of Parliamentary proceedings on the occasion of the ministerial explanations relative to Lord Derby's resignation. The chief interest of this event has of course been anticipated by the Atlantic cable, but we have in the journal the interesting gossip of the world of London over the affair. Among the more noteworthy items we find the statement that Lord Derby wrote in the strongest terms to the Queen of the confidence he felt in Mr Disraeli, and of his conviction that he was the only possible Premier at this juncture. The sincere and cordial support of Lord Derby and of Lord Stanley has been a tower of strength to Mr Disraeli, and has gained him both Conservative and Liberal appreciation in his efforts to form a ministry.

The House of Commons has no sooner got together than the period of prorogation has been canvassed. It is thought that the session of Parliament will terminate in the early part of May. It is stated that most of the government business is in an advanced state, as indeed appears by the notices put upon the paper, and it is not expected that much private legislation will occupy the attention of the House. On those grounds there is reasonable expectation of a short session.

It is reported from Ottawa that a good deal of progress has been made by Mr Cartier with the Militia bill, which is shortly to be introduced in Parliament, and it is said that as far as expense is concerned it will be an agreeable disappointment to the country. This is agreeable news certainly, for while there is no abatement of the general conviction which was forced on the public mind during the agitation of the American war that Canada would require to raise and train a very powerful militia, there now remains a certain unwillingness to incur heavy expense on the head of defenses. The warlike aspect of affairs has considerably improved as regards our only possible invader. The Americans have a supreme idea of their own strength and military power, which was developed during the war against the South; but they are not quite so overbearing against Canada as they were immediately after the close of that struggle. The lesson of taxation has taught them the blessings of peace. The Alabama claims, again, the only probable cause of difference, are now in a hopeful prospect of settlement; and despite the agitations of frontier annexationists we may regard the tendency of American relations as peaceful. We consider that all cause of panic is now removed, and in framing our militia law we should deal rationally with the case simply as affecting our own abilities and resources. A militia that must be something more than a mere paper organization we ought to have; and this the Minister of Militia and his colleagues will no doubt offer; but if we can avoid expense and unnecessary stringency of military service for a few years at the beginning of the career of the union we shall have the money, time and labour to expend in more profitable fields of enterprise. Mr Cartier will be entitled to great credit if he meets popular anticipations by producing an inexpensive and yet efficient militia bill.

THUNDER STORM.—A thunder storm passed over the city this morning shortly before noon, accompanied by heavy showers of rain. The weather continues fine, and even warm, and these rains and warm days must have a serious effect on the condition of the ice.

MRS HOOPER AND THE GAS GAUGE.—The Montreal papers say that a considerable portion of the yard in rear of the house in Bonaventure street, said to have been occupied by Mrs Hooper, has been excavated to a depth of six feet, without finding any trace of the box containing the body of the missing man. The consequence is that Mrs Hooper has been discharged from custody. The girl Elizabeth Gage still remains in Montreal. This mysterious affair is therefore as far from being cleared up as ever.

THE LATE MR G. DINWOODIE.—The sudden and lamented death of Mr Gilbert Dinwoodie, on Saturday last, has diffused a general feeling of sadness and regret among a large circle of friends and fellow students, to whom he had endeared himself by his many amiable qualities and his uniformaly kind, gentle, and unassuming demeanour. The deceased was born at Fergus, Province of Ontario, from which, while a child, he removed with his family to the neighbourhood of Campbellford, in the Township of Seymour. From thence he came to Kingston in the autumn of 1866 to commence his studies as a student of medicine in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, and a pupil in the office of Dr. Maclean, with whom he has resided during the last year and a half. About two months ago the death of a brother residing in the United States—to whom he was warmly attached—affected him deeply, and left a depression of spirits which seemed to increase rather than diminish with time. On Wednesday night last, having been suffering from severe toothache, he took a dose of morphine which seemed, probably from the depressed state of his system, to act with unusual power, and for the next two days he appeared to be still under its soporific effects, though occasionally roused up to speak quite clearly and collectedly. During the evening of Friday he came down stairs, and was for some time talking quite intelligently with one of his fellow-students, with no signs of disease of any kind. Early on Saturday morning he was found in a state of unconsciousness, his face livid, and his breathing heavily oppressed. Medical remedies were promptly and efficiently applied, but the case was beyond human intervention, and he continued in the same state of complete insensibility till about a quarter to two p.m., when he expired. A post mortem examination held yesterday resulted in the discovery that the cause of death had been sudden and violent congestion of the brain. His brother was immediately telegraphed for, and at an early hour this morning the remains were conveyed to the station, to be taken for interment to the home which had so lately been saddened by a similar spectacle, and where an aged father and mother survive to mourn over a fresh breach in a large family circle, till recently quite unbroken. The mournful cortege was attended to the station by a numerous train of fellow-students and others, every one of whom mourned a departed friend in the companion, who, by his genial and amiable disposition, had made himself universally beloved. As a student, his steady integrity, his faithful conscientiousness, his persevering industry, left nothing for his professors to desire, while his exemplary conduct and blameless demeanour in all the relations of life, bore testimony to the sincerity of the Christian faith in which he so unassumingly but truly walked. The fair career which seemed marked out for him has been suddenly and mysteriously cut short, but the fragrance of the life he lived will not soon perish.

"His memory long will live alone
In all our hearts, as mournful light
That broods above the fallen sun,
And dwells in heaven half the night."

At a meeting of the Students of Queen's College and of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, called this afternoon, to express their regret at the melancholy death of the late Gilbert Hunter Dinwoodie, a student in the Faculty of Medicine, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by John R. Dickson, jr., seconded by G. J. Vanvlack: "That we the fellow students of the late Gilbert Hunter Dinwoodie, desire to express our deep sense of the great calamity that has befallen us by the sudden death of our lamented classmate."

"We also wish by this expression to accord our esteem for the high character and noble qualities of mind and heart which distinguished him, and our feeling of deep attachment to his memory.

"He had endeared himself to his fellow-students, and won the hearts of all with whom he came in contact, by the charm of his quiet and gentle manners, and his amiable disposition, so that it has been said of him with truth 'he had not an enemy.'"

"With these fine traits of character were associated habits of studious and persevering industry, and we are sensible, that had he been spared, his energy and ability would have raised him to high eminence in the profession he had chosen. While we feel that Queen's College and the Medical Students especially have sustained a grievous loss, we would record our belief that our loss has been his gain."

The secretary was directed to transmit to the parents of the deceased a copy of the foregoing resolutions.

GEO. M. MACDONNELL,
Secretary of Committee.

PEAT MACHINES.—The Canadian Engine and Machinery Company, under Mr Tutton's superintendence, are now building three peat machines for the Canadian Peat Fuel Company, one of which is completed, and was being shipped to its destination to-day; the second will be completed by about the 1st April, and the third about the 20th April. Two of these machines are to be put to work in the large peat bog at La Pigronniere, Province of Quebec, at which place one machine owned by the same company was in operation during a portion of last summer. The third machine is to be placed in a new bog near Longueuil. The machines are constructed upon the Hodges principle, with many improvements upon the plan. The machinery, which is driven by a double steam engine of 25-horse power, is placed upon a large 100 feet long, by 17 feet wide. The peat is dug by means of two large and powerful iron screws with steel knives, and thrown into a reservoir, whence it is carried by the elevator into a hopper connected with the pulping spout. This latter is fitted with vanes and diaphragms, by which the peat is reduced to a pulp, and all sticks, etc., separated from it. The peat passes thence through the distributing trough and tube, which are also fitted with vanes and diaphragms, by which it is reduced to a more perfect pulp, and distributed upon the ground. When partially dry, it is cut into blocks of a convenient size, and stacked until thoroughly dry. These machines are very powerful, and an immense deal of labour is necessary to their construction.

NEW AND SUPERIOR LOCOMOTIVES.—The Canadian Engine and Machinery Company are building five heavy locomotives of a superior class for the Great Western Railway Company. It is calculated that they will be the most powerful engines upon that Road. Some of the peculiar features of these engines are as follows: The exterior of the boiler is made entirely of steel, which ensures greater strength and durability; the furnace or fire box is made of copper three quarters and half an inch in thickness; all the axles are of steel, as are also the tyres of the wheels; the wheels are of best wrought iron; the safety-valves are of the duplex kind, so constructed as to prevent the driver from raising steam beyond a fixed gauge. The first engine, the "Victoria," will leave the company's works in the course of the present week, and the others will follow at intervals of three weeks. They are also building two engines of the same class for the Northern Railway Company, Toronto. As a proof of the quantity of work which can be turned out by the Engine and Machinery Company, it might be stated that they now employ over 180 men.

The Illustrated London News of February 29 contains a number of architectural illustrations and some fine-art drawings. A sketch of the Prince and Princess of Wales to St. Bartholomew's hospital and of the reception of the Duke of Edinburgh at Geelong, are among the pictures of passing events. It is supplied at Henderson's.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

FROM BELLEVILLE.

Belleville, March 16.—The ice in the river Moira broke up yesterday and came down in immense masses, blocking up the channel above the upper bridge, forcing the water and ice across Front street from Irving's Sewing Machine Factory down to the New Town Hall, the floor of the latter being under water. The rush was so great that it swept away part of a new stone wall along the banks of the river and tore down fencing and sides of houses and near the banks. Several houses have from two to three feet of water on the floor, and the occupants are obliged to leave them, as it is feared they will be carried down the stream.

G. and J. Brown's foundry and machine works are surrounded by water and work stopped. A break up of the ice between the dam and bridge is hourly looked for, in which case the result will most disastrous.

COUNTY COURT.

Monday, 16th March.

The court opened at ten o'clock.

Hart vs Abernethy—Action of trespass and trover brought by Edward Hart of the Township of Storrington against Robert Abernethy of the same place, to try the right of possession in and obtain damages for a quantity of rye sown by plaintiff and reaped by defendant. Hart was in possession of lot No. 20 in the 9th concession of the above township, and left the lot owing to a writ of ejectment which had been issued in March last against him by the owner, Mr J. Maule Machar, by whom the lot was afterwards sold to Abernethy, who went into possession in the spring of 1867, at which time certain rye was growing on the ground, and which was alleged to belong to the plaintiff. This rye defendant admitted having cut in the month of July last, and used on his own account. The plaintiff in the meantime had not come to claim or look after his grain—8 or 9 bushels in all. The defendant's counsel moved for a non-suit, on certain grounds which were overruled by the judge. Messrs Britton and Price for plaintiff; Mr J. Maule Machar for defendant. Verdict for plaintiff $8.

Fraser vs McDonnell—Action brought by Alexander Fraser, sometime a guard in the Provincial Penitentiary, against Mr McDonnell, Warden of that institution, who is only the nominal defendant, the action being in reality against the Government. The action is brought to recover $120, being for four months and two days wages at the rate of $320 a year. Fraser had been doing the duties of a guard up to the 10th or 12th of August last, at which time he was suspended, pending an investigation into certain charges which had been brought against him. Another of the guards was suspended at the same time and taken on again, and Mr Fraser, a few months afterwards, finding that he had no intimation of his having been discharged employed counsel to communicate with the Warden on the subject. The Warden accordingly informed the plaintiff's counsel that Fraser had been discharged on 12th December. Of this dismissal he claims to have received no intimation. The Warden stated that the plaintiff was only a temporary guard, and the complaint against him was that he was found asleep on his post. Messrs Britton and Price for plaintiff, Mr James O'Reilly, Q.C., and Mr A. S. Kirkpatrick for defendant. Verdict for plaintiff $106.

NOVA SCOTIA GOLD MINES.

Official statistics having brought to light the fact that quartz mining in Nova Scotia has actually proved more remunerative than in any other country, the most cautious capitalists in both Canada and the United States are investing largely in the gold mines in that province. The following extracts from the Halifax *Mining Gazette*, for February, give some of the latest intelligence:

Sherbrooke continues to sustain its character as a leading district, though two mills have been shut down for want of water, and large quantities of ore are waiting to be crushed. The total yield for the twelve months ending 31st Dec. 1867, was 9,463 ozs. 18 dwts., or an increase of 3,634 ozs. 14 dwts. 16 grs. on the product for 1866. The average per man shows an equally satisfactory progress inasmuch as the yield for 1866 represented 122¼ (122.422) grs. and that for 1867, 126¼ (126.333) grs. per diem, or an annual cash value of $1,717.45, and $1,642.30 respectively. The results for last month show 4,368 days' work, 600 tons ore raised, 550 tons crushed, and an average yield of 1 oz. 3 dwts. 1½ grs. per ton of 2,000 lbs., the gross gold product having been 647 ozs. 1 dwt. 6 grs. A crushing on the 4th January of 100 tons from the Wellington Co.'s claims gave 394 ozs.

UNIACKE.—The commissioner's returns not yet received, but we have seen and handled a fine brick from the Westlake Company's mine, weighing 234ozs. 6 dwts., which in any other country would have created quite a sensation as the product of 13 tons of quartz and 21 days labour, from a vein containing 6 to 8 feet of workable ore, opened and being drifted on at a depth of 16 feet. Twenty-five tons of quartz from the same shaft crushed three days before Christmas gave 67 ozs. and 11 dwts. After receiving a dividend on the above two crushings, one fortunate shareholder sold out his interest for $6,000 cash. The Hall and McAlister mine now worked to a depth of 70 feet looks also remarkably well; 48 tons recently crushed having given 22 ozs. 7 dwts. retorted gold. The Dowell and Burkner properties are also yielding good ore, and prospectors claim to have made discoveries in the western part of the district during the spell of soft weather which occurred at the close of January.

The Halifax correspondent of the London *Mining Journal* writing on 30th January, says:—

"A gold yield has just occurred here which in any other country would produce quite an excitement; 13 tons of quartz crushed at Uniacke district yielded 231 ozs of smelted gold or nearly 18 ounces, on average, per ton. Another lot of 43 tons from the same shaft, crushed a fortnight ago gave 96 ozs. Sherbrooke, too, sent up early in the month a brick weighing 612 ozs., the product of one months' work on the Wellington property."

It is said that Sir Robert Napier expresses a confident hope that the Abyssinian expedition will be brought to a close this season.

The large armies of Europe, in the opinion of the London *Times*, afford a poor illustration of the civilization of the nineteenth century. A few rival sovereigns stand with their swords at their sides and subservient legislative chambers at their feet, and at a word the great mass of the working, industrious people, in the flower of their youth, are selled upon and appropriated as food for powder.

THE SCOTCH REFORM BILL.

In the House of Commons, Feb. 17, the Lord-Advocate, in moving for leave to bring in a bill to amend the representation of the people in Scotland, said that he must ask for the indulgence of the House in addressing it for the first time on a subject of such great importance. His task was rendered much lighter by the fact that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had last session brought in a bill for England, and that the discussion on the English Act last year had already settled the principle if not the details of the new franchise. With respect to the borough franchise, it would be founded on identically the same principles as in the English Act, and the clauses would be found to have been framed with such care as to insure that every person who had the right would be admitted to the franchise. There was no provision with respect to lodgers, because they were recognized in Scotland as tenants. If, however, it was thought desirable to remove any possible doubt on this point, the Government would have no indisposition to submit a clause to that effect. The county franchises also would be identical with those of the English Act, and there would be a provision in the bill for inserting in every county roll the rateable value of all premises between £50 and £12. This provision would not only ensure uniformity but prevent the possibility of any suspicion of a desire on the part of local authorities to interfere with the value on which the franchise was founded. The question of redistribution was perhaps the most important of all. There certainly was no superfluity of members in Scotland, and it would not be proposed to take any from any existing constituency. The question was whether to meet the claims of Scotland for an increase of its representation, there should be a diminution of English members or an increase of the House. He then reviewed what was done for Scotland in the Act of 1832 and the proposed Reform Bills since that time. In the bill of 1866 it was proposed to add seven members, and the Government last year had adopted that proposal. Some of his friends might think that number much too small, but he would ask them to bear in mind the difficulties attending the question. The Government again proposed that the addition to Scotch representation should be seven members, and the question was how were these seats to be provided. The Government adhered to the opinion which it had declared last year, and would ask the House to agree to this addition to its numbers in order to meet the moderate, but the just, claims of Scotland. The next question was how were these seats to be distributed. It would be proposed to give two members to the Scotch universities, one member each to the three great counties, Lanark, Ayr, and Aberdeen; one to Glasgow, on the same principle as in the case of Liverpool and the other great English boroughs; and one to districts comprising the boroughs of Ardrossan, Coatbridge, Wishaw, Barrhead, Johnstone, Helensburgh, Kirkintilloch, and Polmadie. Of the other boroughs it would be proposed to add Hawick and Galashiels to the Haddington district, Alloa to Stirling. Having asked the House to dispassionately consider these proposals, which he believed the more they were considered the more would they be recommended to their attention, he concluded by moving for leave to bring in the bill.

Mr Baxter complained that the bill would add to the influence of the territorial aristocracy, and strongly protested against the proposal to add to the number of the House. He would rather have Scotland dealt with as an integral portion of the kingdom, and the undoubted claims of the rising towns in Scotland decided in comparison with those of England which now returned one and even two members.

Mr Smollett commented in a sarcastic manner on the whole question. He advised the Scotch members to accept the proposal of the Government, although they might just as well have asked the House to add 15 to its numbers, for the public were wearied of party fights on the question.

Mr Ogilvie expressed his disappointment at the bill.

Mr Laing felt that it was impossible to expect a just or permanent adjustment of seats in the present Parliament. He would accept the proposal of Government, believing that there was a strong national feeling in Scotland in its favour, and that they would be placed in a better position when the question was brought up again for final adjustment.

Mr Moncrieff declared himself opposed to an increase of the House. It would be a mockery to weed the counties of their great rising boroughs for the purpose of giving these eight towns one member amongst them. He would urge the Government to reconsider that proposal, for it could never be accepted. He pointed out that the personal payment of rates would occasion great inconvenience, and would open the door to the exercise of improper influences, and trusted that real and earnest precautions would be taken to prevent the manufacture of votes by the great landed proprietors.

Col. Sykes objected to the increase of the number of the House.

Mr M'Laren was of opinion that as the Government had proposed to give sixteen members to Scotland there would be no objection to add to the number of members in the House. As for the present bill it was worse than that of last year, and he would rather have no bill at all. Considering the total number of members, it was too much to give two to the universities. He criticised the other provisions of the bill unfavourably, considering those relating to the distribution of seats as objectionable.

Sir E. Colebrook expressed similar opinions.

Sir James Ferguson generally defended the bill.

After some remarks from Mr Graham,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the bill proposed the largest increase to the Scotch constituencies and the most munificent extension of the franchise ever proposed for the consideration of Parliament, and he was astonished at the hostility with which the members who had spoken had received it. He could not believe that the second reading of a bill of this character would be opposed on details. Its principle was in the first place a great extension of the franchise, and in the second place, the increase of the representation of Scotland. The Government had made such proposals, believing from information which they had received that they were the most likely to give satisfaction to the people of Scotland. For instance, Parliament having decided unanimously on a new principle in the case of the large English boroughs returning three members, the Government was bound to follow it in the case of Glasgow. The objections which he had heard related solely to details, but he trusted the House would bear in mind the numerous difficulties of the question, and address itself to the practical solution of them.

After some further remarks from Mr Craufurd and Mr Beardon, leave was given, and the bill was read a first time.

A coal trimmer named Longstaffe, of Morpeth, Northumberland, has come to a shocking death. Going home early on Sunday morning intoxicated he landed in a pigsty, and was found some hours after, dead, his brute companions having horribly mangled him.

Picault, the chemist in Montreal who administered the poison by mistake, and caused two deaths, has been committed to stand his trial for manslaughter by the coroner. The jury were divided, seven holding that the poisoning was the result of negligence, and six that it was an accidental.

$250 REWARD.—It will be observed by our advertising columns that the Town Council have at length offered a reward of $250 for the apprehension and conviction of the murderers of Sullivan. Though a long time has elapsed since the unfortunate murder occurred, it is to be hoped the reward offered will stimulate some efficient detective to ferret out the whereabouts of the murderers and bring them to justice.—*Belleville Intelligencer.*

It is certainly odd enough that Chief Justice Chase should now give as a reason for again postponing the trial of Jeff. Davis that he must first preside at the trial of Andrew Johnson. When Davis fell into the hands of justice, Johnson or all men in the country, most earnestly demanded his trial and punishment. Three years have passed away, Johnson himself is denounced as a traitor and enemy of the country, and the trial of Davis is postponed in order that the trial of Johnson may be prosecuted.—*American paper.*

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

The *Natal Mercury* of the 11th January copies the following from the Transvaal Argus, received in December: Mr Marthinus Swarts, the elephant hunter, who has just returned from one of his annual shooting excursions in the interior near the Zambesi, informs us that in June of last year he spoke to some natives who had accompanied the great traveller, whom they call 'Minarie,' signifying 'good'—the name by which Dr. Livingstone is known to the natives. These men Mr Swarts met three days' journey north of the Victoria Falls, who informed him that in the beginning of April last 'Minarie' (the doctor) stated to them that he was now going away, and dismissed them, giving them various presents, and also sending presents by them to Natasch. This took place at a certain spot twenty days' journey on foot from where Mr Swarts met them and close to some very large river which runs in an easterly direction. Ratanga is chief of the Barotsi, and Cepopo is his chief captain. This large river has its sources at some distance from the Debebe, and is described by the natives as considerably larger than the Zambesi. Mr Swarts further says that the coast cannot be far distant, as the natives had sea shells in their possession, which they stated they had got from the big water, meaning the sea. Mr Swarts also says it would be impossible for the Doctor to transmit any letters, as no native could be induced to carry them beyond his own tribe, for venturing beyond, certain death to the messenger would be the consequence. So far as we know, this very large river is not laid down on any map, and, being hitherto unknown, it is very probable that the Doctor, after dismissing these native servants, had proceeded to explore it, intending to reach the coast at a point where this river discharges itself into the Indian ocean."

NEW SENATORS.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CROWN IN CHANCERY FOR CANADA—Ottawa, 14th March, 1868.—His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to summon the following gentlemen to the Senate of Canada, viz:

James Rea Benson, Esquire, of Saint Catharines, Province of Ontario, in the stead of the Honourable Adam Johnston Fergusson Blair, deceased.

John Glazier, of the County of Sunbury, Province of New Brunswick, in the place of Edward Barron Chandler, Esq., who has declined the appointment.

James Dever, of the city of St. John, Province of New Brunswick, Esq., in the place of William Todd, Esq., who declined the appointment.—*From the Gazette extra.*

Western fruit-growers predict a heavy yield the coming season.

During twelve months the number of letters delivered by carriers in New York city was 12,009,070 mail and 5,137,000 City letters. The Southern and Western mail averages daily one hundred tons.

There is a caricature in the *Charivari* called the "Savings Bank." Every one of the European Powers, whose official journals daily say that peace is quite assured, are represented as busily heaping up immense piles of cannon balls.

The Ohio Cashmere Company, with headquarters in Vinton county, has purchased, within the last year, $100,000 worth of Cashmere goats. The wool is worth $6 a pound.

The value of land in Paris has increased very largely within the last five years, owing to the great public improvements which have opened up new parts of the city.

We observe in the British army estimates that the Home Government has taken up a sum of £160,000 sterling for expenditure on Halifax, Bermuda, Malta and Gibraltar, for 1868-9, compared with £149,000 for 1867-8.

The authorities of Paris are adopting a plan for the prevention of fires, which it is believed will render fire engines almost unnecessary. Water is to raised to the tops of the highest buildings, and every house is to be provided with a large pipe, to which a hose can be adapted on very short notice.

The Granby *Monitour* says: We have seen with pleasure that the mischievous bill of M. Bessette, for the dismemberment of the Townships of Granby and Roxson has been postponed to the Greek Kalends. It was to resist a principle which would have the most fatal consequences. We cannot admit that the administrators of the Church of Rome may cut and carve at their will the existing divisions of the Townships, which have become established in the public opinion.

The Cincinnati *Times* says:—In the east end of the city are many tenement houses which, for their number of occupants, equal in squalor the worst forms of New York life. This feature is on the increase in our city, and each day adds to this miserable class of humanity from amongst the German immigrants, as well as from the labouring classes, who are forced to this lower depth by the late severity of the times.

The condition of the State Canals of New York is attracting considerable attention, and is a source of some anxiety to Western forwarders. Official mismanagement and corruption have allowed these avenues of trade to fall into a sad state of dilapidation, and it is said that no less than $12,000,000 are required to restore them completely. Last year over six weeks of navigation were lost in consequence of breaks and defective embankments that might have been prevented had proper arrangements been made. The canals cost the State immense sums of money annually, many of which find their way into the pockets of needy politicians for contracts never performed.

On Thursday last a distressing suicide was committed at Knowsley. We understand that for some weeks past the second valet at Lord Derby has been engaged to one of the female domestics at the hall, and that a marriage between them had been arranged, and was shortly to have taken place. Within the last few weeks, however, the deceased became impressed with the delusion that he had been supplanted by another in her affections, and this circumstance preyed much upon his mind. On Thursday afternoon he was found dead in his room, having apparently committed self-destruction by cutting his throat. An inquest was held on the body at Knowsley, on Friday, when an open verdict was returned. The deceased, who had been for some years in his Lordship's service, was much respected.—*Liverpool Albion.*

The Peat machine of a Troy inventor has proved a complete success, and is now coming into demand in the West. The crude peat, just as it is dug from the bed, is fed into the apparatus, cut up by knives, beat into a pulp by beaters, and finally forced out by a spiral screw. The peat is discharged upon crates, which are placed upon cars constructed for the purpose. The crates are then put upon racks to dry. The drying process occupies about four weeks. The cars run upon movable tracks, which are laid upon the peat field to suit the convenience of manufacture. Quite an interesting incident is related in connection with the introduction of the machine in the West. The people had long suffered from the want of fuel. Coal was scarce and high, and wood cost so much that poor people could not afford to burn it. There were immense peat beds in a certain vicinity, but they were not available for fuel because them was no practicable method for preparing it for market. A machine was sent out there and set up. The power was applied, the wheels commenced to move, the apparatus worked admirably, and a shout went up from hundreds of throats that made the welkin ring. The machine, in two hours and a half's work, turned out twenty-two tons of dry peat.

A story of Theodore Hook is told by Counsellor O'Dowd in his last story, to the effect that at some civic banquet, on the appearance of a fifth course of dainties Hook laid down his knife and fork, and declared that he would take the chair no longer, "The idea, O, Dowd declares, of a policy might be pursued sufficient to make King The odore see the sense of such a course, give up his prisoners, and take the cost of the Abyssinian campaign out in money."

California calls the practice of embalming and decomposing with the spoils, being Shanghaied," from the habit the swindlers have of making a journey to China.

The rats were in Paris lately occasioned the death of two of the ostriches in the Jardin-des-Plantes, and has killed a great many plants.

It is reported that a manufacturer in New York city has an order for 200,000 thimbles at eighteen cents a dozen for a "gift enterprise," tickets fifty cents, no blanks.

Queen Victoria is reported to be an indefatigable knitter; and, therefore, all the English ladies are learning to make their husbands' stockings and their own.

The Court Journal says: "The medical attendants on Prince Leopold, finding that he is deriving much benefit from the sea air, the Queen has deferred her departure for Windsor to March 3. The Prince is rapidly recovering his wonted health."

Mr Calvert, late her Majesty's consul at the Dardanelles, has been convicted before the Supreme Court at Constantinople of defrauding the underwriters at Lloyd's of £12,000, and has been sentenced to two years' penal servitude.

A communication from Rome, to the Havas Agency, states that a monk, Father Curci, who enjoys some reputation in Italy for eloquence, recently insinuated in a sermon that the Emperor Napoleon was acting hypocritically in the services rendered to the Holy See. A painful sensation was in consequence created in Rome, and the French Ambassador had a conversation with Cardinal Antonelli on the subject. The Roman Secretary of State at once declared that the Pope had already administered a severe reprimand.

The *Patrie* of Feb. 27, says that the Jury of Honour appointed to decide upon the accusation of corruption made by M. Kervegueu against the editors of certain Paris newspapers had declared that there is neither proof nor presumptive evidence that M. Guerout or M. Havin had received money from the Italian or Prussian Governments. The Jury cast censure upon M. Kervegueu for having brought an accusation of which no proof could be adduced against his colleagues in the Legislative body.

A Curious Journal is published in Toulon, France, by an eminent but eccentric professor. The contributions to the pages are gratuitous, and after deducting actual cost of publication, the profits are divided among the poor of the different towns, to their respective mayors, in proportion to the number of subscribers. The work costing $1 25 a year, has been a great success, commanding respect by the merit of its articles, and issued at so low a price as to be within the reach of almost any one. The proceeds distributed amount to many thousand francs a year.

The *Indian Daily News*, summarising the Madras intelligence, says the position of the Nawab of Tonk has caused far less interest and sensation than the advent of Drs. Norman Macleod and Watson, who have come out as a missionary deputation. They were to be publicly received on the 25th of January at a meeting at which the lord bishop was to preside, but their ministrations in the local kirk had already drawn crowds. Natives as well as Europeans (our Indian contemporary remarks) are glad of the visit, and it cannot be doubted that among the more advanced classes of the former the liberal views of such men as Dr. Macleod will effect much good.

The *Journal de Paris* relates a curious circumstance which is taking place at Desenzano, in the province of Brescia, in Italy:—"The Hotel de Porta-Vecchia, built upon piles on the shore of the Lake of Garda, is gradually sinking at the rate of about six inches a day: the ground floor has already disappeared. This immersion is taking place imperceptibly, and without any shock. Every means of preventing it have been employed, but without avail. Numbers of persons have come from a distance to witness this singular spectacle. The proprietor of the hotel, who was at first in despair at this misfortune, at length determined to charge a fee for admission to the house, and has already received a sum of money which will go far to compensate him for his loss. A scientific commission is about to visit the spot to open an inquiry.

BABY FARMING IN MANCHESTER.—A physician writes to us in the following strain:—"Several years ago I held an appointment of medical officer to the Sick Children's Hospital at Manchester, where many and instances of the effects of 'baby farming' came under my notice. Factory workers marry very early; and, as female hands, can earn nearly as much as their husbands, the babies of these young couples are left, not unfrequently, in the charge of old women, who 'take care' of as many children, legitimate and illegitimate, as they can get. The charge for thus taking care of a child appeared to vary from eighteenpence to three shillings a week. Numerous were the cases of chronic diarrhœa and atrophy from mesenteric disease in these nursed children that were brought to the hospital. Some of the nurses were women of dissolute habits and without shame; others, feeble women, so old as to be in their second childhood. Few of the nursed children came to the hospital for trifling maladies; the majority were brought when the nurse believed the child was so near death that a doctor's certificate would be wanted. The diseases from which the farmed children suffered could be traced in nearly all cases to the improper food that had been systematically given to the child; in some cases, to the insufficiency of the quantity of food, and to the free use of "quieting stuff." Children but a few months old were fed by the less intelligent of these 'baby-farmers' with some of their own coarse food; while others who were in the charge of the worst sections of nurses, received little else but bread, water, potatoes, and (to keep them quiet) a little coarse sugar, which they sucked through muslin and other rags. Milk, so absolutely necessary for the healthy growth and development of a baby, was not given by the majority of these nurses, except a ha'p'orth sometimes; perhaps once or twice a week. It was no wonder, then, that so many of the children became diseased and wasted; no wonder that so many of them were brought up for the 'certificate.' In some cases, I absolutely refused to prescribe for children unless they were in the care of their mothers, feeling assured that, unless taken from the hands of the baby farmers, recovery was hopeless. In some cases, I positively refused to give certificates where I felt assured the babies had been nursed to death. Now if the child-bearing woman were allowed to work in any factory or warehouse until her child became a year old, much disease and early death might, I am certain, be prevented. There is a flaw in the Registration Act which deserves attention. When a doctor's certificate cannot be obtained the Registrar can register the death on the report of two respectable witnesses who were present at the time of death. This is the loophole through which many a baby farmer, culpable of gross neglect, makes a safe retreat from justice. I shall be anxious to learn through your journal whether the system of baby farming has grown or diminished in Manchester."—*British Medical Journal.*