We cannot undertake to return communications of which we do not avail ourselves. Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only; if long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

The Daily British Whig.

Upper per Cubic Inches.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1857.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAPHS RECEIVED.

T. H., et T. R. R., New York; J. S., Montreal; J. S. P. & A. M. B., Chatham; W. F. C., Toronto; P. M., Brighton; T. L., Toronto; K. D. S. W., Cornwall; P. M., Brockville.

From the London Times.

The Minister to Washington.

Lord Napier has been appointed British Minister at Washington. The direct diplomatic communications which had been interrupted in so untoward a manner are thus to be resumed again, and again we are to have a resident British Minister to the United States. The result of our former experiment has not been very encouraging. The great subjects of difference which have arisen between this country and the North American Confederation, from the Boundary Question to the more recent entanglements concerning Central America, have been settled either at home or by special mission. Our regular negotiators would seem rather to have embroiled us—rather to have given occasion for offence—than to have smoothed the passage from irritated feelings to the kindlier emotions of friendship and good-will. Why should it be? Why, when we are so closely united by every bond of interest that the prosperity of the cotton districts in the States means the prosperity of the manufacturing districts of England,—that a plentiful crop in the Western States of the union means plenty at a cheap rate throughout the British islands,—but the commercial transactions of the Northern States are so inextricably bound up with those of our own merchants that they may almost be considered as identical, although carried out by different hands? Why, we say, when these things are considered, should it be a difficult task to keep the peace between the States of the North American Union and the British Crown? The Londoner who lands at New York cannot convince himself that he is among "foreigners," nor could we readily believe that the traveller from New York would walk the streets of London with no other feelings than those which would stiff at him in the Linden-street of Berlin or the Boulevards of Paris. It can only be by the gross blunders of our respective Governments it can ever be dragged into an unwilling conflict with each other. The British Minister at Washington should have the easiest task of any member of the diplomatic body, save the United States' Minister in London. How is it, then, that more than once a directly opposite result has followed from that which might have been anticipated under the circumstances?

The answer, we fear, is, that the choice of the British representative in the States has too often been unfortunate. The mission to Washington should be regarded as a most important one, a post which requires the presence of a very considerable man, or it should be altogether suppressed. We have hitherto dealt with it, practically, as one of the second order, or as even lower in the scale of diplomatic dignities. Extremely permanent friendship and alliance between Great Britain and the United States of North America are, to say the least, as important as similar relations between this country and any continental Power. The existence of that great Confederation of Republican States, which is spreading so rapidly over the North American continent, adds enormously to the authority with which England can intervene in favour of liberty in Europe. Although the States should never man a ship of war or fire a gun in anger, there they are, an enormous counterpoise to the despotism which sullenly lords it over the eastern and southern portions of the Old World. No Englishman who respects humanity and glories in the achievements of his race can ever be indifferent to the progress and development of liberty in the North American Union. The peculiar constitution of these countries, however, would seem to point to the necessity of a peculiar principle of selection when we despatched to them a Minister who is to be the representative of England. We would rather see him selected from among the men who have given to Parliamentary eminence—who have won a high place in the estimation of their fellow-countrymen, and who have habitually breathed the free air of the British isles. We would know him versed in the doctrines of economic science, and well acquainted with the laws of commerce. Of what great avail in the English Minister at Washington can be the habits acquired and the faculties cultivated by familiar intercourse with despotic Courts? What can an English Envoy have learnt at Vienna or St. Petersburg that he would not have compelled to relearn before he could serve his country with effect at Washington? There is little need there of the insinuating smile and the reverential whisper. Diplomacy in the States is diplomacy in a glass house. The value of secret information in that quarter would not be worth the paper in which it should be inscribed. The public journals inform us of all we care to know, and of more that is perfectly useless, save to gratify curiosity. On the other hand, with regard to any important negotiations, communications are now so frequent and so rapid between the States and the old country that they would necessarily be carried on in obedience to instructions received from home. What we really require at Washington is the presence of a public man of sufficient weight to influence the opinions of public men by daily intercourse with them—of one who has the ability to stand forth as the exponent of English views, and to hold his own among the most distinguished statesmen of the American Union. Nor should we lay much stress on the time-honoured objection that a public man in this country is of necessity a party man, and that a party man could not be trusted in a diplomatic post. Party men make excellent Chancellors and Judges; why not Ambassadors and Envoys?

This is the only ground on which we see any reason against the appointment of Lord Napier as British Minister at Washington. By his previous career he would appear to be admirably fitted for my diplomatic appointment in the gift of the Crown, save only the mission to Washington. He has well taught. He has practised the craft of diplomacy in Vienna, Teheran, Constantinople, Naples, St. Petersburg, and again at Constantinople. He is therefore well adapted to represent his country in the East, or at any of the despotic military Courts of Continental Europe. The very assiduity, however, with which he has laboured in his vocation at such posts proves that he has never had time to gain an insight into the working of free institutions. He has now to complete his education at Washington. A better choice might have been made, but certainly many a worse one, as diplomatists go. It is not our wish to carril at the man, for he enjoys a very high reputation for capacity; but we objected to the system. The choice of our Minister at Washington should be an exceptional one, as the case is exceptional. A straightforward public man, accustomed to popular forms, with an English tongue in his head—he needs no other—would be the best representative we could send across the Atlantic. Let us hope that a wiser system may in time be adopted with regard to these diplomatic posts, and, meanwhile, wish Lord Napier joy of his appointment. If he forgets well nigh all he has ever learnt, and takes warning by the example of his predecessors, he may do his country good service, even at Washington.

CREDIBILITY OF WITNESSES.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir,—On the trial of Dedios Redanies for murder, reported in the Times of the 26th of December last, I find the following circumstances occurred:—

"Thomas Girling was called into the witness-box, and he said that, before he was sworn, he wished to state that he considered the administration of an oath was merely a civil ceremony.

"Mr. Baron Bramwell asked him whether he believed in a future state of rewards and punishments.

"Girling said he did not believe in a future state.

"Mr. Baron Bramwell said that he could not be sworn, and ordered him to leave the witness-box."

As this person was called on behalf of the prosecution, and the prisoner was found guilty without his testimony, it may be presumed that in this case the rule which led to his rejection had no important effect; but suppose he had been the sole witness to a fact which could establish the innocence of a man on trial for his life under circumstances of great suspicion!

Surely it is time that this matter should be set to rights. There is nothing new to be said about it in the way of argument; the only obstacle to the establishment of a rational practice is the general unwillingness to disturb the existing state of things in connexion with a question on which a great deal of prejudice exists.

Nobody pretends seriously to believe that a witness is incapable of telling the truth, or is in any appreciable degree less likely to tell the truth than another man. We all know the contrary, and make no such distinctions in our daily dealings with our neighbors. Besides, what can be more irrational than to deny credibility to a witness because he himself makes a statement that is credited, and the making of which, moreover, is a very strong proof of his regard for truth? He might have kept his simples to himself and taken the oath devoutly like anybody else; but because he is too honest to do this he is declared to be utterly incapable of truth that it is unless even to listen to him. Observe too, what an easy escape this rule gives to an unwilling witness; he has only to declare that he does not believe in a future state, and the law cannot touch him.

Great advances have been made of late years towards the establishment of the true principle as to the admission of evidence—namely, that all witnesses ought to be listened to, and that it is for those who hear them to weigh the value of their testimony; and I hope it will not be long before good sense has another triumph in the abrogation of the present religious test.

I do not say that there may not be cases in which a jury may properly disregard the evidence of a professed sceptic; all I say is, that it is preposterous to refuse altogether to receive it, when a man may confess himself to be a prisoner, a swindler, a burglar, and yet be admissible as a witness.

In connexion with this subject I may also refer to the extremely foolish way in which custom requires judges and magistrates to satisfy themselves of the capacity of children who are brought to give evidence. They are to examine whether the witness "understands the nature of an oath." If the child can repeat the Lord's Prayer, and can say that "naughty boys who tell lies will go to hell" (which I humbly hope is very far from true as a universal proposition) he is a competent witness; if not, he is rejected. Nothing can be more fallacious than such a test. Like the rule against sceptics, it is based on the entirely false assumption that there is no moral sense independently of religion. The credibility of children should be ascertained precisely as that of adults is ascertained—namely, by observation of their demeanour and the amount of intelligence and consistency which they display, aided, if necessary, by the testimony of others.

I do not want to see judicial oaths abolished, because I know that, in point of fact, they do secure veracity in many witnesses; still no divine or moralist can allege that an oath adds anything to the obligation to tell the truth, which is absolute without it; and if a witness either objects to be sworn, or say that he considers it superfluous, his testimony should just be taken all the same without any further ado.

January 1. B. R.

TRANSPORTATION TO CANADA.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir,—I hope you will excuse my again troubling you on Canadian affairs, but I cannot let the letter of "A. K. Isbister," in The Times of the 26th, pass without, as a Canadian, raising my voice against the injustice that he would perpetrate on the British North American provinces, by establishing a penal settlement at Hudson's Bay.

Why could not England just as well select some of her own northern islands for this purpose, as to be troubling other people with her rogues and vagabonds?

It would be just as easy to escape from Hudson's Bay to Canada as from some of the northern islands to Scotland.

It may be supposed by persons unacquainted with North America and the Indian tribes, that the Indians would prevent the escape of the white prisoners through their country, but you would find that these very Indians would be the means of enabling the felons to escape.

Let 20 resolute men once get away from the establishment, they would immediately seize all arms, ammunition &c., that they required from the first tribe of Indians they met, and, so far from the Indians attempting to arrest them they would think as they as a band of jackalls would from a lion passing through their midst.

The Indians between Hudson's Bay are not the men they once were, but complete slaves. What with the rigour of the climate and the cupidity of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company these poor natives are reduced to such a state of destitution as to be completely broken down in spirit—so much so, that the Indians sent in search of Sir John Franklin were not selected, as might be supposed, from those nearest to the field of action, but from the tribes settled in free Canada.

Therefore, if, as proposed, your convicts were located on land for the purpose of supporting themselves by farming, the first thing we should hear of in Canada would be that a large band of armed desperadoes from Hudson's Bay were plundering the peaceful backwood settlers of Canada; we should have to call out our local militia as the only force competent to cope with this description of marauders and be put to an enormous yearly expenditure to protect our border settlements.

This, perhaps, in the end would be the best thing that could happen, for we should then be obliged to make such a remonstrance to the home Government that they would see the necessity of attaching that part of Canada, now called the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company's Territory, to the present civilized part, and by that means free the Indian tribes from their worse than Southern slavery.

But all this would only tend to create hard feelings between Canada and England.

Why should England, now that by wise concessions she has made Canada an ultra-loyal colony, take such steps as may exasperate its inhabitants?

The truth may as well be spoken out, as for every one to know but not acknowledge it. Canada among Canadians means all that part of British North America called Canada East, Canada West, and the Hudson's Bay Company's Territory.

We all know that there is a charter granted to the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company, with which we cannot well interfere, but when that expires it would be wise in the British Government to incorporate that part of America with Canada.

But whatever you do never attempt to thrust the scum of Britain into the backwoods of America.

CANADA WEST.

Duke-street, Adelphi.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' CONVENTION.—We are informed that Henry Hoyt, Esq., of Boston, Secretary of the American Sunday School Union, and the Rev. B. W. Chidlaw, of Cincinnatti Ohio, are among those from abroad who are expected to attend the approaching Teachers' Convention at Kingston. These gentlemen have long been connected with the Sabbath School cause in the United States, and their earnest and powerful advocacy of its interests have largely contributed to its success in that country.

The Rev. Mr. Boyd, of Montreal, is also expected to be there, as he is to deliver a lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association of that city, "On the Rise and Progress of Sabbath Schools," on the 12th of February.

We learn that several of the Sabbath Schools in this city have already appointed delegates to attend the Convention.—Montreal Herald.

HOW TO CHOOSE A MAYOR.

Almost every Canadian paper we lift, has a long complaint about the present plan of choosing Wardens of Counties, and Mayors of cities and towns in Canada West. The following from an English paper, may be new to some and is probably as good a method as any:—

In ancient days the people of Grimsby formed an admirable notion of the wisdom required for corporation honors. The burgesses assembled at the church, and selected three of the worthiest of themselves as candidates for the mayoralty. The candidates were then confounded, with a bunch of hay tied to each of their backs, to the common pound, into which they were placed blindfolded with a calf, and he whose bunch of hay was first eaten by the calf was thereupon declared mayor for the ensuing year.

LAMENTATION OF THE COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

THE NEW YORK DINNER.

"It was a splendid affair, but neither time nor space will allow us to do justice to it to-day. We will publish a full report of it in our next."—Commercial Advertiser of Friday.

*** Everybody present at the Dinner, thought that Mr Armstrong did full justice to it. Being a Teetotaller, he made up in good eating, his deficiency in good drinking.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER THREE, UPPER CANADA.

Naganee Troop of Volunteer Militia Cavalry.

John C. Green, Gentleman, is appointed to act as Adjutant, with the rank of Cornet.

To be Veterinary Surgeon:
Edward Howard, Gentleman.

Volunteer Militia Rifle Company of Picton.

To be Lieutenant:
Ensign John Gibson, vice Stinson, resigned.

To be Ensign:
Farrington Bedle, Gentleman, vice Gibson, promoted.

The number of Privates in this Company is increased to 63.

First Battalion, Hastings.

To be Captain:
Lieutenant Thomas Cannif.

To be Lieutenant:
Ensign William Bell.

To be Ensign:
Qarter-Master Daniel Cannif.

To be Quarter-Master:
Alexander Wilson, Gentleman.

Fifth Battalion Hastings

Lieutenant George Graham, of this Battalion, is permitted to retire.

The following items of news are from the Banner:—

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL—VISIT TO ENGLAND.—We learn from the letter of our Toronto correspondent, that His Excellency Sir Francis E. Head, is to pay a visit to England for the benefit of his health, at the close of the Parliamentary session.

ABOLITION OF THE RECTORIES.—Our Toronto correspondent states that there is a rumor to the effect that the Imperial authorities have agreed that the Provincial Legislature shall abolish the Rectories, and that they are to be commuted as the Reserves were. Something is expected to be done in the next Parliament.

Hamilton, Bermuda, Jan. 7.

THE HOME GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCAL ELECTIONS.—His Excellency the Governor having received by the last mail a despatch from the Secretary for the Colonies, together with the opinion of the Crown officers in England, on the proceedings in the House of Assembly during the last session, in the setting aside of the duly elected member for Pajet, Mr E. H. Smith, and substituting in his stead, the favorite of the majority Mr. S. S. Ingham, I enclose the opinion of the English Crown officers. You will perceive they express in strong terms their disapprobation of the course pursued by the House of Assembly, denouncing their proceedings as "an outrage, both on Parliamentary law and common sense," and that they entertain no doubt that in going thus far, and in substituting the return of Mr Ingham for that of Mr. Smith, the Assembly have altogether exceeded their constitutional powers."

The Governor has issued his proclamation dissolving Parliament, and a general election takes place at once, the writs being made returnable on the 18th February next.

The Islands are once more clear of fever, I trust a long time to remain so.

WHITBY AND GEORGIAN BAY RAILROAD.—We learn by telegraph from Whitby, yesterday evening, that the County Council of Ontario had agreed, by a vote of 10 to 6, to take stock in the Whitby and Georgian Bay Railroad, to the amount of £100,000.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

No. 78.

We have repeatedly alluded, and somewhat pettishly, to the weekly accumulations on Our Table, and this time they are so unusually numerous, that we can scarcely face the task of noticing them all. Our kind friends, the publishers, must excuse us, and we are quite sure our readers will, if we pass them over as double quick time.

IVORS. By the author of Amy Herbert. D. Appleton & Co., New York; J. Creighton, Kingston. 2 vols. 8 vo. pp. 320 et 356.

This is a new work by a very clever English lady. The style is admirable, the language remarkably good, the characters (female) well drawn, the incidents natural, and the plot and denouement particularly good. Everything is excellent, except the lady's men, and they, especially her hero, are execrable. It is rare indeed for a woman to paint the character of a man to satisfy her male readers, but the fair author of "Amy Herbert" is more than ordinarily deficient in drawing from nature. For form and appearance she seems to have studied the wax-work figures, in the London Hairdressers Shops; and for their language, manners and sentiments, she apparently is indebted to the old Minerva Press School of novelists. But in spite of this defect "Ivors" is a book worth the perusal, and will advance the reputation of the writer.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE FOR FEBRUARY. J. Duff and J. Creighton, Kingston. $3 a year.

This Number is out with three new chapters of "Little Dorrit." The leading illustrated papers are an abstract of Anderson's Lake Ngami, a botanical essay on "Liverwort," and some interesting Sketches of Old Thebes" by an American. One of the best and most instructive articles is a narrative of the Discovery of the Northwest Passage. There are several entertaining tales, the editorial departments are filled as well as usual, and the comicalities, original or borrowed from Punch, are very laughable. The "Story Book" accompanying this number of the Magazine is entitled "Vernon: or Conversations about Old Times in England." It is an excellent summary of that portion of English antiquities which is most interesting to children, and is profusely illustrated.

THE KNICKERBOCKER FOR FEBRUARY.—Samuel Hueston, New York. $3 a year.

The "Knickerbocker" for February is embellished by a portrait of Charles G. Leland, who is revealed as the author of the entertaining "Observations of Mace Sloper, Esq." The contents of this Magazine, except some of the jokes in the Editor's Table are original, and embrace contributions from Fred. Cozzens, W. H. C. Hosmer, the humorous "John Phœnix" and other popular writers. It is due to the old Knickerbocker to say that no one can take up any number of it without finding something to amuse him.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK FOR FEBRUARY. L. A. Godey, Philadelphia. $3 a year.

This is a better than usual Number of America's best Lady's Magazine. The engravings are truly beautiful, and all the other embellishments, ladies' patterns, &c, in exquisite taste. Godey never stands still, but always goes ahead.

PANORAMA OF LIFE AND LITERATURE FOR FEBRUARY. Littell, Son & Co., Boston.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. Nos. 662 et 663. Littell, Son & Co., Boston.—$6 a year.

HOUSEHOLD WORDS FOR FEBRUARY. Dix and Edwards, New York. $3 a year.

CHAMBERS' JOURNAL FOR JANUARY. New York: Reprint. J. Duff, Kingston. $2 a year.

THE CHRISTIAN BANNER FOR JANUARY. Oliver & Spencer, Brighton. $1 a year.

BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY FOR FEBRUARY. M. M. Ballou, Boston. $1 a year.

We can scarcely do more than barely acknowledge the receipt of the above six very popular periodicals. They have been read carefully, but to dilate upon their several merits this week is more than we have time to do.

PUTNAM'S MONTHLY FOR FEBRUARY. Dix and Edwards, New York. $3 a year.

A contemporary says, and we agree with him, that Putnam's "is the only Magazine on which the strong vigorous talent of the people is employed. The object of the publisher was, no doubt, to imitate Blackwood as closely as possible; but the attempt has been unsuccessful. It is, however, the best Magazine extant among our neighbors. The current number contains nine original articles, besides the Editorial Department." For sale at the City Book Stores.

THE UPPER CANADA LAW JOURNAL FOR JANUARY. Published at the Barrie Herald Office. $4 a year.

THE NEW YORK MUSICAL WORLD. Nos. 304 et 305. Willis & Morand, New York. $3 a year.

THE CANADIAN NEWS, OR BRITISH AMERICAN INTELLIGENCER. Vol. 1. No 16. January 7th, 1857. Algar & Street, London. Price 4d.

THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES. January 31st. J. Richards, New York. $5 a year with 8 engravings.

PORTER'S SPIRIT OF THE TIMES, January 31st. W. T. Porter and George Wilkes, New York. $3 a year.

We thank the publishers kindly for the continued receipt of the above Monthly and Weekly publications, and regret that we can do no more.

THE SONG OF HIAWATHA, by H. W. Longfellow. T. Nelson & Son, London, Edinburgh and New York. J. Duff, Kingston. 12mo pp. 113. One Shilling, bound.

Messrs. Nelson are paying off the Yankees in their own coin, by pirating and reprinting one of their very best copy-righted works. We notice this little volume on account of its getting up and its cheapness, being sold in Canada for a shilling English, the cheapest thing of the kind ever attempted.

We have to thank the Publishers of the N. Y. Tribune for a copy of their very admirable Almanac for 1857. It used to be called "The Whig Almanac"—it is now called the "Tribune Almanac."

Presentation of a Gold Medal.

Yesterday several members of the Council and a number of citizens attended at the Council Chamber to witness the presentation of the Gold Medal voted by the Council of last year to Mr. Blondheim, as an acknowledgment of his humane attentions to the sick and destitute emigrants during the years of '54 and '55. The Medal was presented by His Worship the Mayor, with a few appropriate expressions—to which Mr. Blondheim, evidently affected, made the following reply:—

MR MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN:—

I return you my grateful thanks for this valuable and elegant gift. My words cannot convey to you the emotions of my heart. Unable to do so, I can only accept this Testimonial, and shall preserve it very dear to me, as a memento of your kind and favorable appreciation of the slight services I rendered to the destitute emigrants during the years of '54 and '55. Excuse, Sir, my want of expression. My heart is willing to pour out its emotion; but my tongue refuses to act."

The Medal is about three inches in diameter and cost £25. It was manufactured by Mr. Spangenberg, and bears the following inscription in English and German:—

"Presented to
MR. S. H. BLONDHEIM,
by the City of Kingston, for his humane attention to the sick and destitute Emigrants during the years of '54 and '55."

The Home Government have informed the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, in a late despatch, that they are prepared to guarantee the payment of a Loan of £ 60,000 Sterling, redeemable in twenty years, to be applied to the extension of the creation of the Land Purchase Bill, the purpose of which is the buying up of proprietary Estates which now prevent the progress of the prosperity of the Island, and the converting of those estates into small freeholds.

THE RECORDERSHIP OF CITIES.

The following very excellent remarks from the Hamilton Spectator, are as applicable to Kingston as to Hamilton. We are of those who think that the time has come for Kingston to have a Recorder. If Judge McKenzie would do the duty, well—but the appointment must be a separate one, and the Court entirely different from that of the Quarter Sessions:—

The subject of the appointment of a Recorder for this city has been revived, and at the last meeting of the City Council, Alderman Hevenor gave notice that he would introduce a resolution for such appointment, at the next meeting of the Council, which takes place on Monday. As might naturally be expected, various opinions are entertained regarding the propriety of the movement, yet it appears that a strong feeling has been evinced in its favor. In so far as the Council is concerned, it falls within its province to decide whether we shall have a Recorder or not, if the decision be in the affirmative, then the appointment of a fitting person will be recommended to the Government. How the question will be viewed by the present Council, we are unable to say. The subject came before the last Council, but in such a shape that notwithstanding its rejection by a very narrow majority, we were not surprised at the fire it met with. There is much to be said in favor of the appointment of a Recorder, but the question will arise, is the city prepared to incur the expense attending it? Incur expense it is. The salary, we believe, is fixed by statute at £300 per annum; a small sum, it will be admitted, when compared with the benefit to be derived from a judicious selection. The necessity is admitted but the difficulty in the appointment is what will weigh with many. We must look at the subject, however, in a broader light.—Every citizen is more or less interested in having the best means adopted to remove the stigma and inconsistency attached to the present composition of such an important tribunal as that of the Recorder's Court of this city. Toronto and other cities have long since placed their Courts of the same nature under the superintendence of qualified gentlemen of the legal profession, while our own Court is still presided over by the Chief Magistrate for the time being. It was never contemplated by the Act of Parliament creating Recorder's Courts, that such anomaly should exist as that we now witness; the very title of the Courts shows this; and although the statute provides that the Mayor shall preside until the appointment of a Recorder, there could be no intention that so important a Court should continue from year to year, with its business efficiently and ably managed as other Courts of like powers.

The jurisdiction of the Court in this city is very large, embracing the same class of crimes and offences as the Quarter Sessions of the County, with power to sentence to the Penitentiary, and inflict heavy fines and penalties for breaches of the Municipal laws. It is exceedingly dangerous that such authority should not be exercised except in a constitutional manner; and, although every Mayor may have the requisite discretion and impartiality, he is not laid to give that right and justice to which every person is entitled who is tried in that or any other court, unless he is acquainted with the laws of the land and the rules of evidence regulating the same. The Recorder's Court should, at least, be placed on an equal footing with the Small Debt Courts of the country, over which the same legal qualification is placed which the Act requires for a Recorder, namely, five years' standing at the Bar. The Recorder's Court, as at present constituted, is not suited to the wants and wishes of the citizens. There is, virtually, no appeal from the Police Court, as there ought to be, inasmuch as the appeal is simply to the same court—the Mayor being supposed to be complained to, since there is no redress, no matter how much any one may be aggrieved by a decision of the Police Court. The system of electing the Recorder every year, in the person of the Mayor, is by no means satisfactory, and we have no doubt a change will sooner or later be effected. We have no wish to disturb the members of the City Council one way or the other; we take them to be men of judgment, and capable of deciding for themselves in a matter of so much importance. When the subject comes up, we hope they will give it all the consideration to which it is entitled.

DOMESTIC.

THE POISONING CASE—THE VERDICT.

QUEBEC, 30th January.

The Court met at half-past nine o'clock, pursuant to adjournment, and when Mr. Justice Duval and Mr. Justice Caron came in, the Hall was already crowded with spectators, and the Jury had taken their seats in the box.

The names of the Jury having been called over, and the usual questions being put by the Clerk, the Jury declared that they were agreed upon their verdict, and that the prisoner was guilty of the felony and murder whereof she stood indicted.

The rendition of this verdict caused a murmur of excitement in the room. The prisoner evinced no perceptible emotion, the handkerchief with which she had concealed her face during the trial preventing the scrutinizing gaze of the assembled multitude.

Mr. Justice Duval.—Mr. Sheriff remove the prisoner—I shall not now proceed to pronounce sentence.

WHITBY AND LAKE HURON RAILWAY.—By telegraph from Whitby last night, we are informed that resolutions in favor of the County of Ontario subscribing £100,000 stock in the Whitby and Lake Huron were passed in the County Council yesterday, on a vote of ten to six.

Dr. Wood's trial has been postponed till next Assizes. He has consequently renewed his bail to appear then, in answer to the charge of murder. His sureties are Mr. Alpheus F. Wood, of the Township of Madoc; and Mr. David S. Young, of Belleville, Prince Edward, in £740 each, and himself in £1,500.

The Markham Economist of the 29th January, says that on Sunday the 25th, an inquest was held at Richmond Hill, by Geo. Hodgeford, Coroner, on the body of Sarah McKendrie, of that place. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased had left her residence on Saturday night about 12 o'clock, while the other members of the family were asleep, excepting her husband, who was absent at time, who she proceeded about twenty yards from the house in her night clothes, and was found an hour after quite dead, with her throat cut in a most shocking manner; a razor was also found near her side covered with blood. The verdict of the jury was: that deceased had come to her death by committing suicide while labouring under a fit of temporary insanity, brought on by reports circulated injurious to her character.

THE HOMICIDE NEAR HAMILTON.—On the proceedings of the Coroner's Inquest on the body of T. G. Hopkins, the man killed at the toll-house on the Waterdown road, near Hamilton, the prisoner Lowe having been duly cautioned, gave substantially the same version of the affray as he had previously given, and as reported in the evidence of the previous witnesses. He gave his evidence out with some excitement, but still coherently.

Mr. Lowe, the Secretary of the road company, from whom Hopkins said he had the note, was called and gave Lowe a good character. He said he had given Hopkins no note; in fact he did not know him.

The Jury were locked up all night, having come to a dead lock, their being eight for acquittal, and eight for manslaughter, on the ground that the necessary force had been used by Lowe, under threatening his adversary. In the morning they gave their separate verdicts, which, of course, amount to nothing at all.

The Crown had leave to bail witnesses against any change which might be preferred against him at the Assizes.

St. Catharines, Jan. 30.

A fire broke out in the block of frame buildings between the Niagara District Bank and Merriburger's block, off St. Paul Street, at half-past eleven o'clock last night. The whole of the frame building was consumed, a part of which was occupied as a printing office by Messrs. Great, Scully & Co., proprietors of the Post, whose loss is said to amount to about £500, covered by insurance to the amount of £250. The building was owned by Mr. Wm. Brown, of St. Catharines. Insurance about £180. It will be considerable. The Niagara District Bank was in great danger of being burnt, but owing to the prudence of the night watch it was saved. How the fire originated is not known.

New York, Jan. 29.

ONE OF THE EUROPEAN STEAMSHIPS ASHORE AT NANTUCKET.—Capt. Morris, of the steamer R. B. Forbes of Boston, steamed for Provincetown, Mass., on Monday evening, months having seen yesterday a large steamship ashore on Head, Nantucket, probably stuck, displaying signals of distress. She was thought to be an European steamer but it could not be near enough to ascertain her name. Capt. Morris thought it important to get earlier.

There is a gale and snow storm with Nantucket and miles of ice are all round the place where the steamer is reported ashore, so that it will be difficult to learn anything particular respecting the vessel, or to get at her until the weather moderates.

Capt. Morris of the steamer R. B. Forbes reports that the steamship new Seasonly Head looked like the City of Manchester.

The Forbes was aling at Provincetown this afternoon, and will not leave the vicinity of Nantucket till midnight—we shall then be able to say anything further in relation to the steamer ashore on night.

SAFETY OF THE UNKNOWN STEAMSHIP.—The British steamship New York, Captain Craig, from Glasgow, Jan. 1, with merchandise and 27 steerage passengers to J. Monteith, arrived in port last night. This vessel was the unknown steamer seen in distress off Nantucket, and supposed to be ashore. She has experienced heavy westerly gales the entire passage, and was obliged to put into Nantucket on the evening of the 21st instant, for coal, which it was found impossible to obtain, it having to be carried eight miles through a deep snow, and hoisted off to the ship in her small boat, and she being most of the time surrounded by large quantities of field ice; commenced taking in coal on Tuesday, the 20th, and left Nantucket on the 27th for this port. The "New York" brought home Capt. Burgess of the schooner "Connecticut" from Plymouth for New York. The "Connecticut" sailed from New York Jan. 18, and sprung a leak when two days out; ran her into Marblehead, and, where she was dragged to settle the keel, and when off Nantucket she became fast. The captain and crew abandoned her, and went ashore to Nantucket Light House, having to walk five miles on the beach to reach land.

ARRIVALS AT THE BRITISH AMERICAN HOTEL.

Feb. 1st.—J. J. Proctor, Brighton; H. Bowslby; W. H. Evans, Montreal; Jas Wright, Montreal; Alex. McPherson, Toronto; S. R. Evans, Montreal; W. Turner, Belleville; M. Lourd, Brockville; Mr. Cuthbert, Lady and Servant, Montreal.

Feb. 3rd.—W. D. Hennessy, New Orleans; G. Gray, and Lady, New York; Miss Forbes, do; Mrs Gamble, do; J. Martin, Montreal; Capt. Howard, do; Alex Milloy, do.

IMPORTS.

Feb. 1st.—Per Sleighs, Cape Vincent, 4 boxes straw goods, W. Wilson, 1 box, 35 kegs oysters, A. Miller, 2 boxes, 60 kegs oysters, J. Winters, 1 box, R. Russell, 1 package, H. Ferguson.

Feb. 3rd.—Per Sleighs, Cape Vincent, 1 lot cheese, J. L. Gordanier, 19 bags flour, A. Beggs, 2 box, 1 machine, C. F. Staples, 4 box, D. Chisachi, 1 case cloth Mayer & Co., 2 boxes books, J. McMullen, 7 bales canvass, J. Falconer, 4 trunks goods, A. Scoor, 38 chairs, J. Salmon.

EXPORTS.

February 1st.—Sleighs, Cape Vincent, 11 bales wool, 11 bags grass seed, 4 bales and 193 hides, 2 bales pelts, 4 bags seed.

February 3rd.—Per Sleighs, Cape Vincent, 64 bags grass seed, 60 carcases venison, 1 barrel partridges, 2 bags furs.

Are you getting Bald? Is your hair turning grey? Do you wish to cultivate gold whiskers and moustaches? Your hair to be soft, silky, and glossy? Your head to be cool comfortable, and free from dandruff? Mothers! are your children to have luxuriant heads of hair? Then use Bogle's Hyperion Fluid, which never fails in its unfailing effects. Price 25 cents, 50 cents, 75 cents and $1 50 per bottle. Bogle's Balm of Cathaira stands unrivalled for eradicating tan and pimples and beautifying the complexion. Price 50 cents. Inventor and proprietor, W. Bogle, Boston, and sold by druggists everywhere. 237

Do the Ladies wish a pure complexion in spite of the rough Autumn winds and sun?

Use the "Persian Balm."

Sold by J. B. Eyre & Co., E. W. Palmer, and E. H. Parker, Kingston.

KINGSTON MARKETS.

Saturday, Jan. 31.

Flour ₩ cwt	0	15	0	to 0	17	6
Wheat ₩ bush	0	5	9	0	0	0
Oats ₩ bushel	0	2	6	0	2	9
Rye do	0	3	6	0	3	3
Barley do	0	3	0	0	3	3
Peas ₩ bushel	0	4	0	0	0	0
Indian Corn do	0	4	0	0	0	0
Indian Meal	0	8	3	0	0	6
Oatmeal	0	15	0	0	17	6
Potatoes do	0	2	6	0	3	0
Turnips do	0	2	6	0	0	0
Carrots and Parsnips do	0	0	0	0	0	0
Onions do	0	5	0	0	7	6
Butter ₩ lb	0	1	0	0	1	2
Beef ₩ cwt	1	5	0	1	15	0
Pork do	0	32	6	0	35	0
Beef ₩ lb	0	0	3	0	0	4
Pork ₩ do	0	0	4	0	0	5
Ham and Shoulders ₩ lb	0	0	7½	0	0	9
Bacon ₩ lb	0	0	3	0	0	4½
Lamb ₩ lb	0	0	4	0	0	5
Veal ₩ lb	0	0	0	0	0	6
Cheese ₩ lb	0	0	8	0	0	9
Eggs ₩ doz	0	1	0	0	1	3
Turkeys each	0	3	0	0	5	0
Geese each	0	2	0	0	2	9
Fowls ₩ pair	0	1	6	0	2	6
Ducks ₩ do	0	2	0	0	2	6
Apples ₩ bushel	0	0	0	0	0	0
Frozen Salmon each	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hay ₩ ton	4	0	0	5	0	0
Straw do	0	0	0	0	0	0
Timothy seed ₩ bushel	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clover Seed per bushel	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wood ₩ Cord	0	16	3	0	17	6
Pot Ash ₩ cwt	0	32	10	0	0	0
Hides ₩ cwt	1	7	6	1	10	0
Sheepskins each	0	3	6	0	5	0

A FAVORITE REMEDY.—We believe no medicine in the world has ever given such astonishing proof of its efficacy as Dr. Rogers' Liverwort, Tar and Canchalagua.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A PERFUMED BREATH.—This Personal charm all may secure by using the "Persian Balm" for a Dentifrice; it preserves the teeth, and imparts a delicious fragrance to the breath.

A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION.—The "Persian Balm" will insure a pure complexion, removing Tan, Pimples, Freckles, &c., leaving the skin soft, and free from every spot or blemish.

FOR SHAVING.—The "Persian Balm" cannot be excelled for shaving. It forms a most agreeable lather, renders the Beard soft as a Stamping it is unsurpassed.

PAIN KILLER.—The "Persian Balm" will sooth the Pain of the severest Burns or Scalds, like magic.

Only 25 Cents per Bottle in all Druggists. Wholesale by S. S. BLODGETT & Co., Ogdensburgh, N. Y. 3w-258

BEST HAIR DYE IN THE WORLD!

This is strong language, yet Bogle's Hyperion Hair Dye (recently improved) was proven to be so, by the judges at the late mechanic's Fair, held in Boston, among whom was Dr Hayes, the eminent chemist (and State assayer) who awarded it the PRIZE MEDAL AND DIPLOMA, over the choicest Hair Dyes on exhibition from all parts of the Union. Its unparalled superiority consists in, 1st. The ingredients are nourishing to the hair, not destructive as others are. 2d. Does not stain nor hurt the skin. 3d. Is easily applied, and gives the h