SCONCRIPTS AND DISCOUNTS PROCURED.

RECEIVED THIS DAY from New York, by Express.—

A Magnificent lot of FRENCH GLACE SILKS—in Stripes and Checks, suitable for Half Room or Evening Dresses, at from 50s. to 65s. each

BROWN & CO

Kingston, Feb. 6th, 1857. 21

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.

"Open for truth, clear."

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 11, 1857.

LETTERS & TELEGRAPHS.

J. S., Boston; R. C., Liverpool; J. E. E. L., Stratford; J. C., Montreal.

Operations of the British in China.

From the China Mail, November 20.

We must now proceed to give a brief account of Admiral Seymour's proceedings so far as we have gathered them. After the capture of the Bogue forts, the Calcutta and Nankin remained behind for the purpose of blowing them up—no easy job; and the fort at Ty-cook-Tow having fired upon the Hornet, Captain Stewart took possession of it on the 16th, after driving out the Chinese, and spiked its 55 guns. On Saturday, early in the morning, the steamers were annoyed by a number of long poll away war junks, which came out of the narrow creeks, fired and gets not. The boats chased them, but returned unsuccessful. The Sameen fort also fired upon the steamers, and several shot reached as far down as opposite the factories, but without doing any damage. A body of artillery was sent to destroy the fort, and the party having been molested by some of the enemy's sharpshooters, the Sampson sent a few shells among the houses, which dislodged them. One shell went right through the roof of Dr. Hobson's Hospital, and must have done much damage, as the building is known to have been filled with "braves" at the time, and a hideous yell issued from it immediately after the explosion. The business was completed in the evening, when the train were fired, and fourteen, which had been sunk, exploded. During the night one of the Nankin's boats, astern of the Barracouta, was towed under water, and two poor fellows drowned. Captain Cowper, of the Royal Engineers, has been busily engaged in arrangements for the defence of the factories. Chunc it is said, are to be sent up in the Barracouta, intended to be stretched across the river, as a defence against the fire rafts. The Barracouta will also take up four officers and one hundred men of the 59th Regiment, to replace the Americans withdrawn, and to relieve the Winchester's crew, and to return to Hong Kong. Dutch Folley, in addition to the Sybille's 6 guns, is armed with the Sampson's 32 cwt. guns and garrisoned by the Sybille's men, under Lieutenants Dent and Nares, Mr. Hudson (mate) and Messrs. Jackson, Brice and De Bergh (midshipmen.) French Folly is still in the hands of the Chinese, strongly manned and heavily armed. The Calcutta and Nankin are engaged in the destruction of the Bogue Forts; the Sampson and Comus are at the Barrier in the Macao passage; the Coromandel off the lower Samsen Fort; the Nigerand Hornet abreast of the factories, with two junks anchored ahead, a boom being carried from the junks to the shore leaving a very narrow passage for the boats, which must bear a pass from the British Consulate and have the British flag flying. The Barracouta leaves Hong Kong (to-night Nov. 20) or early to morrow, with men and ammunition. Yesterday, (Nov. 19 h) while a cargo boat was loading with gunpowder, &c., at the Ordnance Wharf, two lads strolled down with baskets filled with chips of wood, with the intention, apparently, of emptying them into the sea, instead of which they suddenly set them on fire, and threw them into the boat; and the sentries were so astonished that they allowed them both to escape. The gunpowder being in tins, no damage was done; but the very act itself shows that there is more daring in Chinese than foreigners are inclined to give them credit for.

P. S.—We have just heard that replies from Yeh were received yesterday afternoon (Nov. 19) to dispatches from Sir John Bowring and Dr. Parker, but their contents had not yet transpired. A party of "braves" made their appearance yesterday (Nov. 19) at the barricade, near Acow's Hotel, beating gongs, waving flags, and shouting valiantly. The guard was turned out, but the enemy had retired—frightened, probably, at the sight of the Winchester's field piece.

We learn from the Dunville Independent that on the 27th ult, a serious accident occurred on the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway. As the train was crossing the Forks Road, Mr J. J. Buck and his wife were crossing the road in a cutter.—The iron pillar in the front of the locomotive caught in the horse's collar, and carried him and the cutter along about 250 yards. Mr. and Mrs. Buck were thrown out, the latter striking her head upon a pile of ties. She was so severely injured that she died next day.

WILLIAM H. BOULTON, ESQUIRE.—Mr. Boulton entertained the Orangemen of Toronto on Saturday evening last, at their Lodge Room on the corner of King and Church Streets, in a very elegant and hospitable manner. The large room was crowded with the Masters and Deputy Masters of Lodges; and among the guests were the Mayor, ex Alderman Smith, George L. Allen, Esq., F. H. Metcalfe, Esq., Ogle R. Gowan, Esq., Alderman Strachan, and indeed all the leading Orangemen of the City. Mr. Boulton's health, which was, of course, the toast of the evening, was drunk with the very greatest enthusiasm; and his speech, which was exceedingly happy, was received with manifest delight. The entertainment, being a private one, we are only privileged to say, that it was characterized by an enthusiasm seldom witnessed even on such occasions.

SOLICITOR-GENERAL'S FEE.—In the accounts of the Ottawa & Prescott Railway Co., an item of £100 has been charged as the Solicitor-General's fee for his professional services in connection with the £13,000 advanced by Government for the redemption of the railroad crossing of that company, which were some time ago received in Ogdensburg. It can't be said with truth, that the Solicitor-General has disgraced the profession by taking too low a fee.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

No. 79.

This week we have met with little that can be called new on Our Table;—a few Magazines and some Hebdomadals, and they are about all;—and most of them too old familiar faces with whose merits the reader by this time must be well nigh nauseated. But we cannot make choice of Publishers' Gifts, and must take the goods the Gods provide us with a humble and a thankful heart. "Good wine needs no bush," neither does a bare Table much preface.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE FOR JANUARY, 1857. American Reprint of L. Scott and Co., New York; J. Creighton, Kingston. $3 a year.

Among our exchanges we found the following notice of this particular number and have scissored it:—

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—We are indebted to the Publishers for Blackwood's Magazine for January. First comes the beginning of what promises to be a series of tales entitled "Scenes of Clerical Life." The opening tale is called "The Sad Fortunes of the Reverend Amos Barton." It shows an average amount of ability in opening, and promises well. Next we have a review of Mrs. Barrett Browning's new poem "Aurora Leigh," which has created such a stir. Acknowledging Mrs. Browning's great powers, and the wonderful beauty of passages, the critic condemns the plot as absurd and the portraiture of character as in parts unnatural. Following this comes Part VIII. of "The Athelings," which is as charming a story as ever, still growing in interest. Next is an article from the lover of Natural History who has recently contributed so much to fill the columns of Magazines, entitled "New Facts and Old Fancies," about sea anemones. "A Christmas Tale" follows, which, after working the reader's nerves up to the highest pitch of excitement, ends after a fashion to make him cry "pshaw" and rail at the writer. The sixth paper is entitled "Routine," and is written in defence of that much abused creature, saying that routine is necessary, but the rulers and managers of routine have been to blame, yet throwing blame on this convenient scapegoat have escaped themselves. "John Decastro: a quiet réchauffé" follows, being a description of a quaint and very rare book published in London in 1815. "Maid Barbara" is a nice ballad or metrical romance of the old sort, which we all love to read so much. The last article is upon "European Politics," setting forth the position and prospects of the several European nations, and the game that their rulers are seeking to play.

THE PLOUGH, LOOM AND ANVIL, FOR FEBRUARY. Nash & Parish, New York. $3 a year.

Among a variety of useful information in this Magazine, the following method of exterminating the Apple Tree Borer, will be found worth the reading and preserving:—

REMEDIES AND PREVENTIVES.—These are of two kinds. One is, carefully to inspect every tree, and at every indication of the presence of an insect or egg, to follow it with a wire or with the knife, and destroy it. This is not difficult, since the borer throws out all his chips or sawdust, which may be seen at the place of its entrance, and his path may be easily followed. Another plan, which has proved successful, though it need not be followed exclusively, but in connection with the preceeding, is to lay bare the trunk of the tree around its roots, or at its collar or base, and commencing a few inches below the surface, bandage the trunk with old woollen strips, or old bags, making this covering secure by twine or otherwise, and giving to the tree, perhaps, a double thickness of these strips. Then replace the earth. The bandage may be extended as far as is thought expedient. Every succeeding spring, this bandage should be loosened and the work done over again. If the eggs are already deposited, a wash of lye is strongly recommended as a safe and effectual application. A pound of potash to a gallon of water will not injure the tree, though an application of less strength may be thought safer by some farmers. A very respectable journal (Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer) recommends a peck of leached ashes, or half a peck of unleached ashes, around the trunk of each tree. But this, of course, can afford no security for the higher parts of the trunk. Any application, however, which adds to the vigor of the tree will be, so far, an advantage, and diminish the number of places in which the tree is likely to be attacked. Dr. Harris also suggests inserting a little camphor in the hole and plugging it with soft wood. A handful of soft soap placed in the fork of a tree, a favorite place for these beetles—is highly commended by Dr. Fitch. It will be washed down by the rains, and impregnate the bark. Mr. Downing recommended a mixture of soap, sulphur and tobacco water, as a wash for the trunk and in the axils of the lower limbs. He also recommended pouring hot water into the burrow, by opening a passage for it with a knife, above the path eaten by the insect. The position of the burrow can be learned by piercing the bark with an awl, above the orifice, till its upper extremity is discovered.

THE WESTERN LITERARY MESSENGER FOR FEBRUARY. Thomas and Lathrop, Buffalo. $2 a year.

THE INVENTOR FOR FEBRUARY. Low, Haskell & Co., New York. $1 a year.

THE PHRENOLOGICAL AND WATER CURE JOURNALS FOR FEBRUARY. Fowlers and Wells, New York. $1 a year each.

THE WAVERLEY MAGAZINE. Moses A. Dow, Boston. $2 a year. Weekly.

We acknowledge the continued receipt of these periodicals, which is all the tribute we can pay to their several excellencies.

THE PICTORIAL SUNDAY BOOK. By Dr. John Kitto. Part VI. The London Publishing Company. J. H. Stephens, Kingston Agent. 25 cents.

If we received this work regularly we should like it better, for with its many plates descriptive of Ancient and Modern Palestine, it is a book well worth the preservation, and what is more remarkably cheap for a London Book. Singular to observe all the figures in Ancient Palestine are bareheaded, while those of Modern times are well covered. That Christ and his Disciples went with heads uncovered is a popular delusion derived from the Italian School of Painting.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. Nos. 663 et 664. Littell, Son & Co., Boston. $1 a year.

We notice these Nos. to say that in one of them will be found Part X. of "The Fortunes of Glencore," one of Lever's best Tales. And this sets us a thinking while Mr. Lever, whose taste, genius and fertility of imagination fully equals if they do not surpass those of Dickens and Thackeray, should now be so little thought of or so little quoted. Here is his "Fortunes of Glencore," far better written and far more interesting than "Little Dorrit," almost wholly unknown on this continent, while Dickens' work is pirated, re-printed and read by millions. Why is this? Is Mr. Lever under a cloud?—or has the taste which has admired "Harry Lorrequer" and "Charles O'Malley" changed? Lever writes so gentlemanly, that Thackeray is comparatively a snob, and yet how differently do they stand just now in popular estimation! Somebody please explain.

HARPER'S WEEKLY FOR JANUARY 24th, 31st and February 7th.

These three Numbers of the Great New York Civilization Newspaper lie upon our Table. They certainly are beautifully illustrated in the style of Harper's Monthly.

A UNION OF THE COLONIES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA CONSIDERED NATIONALLY. Halifax, 1857.

A LECTURE ON EDUCATION, by Dr. Nicholls M. of Quebec. Quebec, 1857.

There is nothing in common between Canada and the other British Provinces, except a common Sovereignty, and that is daily becoming more and more nominal. Any Legislative Union between them must therefore be an absurdity. The pamphlet is nevertheless plausible and well written.

Dr. Nicholls' Lecture on Education, is, as he himself says, one on which more has been said or written, one on which more remains to be said or written, than any other. And, so let that pass.

SCOVILLE'S FAMILY GAZETTE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 7TH. J. A. Scoville, New York. $1 a year.

This is a new visitor to our Table, but one very agreeable, small and cheap as it is. It is a Weekly Magazine, like Ballou's Dollar Monthly, but the Selections are in better taste. The publisher calls it "The cheapest and best News and Literary Family Periodical in the world," rather high praise. Its form is quarto, and each number contains sixteen pages, comprising Stories, Anecdotes, and every Variety of curious and rare Reading. The best that can be said about it is, that 52 Numbers are sold for a single Dollar.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A SHIP CANAL BETWEEN LAKES HURON AND ONTARIO. By Kivas Tully. Toronto, 1857.

Before the St. Lawrence Canals were in full operation, and before it was known whether they would pay any interest on their outlay, Canada became agitated from East to West on the subject of Railroads; and now before these latter are completed, we hear of Canals from the Georgian Bay to Toronto; and from Lake Huron to the City of Ottawa. This is going ahead with a vengeance! To say that these schemes are Utopian, and never can be carried into effect, would be saying too much; but to say that all thoughts of them should be postponed for at least a dozen years to come, is what every sensible man would admire. But there is so much picking and stealing, so much corruption practiced in the making of Railroads and Canals, that it would not surprise us, if at the ensuing Session of Parliament a Bill was passed to make the Toronto Canal at least, and the money borrowed to commence it forthwith!

THE KIRWAN SCANDAL.

THE KIRWAN CASE.—A correspondent writes from Sarnia, Jan 25, that three of the eight magistrates who examined into the charge recently preferred against Priest Kirwan, have notwithstanding the dismissal of the case before the Quarter Sessions, brought him up again, heard evidence anew, and bound him over to answer the charge of felony at the next Assizes.

Three magistrates taking upon themselves to reverse the decision of the Court of Quarter Sessions is a novel proceeding in criminal jurisprudence. Our correspondent hints that the case is understood to be a got up affair; and if certain facts which he states be correct there is something like a conspiracy at the bottom of it. However, the case may properly be left to its regular and natural development.

The foregoing paragraph we find in a late No. of the Leader, purporting to be the substance of a communication from its Sarnia correspondent, relating to the action of the magistrates before whom the "Kirwan scandal," was last brought up. We, of course, do not know who the Leader's Sarnia Correspondent is, but as the statement he gives is very wide of the truth, we think we are warranted in pronouncing him either a fool or a knave; the former, if he did not know more about the matter on which he pretended to give information; the latter, if he did not know, and wilfully perverted the truth.

The Kirwan case never came before the Quarter Sessions. The occasion which is referred to in the above paragraph was a preliminary examination before a bench of Magistrates, by five of whom, the case, after hearing the evidence of one witness, was discharged on the ground that no assault was proven,—the three gentlemen before whom the complaint was last brought, not agreeing with the rest of the Bench, to discharge the complaint without hearing all the evidence.

They did accordingly hear all the witnesses for the prosecution, and had no hesitation in binding over Mr. Kirman to take his trial at the next assizes,—in accordance with the recommendation of Judge Robinson, when the unsuccessful attempt was made by the complainants to get it brought before the Grand Jury at the last sitting of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

The position of the three Magistrates, as the Leader will see is thus divested of its novelty. The case is now disposed of as it ought to have been when the complaint was first made; and if it had been so disposed of, a great deal of unnecessary speculation would have been avoided.—Sarnia Observer.

*** In the same paper is the letter of a correspondent of the Colonist which alludes to a prior remark of the British Whig, respecting the unsoundness of Judge Robinson as a lawyer, in refusing to allow the witnesses to go before the Grand Jury at the Court of Quarter Sessions. And the writer says:—"I have no doubt that in justice to Judge Robinson the Kingston Whig will correct an error into which it has fallen through a mis-statement of facts." If Judge Robinson has been mis-represented, there's an end of the matter, and the British Whig said so from the first. But the Observer maintains the correctness of the report as follows:—

"We have no hesitation in affirming that the purport of what the Judge did say on the subject conveyed the impression that the course he recommended was the only proper one to be followed, without which it would not be the duty of the Jury to interfere at all. He even stated, that if the Clerk of the Peace did swear the witnesses to go before the Grand Jury, he would feel it to be necessary, or to be his duty, to send for the Foreman, and to instruct him as to the impropriety of making any presentment on the case, unless a preliminary investigation before a magistrate had taken place, and the case was thus referred to the Sessions for trial."

The matter lies in a nutshell—if Judge Robinson refused to allow the Witnesses to go before the Grand Jury, he was a bad lawyer to do so. If he did not so refuse, then he has been mis-represented, and we apologize accordingly. We have no idea of seeing fish made of one clergyman, and flesh of another. Poor Mr. Creen, of Niagara, has been justly exposed all over the country for his misconduct. If Dean Kerwan be equally guilty, and we don't say he is, he should be likewise exposed. And so say all honest men.

D. C. Sutges writes to the N. Y. Tribune, in reference to the recent threatened negro insurrection, that a letter has been received from the daughter of a physician and planter resident in Tennesee (and whose father was the owner of "a valuable and intelligent negro" employed at the Dover Iron Works) in which it is stated that twenty of the negroes engaged at the latter place had been whipped to death, and decapitated, and that their heads had been placed upon poles along the Cumberland River! The same letter speaks of a white man who was squeezed to death in a cotton-press!

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Toronto, 7th Feb 1856

His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to appoint—

Michael Flanagan, Esquire, to be an Associate Coroner for the City of Kingston.

It is with feelings of unbounded melancholy and overwhelming astonishment at the awful suddenness of the lamentable catastrophe, that we copy from the pages of the Upper Canada Law Directory for 1857, the startling and painful intelligence of the exceedingly unexpected and somewhat premature demise of one of our most esteemed and prominent fellow-citizens, M. W. Strange, Esq.; further remark therefore, however, we must delay till a future time, as the sudden announcement of such unwelcome intelligence has to such an extent prostrated our faculties as to unfit us at the present moment to comment on it in a manner and style appropriate to such a dreadful visitation. And indeed we would feign hope for the untruth and incorrectness of the statement, were it not that we excerpt it from such a reliable source.—[Com.

*** The joke of the above is somewhat difficult to discover, and requires something to be appended, as was formerly put under a dull painting, "this is a horse." Mr. Strange, who is alive and kicking, and likely to live for many years to come, is marked "Dead" in the Canada Law Directory.

KINGSTON, February 9th, 1857.

To the Editor of the British Whig.

SIR:—

The erection of proper places for the convenience of the workmen at the New Court House and Jail, has hitherto been neglected, and the neighbourhood is in consequence continually insulted by disgusting exposures in the open fields. If this want of delicacy is further persisted in, the police should at once interfere, to put a stop to such an outrage on common decency.

I am, Sir,
Yours very respectfully,
AN INHABITANT OF LOT 24.

P. S.—Should the above hint be disregarded by those whose duty it is to correct the abuse complained of, I shall soon again take the liberty of referring to it in a manner that cannot be very pleasant to them.

For the Britsh Whig.

Monument To The Memory of Brian Boroighme—King of Munster.

MOST MERITORIOUS WHIG:—

Permit me, on the part of many of my Countrymen, to request a few insertions of the enclosed Requisition to the Mayor, (See Advertisement,) to convene a Public Meeting of the Irish Citizens of Kingston, to consider the propriety of erecting a Monument to the immortal memory of Brian Boroighme, the far-famed King of Munster.

The Scotch are a great people—they never forget to honor their Illustrious Dead. Burns, Bruce and Wallace are memorable examples. Why should the Irish be ashamed to imitate such noble conduct? They are not ashamed to do so; and it is therefore to follow so good a lead, that my countrymen have with one accord resolved, late as the time is, to do justice to the memory of one of Ireland's Greatest and Best of Heroes.

The glorious career of Brian Boroigme presents many coincidences with that of the mighty and magnanimous Wallace. He has been dead a thousand years. He was born, lived and died a good Catholic, in the happy days when Christianity was a unit. He was a brave man, and a great warrior. He fought for the liberties of his native land, and defeated the enemies of his country with much slaughter. And, if Five Wallaces could make one hundred Englishmen fly, the bare sight of Brian Boroighme, clothed in martial panoply, caused one thousand rascally Danes to quail with affright. Like Wallace, in his latter days he was beset and betrayed by domestic traitors; and he also died a violent death. I need say no more; the mighty deeds of Brian Boroighme are engraved with pens of steel on the hearts of Irishmen, who have too long neglected the sacred duty of paying outward honor to so illustrious a monarch, as the Hero of Clontarf!

And where so proper a place to erect this Monument as Kingston? Kingston is an Irish City, peopled by the Irish and governed by the Irish. The figure of King Brian already decorates its Civic Arms, and this additional Testimony to his vast merits will further tend to perpetuate, in the minds of unborn generations the valorous acts and patriotic doings of so magnificent a Christian Hero.

JAMES O'FLAHERTY.

Kingston, February 10th, 1857.

*** If the Editor of the British Whig, a native of so obscure a country as England, could take the liberty of interfering in nationalities and make a remark, he would suggest, after the Meeting of the valiant Irish be over, that the Gallant Sons of St. George get up a similar assemblage, for the worthy purpose of erecting a Monument to King Arthur, who was as potent a warrior as either Wallace or Brian Boroighme, and who has the advantage of both in having been much longer dead.

DOMESTIC ITEMS.

The Echo states that the sum necessary for the endowment of the Kingston diocese is provided. We believe that that for London was raised some time since.—We presume the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Toronto will soon be divided into three, viz: Kingson, Toronto and London.

We are pleased to learn that the Lords of the Treasury have granted a retiring pension of £142 sterling per annum to our to our respected fellow citizen, Thos. McDonald Esq. in consideration of his long and faithful service in the Ordnance Department. We believe this is the highest rate of pension awarded to the rank held by Mr. McDonald; and is proof of the estimation entertained towards that gentleman by his superiors.—Ottawa Citizen.

PROVINCIAL CANALS.—We are happy to learn that the income from the Provincial Canals during last year, largely exceeds that of 1855.

1856	- -	£95 393
1855	- -	81,172
Increase	-	14,221

This augmentation is not so great as the warm advocates of the canals predicted, but it is still considerable, and gives promise that in time we may see our great public works, not only profitable as affording means of conveying our produce to market, but remunerative in direct returns to the treasury.

Toronto, Feb. 7th.

Lawyers Robinson and Mowatt carried a very foolish resolution the other day in the Toronto City Council, viz.: "That the Mayor do, when he is presiding over the deliberations of this Council, and upon all official occasions, wear that dress and robes of office which are worn by the Chief Magistrate of the principal cities of Great Britain."

The following significant morceau is from the N. Y. Correspondent of the Globe:—

New York, Feb 2d!

ARGUS!

We all go armed now. Life has become so insecure that to carry a revolver is a mere matter of prudence. Eighteen months ago a newspaper correspondent startled the public by announcing that having occasion to search for his overcoat in the cloak room of Congress he discovered that three fourths of the members had revolvers in their coat pockets. The Christian portion of our public shuddered at it. What has taken place since? Why, that the same practice commencing in the South and San Francisco, then invading Washington, has since seized hold of Philadelphia and New-York. At the Italian Opera, last night, a singular incident occurred. It was Grisi's Lucia, Wallack's debut. During the performance of the third part of the third act the report of a pistol shot startled the audience; a gentleman had let his coat drop and a barrel of his revolver had gone off.

INDIAN CONCERT.

The Indian Exhibitors of the Ojibway and Mohawk Tribes, who have lately been so successfully performing at Toronto and Hamilton, will give one of their Entertainments shortly in Kingston, consisting of Hymns sung in three Indian Dialects and in English, and a descriptive account, in English, of many of the Social Customs and habits of the Red Man. The Press of Canada West speaks in the highest terms of the Entertainment, which from its rarity, cannot fail to draw a large audience here. One night only, towards the end of the week.

MASONIC.—The King of Hanover has been admitted a member of the Hanoverian Lodge, White Horse (of Freemasonry) His Majesty was passed by special diploma through the three degrees, and will shortly be inaugurated Grand Master of the Hanoverian Lodges.

THE NEW YORK MAIL.—This Mail is detained by the bad state of the Hudson River Railroad, in consequence of the Tremendous Freshet.

ANOTHER FIRE.

Early last evening the Planing Factory of Mr. Oliver Waddell, in the upper part of the city was totally destroyed by fire—nothing saved. The Firemen were early on the ground, and prevented the fire from spreading to the surrounding houses, but the Factory being a frame building could not be saved. We hear that there was no insurance upon the property.

Prussia and Switzerland.

On the 20th January, when the second chamber of the Prussian Legislature had met at Berlin, M. de Manteuffel appeared on the Ministerial bench, and after the customary announcement to the Speaker, that he had a communication to make, informed the House in a few words that the honor and requirements of Prussia had been satisfied by the unconditional liberation of the Neufchatel prisoners. This *pro forma* announcement having been received with general marks of approbation, the Minister added that this important point being settled, the King was prepared to refer the ulterior arrangements of the Neufchatel position to a conference of the European powers, with as little delay as circumstances would permit. The House received the latter communication with similar tokens of satisfaction, and the subject dropped.—There is reason to believe that a circular note, expressing the intentions and views of the Prussian Cabinets, has already been sent to the various Courts. Correspondence says that the circular above alluded to was dated the 17th January, and was sent off the same day.

TREMENDOUS FLOODS AT ALBANY, CHICAGO, &c.

Great Destruction of Property, &c.

OSWEGO, February 9th.

The ice on the river began to move yesterday and rushed down with great force; tore six schooners from their moorings, sweeping all into the Lake. Much damage was done to vessels in the harbor. Several canal boats are loose on the Lake. Steamtugs have started out in pursuit.

Albany, Feb. 9th.

As anticipated yesterday, a tremendous flood occurred, damaging property last night to an amount impossible to conjecture, but which cannot fail to reach 2,000,000 dollars. All last night the city was in confusion and excitement. The citizens were engaged all last night, in the docks and lower part of the city, in removing goods and storing them away in the second stories of buildings, where it was thought the flood could not reach, but their calculations proved erroneous.—About half-past ten the ice commenced moving in the river with tremendous force, threatening the bridge on the streets for some time. The water rose so rapidly that those who were on the docks and piers were compelled to make a rapid retreat. The water in the river continued rising until five this morning, when it reached a point three feet higher than ever known before. The entire lower part of the city is flooded as high as Green-street.—Persons who had retired to bed, thinking themselves safe, were aroused by horsemen who rode through the waters, knocking at the doors of houses, to arouse the sleepers to a sense of their danger. The wildest confusion prevailed; the people in the lower part of the city having barely time to escape with their lives. About 3 o'clock the alarm bells were sounded for fire, when flames were discovered bursting forth from houses in different parts of the city. E. C. Warner and Son's lime-kilns and buildings on South-street and Broadway; Gibson & Kalter's planing mills, at the foot of Fourth-street, and W. R. Barrett's fire-brick store, on the piers were all in flames at the same time, the fires having originated through the slackening of time. The height of the water rendered it impossible for the engines to reach the scene of confusion, but the firemen put off in boats with buckets and confined the flames to the building where they originated. About this time the wind changed and became piercingly cold.

The propeller Western World, lying in front of Barret's store, caught fire, and was scuttled and sunk, to save her cargo of 4,000 bushels of corn.

Chicago, February 9.

We have been visited with the greatest storm and flood experienced in this vicinity since 1849. The Milwaukee Railroad Bridge is damaged considerably. No trains are running on the Galena Railroad. The bridge at Elgin has been swept away, and a number of culverts destroyed. The Fond du Lac Railroad track is carried away in several places; also, the bridge at Aux Plains. The Burlington Railroad Bridge, across the Bureda River, is gone. The Rock Island Railroad Bridge, across the Dupage River, was moved by the ice on Friday night. An engine tender and six cars were precipitated into the river. The engineer, fireman, and brakeman are missing; supposed to be drowned. The Illinois River at Lasalles, rose twenty-eight feet.

To the Editor of the British Whig.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION AND SLAVERY.

Stratford, C. W., February 7th

SIR—It will be of some importance for those who attend the Sunday School Convention at Kingston, on the 11th inst., to consider the questions of consistence and humanity, to recognizing in Canada the presence and the action of Delegates from a pro-slavery country,—the United States—and especially of those who represent the interests of the pro-slavery American Sunday School Union. Just and religious hypocrisy for our public religious men in Canada to impose on Canadians a recognition of such or similar institutions!

It is a notorious fact, that that Sunday School Union dare not publish or circulate any book or tract or paper, containing a reference to the condition of the slave, or an expression against slavery as a sin, or even as an evil. It is undeniable that the system adopted by that Union is a sectional one, and has reference to one class of people. The religious, the political, the common civil rights of the coloured man are not recognized.

We will witness, then, at Kingston, an acknowledgment, an homologation of and a fraternization with interests diametrically opposed to the free and generous and humane principles, on which are inherent in the constitution of our Province, and are the birthright of a monarchial and a free people.

It will well become Canadians, who hate hypocrisy and hypocrisy, to turn their attention to the proceedings of the Kingston Sunday School Convention.

Your obedient servant,
J. J. E. LINTON.

NOTES

1. By a reference to the pamphlet titled, "Letter respecting a book dropped from the Catalogue of the American Sunday School Union, in compliance with the objections of the slave power." p. 36. N. Y. 1848,—the complete submission of the A. S. S. Union (Chestnut-street, Philadelphia, to the slave power, is notoriously made evident,—and if the reference is extended to an examination of their Home Books, Spelling Books, Primers, "Youths Penny Gazette," "Sunday School Journal," their Question Books, Tracts, &c., the complete ignoring of the coloured man and the slave's rights appear beyond cavil and dispute.

2. A similar investigation of that Society's twin brother or sister, the American Tract Society of Nassau-street, New York, will also show similar results (besides the expurgations, &c., so well known,) and both these Societies are notoriously enough known in the United States, as of the character of pro-slaveryism, as now referred to.

3. Above all—and a vital question with Canadians—these Societies show their desire to be to have all to whom their publications go and are read to be republicanized, Americanized and conformed to their republican form of government.—See said publications of A. S. S. Union, which are openly republican, and also "Home Evangelization," p. 171, by the American Tract Society. This matter is one, in an especial manner, to be considered by the Congregationalists, the Regular Baptists, and the Wesleyan Methodists of Canada—the latter especially, as they circulate direct and undeniable republican and treasonable sentiments, and American religious publications among the youth of Canada.

4. By a reference to the "Canadian United Presbyterian Magazine" for February 1857 (a publication well worthy of that Church,) especially to the "Missionary Intelligence" and Caffarland, and to the visit to Grant County, Wisconsin, U. S., and compare the former with the latter as to Sabbath observance, a Canadian will read it with surprise. In the latter there is this remark, "No one dare enforce the law of the land in regard to the Sabbath, but at the imminent risk of property or life." So says a worthy minister, the Rev. James Skinner. But that "risk" is far more than Mr. Skinner depicts, for the advocacy of humanity, and, with reference to Slavedom and its awful horrors, cannot be done in the U. States, in too many places, except at the risk of life. Yet we, Canadians, are to be taught from that slavery-cursed land, and teachers, delegates, &c., received deferentially and with beaten effrontery, by Congregationalists, &c., &c., without remonstrance! Is it to be so? Let us watch.

Mr. Humphrey on the Wallace Monument.

To the Editor of the British Whig.

DEAR SIR:—

I noticed a communication in yesterday's "News" on the subject of the Wallace Monument, by a gentleman styling himself "Old Humphrey."

Mr. Humphrey tells us that he belongs to the North side of the Tweed by descent and association, and yet he quotes the first line of Bruce's address to his army, "Scotts wha hae wi' Wallace bled," and improves on the antiquated name of Bannockburn, by changing the last syllable into "burne." Mr. Humphrey further tells us that he does not object to Scotchmen meeting together—that he does not consider the erection of a Monument to Wallace a suitable object for a general subscription;—that we have poor, famished and naked people to protect—that there are churches to build, and that there is "lack of funds to pay the laborers." In short, Mr. H. tells us all but the fact that he is an ass, presuming no doubt, that we ourselves cannot fail readily to find that out.

Mr. Humphrey must learn to spell before he can make us believe that he has any connection with the North side of the Tweed. He has also to learn that the old trade of the canting hypocrite is so little patronized in modern days that it is difficult even for a designing knave to make a living of it, and that as to the matter of churches it does not always follow that where they are most numerous, there religion and good morals most abound. (Vide recent newspaper descriptions of Life in New York.) For the poor, the general idea, among the most rigidly church-going people, seems to be that they are used to misery and want, and therefore unfit objects of commiseration and relief. They are accordingly allowed to live and die quietly, excepting attention is drawn to them by gentlemen like Mr. Humphrey himself, when they wish the public to mark their own spirit of benevolence. Is it not so, dear Doctor? If the Montreal Police Report be compared with that of the Montreal Railroad Celebration, the truth of this will be verified, for in two or three days, according to this latter report, over £10,000 was spent in gorging men and women already overfed, where sufficient money cannot, according to the former, be raised to prevent death by inanition in the open streets. There are lots of churches in Montreal notwithstanding, and no doubt some of its inhabitants make a living by them as some of the inhabitants of Kingston do. If the living will let the poor die thus, through want, it is not fair to tax the dead to keep them alive. So pray, Mr. Humphrey, do let the Monument go up if you please, and oblige,

Dear Sir,
Yours truly,
A NATIVE SCOTCHMAN.

Kingston, 7th February, 1857.

NOTE.—In Wallace's day Scotchmen were found who not only refused to succor him in his distress, but actually did their best to destroy his life. The world is not yet so very perfect that treacherous Scotchmen cannot be found in it, and it may be fairly presumed that such as will now hold aloof, like Mr. Humphrey, from a Monument to honor the name of Wallace, would, had they lived when he lived, have ranked themselves on the wrong side. Fear of offending Englishmen may be one motive for conduct of this kind.—If so, it is an unworthy one, and I much mistake the character of Englishmen, a liberty-loving people themselves, if they would not view such slavish sycophancy with a thorough contempt. In order to discover Scotch knaves, such as I have just referred to, I would suggest that collectors for the Monument should take down the names of those who will not contribute anything, with a view to the publishing of them, that the finger of scorn may be pointed at the traitors.

INQUEST.

An Inquest was held yesterday, the 11th instant, by Mr. Coroner Benson, on the body of Mr. Patrick Grace, Tailor, Wellington Street, who was found dead in the Bar Room of Mr. Hugh Strong's Tavern, Montreal Road. Verdict—Died from Excessive Drinking of Spirituous Liquors.

FROM NICARAGUA.

The steamer "Cahawba" has brought several days later intelligence from the scene of Walker's operations. The reports as to his position were contradictory. Fifty-one men who had served under Walker and been discharged upon the expiration of their time, had found their way to Greytown and report that his position at Rivas had been disturbed—and that he had from 450 to 500 effective men under his immediate command. Subsequently some Costa Ricans, who came down stated that Gen. Walker had been forced to leave Rivas with all his force, and take position at San Jorge, where he was surrounded by the allied forces and being nearly out of provisions, had offered to capitulate. The San Juan correspondent of the New York Times gives an account of an exciting affair which occurred at Punta Arenas on the 16th January. A boat's crew from he British ship Cossack landed at that place, under the command of Captain Cockburn, and protection was offered to any British subjects who might be detained among the "regards" against their will. The filibuster in command, Colonel Lockridge, protested against this as an improper interference, but finally agreed to parade his men on the beach, and allowed Captain Cockburn to read a paper, offering protection to any British subjects who chose to avail themselves of it. On this being done, ten men stepped from the line and claimed protection, which was at once extended to them. Col. Lockridge protested, and the British retired to their vessel.

The following new Post Offices were established on the 1st February,—Brighton-ville, Seignory of Monin, county of Argenteuil; Forestile, Thorsh township, Ontario county; Kendall, Clarke township, Perth county; Leaksdale, Scott township, Ontario county; Mount Healy, Oneida township, Haldimand county; Rockport, Escott township, Leeds county; St. Ives, W. Nissouri township, Middlesex county; Le Foulon, (reopened) Hawkesbury township, Prescott county. The names of Baldulph, Biddulph township, Huron county, has been changed to Adare; and that of Suspension Bridge, Stamford township, Welland county, to Clifton.

NEW CANADIAN BISHOPRIC.—The diocese of Toronto, says the papers received by the last English mail, is about being subdivided, and three bishoprics constituted out of it. 1. The bishopric of Toronto. 2. The bishopric of London. 3. The bishopric of Kingston. About £8,500 has been subscribed towards the endowment of the new sees, and a donation of £500 toward the bishopric has been promised by the Society for Promoting Christian knowledge.

A MADMAN IN THE VATICAN.—Rome, Jan. 15.—While sanguinary tragedies have said and the inhabitants of Paris and Naples, eccentricities of a less horrible character have amused the inhabitants of Rome, and especially nocturnal pranks of a madman who recently gained access to the Vatican Palace, notwithstanding the scrutinizing glances of the Swiss halberdiers stationed in the grand corridor leading to the scala regia. It appears that this unfortunately aberrated individual succeeded in screening himself in the precincts of the palace until the right was far advanced, when he suddenly amused and alarmed the inhabitants of the sacred edifice by vociferating in stentorian tones that the Pope was dead, following up the startling piece of intelligence by another vague assertion, that he himself was about to succeed his Holiness on the Pontifical throne, and that, as first fruit of his authority, he should hang the Cardinal Secretary of State to the first tree he easily imagined with what consternation those overwhelming announcements were received until the phenomenal individual was laid hands upon, and the state of his intellects discovered. The great gates of the Vatican have been closed at nightfall