G. T. R. TIME-TABLE.

Trains arrive and depart from the Kingston Station as follows:—

EXPRESS TRAINS GOING WEST.

Arrive at.....4:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m.
Depart at.....5:10 p.m. and 4:20 a.m.
Local Trains arrive at 10:00 p.m., depart 9:45 a.m.

EXPRESS TRAINS GOING EAST.

Arrive at.....2:00 p.m. and 1:15 a.m.
Depart at.....2:20 p.m. and 1:25 a.m.
Local Trains arrive at 4:00 a.m.; depart at 6:15 a.m.

(Montreal Time—15m. faster than Kingston time.)

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

COMMENCING on MONDAY Next, the 22nd instant, and until further notice,

MAILS GOING EAST

By Day Express Train will Close at 1 p.m.; Arrive at 2.10 p.m.
By Night Express Train will Close at 9 p.m. Arrive at 2.00 a.m.

MAILS GOING WEST

By day Express Train will close at 3.50 p.m. Arrive at 5.15 p.m.
By night Express Train will close at 9 p.m. Arrive at 5.00 a.m.

BRITISH MAILS

Per Cunard Steamers, via New York and Boston, will close on Mondays at 2 P.M., and per Canadian Steamers, via Quebec, on Fridays at 12 M.

UNITED STATES MAILS,

(Via Cape Vincent) will close at 2 P.M., and arrive at 1.30 P.M.

R DEACON,
Postmaster.

Post Office, Kingston,
13th Nov. 1865.

The Daily British Whig

Optimo per Orbem Dico.

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 23, 1866.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

W. C., Gower Point, with rem.; J. S., Toronto; J. G., Ottawa, with rem.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is with great satisfaction that I have recourse to your assistance and advice.

I have recently declared my consent to a marriage between my daughter Princess Helena and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein Sonderbourg-Augustenburg. I trust this union may be prosperous and happy.

The death of my beloved Uncle, the King of the Belgians, has affected me with profound grief. I feel great confidence, however, that the wisdom which he evinced during his reign will animate his successor, and preserve for Belgium her independence and prosperity.

My relations with foreign Powers are friendly and satisfactory, and I see no cause to fear any disturbance of the general peace.

The meeting of the fleets of France and England in the ports of the respective countries has tended to cement the amity of the two nations, and to prove to the world their friendly concert in the promotion of peace.

I have observed with satisfaction that the United States, after terminating successfully the severe struggle in which they were so long engaged, are wisely repairing the ravages of civil war. The abolition of slavery is an event calling forth the cordial sympathies and congratulations of this country, which has always been foremost in showing its abhorrence of an institution repugnant to every feeling of humanity.

I have at the same time the satisfaction to inform you that the exertions and perseverance of my naval squadron have reduced the Slave Trade on the West coast of Africa within very narrow limits.

A correspondence has taken place between my Government and that of the United States with respect to injuries inflicted on American commerce by cruisers under the Confederate flag. Copies of this correspondence will be laid before you.

The renewal of diplomatic relations with Brazil has given me much satisfaction, and I acknowledge with pleasure that the good offices of my ally the King of Portugal have contributed essentially to this happy result.

I have to regret the interruption of peace between Spain and Chili. The good offices of my Government, in conjunction with those of the Emperor of the French, have been accepted by Spain, and it is my earnest hope that the causes of disagreement may be removed in a manner honorable and satisfactory to both countries.

The negotiations which have been long pending in Japan, and which have been conducted with great ability by my Minister in that country, in conjunction with the representatives of my allies in Japan, have been brought to a conclusion which merits my entire approbation. The existing treaties have been ratified by the Mikado; it has been stipulated that the tariff shall be revised in a manner favourable to commerce, and that the indemnity due under the terms of the Convention of October, 1864, shall be punctually discharged.

I have concluded a Treaty of Commerce with the Emperor of Austria, which I trust will open to that empire the blessings of extended commerce, and be productive of important benefits to both countries.

The deplorable events which have occurred in the island of Jamaica have induced me to provide at once for an impartial inquiry, and for the due maintenance of authority during that inquiry, by appointing a distinguished military officer as Governor and Commander of the Forces. I have given him the assistance of two able and learned Commissioners, who will aid him in examining into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the recent outbreak, and the measures adopted in the course of its suppression. The legislature of Jamaica has proposed that the present political constitution of the island should be replaced by a new form of Government. A bill upon this subject will be submitted for your consideration.

Papers on these occurrences will be laid before you.

Papers on the present state of New Zealand will be laid before you.

I have given directions for the return to this country of the greater portion of my regular forces employed in that colony.

I watch with interest the proceedings which are still in progress in British North America with a view to a closer union among the Provinces, and I continue to attach great importance to that object.

I have observed with great concern the extensive prevalence during the last few months of a virulent distemper among cattle in Great Britain, and it is with deep regret, and with sincere sympathy for the sufferers, that I have learnt the severe losses which it has caused in many counties and districts. It is satisfactory to know that Ireland and a considerable part of Scotland are as yet free from this calamity, and I trust that by the precautions suggested by experience, and by the Divine blessing on the means which are now being employed, its further extension may be arrested.

The orders which have been made by the Lords of My Privy Council, by virtue of the powers vested in them by law, with a view to prevent the spreading of this disease, will be laid before you, and your attention will be called to the expediency of an amendment of the law relating to a subject so deeply affecting the interests of my people.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed that the Estimates of the ensuing year shall be laid before you. They have been prepared with a due regard to economy, and are at the same time consistent with the maintenance of efficiency in the public service.

The condition of trade is satisfactory.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

A conspiracy, adverse alike to authority, property, and religion, and disapproved and condemned alike by all who are interested in their maintenance, without distinction of creed or class, has unhappily appeared in Ireland. The constitutional power of the ordinary tribunals has been exerted for its repression, and the authority of the law has been firmly and impartially vindicated.

A Bill will be submitted to you, founded on the Report of the Royal Commission, on the subject of Capital Punishment, which I have directed to be laid before you.

Bills will be laid before you for amending and consolidating the laws relating to Bankruptcy, and for other improvements in the law.

Measures will also be submitted to you for extending the system of public audit, to branches of receipt and expenditure which it has not hitherto reached, and for amending the provisions of the law with respect to certain classes of legal pensions.

Your attention will be called to the subject of the Oaths taken by Members of Parliament with a view to avoid unnecessary declarations, and to remove invidious distinctions between members of different religious communities in matters of legislation.

I have directed that information should be procured in reference to the rights of voting in the election of members to serve in Parliament for counties, cities, and boroughs.

When that information is complete, the attention of Parliament will be called to the result thus obtained, with a view to such improvements in the laws which regulate the rights of voting in the election of members of the House of Commons as may tend to strengthen our free institutions and conduce to the public welfare.

In these and in all other deliberations I fervently pray that the blessing of Almighty God may guide your counsels to the promotion of the happiness of my people.'

LATE FROM IRELAND.

Dublin, Feb. 6th.

The Special commission for the trial of the Fenians has completed its labors. Of the forty-one prisoners brought before it, thirty-six have been convicted; and in one case only have the jury disagreed. One of the judges, in addressing the jurors at the close of the proceedings, said that the result of the trials was to prove that the feeling of the respectable people in the country was strongly opposed to the Fenian conspiracy. On other occasions there might have been some difficulty in finding a jury to convict, but on this there has been nothing of the sort. Nevertheless, the seizures of arms still continue, and the popular excitement shows no sign of diminution. A number of fresh districts have been 'proclaimed'—the fact of which will simply be to put the peasantry under the necessity of carrying their weapons by night from the place where they are keeping them into the next parish, which is not under the provisions of the Act. The necessity for proclaiming the whole country is, however, gradually getting more fully recognized.

The opinion gains ground that the Head Centre has never left Dublin. Many persons assert that he has been met in the streets after twilight, and the police make no secret of the fact that they have received such information as would appear to confirm this statement. It is generally supposed that the recapture of Stephens could not be effected without the loss of life, and those whose duty it is to prosecute the search certainly act as if they think that their business is a dangerous one.—This fear of violence certainly increases the difficulty of the search. On Friday evening last it was stated that Stephens had taken refuge in one of the most unfrequented streets in the northern suburbs of Dublin. Under ordinary circumstances one might have expected that three or four well armed and courageous men might have made the arrest; but the police acted as if they apprehended an armed resistance, and delayed proceeding upon the information they had received until a body of constables had been collected sufficiently large to form a cordon around the place of retreat. In the meantime Stephens, if he had ever been there, had effected his escape.

The seizures of arms are not confined to Dublin. As Dundalk is a seaport, carrying on with Liverpool a trade of some importance, the constabulary have been most active in their searches, and have been rewarded with considerable success. On Sunday evening their vigilance led to the discovery on board the steamer of five dozen bullet-moulds, and one hundred gun-flints. It might have been imagined that the time of flints had passed by, but Fenianism does not aim at a high standard of perfection in its weapons. Eighteen almost useless pistols were found out, with bullet moulds to match. The suspicious circumstance is that the case was directed to John Shera, of Cootehill, to whom other boxes of firearms, previously seized, had been consigned. The correspondent of the Irish Times mentions these facts, and the circumstance that a case containing 250 rifle balls, directed to Mr. Morant, son to the agent of Mr. Shirley, of Carrickmacross, was also detained. The vigilance of the constabulary does not altogether satisfy the inhabitants of Louth. An outcry is being raised against Castle influence and government nominees.

The Irish People, it seems, has been succeeded by a new treasonable paper entitled the Fenian Times, which is about the size of a sheet of letter paper. A copy of the first number was found in the house in Stafford street. Under the heading it is stated that 10,000 numbers have been distributed gratis. The articles are to the effect that the brotherhood has not yet been crushed, and a call is made upon all who sympathise with Fenianism to prepare for the day of liberation.

President Roberts, has resigned his empty honors, and recommended Gen. Sweeney as his successor. We are not informed what action, if any, the Pittsburg 'Congress' have taken in the matter; but it hoped that they have sense enough to accept Roberts' resignation, reject Sweeney, and declare the Fenian enterprise a failure.

GREAT IS ST. PATRICK.

St. Patrick is a power in New York—so powerful, that he is going to have the streets of the city, or some of them, clean for one day in the year. A paper of Friday evening last says:

"A Committee of the various Irish societies and of the military, who will parade on St. Patrick's Day, waited on his Honor Mayor Hoffman to-day, and asked him to notify the Street Contractors to have all the streets on the route of the procession cleaned, so that they can march without the inconvenience of wading through the accumulated mud and rubbish that now obstructs them. The Mayor graciously acceded to their request, and the contractors will be notified accordingly."

Mr. Hoffman evidently knows how he came to be Mayor. The people of New York pay an immense sum for street cleaning, and cannot get it done. The press abuses the street-contractors without stint, but no impression is made. But the Hibernian Societies no sooner take the matter in hand than cleanliness is promised at once. If O'Mahony or Roberts did that, it is the greatest victory they will ever achieve. The New York Times rejoices that there is a St. Patrick, and prays that that great and good saint may be induced to have a birth-day every month, that the streets may be made clean twelve times in the year. The Tribune trusts that the Hibernians may have mercy on their fellow-citizens, and make their walk as long as possible.—Globe.

THE LOSS OF H. M. S. "BULLDOG."—It was briefly chronicled among our naval items on the of a telegraphic report, that Captain Wake, who lost Her Majesty's ship Bulldog, 16, Cape Haytien in October, had been sentenced by Court Martial to be dismissed the service. The mail, subsequently received, showed the report to have been erroneous. It was from his ship, and not from the Queen's service, that Captain Wake was dismissed with a severe reprimand; but inasmuch as he had himself previously dismissed his ship to the winds of Heaven by force of gunpowder, it cannot be said that the sentence was excessively hard to bear. For the award, such as it was, the grounds assigned by the Court, were negligence in running ashore, insufficient exertions to get off, and the premature destruction of the vessel. The acting-master was also reprimanded; and two lieutenants were found to have committed an error of judgment, in counselling the voluntary demolition. Otherwise, the conduct of officers and crew was pronounced seamanlike and creditable under trying circumstances.

THE FENIAN CONSPIRACY.

THE CAPTURE OF CANADA THE ONLY HOPE.

The Dublin correspondent of the New York Tribune writes as follows under date of the 28th ult.:—

"There is not one sensible or well informed man to be found in the country who holds it as his opinion that a rising by the people to throw off the British yoke—as they call it—would result in anything but a most complete and most overwhelming failure. All Irishmen agree on this point; they say that all the O'Mahonys, Roberts and Killians, with all the Fenians in America at their back, can be of no possible use as far as Ireland herself is concerned, at present. They say that 'England would as soon think of parting with London as Ireland. The humiliation of England would be complete if Ireland should succeed in wrestling herself from England's close embrace,' a thing they hold to be at present absolutely and totally impossible. Just look at us they say, 'England garrisons every town, village and hamlet. Her ironclads are stationed in all the important harbors, while her fleet hovers round the coast. Her light gunboats penetrate to Athlone, the very centre of Ireland.—If occasion required it, the whole loyal militia of England and Scotland could be thrown into Ireland in less than a week. Still, even admitting the wild idea that the Fenians succeeded by a well-planned and spontaneous uprising in overcoming the army and navy of England, and capturing the different garrisons, they say they mastered the Orangemen and loyal Protestants and the twelve thousand loyal police, what then? How long could they keep Ireland? What assistance could the American Fenians give? What would signify O'Mahony's few gunboats—admitting that he would have them to send. It would simply amount to naught. The English government made war against the American colonies for seven years, though the colonies were 3,000 miles away. How long would they make against Ireland that is only four hours distance of time from them? But to use the words of the Irish themselves, the very idea of discussing the question is an absurdity. An expedition to capture the moon would be almost as sensible. On the side of England is unbounded wealth and power; on the part of Ireland unbounded poverty and helplessness.

"The people of Ireland who sympathize with Fenianism say that if the real object of the extensive organization in America is to procure a rising of the people in Ireland, then, indeed the case of Ireland is hopeless, and the sooner the organization is disbanded the better it will be for Ireland." They say they have only one hope—the only bright side of the picture that they can find to contemplate is that Canada may be captured. 'If, say they, our friends in America really intend to help Ireland, let them go to work at once and, without further talk, take Canada.' They imagine that there are Irish enough in the United States to actually swarm and over-run the country. They say 'there is no law against having arms in Canada; therefore, when you are ready, let every Fenian repair to Canada with his gun and his ammunition, and when the desired number of men are across the border, let them, on a given day, point 60,000 guns at the garrisons of Canada. Let them have a few skilful generals, and Canada will soon be theirs. It will be a rising of British subjects to establish a government for themselves, to be called the Irish Republic of North America. Then Irishmen will have a chance of testing themselves and proving to the world whether they are capable of governing themselves or not. If they are able to govern themselves and maintain friendship with the United States, then old Ireland would swell with joy from the Giant's Causeway to Cape Clear, then Luby and the rest of them would be exchanged. A good landlord and tenant bill would become a law in Ireland. Poor-houses and tithes would be abolished. Her school system would be of her own choosing. In a word, all her grievances would be redressed; and, perhaps, after years the blessings that flow from a well regulated republic would be hers. But an attempt to free Ireland will only degrade her more than she is in the eyes of the world; will bring death and ruin on thousands of her sons; will only tighten the chains around her neck and reduce her to actual wretchedness. Try Canada, they say if you fail in being able to govern yourselves, you can ask to be admitted to the Federal Union. Canada will make two good sized States. But we believe if you bring all your energies to bear you can't fail, and in any case the question of Fenianism will have received the only solution that it ever can receive, and the sooner that consumation is reached the sooner Ireland will cease her sufferings.'

'Lord Monck goes out to-morrow by the Australasian. I have learned that he has been instructed to be very watchful as to the ingress of Fenians from the United States, and in the event of any organized bodies of men being found crossing over the line, to appeal strongly to the United States government rather than make any display of force himself, but at the same time to see that the Commander-in-Chief of Canada keeps his army well in hand, so as to be able to hold out and maintain the strong garrisons until reinforcements could arrive in the early Spring.'

VALUE OF THE AMERICAN TRADE TO CANADA.

The people who have been deriding the idea that Canada could by any possibility require the American trade, will find but little consolation in the half yearly trade returns, to Dec. 31st, just published. In these we find that there were exported 15,000 horses, 103,810 horned cattle, 158,000 sheep; the total value of this class of exports being $7,923,355. Of wheat and grain, and other agricultural produce, the value of the exports were $11,954,578! most of which went to the States. The total exports for the half year were $33,655,463, being an increase over the corresponding year of more than $10,000,000, arising for the most part from the excellent harvest, though combined with higher prices than usual. In scanning the magnitude of these figures, and arriving at some idea of the varied and extended interests that have been stimulated by the receipt of such a large sum of money, one can easily apprehend the reason why Messrs. Galt and Howland were anxious to leave no stone unturned in order that the current of so large a trade should go on unimpeded. It is easy enough for people who have divested themselves of responsibility, or who have never assumed any, to prate about the honor of the country having been jeopardised by the overtures of the delegates to Washington. But a glance at the figures should convince any one of the vast inconvenience, not to say distress, which would arise from the permanent stoppage of a business so extensive. It was the prime effort of the negotiations to arrange with our neighbors in such a way that the tide of business with them would remain undisturbed, and for doing this they now find themselves subjected to all kinds of abuse, all manner of aspersions on their return, though happily proceeding from but one source. It is notable, however, that this has fallen flat and dead upon the public ear. No one seems to join in the hue and cry, for all are conscious, and most willing to admit that further concessions (arising from the altered condition of affairs in the neighboring republic) were necessary, and those proposed by Messrs. Galt and Howland, and assented to by the British representative at Washington, were as little as could be expected, and as it turned out too moderate for immediate acceptance on the part of the Americans. The immense trade which we have indicated was the all-in-all to the people of Canada last year. It enabled them to reduce their liabilities in every direction. Mortgages have been paid off in thousands; store bills have been liquidated; and obligations of all kinds so reduced, that money goes a begging now at 8 per cent. And not only have old obligations been discharged, but purchases have been made to an extent really surprising. The Montreal Gazette gives the following summary of the purchasing power of the people as indicated by the imports of the past few weeks. From this we find for instance, that in the week ending Jan. 6 this year; compared with that ending 7th last, these imports were $252,101, against $160,688, showing an increase of $91,413; and the duties upon them were $44,345 against $23,491—an increase of $20,855. In the next week the total imports were $429,354 against $108,749, the increase being so much as $321,604; and the duties $86,513 against $18,580, showing the extraordinary increase of $67,933. The increase of duties payable on those two weeks' imports, therefore, was nearly double the amount of the falling off in the previous half year. And this was no sudden spirt—for during the last two weeks for which returns have been made up, i.e., ending on the 3rd instant—the aggregate of imports was $831,823 against $197,591, in the corresponding fortnight of 1865, showing an increase of $634,232, of between 300 and 400 per cent—the duties payable being $153,302, against $31,407, an increase of $121,895 or nearly 400 per cent. These imports were predicated upon the improved condition of affairs, arising from the trade with the States, which Mr. Galt and his colleague, have been doing their best to preserve and perpetuate. The resources from the revenue thus acquired may enable the Finance Minister to reduce both the internal and external taxation, a line of policy which, under a refusal to reciprocate on the part of the Americans, seems to be the only one now open.—London Free Press.

SOUTH AMERICA.

New York, Feb. 21.—Files of Valparaiso and Santiago papers have been received here up to the 16th of January.

Valparaiso dates of Jan. 17, and Callao 28, confirm the declaration of war by Peru against Spaid, but hostilities had not yet commenced. The blockade of Callao had been raised, and the Spanish squadron concentrated at Valparaiso. Five or six sailing vessels had been burned by the Spaniards. The Chilian coast is now open to trade.—Several vessels have been warned away from Valparaiso, and gone to other ports. The Peruvian squadron has been sent to join the Chilian squadron. All Spaniards in Peru are given a certain time to register their names, failing in which they are treated as spies.

The news of the rumored mediation of France and England in the Spanish-Chilian war has not been regarded with much favor in Chili or deemed of great importance. It is not expected that Spain will voluntarily relinquish her pretension.

There is a diplomatic quarrel between Chili and Uruguay. The interchange of notes was continued until the offended Uruguaians revoked the exequatur of the Chilian Minister, and issued a decree prohibiting the arrival and sale of prizes, and threatening with severe penal ties, all who should infringe upon the neutrality laws. An engagement had taken place at Caldera between a part of the blockading force and the Chilian garrison there. The assailants were repulsed.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

It is stated that Mr. Doolittle will introduce a new Freedmen's Bureau bill to-day incorporating Presidential features.

A remarkable incident occurred in Gelding Church, Nottingham, England, on Christmas day. A man aged 85 years, died while taking the sacrament. He had walked a considerable distance to church, and was apparently in good health, but he was heard to declare he would die on Christmas day.

The Dunkin Act, which was passed nominally by Yarmouth a year ago, was quashed yesterday, by the Court of Appeal in Toronto with costs—this making the township pay it, which is very wrong. The temperence party should do so, as it never was the voice of the people, and illegally brought out.

Jackson Haines, the well-known American skater, and who two winters since delighted our citizens with his wonderful feats on the ice, is now in Russia, giving entertainments at the Garden of the Hermitage. He is there the acknowledged master of his art, and gives lessons to the nobility.

Little Piccolomini, the Queen of Song, is dying. She was seized with a spinal complaint, the result of rheumatism, about a year ago, and has become reduced to a mere skeleton. Her features, which were once so charming, have grown weird and painful to look upon on account of her great suffering.

A gentleman recently paid three hundred and fifty dollars for a special train to take him from Boston to Portland last Saturday to catch the English steamer. He arrived in time, for the steamer did not sail till next morning, and he might have saved his money by waiting for the regular train.

The Cincinnati Times says:—There is a society in formation in this city, composed of young Canadian residents, who enroll themselves as "Loyal Canadians" and intend to place themselves at the call of the Governor General of Canada, as volunteers, should trouble arise in that Province.

Ex-Governor Andrew, and nearly all of the leading firms in Boston, have petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature to invest $800,000, due to the State by the State of Maine, in bonds of the North American and European railway, so as to enable its projectors to complete the defective link in that road between Bangor and St. John, 136 miles. Should that portion of the road be constructed, the line would then extend from Halifax to St. John, N. B., 262 miles; Halifax to Bangor, 458 miles; Halifax to Portland, 596 miles; and Halifax to Boston, 706 miles.

A Soldier named Henry Mahorn turned up a day or two since in the court room at Benton, Illinois, just as David Williams was being tried for his (Mahorn's) murder. It seems that Mahorn disappeared from the locality a year since, and a few weeks ago a skeleton was found, supposed to be Mahorn's. As Williams had accompanied him—they having both gone to enlist in the army, suspicion was at once fixed upon him. It now appears that Mahorn did enlist, but under an assumed name, and thus could not communicate with his friends while Williams did return to Boston.

The Pall Mall Gazette has the following remarks respecting after dinner toasts and speeches:—"Is there anything in the British Constitution, or the Protestant Religion or the Catholic Religion, which makes it incumbent on us to retain this feeble and far off imitation of the Saturnalia of ancient times? Why are we bound to utter, on our legs and in a big room, statements which, sitting in our chairs and talking in private, we should look upon as follies and falsehoods? Because one man out of a hundred can make a pleasant little after dinner speech in good taste and with reference to some matter which it concerns him to speak about, why should we continue to doom ourselves to listen to the long ungrammatical prosings of half a dozen or a dozen men, from Aldermen up to Dukes, who are called on to return thanks after the utterance of toasts which fashion still enjoins? Are we not all bored to death by post prandial oratory? Does not every speaker look more utterly foolish, sheepish, or abominably self-satisfied when he is returning thanks than in any other action of his life? No body pretends that nineteen out of every twenty after dinner speeches are anything better than a display of incompetence and a source of annoyance; and yet we continue them."

THE SOVEREIGNS OF EUROPE.—There are at the present moment 43 reigning Sovereigns in Europe. Of that number ten belong to the Roman Catholic religion, but one is excommunicated; 30 are Protestants, 1 is of the Greeek Orthodox Church, and one a Mahomedan; the forty third is the Pope. The Catholics are, two Emperors—of Austria and France; five Kings—of Bavaria, Belgium, Spain (a Queen), Portugal, and Saxony; two Princes—of Lichtenstein and Monaco; the excommunicated Sovereign is King Victor Emmanuel. The 30 Protestants are, eight Kings or Queens—of England, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Hanover, Greece, and Wurtemberg; six Grand Dukes—of Baden, Hesse Darmstadt, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Oldenburg, and Saxe-Weimar; seven Dukes—of Anhalt, Brunswick, Nassau, Saxe-Meiningen, Saxe-Altenburg, Saxe-Coburg, and Schleswig-Holstein; nine Princes—of Lippe-Detmold, Lippe-Schaumburg, Reuss Crein, Reuss-Schleiz, Schwartzburg-Sonderhausen, and Waldeck; the Elector of Hesse-Cassel and the Landgrave of Hesso-Homburg. The Greek orthodox Sovereign is the Emperor of Russia and the Mussulman, the Sultan of Turkey. There are also seven Republics in Europe; two exclusively Catholic—San Marino and Andorra; and five in which the majority of the inhabitants are Protestants—Switzerland, Hamburg, Bremen, Frankfort, and Lubeck.

RAILWAY FREE PASSES.

There is a bill now before the Legislature prohibiting railway companies from granting free passes on their roads. We trust the bill will become a law. The practice has grown into an enormous abuse and ought to abated as a nuisance. Everybody, in any way connected with public affairs, expects to ride free on every railroad and steamboat in the State. Judges, State officers of every description, members of the Legislature, every man connected with the canals, whether collector, engineer, superintendent, or clerk, demands a free pass, and complains of invidious neglect if such a gratification is not voluntarily tendered him. Cattle drovers and shippers of freight make a similar claim, confident that their importunities will prevail. Every railroad employee throughout the State and nation goes free everywhere. All this is wrong. It is a grievous injury to the shareholders, and has a corrupting influence which is all pervading. What legitimate return can a judicial or other public officer make for a favor of this kind? This question tells the whole story.—N. Y. World.

THE PETITION IN FAVOR OF IRELAND.—It was announced in all the Churches of Toronto, on last Sunday, by His Lordship and clergy, that a petition was being prepared, to be sent to the Imperial Parliament of England, praying that august body to grant to Ireland the same justice that Canada enjoys, to make the people contented and prosperous, viz.:—1. Local Legislation; 2. Free Church; 3. Free Education; 4. Justice to Tenants.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—An important decision was recently rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States. During the rebellion, all cases from the rebellious States were laid aside by the court; but now, the rebellion being terminated, it is proposed to resume consideration of such cases, and on this question all the associate justices voted the affirmative, Chief Justice Chase alone dissenting. It is claimed that this decision is in effect a legal endorsement, by the highest judicial tribunal of the republic, that the lately rebellious States now occupy their former positions in the Union.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

MILITARY SCHOOL.—Mr. G. A. Frazer, of Napanee, and Mr. James Macfarlane, of Kingston, have passed successful examinations, and the former will receive a first class, and the latter a second class certificate. All Cadets undergoing drill for first class certificates, most of them fit for examination, have been obliged to leave the School, owing to a misunderstanding of the rules. Up to the present time candidates were allowed three months time for procuring each class of certificate, but this rule has been construed into meaning that that both certificates were to be taken within the three months. As a consequence these Cadets having been kept in the School for about ten weeks for their second class certificates, of course could not procure a first class one in three weeks more, and were after a manner requested to leave. Having entered with an idea that three months' time was allowed them, they feel a great deal of annoyance at their being excluding from completing their term; and it seems very strange that a Cadet should be kept in the School for ten or eleven weeks for a second class certificate, and then expect him to complete an examination for a higher certificate inside of three months. One would think that it would be to the interest of the authorities to give Cadets as much practical drill as possible. The aggrieved parties have applied to the Adjutant General to be allowed to complete their terms.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH.—The Rev. John Laing, M.A., of Coburg, will deliver the next lecture before the Association in the Church this (Friday) evening at half-past seven o'clock. Subject: "Principles of Protestantism." The public are invited.

THE FITZROY ARSON CASE.—The details of a most fiendish act appeared in the Ottawa papers of last week, when some lawless scoundrels set fire to the house of a lumberman named Reed, in the township of Fitzroy, while his wife and three young children were sleeping, and succeeded in burning up the place. The inmates, however, escaped an awful death, by discovering the fire before exit from the house was prevented. Information was laid before the proper officials, but none of them would act without funds, which the unfortunate sufferers could not provide. Some gentlemen of Ottawa, indignant at the neglect of the officials, on Tuesday last got out a warrant to arrest the parties, and despatched Detective O'Neil, who was successful in handing over three of the accused, named respectively Rae, Holbrook and Muldoon, who had to stand a preliminary examination before a County Magistrate, and Muldoon was dismissed. The others were bailed to appear for trial, although it was proven that they were the guilty parties, and were carrying out a threat made during a quarrel with the man Reed. Owing to the County Council's refusal to take any steps in the case, Reed has brought an action against that body to recover damages for the loss of his property.

ENGLISH MAILS.—The Mails by the Belgian and Moravian, both vessels arriving at Portland the same day, reached Kingston yesterday noon. We are indebted to Messrs. James Ferguson and A. Walmsley, Canadian Mail Service Agents, for fyles of late English papers, containing the Queen's Speech and the Opening of Parliament.

SHORT HAND.—Prof. Jordan, who brings with him undoubted testimonials from Western Canada, is now forming a class for teaching the art of Short Hand, and can be seen at Mrs. McNinch's, on Princess Street. He professes to put the pupil in such a state of proficiency in three lessons as to enable him by practice to follow a speaker in a very short time. His system is that of Gurney of London.

CURLING MATCH.—Owing to the thaw, the Match for the Royal Caledonian Medal, won from Montreal, was not concluded yesterday.

CENTRAL CANADA ORANGE LODGE.

OTTAWA, Feb. 21st.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Central Canada opened yesterday. A large number of delegates handed in their credentials.—No business of importance was transacted. This morning over one hundred delegates, conducted by Mr. W. F. Powell, M.P.P., visited the Parliamentary and Departmental buildings. The Grand Lodge met at two o'clock to-day, and the following gentlemen were elected:—

Mr. Mackenzie Bowell, of Belleville, G.M.
Mr. William Shannon, Kingston, D.G.M.
Mr. S. S. Madden, Napanee, A.D.G.M.
Mr. C. Fletcher, Brockville, Treasurer.
Mr. David Marshal, Port Hope, Secretary.
Mr. A. Pratt, Ottawa, Assistant-Secretary.
Rev. Wm. Burns, Pakenham, Chaplain.
Mr. A. J. Van Ingen, Cobourg, Grand Lecturer.
Mr. Wm. Johnson, Belleville, G.D. of Ceremonials.
And Mr. A. McMahon, Kingston, Tyler.

The lodge closed session this afternoon.

The Orange Soiree to-night, in aid of the Ottawa Protestant Hospital, was attended by about eight hundred persons. After the blessing by Chaplain Burns, a sumptuous entertainment was served. On the platform were the Hon. J. H. Cameron, Mr. M. Bowell, G. M., W. Shannon, S. S. Madden, D. Marshall, Wm. Anderson, Rev. Mr. Burns, Bawsox, Jones, May, Howard, Davis, Ross, Fletcher, Powell, M.P.P. Carson, Henderson and Pratt.

Several songs were sung by amateurs, which with the brass band in attendance, and the various speeches, made up a splendid programme.

The Chair was ably filled by Hon. Mr. Cameron, who after tea, in a few remarks stated that the object of the Soiree was to assist in forming a fund to extend required accommodation in the hospital. He was happy to see such a large audience, and referred to what had been done by the Order in Toronto and other places, under similar circumstances. He alluded to the Fenian difficulty, and thought that, beyond a raid or two on defenceless places, it would not amount to much.

Mrs. Miles sang "The Volunteers," which was loudly encored.

The Grand Master elect was next called on. He addressed the audience for a considerable time, explaining the principles of the order, which, he said were based on charity and love, including Protestantism. It was first instituted for purposes of defence, and he was certain that, if need be, the body would rise as one man to defend our homes from all the Fenigans and Kilkgans that could be scared up. He concluded by stating that, if the principles of the order were better understood, they would be less objected to, and if acted upon they were calculated to make men better members of society.

Chaplain Burns, being called on, referred to the terrible old times of the Shiners, when the streets of Ottawa could not be passed in safety without a password. There was a change now. By the aid of Orangemen, one policeman kept the whole city in tolerable quietness.

The reverend gentleman was attired in the white robe of his office. The officers were all in regalia. Other speakers entertained the audience until a late hour. The greatest harmony prevailed throughout.

LATE FROM EUROPE.

New York, Feb. 22

The steamer City of Baltimore, from Liverpool on the 7th, has arrived.

The Cuba arrived up at 11 o'clock.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Watkins gave notice that on the 16th he should ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether any, or what representation had been made on behalf of Her Majesty's government of the United States with reference to the Fenian organization in America, more especially with regard to the employment of American officers, and the issue of bonds by the so called Irish Republic.

In the debate on the address in response to the Queen's speech, the O'Donoghue enlarged upon Irish grievances, moved an amendment to the address, declaring it to be the duty of ministers to examine into the cases of Irish dissatisfaction and remove them. After a general debate on Fenianism, in the course of which it was charged that the conspiracy was of American origin, and that Seward was the real Head Centre, the amendment was rejected by a vote of 346 to 25, and the address was agreed to.

The cattle plague was the leading topic in both Houses.

The Morning Herald believes the existing Ministry depends upon the way it deals with the subject.

The Dublin police had discovered a second extensive Fenian manufactory of ammunition in that city.

Some soldiers charged with Fenianism were being court-martialed.

Official despatches from the French Minister at Washington to his Government respecting the Bagdad affair. He announces that the United States government has thorough into the conflict with France though finally directed not to allow itself to be drawn busterism or Juarez agents.

The Spanish Government have decided to issue letters of marque against Chili upon proof that Chili has adopted this mode of warfare.

It was reported that the Italian Government had sent a note to Madrid in consequence of serious declarations concerning Italy in the Spanish diplomatic body.

Queenstown, Feb. 11.—The steamer Asia, from Boston, has arrived.

London, Feb. 10.—The Prussian Chamber of Deputies have passed a resolution by a large majority protesting against the attempts of the Supreme Court to restrict liberty of speech.

Liverpool, Saturday night.—United States 5 20's closed at 67¼ to 67¾.

Paris, Feb. 10.—The bourse is flat. Rentes closed at 68f. to 75c.

Liverpool, Feb. 10.—Cotton market flat; sales to-day 7,000 bales, at a partial decline of ⅛d. Sales to speculators and exporters 2,000 bales. Breadstuffs dull. Provisions firm.

London, Feb. 10 P.M.—Consols for money 86½ to 86¾. Decrease in the bullion of the Bank of England of £108,000. Illinois Central shares 74½ to 74¾. Erie shares, 52¼ to 52¾; U. S. 5.20's 67¼ to 67¾.

New York, Feb. 22.—Business in this city is generally suspended. Flags flying, military parading the streets, and much enthusiasm manifested, but no general celebration.

Mobile, Feb. 20.—Cotton market greatly excited and advanced ½c per lb.

New York, Feb. 22.—At the stock exchange a close holiday was to day observed in honor of the birthday of Washington. The banks and other financial institutions are closed, and the streets was almost deserted.

New York, Feb. 12.—The Tribune's Washington telegram say: The statements telegraphed hence that there is to be an immediate and general disruption of the Cabinet, are entirely groundless.

Portland, Feb. 22.—The steamer Moravian will sail on Saturday the 24th, in place of the Belgian.

Boston, Feb. 22.—In the Massachusetts House of Representatives yesterday, a series of resolutions were introduced regretting the act of President Johnson in vetoing the Freedmen's Bureau Bill, and asserting that it is the duty of the President to give the negroes that protection for which his honor stands pledged, and to which the gallant conduct of the colored soldiers entitles them. The resolutions were referred to the committee on federal relations. The House refused to receive a resolution thanking the President for his veto message, by a vote of 99 to 18.

Washington, Feb. 22.

The birthday of Washington is being celebrated here, and business is nearly suspended and the public departments are closed.

THE VETO SUSTAINED.

Washington, Feb. 21.

The Senate failed to repass the Freedmen's Bureau bill over the President's veto. Forty eight Senators were present and voted, of which it would have required thirty-two to make the two thirds necessary for repassing the bill. The escape was a narrow one, as a change of two votes would have carried it through.

Nothing has occurred since the surrender of the rebel armies which is likely to prove so fruitful in important consequences as this veto and the failure to repass the bill over it.

Among the signs of the times may be noticed the fact that Henry Ward Beecher indorses the President's policy, including the veto of the Freedmen's Bureau Bill. He stated in his address, in Brooklyn, last night, that for thirty years he had agitated for the destruction of slavery, but, that having accomplished, he now was for the complete restoration of the Union. It is manifest that if men like Beecher leave the Republican party, Stevens will not have a corporal's guard at his back in the House of Representatives which succeeds the present one.

Syracuse, February 20.

The conservatives of this city are preparing to fire one hundred guns to-night in celebration of the veto of the Freedmen's Bureau bill by President Johnson.

Hudson, N. Y., February 20.

The veto message of President Johnson was received in this city this morning with enthusiastic demonstrations. Flags were displayed in Central square, and thirty-six guns were fired, representing the States of the American Union. Johnson stock has advanced fifty per cent.

Albany, February 20

A salute of one hundred guns was fired in Lockport this morning in honor of President Johnson's veto.

New Haven, Conn., February 20.

The Conservatives in this city are firing thirty-six guns in honor of President Johnson and his veto on the Freedmen's Bureau bill.

Albany, February 20.

A national salute was fired here to-day, by direction of the Common Council, in honor of the veto message of President Johnson.

Manchester, N. H., February 20

One hundred gu