LETTERS & TELEGRAMS.

J. McC., New York.

The predictions of the British Whig have not been verified, for War has actually been declared between Prussia and Austria, and between Austria and Italy. The War therefore appears to be general. The reason why the British Whig predicted that the several parties to this War would settle their differences, was because there really was little or nothing to fight about, save and except the people of Italy, who impatiently crave the re-possession of Venetia, an integral portion of their new Kingdom. Let us see what these nations are fighting for.

Prussia fights for the assured possession of the Dutchy of Holstein, whereby she may have an outlet on the Atlantic, and become a maritime nation, of which honor the present King of Prussia is ambitious. Nothing else.

Austria fights to prevent Prussia from holding Holstein, hoping that in the melee, she may recover back a large slice of Silesia, of which province she was dispossessed in the Seven Years' War, by Frederick the Great. Austria also fights to keep Venetia, foreseeing that she must have to fight for it, sooner or later, and she prefers taking her own time to do it.

Italy fights for vitality. She knows that while Austria keeps hold of one of her finest provinces, that she is really a Kingdom only in name. Venetia is the eastern boundary of Italy, and its permanent possession is as much an object of interest, as if Wales were needed to complete the boundaries of England. With Venetia, Italy could patch up for a while her quarrel with the Pope. Another Pontiff may be called to the Papal Throne, who may be more inclined to part with his temporalities than Pio Nono; and then all Italy would be owned by the Italians.

Now arises the question, which power will be successful in maintaining its possessions and pretentions? After so lamentable a failure in the matter of War or no War, it would be presumptuous to hazard other predictions, and yet we have opinions. Prussia and Austria are both powerful nations, but Austria is the stronger in territory and population. Prussia has lots of money and credit, Austria has none of the one, and but little of the other. But she has a righteous cause, so far as Holstein is concerned, and she has, what is better still, indomitable pluck. The Austrians never know when they are beaten, which the Prussians ever do; witness the over-running of Prussia by Napoleon I. whenever he pleased. The Italians always have fought badly, but under the new regime, they may fight better, which we heartily hope may prove the case on this occasion, for Austria has no more right to a single rood of Italian ground, than she has to the County of Middlesex.

Thus the affair stands, and unless some mediator steps forward to prevent actual hostilities, the present summer will tell its tale, for modern warfare is a very different affair from the tedious campaigns of days gone by.

France has some interest in this war. She needs the consolidation of her Empire by the possession of the Rhenish Provinces, now owned by Prussia, and if she can see a safe opportunity to obtain them, most assuredly she will attempt it.

FURTHER FROM EUROPE.

SUMMARY BY THE BREMEN AND CITY OF BOSTON.

Reichenburg, June 17.

An army corps, about 30,000 strong, encamped at Obersdorff last night. 12,000 are expected to day at Leifhennersdorf, and 8,000 at Zittauf. The Prussians occupy Leidenburg in considerable force. Reinforcements still pouring in.

Eger Bohemia, June 19.

On Saturday 20,000 Prussians occupied Mochern, 2 miles from Leipsic, and subsequently Wurzen, Dahan and Riesa.

The Westphalian army corps stationed at Lehkenditz is going to the Silesian frontier.

PRUSSIA.

In addition to the invasion across the Eastern and Western frontiers, the King issued a proclamation to his faithful people, in which he relies upon their loyal co-operation.

The King left Dresden to join the army.

The entry of the Prussians into Saxony was preceded by a formal declaration of war.

The Prussian Ministers are about to leave Dresden.

The entry of Austrians into Saxony is hourly expected.

The Prussians are advancing on Wurzen, and have occupied Lobau, Zittau and Meissen.

It is rumored that the Saxon army effected a junction with the Austrians.

The Moniteur says the Prussians entered Dresden on the 17th.

The King of Saxony has withdrawn into Bohemia.

Diplomatic relations between Bohemia and Prussia broken off.

ITALY.

Florence, June 19.

The Italian Government formally declared war against Austria yesterday.

The Italian Ministry have been reorganized under Ricasoli.

The persons attached to the King's household have left Florence to join His Majesty at the camp.

It is stated that Cardinal Antonelli has resigned. It is believed he will be succeeded by Cardinal Alfieri.

Garibaldi had left Como.

As soon as the Volunteers are completely equipped, they will proceed to Bergamo and Brescia.

The Italian Chamber annulled Mazzini's election.

The van-guard of a strong Russian army corps arrived at Tarnogrod.

Portugal will observe strict neutrality.

FURTHER BY THE CUBA.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Times states that the Queen will not return from Scotland till the morning of the 26th; therefore it is expected that explanations cannot be given to Parliament until that day. It is extensively believed that the Queen will give the Ministers their option as to the dissolution of Parliament.—The Times thinks a dissolution possible but improbable.

The Star thinks the prospect of a dissolution is clear, and believes that the Queen has not the slightest objection.

Public meetings were being held in the large towns in support of the Government and Reform.

The Globe officially announces the appointment of Sir John Peter Grant, ex-Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, as Governor of Jamaica.

The Duke of Edinburg, Prince Alfred, was paying a three days' visit to Liverpool, and performing Sunday public service—among other things; inaugurating the new docks at Birkenhead. He was greatly lionized.

The London Times of the 21st, says:—Although the campaign between the main armies of Prussia and Austria has now fairly begun, we have no news of the actual encounter across the whole breath of Germany from the frontier of Poland to the Rhine. The forces of Austria and the States in alliance with her, have been mustering for an extended series of operations; but as yet, actual gains have been on the side of their adversaries. The Austrians maintain profound silence as to their intentions. We only know that Field Marshal Benedek intends to take the offensive and that the conquest and occupation of Silesia are viewed as purposes of the Austrians' campaign.

The London Observer says that a motion will be made in the House of Commons, expressing confidence in the Ministry, and promising favourable consideration of the Reform measure next session, if the Ministers do not announce a dissolution of Parliament.

PRUSSIA.

Prussian troops entered Austrian territory near Odenaborg, in Upper Silesia, on the night of the 21st. The movements of Benedek are kept very secret; nothing more than reconnoissances appear to have been made by the Austrians in Upper Silesia.

Emaden had surrendered to the Prussians.

Vienna papers assert that the Saxon town of Leizatian had been destroyed by the Prussians in consequence of the refusal of the inhabitants to pay war contributions.

The Prussians have taken the elector of Hesse and his Minister of War prisoners, and sent the latter to the fortress of Minden.

Count Bismarck, in a despatch to the Prussian representatives, declares that the entry of Prussian troops into Hanover, Saxony and Hesse was a necessary measure of self-defence.

A Hanoverian ship had been captured by the Prussian men of war in Bremen harbor.

THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.

The Saxon army succeeded in joining the Austrians. It is also reported that the Hanoverian troops effected a junction with the Federal army corps. The Federal army corps around Frankfort amounted to 60,000. The headquarters of Prince Alexander are to be transferred to Frankfort.

Prince Wilhelm Von Hannan, the third son of the Elector of Hesse, had been taken prisoner by the Prussians.

The 8th Federal army corps, 60,000 strong, under Prince Alexander of Prussia, had effected a concentration.

ITALY.

Victor Emanuel left Florence for the campaign on the 21st, receiving an enthusiastic ovation on his way to the railroad depot. He arrived at Cremona on the same day.

L'Italie announces that the King received Kossuth on the 20th.

Prince Carignano had arrived at Florence and assumed the government. He was well received.

The declaration of war against Austria caused great rejoicing throughout Italy.—The Chamber of Deputies adopted, by a large majority, a Bill granting extraordinary financial powers to the Government.—The Minister of the Marine has notified the abolition of the capture of merchant vessels of the enemy not carrying contraband of war, Austria having consented to practice reciprocity in that respect.

In Italy, the Austrians expect to be attacked on three sides—at Venice by the Italian fleet, on the side of the Tyrol by Garibaldi, and lastly by Gen. Cialdini, who will cross the Po. All Garibaldians who were at Como had followed their commander to Lecco. It was reported that two companies of Austrian Chasseurs had occupied Silelon, on the frontier of Lombardy.

Victor Emanuel had issued a stirring manifesto to the Italians. He recapitulated the effect of the last war on Italy, and regrets that for supreme reasons the noble province of Venetia was allowed to remain in the hands of Austria; that a favourable opportunity has now arrived to accomplish the independence of Venetia from Austria. He charges the Austrians with having assumed a hostile and threatening attitude on the Italian frontiers to disturb the pacific task of reorganization in Italy. He replied by again taking up arms, but nevertheless showed his desire for peace by accepting the proposal for a Conference. Austria having refused, affords fresh proof, if she confides in her strength, that she does not rely equally upon the goodness of her cause and of her right. The manifesto concludes with the patriotic declaration of assurance that Italy has the sympathy of Europe, and hands over the government of the State to the Prince of Carignane, while he again takes up the eagles of Gaeta and Pastringo, of Pallestro and San Marino. Victor Emanuel also issued a proclamation to the National Guard, confiding to them the guardianship of public security and order.

The Italian military declaration of war against Austria was issued on the 20th, from the headquarters of the Italian army at Cremona. It is addressed by Gen. Cialdini to the Archduke Albert, commanding the Austrian army in Venetia. It recounts Italy's grievance in regard to Venetia, and gives notice that hostilities will commence in three days, unless the Archduke declines to accept the delay.

MR. GALT'S FINANCIAL POLICY.

Montreal, July 2.

A letter signed by all the dry goods merchants, but two, has been addressed to Mr. Galt, approving, as a whole, the policy of the Government as approaching free trade; but remonstrating against frequent and sudden changes disturbing the trade, particularly in view of approaching Confederation and the consequent remodelling of the tariff. A deputation was to have seen Mr. Galt this evening. The result is not yet known. A mechanics' and manufacturers' petition was adopted on Saturday night against the Government policy—being largely signed.

FREE MASONS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

[From the St. John Morning News, June 25.]

We observe that an Independent Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons has been established in Nova Scotia. This organization is in addition to the Provincial Grand Lodges, holding under the authority of England and of Scotland. There are now, therefore, three grand bodies having jurisdiction over subordinate Lodges in Nova Scotia. In New Brunswick, at the present time, there is a District Grand Lodge holding under authority from England, and subordinate Lodges working under authority direct from Scotland and Ireland. In Canada there is an Independent Grand Lodge, and subordinate Lodges operating under warrants from Scotland and England. In other of the provinces we believe an anomaly of a like kind prevails. With these facts, and the knowledge of the difficulties which arise from the existence of such a state of things, before them, we think the Fraternity would display commendable wisdom by considering the propriety affecting arrangements which would do away with these diversified authorities and the interests which arise from their maintenance, and of adopting some general plan for the better government of this time-honored institution. If a suggestion of ours would not be considered amiss, we would propose that there be organized, as speedly as circumstances will admit and the consent and co-operation of the Parent Grand Lodges can be obtained, a Grand Lodge of British North America, under the patronage of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland. And to further this design, we would commend the assembling in convention at some central or near place—say St. John—of delegates from the Lodges in the various provinces, vested with authority to consider all matter relating to the government of the Craft within their respective jurisdictions, and frame a scheme of amalgamation.

THE TARIFF.

The increased duties payable under Mr. Galt's proposed new tariff, are only in force temporarily and conditionally. If Mr. Galt should succeed in getting the tariff through Parliament, then, of course, the payments under it would be final. But if, for any reason, the Finance Minister's scheme fails to become law, all the extra duties which have been paid under it will be refunded. This fact encourages the resistence to the new imposts which the commercial classes are making. The Montreal Board of Trade has already pronounced unanimously against it yesterday. A resolution hostile to it was moved at the Toronto Board of Trade yesterday, but an adjournment was had till Thursday in order to secure a larger meeting. We shall no doubt have expressions of opinion adverse to the tariff from other centres of trade before many days.—Globe.

FENIANISM AND THE ARMY.—The Fort Erie correspondent of the New York Times says: "It appears that the Fenians calculated on the desertion to their ranks of all the Roman Catholic soldiers in the British army. But never was calculation so ill-founded. Not a man but has expressed his desire to punish the marauders, and this is the unanimous feeling of two regiments, three-fifths of whom are Roman Catholics. Your correspondent does not know that he has anything more of consequence to communicate, except that on making known the object of his visit, he was honored as your representative, by the most polite and generous hospitalities.—Whatever may be the feelings in regard to those portions of the press which sympathized with the Fenian invaders, all unite in praising the spirit of fairness and moderation which, during this contemptible fracas, has animated the New York Times."

AMENDMENT OF THE CHARTER OF THE BANK OF UPPER CANADA.—The Bank of Upper Canada has a Bill before Parliament for amending its present charter. The Bill proposes to reduce the stock by making every share $20 instead of $30, as at present, thus lessening the nominal capital by one-third. It also permits of an addition of $500,000 being made to the stock by way of preference shares—a new development of the preference share principle, which seems to us to require some sifting before we engraft it into our legislation, in the shape now projected.

THE BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM.

Augusta, Ga., June 30—Dr. H. Eaton was murdered by the freedmen in Camden county. The civil authorities arrested the murderers, but they were successfully resisted by a negro mob.

There was a horrible murder at station No. 15, Georgia, on Wednesday night.—Two freedmen butchered Mrs. Rollins and her two children, and a negro girl, killing the former and leaving the latter without hope of recovery. One of the murderers was arrested at Boston.

New York, July 1.—The Herald's correspondent, writing from Grenada, Miss., says there are more instances of outrage, bitterness and lawlessness in that State than in all the others combined. An officer of the Freedmen's Bureau was recently called out of his house and shot through the head by two persons whom the authorities are unable to discover. The headquarters at Meridan were broken open and the officers also fired at, and a reign of terror is established at Grenada by the guerillas, whose leader is supposed to be a brother of Gen. Forrest. There are no troops at Grenada, and Gen. Wood does not appear to have done anything more than offer a reward for the arrest of the murderers.

THE EUROPEAN COMPLICATIONS.

New York, July 1.

The Herald's Florence (Italy) correspondent, writing June 11th, states that Italy, with all her national enthusiasm and fire, has decreed that Venetia shall be free. She accepts the issues of war with Austria full of hope, and, after a mature consideration of the dangers which must inevitably result to her from the continuance of a state of armed peace. It was proposed by Parliament, and certain to be carried into effect, to abolish all the religious corporations in the kingdom, and apply their revenues to State uses. The law which exempts the clergy from military service was likely to be repealed, and as there are 100,000 priests in the country, it was thought the ecclesiastical body would furnish quite a respectable quota to the army. Garibaldi was as popular as ever, and Victor Emanuel was about to start for the front.

BOY SOLDIERS.—Mr. Morris, M.P.P. for Lanark, has given notice of "an enquiry as to whether it is the intention of the Government to prescribe a course of elementary military instruction for the grammar school pupils of Upper Canada, under the Grammar School Act of 1865, and to submit to the consideration of the House an appropriation therefor; and, also, whether such course is intended to comprise instructions in actual drill, or in elements of military science."

A MECHANIC'S WIFE RECEIVES A LEGACY OF $35,000,000.

[From the Hartford Courant, June 28th.]

The fickleness of fortune is well illustrated in the experience of a worthy family in this city, who have suddenly found themselves raised from that condition in society where people are said to live in 'moderate circumstances,' to the highest pinnacle of wealth. The facts are these:—Mrs. Eli Walker, residing at No. 100 Maple Avenue, is a woman of English birth. Her husband (who is a machinist by trade) and herself have resided here for a number of years, and have several children. It was reported some months ago that a large property, valued at thirty five millions of dollars, had fallen to Mrs. Walker's father as a direct heir, and he being dead, the whole amount belonged to her as his only child. Steps were at once taken to ascertain the truth of this report, and ex-Governor T. H. Seymour was employed to investigate. The result of this investigation is entirely favorable to Mrs. Walker, documents having been received which go to show beyond question that she will come into possession of this immense property, and she, together with her husband and children, will start for England next week to receive the golden egg.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN BANK.—The annual meeting of the Royal Canadian Bank was held in Toronto on Monday. A report showing a prosperous year's business was presented and adopted by the meeting. The retiring board, consisting of Mr. A. M. Smith, M. P., Mr. Grimshaw, Hon. Donald Macdonald, Alex. Manning, James Metcalfe, Robt. A. Harrison, and Mr. Barber, were re-elected. At a subsequent meeting of the directors Mr. Smith was re-elected President, and Mr. Metcalfe, Vice-President. At the general meeting the President was voted a salary of £750 a year. Votes of thanks were passed to the cashier and other officers of the bank.

TROOPS COMING.—The Times of the 11th ult. states that "the troop ship Orontes left Portsmouth on the 9th with the 87th Royal Irish for Gibraltar, and on disembarking the 87th at that place would embark the 2nd Battalion of the 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers for Quebec. From the latter place she is to convey another regiment (the 16th probably) to Jamaica, and finally return to England with the 6th Regiment, now stationed in that colony." This cannot be quite correct, for very recently a lady, (the wife of an officer of the 62nd) received an official letter, desiring her to be ready to embark with her children for England, in the Troop ship Orontes, a week after its arrival at Quebec.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

A despatch from St. John, N. B., informs a that the Union resolutions passed the New Brunswick Assembly on Saturday—only eight members voting against them. The number corresponds exactly with the number of anti-Unionists returned at the late election. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are now ready to send delegates to England, and delay hereafter will be chargeable to Canada. If Mr. Galt's wild schemes are persisted in no delegates can reach England during the present session of the British Parliament. It is deeply to be regretted that the Finance minister and his colleagues venture to break the promises made to the Union leaders in the Lower Provinces, and to put the Union scheme itself in peril. Great disappointment must be felt by Unionists in all the Provinces at the strange turn affairs have taken.—Globe.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

Stewart, the merchant Prince in New York, reports an income of $4,788,000 upon which he has to pay a tax of over $400,000.

Several deaths occurred from sunstroke in Boston and Albany, as well as in New York city, during the recent hot weather.

A recent fire in Virginia city, Nevada, destroyed property to the amount of $200,000, and rendered 400 families houseless.

It is expected that the annual rifle meeting at Wimbledon in July, will this year surpass any preceding one in extent and in brilliancy of shooting.

According to the Owl, Mr. W. H. Russell the Times, is the only newspaper correspondent who a Gen. Benedek will allow at his head-quarters.

O'Connor, the young man who attempted the assassination of Warner, the Fenian informer, in Dublin, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life.

An American paper says that five hundred white citizens of Texas have been indicted for murder since the collapse of the rebellion, and as yet without any convictions.

There seems to be no doubt that Jefferson Davis is fast falling a victim to the cruelties of his persecutors. He is now unable to walk without the aid of a crutch.

A shocking accident is reported to have occurred in Dakenfield Colliery, England. An explosion took place, from the result of which it is feared that 42 persons have been suffocated.

We hear from Paris that the French squadron, which has hitherto been stationed at Smyrna, has been ordered to occupy a position in the vicinity of the Ionian Islands, at the entrance to the Adriatic.

The King of Greece, finding, apparently, that he has not a very pleasant time of it in his bankrupt dominions, has called the Ambassadors of the protecting Powers together to consult them as to the state of affairs.

The Pall Mall Gazette says there is a rumor that France and England have agreed to send a squadron composed of the ships of both nations into the Dardanelles if Russia marches her troops into the Principalities.

At the close of the present quarter, no lottery swindlers, gift-jewellery houses, obscene-picture dealers, &c., will be permitted to hire boxes in the New York post-office. Such a regulation ought to have been adopted long ago.

A remarkable feature of the times is the fact that the British Admiralty have suspended their orders to contractors for commencing the great works for the extension of the Plymouth Dockyards, in consequence of the unsatisfactory condition of the money market.

A Bombay paper says that Colonel Massey, of the 95th, while shooting in Upper Scinde, was seriously injured by a tiger; directly afterwards, he narrowly escaped burning to death by a fire in the jungle; and while being conveyed homeward, was almost drowned.

A fact of great significance as showing that France expects to take part in the coming war is that Abbe Laine, the Emperor's chaplain, has been made chaplain in chief of the army. This priest served as chaplain in the Italian war of 1859, and was at the battles of Magenta and Solferino.

Three photographers of Warsaw have been sentenced to a fine of one hundred roubles each for having produced portraits of Kommissaroff, the peasant who saved the Emperor's life, the shadow of which depicted the head of an ass. Mr. Daggario, who sold the same photographs, has been likewise sentenced to a penalty of one hundred roubles.

A CANADIAN'S SUCCESS.—We notice, in the London Times of the 12th June, that George P. Campbell, son of Mr. James Campbell, of George Street, Toronto, and a native Canadian, has obtained a commission, without purchase, in the British Army, after passing a most successful examination at the Royal Military College of Sandhurst.

APPOINTMENTS.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Ottawa, 30th June, 1866.

His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz:

The Reverend William Ormiston, D.D., to be a Member of the Council of Public Instruction for Upper Canada, in the place of James S. Howard, Esquire, deceased.

William Henry Lee and William Alfred Himsworth, of the City of Ottawa, Esquires, to be His Deputies for signing Money Warrants.

Joshua Chamberlin, of Frelighsburg, Esquire, to be Commissioner to inquire into the depredations, &c., which have been committed in the district of Bedford by Fenians.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The Great Eastern was to sail on the 30th from Valentia with the submarine cable. The fleet will consist of the Great Eastern, the war ship Terrible, the screw steamers Medway, Albary and William Cary. The shore end will be taken aboard the William Cary, and the Medway is to carry a portion of the old cable. When the ends of the cable shall have been joined at Valentia, the fleet will sail, taking care to keep away from the previous route, so that the cable will not be crossed, thus destroying the electrical current. It is said that the fleet is to be most thoroughly equipped, that faults discovered in the machinery last year have been remedied, and that the paying out and picking up machinery is the product of the best mechanical skill of Great Britain. The mariners show good pluck in their repeated attempts, for which they deserve credit; it would seem that they were more confident this time than ever before, previous difficulties and disappointments having only served to make them more determined to succeed, while they take advantage of their dear experience to correct faults which it has shown. Among the appliances prepared are the 'double drums' of the hauling machinery, entirely new, and calculated for a strain of sixteen tons, worked by steam engines of forty horse power; dynameters carefully adjusted with weights and scales to show the exact strain to which the cable is subjected; grappling ropes, twenty miles in length, made of the same strands as the cable; buoy ropes for temporary use, &c., &c. The management of the Great Eastern is entrusted to Captain Anderson, as before, assisted by Captain Moriarty at the compasses. The renowned Mr. DeSauty is superseded by Willoughby Smith as electrician.

AMERICAN DESPATCHES.

THE NIAGARA SHIP CANAL SCHEME.

GREAT FIRE IN NEW YORK.

Boston, June 2.—The trot for $5,000, between the Boston mare 'Blackstone Bell' and the Philadelphia mare 'Fanny Allen,' this afternoon, was won by the Boston mare in three straight heats. Time, 2:28¼; 2:30¼, and 2:30.

New York, June 3.—Valparaiso dates of May 30th say:—Trade is reviving briskly, and the Minister of Finance is preparing a statement of the losses suffered from the Spanish bombardment. Specie is abundant. American gold is at a premium, but drafts on the United States for small amounts are cashed, dollar for dollar, in Chilian currency.

Advices from Chili report the commerce of that Republic as rapidly increasing, and when her mines and rich agricultural districts are developed by the railroads now building, there will be no limit to her wealth and progress.

Washington, June 30.—The Niagara Ship Canal bill meets with more opposition than was anticipated.

New York, June 3.

The stables of J. C. Jackson, in Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, were destroyed by fire last night. Edward Clock, a member of Engine Company No. 9, was run over and killed. There was a large number of valuable horses in them: the Hamiltonian stallion 'Mystery,' valued at $3,000; 'Red Jacket,' $1,000; 'Sunshine,' $1,000, and 'Peculiar,' $1,000. The other horses were valued in the aggregate at $2,000. The coaches and carriages destroyed are valued at $11,000. Loss on buildings, $6,000. A colored man named Richardson is under arrest on suspicion of setting the fire.

New York, July 3.

It the great trot on Fashion Course yesterday for the purse of 2,000 dollars, contested by Dexter, Gen. Butler, and Commodore Vanderbilt, Dexter was the winner. All five heats were made in the twenties and the last in 2:24¼ the fastest time on record.

Weekly British Whig

"Optifer per Orbem Dicor."

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 5, 1866.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

A. D. & Co., Toronto; W. F., Ottawa; C. G. St. C., Watertown; E. V., Chicago.

REMINDERS.

FURNITURE SALE at the residence of Mr. Hardings, on King Street, at ten o'clock this morning.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Ottawa, July 3rd.

Mr. J. H. Cameron introduced a bill to amend the Church Temporalities Act.

Mr. John A. Macdonald announced that resolutions respecting the local legislatures would be distributed to-night, but the schedules of seats would not be ready till Thursday.

Mr. Cartier announced that four additional copies of the code for the Lower Canada members were now at the post office, and one additional for Upper Canadians. The code of court procedure was also ready for distribution.

Mr. John A. Macdonald introduced a bill to amend the law respecting members of the legislature.

Mr. John A. Macdonald also introduced a bill to amend the act respecting the volunteer militia. He proposed that restrictions as to the number of volunteers which might be called out should be removed, so as to permit the government to receive all volunteers who might be required in the time of trouble. Of course the ordinary number would be governed by the vote of parliament. He also proposed doing away with certain restrictions as to occasions when the Governor General might call on the force. Some difficulty had recently been experienced in this respect. There was also a clause to allow of the formentation of mounted troops of infantry and rifles to act as scouts; another to enable municipal councils in Upper Canada to provide drill sheds and to afford relief to the volunteers and their families; also to indemnify these municipalities who had already granted moneys; also a clause respecting courts of enquiry, and provision for placing volunteers out at annual drill under military discipline. At present, if insubordinate, they will be brought before a magistrate at the expense of the officer prosecuting; also a provision that if any volunteer be guilty of any offence while in actual service and his corps should be relieved from service before he could be tried, that he shall still be tried as if his corps were on duty—this was to clear away doubts which had lately arisen.

Mr. Wood asked if any provision was to be made for the erection of drill sheds in country towns.

Mr. John A. Macdonald said in the law as it at present stands the government had full power to authorize the erection of drill sheds, but this could not be done without a vote of parliament for that purpose. It was the intention of the government, however, to put a sum for that purpose in the estimates this year.

Mr. Sandfield Macdonald said that it was very gratifying that the municipal councils, even in defiance of law, had granted moneys for the relief of the volunteers and their families. The government would receive every support from his side of the House in any measure for the improvement of the volunteer system and for extending aid to volunteers, as far as circumstances justified; at the same time he must remark that it was exceedingly gratifying to him to find that the system inaugurated by his government, but which was then received with so much disfavor by the other side of the House, was now found by the latter to prove so popular and efficient in the country. He approved of the amendments introduced and would support them.

Mr. John A. Macdonald was glad that the honorable gentleman opposite approved of the amendments, but so far as the volunteer system went he (John A.) always thought it was inaugurated in 1855, and was only improved upon by the honorable gentlemen opposite. In stating there was a chance to enable municipalities to aid volunteers he did not at all mean to say that the whole burden would be cast on the municipalities. The government would expect to give aid themselves as far as warranted. He thought the House would be prepared to vote something in return for the services of those who turned out for the defence of the country. (Hear, hear.)

M. Cartier explained that the law in Lower Canada was different. There was nothing to prevent money being voted to the volunteers.

Mr. Powell called the attention of the government to a fact which had just come to his knowledge, that men in the employ of the government who had volunteered could not on returning obtain work again.

Mr. John A. Macdonald said the government had no knowledge of such a state of affairs. The bill was then read a first time. Second reading on Thursday.

The House then went into committee on the bill to authorize the Law Society of Upper Canada to admit Hewitt Bernard, a member of that society, as barrister-at-law.

The committee reported the bill without amendment and it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Galt said, as many members were absent, he thought it might be better if he went into committee of supply instead of taking discussion on the tariff.

Mr. Holton was glad this was proposed. Several western members had not arrived, and they had asked him to request the Finance Minister to postpone the discussion.

Mr. Galt said he wished to refer to a matter which had attacted much attention since he made his statement. He referred to the failure which took place on the part of the telegraph company to inform the collectors of customs at various ports of the changes on the night made. Inquiry had been made at all the principal ports, and also at the telegraph office to ascertain the cause of delay. The telegraph company instituted further examination into the matter and Mr. Allan, the president, had promised to inform government if anything further was ascertained. He (Mr. Galt) then read a letter he had received from Manager Bethune in Ottawa dated the 27th ult., in which he begged to state that failure to transmit with sufficient promptness, the despatches of the government arose entirely from misconception of the instructions given to the operator in the House. Owing to this the messages were not forwarded to these parts till the morning of the 27th. He (Mr. Bethune) would take steps to prevent a recurrence of such delay again, and expressed great regret that it had taken place. Mr. Galt went on to say that the commissioner of customs, Mr. Bouchette, telegraphed the messages at 12 o'clock, midnight, arrangements having previously been made to keep the telegraph offices open all night; so that as far as the government were concerned nothing was left undone. The message to Quebec was telegraphed at 11:30 in the forenoon of the following day:—To Montreal at 10:15, Kingston 10, Toronto 9:15, Hamilton 3:20 in the afternoon, London 10 in the morning. At Quebec the collector being in possession of the act of the House though the newspapers decided to refuse to take entries. At Montreal the collector did not consider it his duty to follow the same course and received all entries up to the time of receiving the telegram from the government, when he refused to receive others. At Kingston there were no entries made before the hour at which the telegram was received. At Hamilton the collector took the same course as at Quebec. In London there were no entries and none at Toronto. The course at Montreal had caused very great dissatisfaction at Quebec and Hamilton, where entries were not taken, and also at Montreal because it had caused a marked difference between those who made and those who did not make entries. The result had been that, owing to the failure of the telegraph, the object of the committee in giving effect to the resolutions had been defeated as the whole trade was not put on the same footing in order to do this the government proposed to give 24 hours notice, and then to allow entries to be made for 24 hours of goods actually in bond on the morning of the 27th. They proposed to send a notice to-morrow which would be posted up at the custom houses on the following day, parties would be permitted, in business hours, to make entries of goods actually in bond on the morning of the 27th; when he came to concurrence in the report he should make such a change as shall authorize this proposal, which, in the opinion of the government was due to the business men of the country. The same course will be followed in regard to spirits in bond on the 27th.

Mr. Holton was glad that Mr. Galt had taken such prompt steps to redress this matter, but he doubted that twenty-four hours' notice would permit of preparation for entries being made.

Mr. Galt said there would be no objection to making it two days notice instead of one.

Mr. Holton desired to call the attention of the House to a point which bore upon this matter and in respect to which, although he had his own views, he was not prepared the other night with authorities. He doubted very much whether the hon. Finance Minister had followed English practice in enforcing the resolutions till they had been agreed to by the House. He did not think he could enforce resolutions till he had taken concurrence. He (Mr. Holton) referred to authorities in support of the proposition.

Mr. Galt said it depended with the House which, upon the occasion, had been decidedly in favor of putting the resolutions into immediate effect.

After some further remarks from Messrs. Holton and Galt on this point,

Mr. Sandfield Macdonald said it were far better that the revenue should suffer than that an unfair advantage should be taken of sudden changes in the tariff.

M. Dorion approved of time being given for withdrawing bonded goods, and suggested to the government whether some means ought not to be provided to prevent loss to such parties as were under contracts to sell or purchase articles the duty on which was changed by the tariff.

Mr. Galt said that would not be done, and parties having contracts must receive the same treatment as all others. He took this occasion to say the government had received a telegram to day from Quebec stating that large quantities of tea and gin were being taken out of bond at that port for shipment to Gaspe, under the impression that these goods could be introduced into any part of the province hereafter free of duty having been legally imported into Gaspe. To this telegram he (Mr. Galt) had replied that an announcement would be made this evening in the House to the effect that in the law repealing the free ports, provision would be made that no goods now entered for consumption at Gaspe should be permitted to be exported to other parts of the province unless full duty be paid upon them. (Hear, hear.)

Some discussion followed on this, the point of order being raised by Mr. Holton, and also as to whether it would not better to sue for duties those who had withdrawn the goods from bond rather than give time for their withdrawal by others, of an immense quantity of more goods.

The House then went into committee of supply.

On the items for educational grants some discussion arose.

M. Dorion thought that Victoria and Queen's Colleges had received an increase. Why?

Mr. Galt believed in the increase.

Mr. Dunkin was sorry the Minister of Finance had not reformed the grants for Lower Canada.

Mr. Galt said the ministry would bring in a measure on the subject shortly.

Mr. Scoble had hoped all grants for sectarian schools would have been abolished, whether to Protestant or Catholic. They were objectionable to Upper Canada.

Mr. Galt—Upper Canada will soon have an opportunity to settle that matter for itself.

Mr. John A. Macdonald said the members for Elgin and Lambton who were loud in their protest against these grants, had voted for them two years ago. After the coalition Trinity and Sandwich Colleges had been added to the grants and carried by their votes.

Mr. McKenzie said he had voted in committee and protested against these grants. The member for Cornwall had given all the influence of the government to the late member of Ottawa to carry the separate school bill.

Mr. J. Macdonald had asked no member to vote for the separate school bill. He had given it his own vote and support because he thought it right.

Mr. Cartwright said there should be measures to compel the county council to make fair grants to grammar schools.

On the vote for the lunatic asylum at St. Johns,

Mr. Dunkin urged that it was infamous to keep the asylum in the present building.

M. Cartier—As soon as the barracks are not wanted, the lunatics will be put back there.

Mr. Dunkin said that for years the barracks would be wanted for a garrison. Another asylum was needed for the old Montreal district of Lower Canada.

Col. Haultain hoped something would be done to remedy the condition of things, characterized by those who knew all about them as infamous.

M. Cartier hoped to be able shortly, under the new order of things, to remedy the evil which he felt was now deserving of attention.

Mr. Dunkin had wished to convey no censure on the management, but on the difficulties imposed on them by the place.

On the Beaufort asylum item, in answer to Mr. Holton.

M. Cartier said that item was larger because there was accommodation given for about 150 more patients. The contract had been extended with Drs. Douglas and Landry for six or seven years at the old rate per head. Dr. Douglas had since sold out.

Objection was taken by M. Dorion and Mr. Holton to the letting of a contract for a term of years with submission to the House. Further discussion followed, when this and other items were passed, and the committee rose, and the House adjourned at 11:40.

THE PROJECT OF CONSTITUTION FOR THE LOCAL LEGISLATURES.

The Minerve gives a summary of the project of Constitution for Local Legislatures, which Mr. J. A. Macdonald is to submit to the consideration of Parliament. It is published by the Ministerial organ in only a semi-official manner, being introduced with the uncertain language 'We think we know that the following will be found included in the project, etc.,' and yet the statement would not, of course, be made without being based upon some reliable information. We, therefore, translate the whole of it:—

The Local Constitutions shall come in force the moment that the Imperial Parliament shall have sanctioned the project of Confederation.

Then the Governor of Canada shall call together at Ottawa all the Ministers of the several English Provinces, and these shall fix the day for the convocation of the Confederate Parliament, which shall meet as soon as practicable.

The Confederate Council presided over by his Excellency the Governor-General, shall appoint for each Province a Lieutenant-Governor, who shall be revocable at pleasure after the first five years of his administration.

As soon as these Lieutenant-Governors are appointed, they shall form each under his own responsibility, a ministry for the Local Legislatures, and shall organize the Houses.

The seat of the Local Government for Lower Canada shall be Quebec, provided the Local Legislature does not select another city.

The electoral districts shall remain in Lower Canada the same as at present.

There shall be two houses:—A House of Assembly elective with a responsible ministry and 65 members. A Chamber of Council with 24 members, appointed for life by the Government. It shall be necessary for each councillor to reside in the division he represents.

The qualification shall be as follows:—For the Council $4,000, free of mortgage. For the House $2,000, free of mortgage.

The Parliament shall last four years, as under the present system.

The Houses can alter the representation by a vote of three-fourths.

The Legislative Councillors who remain two years without occupying their seats, shall therefore forfeit them.

The Council alone shall decide upon the eligibility of its members, when contested.

As much as practicable, the councillors shall be selected from amongst the present members, and the opposition shall not be excluded.

The representatives in the Local House of Assembly shall not be ipso facto the same as those of the House of General Assembly. But they can cumulate both functions by undergoing two distinct elections.

Our Lieutenant-Governor will be paid by the General Government.

The French and English languages shall both be official in our Legislature.

The Lieutenant-Governor shall have the right of veto upon all measures adopted by the Local Legislature; but a two-thirds vote will set aside his veto.

The local Government shall themselves appoint the several civil employes in the several departments.

In Upper Canada there shall be but one House, composed of 82 members. It shall be elective.

A CAUCUS IN OTTAWA.—The Journal de Quebec states that on Thursday last the Ministers held a secret conference with the Ministerial members of Parliament from Lower Canada, in which the Government stated the leading features of the Local Constitution of Lower Canada, and discussed it with their friends. The resume which appeared in the Minerve, was, probably, obtained at this conference.

FOURTH OF JULY ORATION.

We are indebted to our friend of pugnacious proclivity, residing on Barrie Street, for the following shorthand account of a Fourth of July Oration delivered yesterday at Watertown, N.Y.:—

July 4th, 1866.

PHELLER CITIZENS!

On this auspicious birth-day of our Mother Country I rejoice to appear before you, in order for the hundredth time, or thereabouts, to congratulate you on the achievements of the Great Goddess about the year 1775, when the boon of Liberty was conferred on the tallest Republic on this side of the big drink or any other man. But I am not going to repeat sentiments which you have heard reiterated time and again on various July the 4ths. I desire to draw your attention to the signal advantages we have conferred on our brethren of the Southern States.

Firstly—We have shown our superiority over them in fighting. We chawed up their men and women, burned their houses, destroyed their crops, stole their horses and cattle, whipped a few of their women down in New