FRIDAY MORNING, JAN. 31, 1868.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.—A. & L., Montreal; P. D., Lowville, N.Y.

## County Council.

Thursday, Jan. 30th.

The County Council met again this morning at ten o'clock; the Warden in the chair.

The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved.

Several communications were read by the Clerk, one of which was from J. B. Perse, of Toronto, seeking encouragement for the erection of a monument to the memory of the Volunteers who fell at the Battle of Ridgeway.

It was then moved by Mr. Spoor, and seconded by Mr. Godfrey, that a Special Committee be appointed to recommend any necessary alterations in the Municipal and Assessment Acts to the Committee of the Legislature at Toronto.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Strachan, seconded by Mr. Smith, That the Auditors shall prepare an abstract of receipts, expenditures and liabilities of the Corporation, and also a detailed statement of all the accounts of 1867, and report in duplicate on all the accounts; and that the said Auditors have power, and are hereby directed, to examine into any year's accounts and books in order to make a proper report therein; and that they are also hereby directed to make a special audit of all the years' accounts back as far as 1850.

After a long debate this motion was carried—11 for and 7 against it.

The Council then adjourned until two o'clock, for the purpose of attending the funeral of the present Treasurer's father.

The Council resumed at 3 o'clock, and the following motions were proposed:—

Moved by Mr. Moor, seconded by Mr. Halliday, that the Clerk be authorized to order 100 printed copies of the standing rules of the Council, and that one of them be posted in the Council Chamber.—Withdrawn.

Moved by Mr. Moor, seconded by Mr. Cox, that the Warden and Mr. Fair be appointed a special committee to call on the Auditors and report to-morrow morning.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Shibley, that whereas an Act was passed in 1866, Sec. 413, Chap. 51 in the Municipal Laws of Upper Canada, making it incumbent on Counties to establish houses of industry or refuge, it is therefore resolved that a special Committee be appointed to investigate the propriety of building such a house, viz.: the Warden, and Messrs. Spoor, Shibley, Mudie, Campbell, Strachan, Day, Barr, and the mover.

An amendment to this resolution was moved by Mr. Spoor, and seconded by Mr. Strachan, that the resolution relating to the House of Industry be laid over until next session.

After a long dispute, the motion and amendment was put, which resulted in the motion being lost, and the amendment being carried.

The Council then adjourned until this morning at ten o'clock.

Friday, Jan. 31.

The Council met again this morning at half-past ten o'clock, Mr. Joyner in the chair in the temporary absence of the Warden.

The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved.

The Warden having taken the chair, a petition was read by Mr. Shibley from Mr. Alex. Smith, of Portland, for a grant of land to build a school-house, and a small sum of money to assist in completing the same.

Mr. Shibley then moved, seconded by Mr. Godfrey, that the prayer of Mr. Alex. Smith for the grant of land be granted; also the sum of $30.—Carried.

Mr. Spoor moved, seconded by Mr. Strachan, that certain rules of the Council be struck out, and others amended.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Spoor, seconded by Mr. Strachan, that the resolutions relating to the printing of rules be expunged.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Strachan, seconded by Mr. Spoor, that the Committee on County Property is hereby directed to see that all books, papers and valuables belonging to the Treasury and County Clerk's Office are in their proper places.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. McRorey, that Dr. Day be appointed Gaol Surgeon.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Barr, that Dr. Brown be re-appointed Gaol Surgeon.

The Warden ruled the last motion out of order.

After a long discussion it was agreed to continue the present Surgeon, Dr. Oliver, in his position, as he had performed his duty satisfactorily.

The Council then adjourned until two o'clock.

On the Council resuming,

Mr. Strachan introduced a by-law confirming Dr. Oliver as Gaol Surgeon, and the Council went into Committee of the Whole, after which it became law. Mr. Barr was in the chair.

Moved by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Fair, that Mr. Hamilton, of Storrington, be appointed Auditor.

Moved by Mr. Godfrey, seconded by Mr. Strachan, that the appointment of Mr. Watt be rescinded, as he refuses to act.—Carried.

The motion for appointing Auditor was laid over until next morning.

A by-law was introduced by Mr. Mudie, amending by-law No. 25, fixing the salaries of the officers of the Council.

Mr. Mudie also introduced by-law No. 32, to amend clause 1 and 2 of by-law 25, relating to the salaries of the Treasurer and Clerk.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole, and the salaries were reduced, viz: The Treasurer's by $200 to $600, and the Clerk's by $50 to $250.

Moved by Mr. Shibley, seconded by Mr. Joyner, that the County Treasurer be authorized at once to collect all taxes on wild lands in the township of Portland.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Perry, that Mr. Snook be requested to furnish the Council with his bill for services during the past year.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Moor, seconded by Mr. Barr, that this Council have no March Session this year.—Carried.

The Local Superintendents for the different townships were elected for this year as follows:—

Pittsburg, Rev. Mr. Bower; Oso, Mr. Armstrong; Storrington, Rev. Mr. Chambers; Garden Island, Robt. Nicholls; Barrie, Mr. Deighton; Kennebec, D. Osborne; Portsmouth, Rev. Mr. Dobbs; Hinchinbrook, W. H. Brown; Olden, J. Cannon; Perland, D. Smith; Loughboro, Wm. Dunlop; Wolfe Island, Geo. Malone.

The Council then adjourned until nine o'clock this morning.

## Appointment.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Toronto, Jan. 30th, 1868.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointment:

Donald Bethune, Esq., Q. C., Barrister at-Law, to be Police Magistrate in and for the town of Port Hope.

## FROM MONTREAL.

Montreal, Jan. 31.

Monseigneur Bourget, Roman Catholic Bishop, is seriously ill, and has been removed to Hotel Dieu.

The first batch of Papal Zouaves are to leave here on the 19th February, on which occasion the grand demonstration of the blessing of the flags will take place in the French Church.

Canadian securities have given away in the English Stock Market, owing to a fear of Fenian raid on the country.

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG.

VOL. XXXVII. KINGSTON, CANADA, THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 6, 1868. NOS. 31 & 6.

## Legislature of Ontario.

Wednesday, Jan. 29.

Several petitions were brought up and laid upon the table, including one

Of the several Division Court Officers in Ontario, praying that a new tariff may be substituted for that now in force.

Sir Henry Smith presented a report of the committee to which bill No. 14, for the better protection of game in Ontario, was referred, recommending the adoption of the bill.

Mr. Wood introduced a bill respecting the Grand River Navigation Company.—Referred to the committee on private bills.

Mr. Cumberland introduced a bill to incorporate the Bishop Strachan School.

DEBTS OF INTESTATES.

Mr. Sexton enquired whether the government intended to introduce, during the present session, any measure for the purpose of enabling administrators to dispose, by sale or otherwise, so much of the real estate of intestates as may be necessary to liquidate the debts and liabilities of such intestates.

Mr. Cameron said it was not the intention of the government to do so during the present session; but the question was one of importance, and it would engage the attention of the government at an early day.

COMMISSIONS OF THE PEACE.

Mr. Matchett enquired whether the government intended at an early date, to issue a commission of the peace for several counties in Ontario.

Mr. Macdonald replied that in some of the junior counties a commission would issue, but as a bill was on the point of passing the House on the subject, no general commission would issue until some time during the recess. The appointment of new magistrates throughout Ontario was one which required much enquiry and consideration.

Mr. Scott (Grey) asked whether the government intended to make any abatement in the amount chargeable against public lands in the county of Grey, and whether it is intended to resume such lands as have not been paid for in full, not settled upon and if so whether for re-sale or free grant, and when.

Mr. Macdonald said that it was the intention of the Commissioner of Crown Lands to obtain a list of the lands upon which arrears were due, and to make a demand for payment. And that in case the arrears were not paid the lands would be forfeited, except in certain cases where the Government would have optional power.—Each case would be dealt with on its own merits. With regard to the Crown Lands he thought there were certain cases in which a remission might be made, but they had no power to deal with the school lands without obtaining special authority. It was not the intention of the Government to give free grants of land in any of the townships where land had already been sold.

Mr. Perry asked if it was the intention of the government to raise a revenue for provincial purposes from shop, saloon and auctioneer licenses; ad if so, in what manner.

Mr. Macdonald said that it was not the policy of the government to impose taxes unless money was required for public undertakings. At the next session this matter would be taken into consideration in case money were required from such a source.

LAND IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Mr. Blake moved an address for petitions and correspondence respecting the land improvement fund. He spoke briefly, contending that when the land in the counties of Huron and Bruce were purchased the settlers had hopes held out to them that a portion of the prices—one-quarter—would be returned to them; and he hoped that when the arbitration was held between the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec the claims of those settlers would not be overlooked. However, he did not intend to embarrass the government, but would press the question at another time.

Mr. Macdonald replied that he did not wonder that the honorable member felt a deep interest in the matter on account of his constituents; but although the matter would come up for consideration, yet he could not hold out any hope that the funds would be returned.

The motion was then withdrawn.

THE ESTIMATES.

Sir Henry Smith asked the treasurer when he would be prepared to come down with the estimates, as members were anxious to learn what the salaries of the gentlemen on the treasury benches were to be, as well as to learn what pickings they would have themselves.

Mr. Wood said that he was making as rapid progress as possible with the estimates, and that they would be printed and laid before the House in a couple of weeks.

PRISON INSPECTORS.

Mr. Macdonald moved the third reading of the bill respecting Prison Inspectors.

Mr. Cumberland said he regretted very much that the government intended to abolish the inspection of prisons, and then spoke highly of the past labors of the prison inspectors.

Mr. Macdonald said he only wished to relieve those gentlemen who had been appointed by the general government from extending their labors into Ontario, and he had no doubt that those who had appointed them would take care of them. He thought the inspectors of prisons should be responsible to the government of Ontario and that was the reason why he had introduced the bill. He did not intend to abolish inspectors of prisons, but to make the inspectors responsible to the government of Ontario.

The Bill was then read a third time and adopted.

LAW OF EVIDENCE.

Sir Henry Smith asked leave to postpone the resumption of the debate upon the Bill relative to the amendment of the law of evidence, till next Wednesday, which was granted.

The House then adjourned at half-past 4.

## BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

### The Notorious Train—The Clerkenwell Explosion—The Roman Question—American Secret Agent Sent to the Pope—England and America—Prussia and Rome.

London, Jan. 29.

George Francis Train is delivering lectures in Cork on American and Irish subjects. He is very popular with the Irish people and his houses are jammed.

The evidence of Shaw, who turned informer, and identified Barretts the Clerkenwell criminal, is generally discredited.

Alex. M. Sullivan the editor of the Dublin Nation, who was arrested for printing seditious articles in his paper, and for participating in the funeral ceremonies in honor of the Manchester martyrs, was brought up at Dublin yesterday for preliminary examination. The evidence elicited was of such a nature as to justify the court in holding the prisoner for trial.

London, Jan. 29. (evening)

Mr. Milner Gibson, a leading member of parliament, in a speech at Ashton, declared that peace must be preserved between England and America. Other cabinets would succeed those now in power on this and the other side of the Atlantic, and other cabinets would not be pledged to the policy or bound by the words of either Lord Stanley or Secretary Seward.

Thomas Daley, who is said to be an American Fenian, has been arrested on the charge of treason. It is alleged that he is concerned in the plot for an attack on Woolwich arsenal, which was discovered and frustrated by the police.

London, Jan. 29th.

The policy recently adopted by Prussia on the Roman question and her agreement with France in the treatment of that subject has caused surprise, but an explanation of the course is found in the fact that in sustaining the temporal power of the Pope the Prussian government finds a powerful means of conciliating its Catholic subjects and of strengthening its influence over the Catholic States of South Germany.

London, Jan. 29.

The maternal condition of Italy is becoming critical. Fears are entertained that a coup de etat is contemplated at Florence. It is believed in Paris that relations between the French and Italian governments are not so cordial as they have been.

Paris, Jan. 29.

It is considered certain that the general council of the Catholic church, preparations for calling which were made some time ago by Pope Pius IX to a special commission of seven cardinals, will assemble at Rome in November next.

Florence, Jan. 29.

The Unita Catolica newspaper says that a special agent of the President of the United States arrived at Rome on a secret mission to the Pope, and that he will be supported by Admiral Farragut, whose fleet is hourly expected at Naples, and whose arrival in Rome is looked for at an early day. The journal gives no information as to the character or object of the mission upon which the American agent has been sent.

## From Europe by Steamer.

[Per Hamburg at New York. Dates to the 16th.]

The London Advertiser says that Garibaldi had requested the report to be contradicted that he had returned any answer to an address forwarded to him by the Fenians, and he moreover states that on this subject he would support the Government.

The English and German holders have returned to the New York market a very large amount of United States bonds, in consequence of the disgust excited by Gen. Butler's motion for paying off the Five-twenty bonds in American currency, and by the discussions on the subject which have since been continued, to the serious injury of American credit.

The Times describes the distress at the east of London as vast and heartrending. The number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief number upwards of 40,000, but by the measures adopted while they fail to meet the need are actually increasing the amount of pauperism, and are demoralizing the district.

The Cork Herald has published a report that in a few minutes after the successful attack on the gunshop, Allport's establishment, a number of the disaffected gathered in an empty store, where the revolvers were sold by auction among the party. The same journal mentions the strong local rumor that the Cork Fenians have appointed a vigilance committee (such as they certainly had at one time in Dublin), whose duty it is to watch the movements of the constables, and keep the brotherhood out of harm's way.

Very sad tidings have been received in Paris from almost every part of France. Trade and manufactures of Lyons were paralyzed by a variety of causes, in which the uncertainty prevailing as to the political future had no small share. Hunger and destitution were making sad havoc among the operatives at Nantes, Rouen, and even in Bordeaux, where the mildness of the climate does away with one cause of suffering. The destitution was plainly manifest. So dense are the throngs of famished operatives, that they besiege the Hotel de Ville, clamoring for bread and employment, that the guards had to be doubled. At Lille starvation is epidemic, and in Paris the distress was very great, but private and public benevolence was more active.

## THE MANCHESTER FENIANS.

### Refusal of the Bishop of Kerry to Allow his Priests to Pray for the Souls of Allan, Gould and Larkin.

The Right Rev. Dr. Moriarty, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Kerry, who on other occasions has honorably stood forward to maintain the cause of loyalty and order, addressed a circular to the clergy of his diocese, in which he directed them not to pray for the souls of Allan, Gould and Larkin. The following are extracts from the circular:—

"First, it seems plain to us that they were perpetrated in the cause of revolution; and though these poor men may not have been conscious of the tendency of their acts, yet we know that revolution is the chief form of antagonism to God and to religion which the spirit of evil assumes in our day.

"Secondly, it will not be denied that these acts were done in defence and for the furtherance of the Fenian conspiracy—that is, of an excommunicated secret society. We tell our people that to belong to this society is a grievous sin. Can we at the same time applaud its champions? We tell them that the Sovereign Pontiff forbids us to absolve members of secret societies unless they renounce the society and repent of their sin, and are we to tell them in the same breath that it is heroism and patriotism to fight and to die for that which the Pope has condemned? God forbid that any Kerry priest should be ever guilty of such double dealing towards the people, and of such disrespect to the Holy See!

"Thirdly, if those acts of violence are lawful and praiseworthy it must be lawful and praiseworthy to repeat them. Are we, as priests of the living God, prepared to give such counsel? It is lawful to fire shots in a crowded street, with danger to the lives of innocent and unoffending people? If a band of Orangemen strove to rescue one of their brotherhood, charged with felony or treason, and, in the effort, shot an unarmed Catholic, should we not deem it immoral, nay, brutal, to give the homicides a popular ovation? We have heard of another fearful outrage, causing death and danger to several who never did harm to us or to our country. Are we expected to canonize the men who fired the gunpowder at Clerkenwell? And yet to make a breach in a jail wall by a dangerous explosion does not imply as direct an intention of homicide as the firing of lead-laden revolvers. If those who seek to redress the wrongs of our country will abstain from acts or threats of violence, there is no fear in this age that any amount of written or spoken disaffection will ever be visited with the last penalty of the law. The struggle for justice and for reform can be carried to a favourable issue under the conditions, and according to the rules and principles, laid down by the great Kerryman who has been as yet the only successful champion of Irish freedom. Here at least we should not forget O'Connell's maxim, that the man who commits a crime drives a nail in the coffin of his country. We sometimes here the names of hirelings and traitors applied to those who will not join in the insane movements of the present time. If we were hirelings we would flatter the folly and pander to the prejudice of those on whom we depend for food and raiment. If we were traitors to our country we would cherish those secret conspirators who are stabbing her at the heart. But then we should be also traitors to conscience, traitors to God, traitors to the Gospel which He has intrusted to our keeping and commanded us to preach.

"Very faithfully in Christ our Lord,
"† DAVID,
Bishop of Kerry.

"Killarney, Dec. 30, 1867.

LEAP YEAR.—Girls, the following ancient Saxon law has been in force for centuries. It has never been repealed and is now in full operations:

"Albeit, as often as leape yeare dothe occure, the women holdeth prerogative over the menne in matter of courtshipe, love, and matrimonee; so that when the ladie proposithe it shall not be lawful for menne to say her nae, but shall receive her proposall in all good courtesie."

Speaking of leap-year, the Dreerst News says it doesn't make much difference out there, as the Mormon ladies have always the privilege of popping the question to a marriageable saint.

## A Remarkable Invention—If True.

It is stated that a German glass-maker has lately made a remarkable discovery. He has invented a telescope, or magnifying glass, by which the most intricate nerves and vessels inside of the body may be seen from the outside. In fact, the whole arrangement and action of the interior organs may, by means of this glass, be distinguished.

The discovery will probably be of immense benefit to mankind, as by means of it the physician will be able to determine, with unvarying accuracy, the nature of any particular disease, and the proper manner for treating the same.

The name of the inventor, who will probably realize a fortune from his discovery, is Gottlob Juntz. He is a very poor, but a well-read and highly intelligent man. He has an aged mother, an invalid wife, six children and a blind sister, all dependent upon him for support. His mother was well acquainted with the poet Goethe, and it was probably her many anecdotes of this illustrious person which first inspired her son with a desire to do something to win the respect and esteem of his fellow men.

The glass he has made will probably place him among the first rank of inventors, and win for him the esteem of whole nations.

By means of this invention, he has already nearly cured his wife. Six months ago, a well-known doctor said she could not live, and pronounced her disease to be an affection of the heart.

Juntz has, however, proven to him, with the aid of the wonderful microscope, that he was entirely mistaken, the stomach alone being the part affected.

## BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.

Naples, Jan. 29.

The eruption of Mount Vesuvius, which has continued with greater or less intensity since its occurrence in the past year, has culminated in an unusual and very fatal catastrophe. Yesterday evening the side of Mount Vesuvius lying opposite the Gable of Castello, one of the fortifications of the city, situated between the Royal Palace and the sea, fell tumbling outward. The detached portion buried several houses built in the vicinity, and overwhelmed carriages and other conveyances passing on the highway. The scene is melancholy and full of ruin. The road running in the neighborhood of the volcano is filled with rock and earth. This extraordinary event has been attended with considerable loss of life, but the number of persons killed has not yet been ascertained.

THE FRENCH ARMY BILL.

Paris, Jan. 29.

The bill for the reorganization of th army having passed the Corps Legislatif, came before the Senate this week and gave rise to an interesting discussion. M. Michel Chevalier, in a powerful speech, opposed the bill. He took grounds in favor of peace for France, and on these grounds argued against the measure. France should maintain close relations with the neighboring European Powers, all of whom should unite to resist the Emperor of Russia and the republic of America—nations who, in the extraordinary growth of their territory, power and ambition, threaten to overshadow the world. Marshall Neil, speaking for the government, supported the bill. He replied to the argument addressed against the bill by M. Chevalier, declaring the grounds on which they rested intolerable. As for the fears expected by M. Chevalier in regard to Russia they were absurd. Such views were refuted by every event in the history of Europe since the war in the Crimea. The debate ended yesterday evening, when the vote was taken and the bill was passed.

FENIANISM—THE TOWER ATTACK.

London, Jan. 29.

The appeal of the counsel for the defence for the removal of the trials of the Fenians Burke and Casey to London has been successful. The court has decided to grant the motion for removal, and the trials will commence at an early day in this city.

Additional particulars of the assault on the Martello Tower at Duncannon on Monday night have been received. After receiving he first fire of the garrison the attacking party retired, but did not leave the field; they waited until their numbers were largely increased from crowds who seemed to be near at hand, and again advanced upon the tower, beginning with a general discharge of firearms, by which one of the garrison was wounded. When the assailants had almost reached the foot of the tower the troops again fired, and two men were seen to fall. The crowds then fell back and disappeared in the darkness. The two men who were shot were carried off by their companions, and it is not known whether they were wounded or killed. The affair has caused great excitement in Wexford county. No arrests have yet been made, but the Government is using every means to discover the leaders of the assault.

Paris, Jan. 29.

The debate on the new law proposed by the Government for the regulation of the press commenced in the Corps Legislatif this afternoon.

Florence, Jan. 29.

The intrigues of the Bourbonists in Napies are causing much disquiet.

Copenhagen, Jan. 30.

In the Landsthing, or Upper House of the Rigsdag, to-day the treaty concluded with the United States for the sale of the Danish Islands in the West Indies was ratified by a unanimous vote. This completes the action of Denmark in regard to the treaty.

## LATER.

London, Jan. 30.

A despatch was received to-day from Cork announcing that Marcus Adams, a head centre of the Fenian Brotherhood, was arrested in that city late last evening.

Intelligence has been received to-night from Rome that Gen. Feilly, the commander of the French expeditionary corps was about to return to France with one division of the troops sent to relieve the Pope from the designs of Garibaldi and the party of action. The remainder of the force will remain in Rome under the command of Gen. Dumont.

## Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Things are being licked into shape at Toronto. Hitherto there has been no regular Opposition Leader, each aspirant to that high dignity working on his own hook. We are indebted to that clever paper the Toronto Telegraph, for the following:—

If we may credit an announcement made by a morning contemporary, Mr. Blake has given evidence of considerable sagacity, by at once falling in with the suggestion we offered on Tuesday last. It is stated that the member for South Bruce drew up a round robin, pledging the Opposition to accept Mr. McKellar as their leader, and that this document has received twenty-three signatures. When members at present out of town have given in their adhesion, this number may probably be increased to thirty, which we imagine is about the full strength of the stiff-backed section of the House.

We are not disposed to agree with the Leader in its censure upon Mr. Blake's course. The hon. gentleman has preferred to resign gracefully, rather than wait to be mortified by a formal deposition. It is satisfactory to find that he is at length prepared to yield to the exigencies of his party, and to sacrifice a very questionable ambition to the general good.

The party, it is true, is not a large one, but it includes more than a third of the House, and for all practical purposes is amply sufficient. We trust that, under Mr. McKellar's generalship, with Mr. Blake as first lieutenant, the Opposition will at once set about its legitimate work. With a good man at its head and a reformed system of strategy, its efforts may be of real service to the Province, and will not fail to secure the appreciation of the people.

Question.—Why may Scotchmen be supposed to like policemen?

Answer.—Ee, Sirs, it's just because they're vera fond of the Bawbees.

Which tool of a carpenter is a miser's coachman?—A Screw-driver.

Epson spring meeting.—Ducks lay eggs—goose lay wagers.

Toast and sentiment.—Hungary wine for thirsty people.

The glutton's paradise.—Eaton Place.

Floating Capital.—Venise.

The rights of women.—"Persons" may be forbidden to approach the hustings, but the chignon cannot be kept away from the poll.—Punch's Almanic.

MAYORALTY.—Napanee is at present without a Mayor. We informed our readers at the time of the nomination that Mr. Forward contended that he was the only candidate legally qualified to hold the office, and should accordingly be declared elected by the Clerk. The election was held, however, and resulted in the election of Mr. Detlor. Mr. Forward entered a protest, and the case came before the judges of the Queen's Bench in term at Toronto. The decision was against Mr. Detlor, and the writ for a new election is daily expected by the Sheriff. There are three candidates at present in the field soliciting the suffrages of the electors—Messrs. H. T. Forward, J. C. Huffman, and Chas. James. The election will probably take place some day in the latter part of next week.—Standard.

☞ It has been found necessary to change the name of the Waterloo Post-office to "Cataraqui," and the change goes into effect this morning. There formerly were three offices named Waterloo in Canada—Waterloo, Frontenac; Waterloo, Co. Berlin, and Waterloo, Quebec. Now there is only one in each province, which will obviate any difficulties and mistakes as to address in future.

COMMERCIAL BANK BILLS.—The bills deposite receipts, cheques and drafts of the Commercial Bank are current at all the Banks in this city at 99½ being merely a deduction of 6 per cent interest to the 1st of March, when of course they will be redeemed at par by the amalgamated Merchant's Bank.—Leader.

## Road Companies.

When Mr. McKellar introduced his bill on Road Companies, he said, he had submitted the Bill to the Attorney-General before introducing it. As the Road Act now stood, any twelve freeholders could petition the county judge, representing that the road was out of repair. Then the judge appointed an engineer to examine the road, who, if he found it out of repair, notified the company or corporation, pointing out what repairs should be made, and stoping them meanwhile from taking tolls. But there was no means by which the road could be taken out of the engineer's hands. He might ask the most unreasonable things to be done. They had experience of this in his (Mr. McKellar's) section of this country. A company last year, having a capital of $60,000, could not get their road out of the engineer's hands, though they considered it was perfectly in repair. What he purposed was that when a company, after repairing the road sufficiently in their judgment, notified the engineer, and he refused to accept it, they might call in another, and have it decided by arbitration, whether the road was sufficient or not.

Second reading on Monday.

## ITEMS OF NEWS.

A soldier attempted to shoot a well-known Secessionist in Lynchburg, Va., a few days since. The latter took the soldier's musket from him, and with it smashed the would-be murderer's skull.

An Alabama lady by mistake put arsenic in her dough instead of soda, and killed the whole family—herself, husband, and three children.

Mrs. Czarovitch (the Princess Dagmar) is now considered the handsomest woman of royal lineage in all Europe.

Hays City, which was evolved week before last out of the unconsciousness of the wilderness, 575 miles west of the Missouri, has a railroad depot, three machine shops, two hotels, a theatre and a smart newspaper.

An Illinois negro ordered his wife to put crape on the door, preparatory to beating her brains out with a chair; but she furnished the crape by cutting the throat of hisable existence with her scissors.

A boat-race between the Oxford University crew, and the crew of the Harvard (Cambridge, Mass.,) college is talked about, to take place next September. It is expected that this race will decide the contested point as to whether it is expedient to carry a coxswain or not.

A moral debating society out West is engaged in discussing the question:—"If a husband deserts his wife, which is the most abandoned, the man or the woman?"

It seems that a considerable amount of money has been expended on contingencies in the United States Senate, amounting altogether to the sum of $164,892. Among them we find mention made of numerous gallons of "alcohol" and "fluid" at $5.50 per gallon. With the "alcohol" were supplied corkscrews and lemon squeezers, boxes of lemons and 168 lbs of sugar, all of which as it is well known, are the usual accompaniments of "alcohol." The worthy Senators were also refreshed with a gallon of Bay rum, $3 worth of toilet powder and half a gallon of eau de Cologne.

The tavern-keepers of Amherst, Nova Scotia, have been compelled to close their houses, the grand jury of Cumberland County having refused to grant them licenses. The jury recommend that the license-law be so amended that, in future, all revenue derived therefrom, shall form a fund for the erection of a Provincial asylum for inebriates.

Some statistics recently published in England show the destructive effects of the cattle plague. It is estimated that 5,366,427 head of cattle were destroyed by rinderpest! It is probable that a law will be passed prohibiting the importation of live foreign stock.

A girl and a boy in New York, 13 or 14 years of age, attempted to murder a little boy, with a brickbat and shovel, at the instigation of a brutal mother. All the party are under arrest.

There is a report in Berlin that Bismarck will purchase St. Thomas and St Bartholomew, if the United States do not want to buy them. Prussia has for some time been looking around for an island in the Atlantic or Pacific suitable for the establishment of a penal colony.

The Fenian brethren are taking up Geo. Francis Train as a candidate for Governor of the Empire State, provided he declines a nomination for Congress, which he is sure to have anyhow.

Le Canadien says the military authorities will require four hundred carts, for two months each, to carry stones across from the Beauprè Quarries to Point Levi.

In consequence of the Fenian troubles, the Welsh colliers at Merthyr, South Wales, have refused to work if Irishmen are employed in the works. This one of the results of this conspiracy for the "deliverance" of Ireland and Irishmen.

Another lady of Manchester has immortalized herself by recording her vote, not in a parliamentary, but in a municipal election. Miss Jessie Goodwin is the strong-minded female in question. Her name being found upon the roll as a citizen of Manchester, her vote was received.

An ingenious Yankee has modeled a gun to throw a shell five thousand miles, and large enough to destroy London at one discharge. This marvelous engine of war will be mounted on a turret two miles high, now preparing for its reception at Washington, and in a recent speech General Grant advocated its use to dictate to Great Britain American terms for the settlement of the Seward-Train-Alabama question.

Earthquakes are chronic in Jamaica—a shock on the 7th of January created a big panic.

## FROM OTTAWA.

### The Aylmer Trial—Public Departments.

Ottawa, Jan. 29.

The Privy Council sat till 7 o'clock this evening.

An order in Council has been passed declaring the office hours in the departments to be from 9 to 4 and abolishing the Saturday half holiday.

The trial of Downie, at Aylmer, ended this afternoon—verdict of jury manslaughter. Sentence not yet passed. Dr. Church, M. P., who was counsel for the prisoner, left to-day for Quebec.

## British Columbia.

San Francisco, Jan. 31.

A Victoria dispatch says that a public meeting was held on the 29th inst., to take further measures for the union of the Colony with Canada.

KNOWLEDGE UNDER DIFFICULTIES.—Certain Young Men of the Village of Oakville, out of their anxious desire to become intelligent men of business, no matter at whose expense, have forwarded by their Secretary, a request to be supplied with the British Whig gratis! Bless their modesty, surpassed only by their impudence!

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 1, 1868.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.—E. G., Rilkae; J. P. G., Morrisburg; G. W. F., Edinburg; A. D. & Co., Boston; T. R. D., Odessa.

## Another Destructive Fire—Baker's Block Destroyed.

On Thursday night, quickly succeeding the last destructive fire at Morton's Distillery, one of the finest buildings on the market square was totally burnt.

About ten o'clock, while people were constantly passing and re-passing, smoke was discovered issuing from the lower portion of Baker's block, at the back and front. The alarm was sounded a minute or so later on the city bell, and the echo passed all over the city. Soon the fire brigade was on the ground, followed by great crowds of people, but the water was not "on" in the hydrants, so that the firemen were of little service, and the flames and smoke were so great that nothing could be rescued from the building. Mrs. Baker and her daughter, who lived in the upper flat, having retired, they did not hear the first alarm, and consequently when the fire spread so quickly had great difficulty in escaping—even without their clothes. A couple of minutes later escape would have been impossible. Some gentlemen who went to assist them out were almost choked with smoke. In a very few minutes after the fire was first seen the whole end of the building was one mass of flames, which illuminated the city and threw out a most intense heat. It was so long before the first water was thrown on the building that it was generally feared that the whole block would fall a prey to the flames, the burning building being situated almost in the centre of about $100,000 worth of property. In fact, so little hope was felt for the buildings on the North side, towards Brock street, that the greatest exertion was made to endeavor to save property in that direction. In about an hour the large building was completely gutted. Being a high building, its substantial walls screened the smaller building on either side, and the strong party walls at the back defied the flames in that direction. One of the adjoining buildings, Mr. Ford's leather store, caught fire several times, but through the exertions of the firemen, who got a steady flow of water after a while from the hydrants, it was saved. A small storehouse in rear of the burnt building, was also saved by individual exertion. Throughout the whole lower part of the block and also in the next block as well, preparations were made for clearing out, but fortunately there was no necessity for a rout.

There never was a fire at which the firemen, aided by willing hands, worked more energetically; but it is to be regretted that their working apparatus is not in a better state of efficiency. The hose is rotten, the engines are in good repair, but they are hand engines after all—far behind the age—and not such as a city like Kingston should depend on to put out fires.

The burnt building was well known as "Baker's Block." It was a large three storey brick building, very substantially built, and when new, over 40 years since, was considered an unusually fine and handsome building—then the handsomest one in town. Before the new City Hall was built it was used as the Town Hall, which gives it a slight historical interest. It was owned by Mr. Thos. Baker and Mrs. Jas. Baker, and was only partially insured for $2,800. About three weeks ago a policy for a large amount expired and was not renewed—in consequence of the lawsuit pending between the Dean of Ontario and Mr. Baker concerning the property—this with the whole of the buildings adjoining being part of Block G., of the whole of which the Dean, on behalf of the Rectory, claims possession, and is endeavoring to force it. The loss on the building is probably $6,000. Mrs. Baker occupied the two upper flats, and had an insurance on her furniture. The lower flat consisted of two stores, the one occupied by Mrs. Baker being of long standing as a grocery and crockery store. Of course nothing was saved, but Mrs. Baker is almost fully insured on the stock, which was large and good. Mr. Bermingham occupied the other store, and lost everything. He is insured for $8,000—$2,000 each in the Royal, Western, Ætna (of Hartford) and Home (of New York) insurance companies.

Mr. Bermingham was aroused at his own house, near the Grammar School, after the fire broke out, and rushed down in hopes of saving his papers and books, but found the flames devouring all he possessed. His books, he states, involve a loss of $1,800 outstanding accounts. He also loses $300 in promissory notes and $200 in cash, which he had made up to be forwarded to Montreal. His stock, besides, was heavy.

Mr. R. Tyson, fruiterer, occupied a small shop in the building adjoining Mrs. Baker, out of which he saved about $20 worth from the window. He is insured for $500 on stock and fixtures, which does not cover his loss, as his shop was full, and he was preparing for his spring opening this month.

The vacant shop adjoining this, part of the Garrett property, although saved, is much injured by the breakage of glass and damage by water. It was being fitted up for a tailor's shop.

Then on the south side of Baker's, Mr. Wm. Ford suffers the heaviest loss.—His floor was much damaged by water, and in the rescuing of his leather stock on hand, a deal was stolen. On the flat above the shop, Mr. Wm. Ford, Sr., and wife, lived, and being very old, they were compelled to leave at the first outbreak. Their furniture was all let out of the windows, and was more or less broken—half the things being a general smash. Both the goods and furniture in this building were insured in the "Queen." This is the whole of the loss.

The origin of the fire is unexplained. There is as yet no conclusion as to the probable cause.

The fire leaves an unsightly blank in the greatest thoroughfare of the city. The walls have been torn down, and an entire rebuilding must take place.

An episode at this Fire deserves special mention. When the fire first broke out, it raged furiously, and the upper part of the dwelling was filled with a dense smoke. No one slept in the house but Mrs. James Baker and her daughter, Miss Mary Baker, who were in an upstairs room back. No one thought of them for some little time, but they were recollected, Dr. Sullivan, Mr. Jeremiah Meagher and Mr. John Milane made three several attempts to reach the top of the house to alarm the inmates, but were severally driven back by the smoke, whereupon, Mr. Alex. Cicolari, an old Fireman, and still Treasurer of No. 1 Company, made an effort to save the ladies, and crawled up the stairs to their bedroom, though stifled with smoke. He burst open the bedroom door, and brought them down stairs in their night clothes. They must have perished had not Mr. Cicolari succeeded in awakening them. We are sorry to add, that all day yesterday he was suffering from inflammation of the throat, &c., from the bad effects of the smoke.

## The Member for Frontenac.

Sir Henry Smith is winning golden opinions in the House of Assembly, mixed with a little envy at his great knowledge of the business of Parliament. He has certainly taken a great lead in the House, and does his utmost to become popular, even at the expense of giving up some of his old fossil opinions. He has introduced many measures of his own, some good and some mischievous, and not only has he supported Mr. Sandfield Macdonald's Administration, but he has gone a little too far and tried openly to take the wind out of the Minister's sails, by doing a little more than he has been asked to, viz., by bringing forward Bills that should properly be introduced by the Government. However, with all his faults, and in spite of the rubs he gets from the Ministry for doing what they should do, Sir Henry Smith is a most useful member, and in a House mostly composed of new men, he is a positive acquisition.

## The Fenians.

Although an Officer's Guard, with forty men, has been stationed at the Provincial Penitentiary for some few days past, yet we have no reason to fear that an attempt on the part of the Fenians to disturb the peace of Canada this Winter is anticipated by the Government. It is simply a matter of precaution. The Fenian Journals in the United States still continue to bluster as usual, but it is all bluster. The 'Fenian Volunteer,' of Buffalo, (which we receive regularly,) argues strongly in favor of an Invasion and Capture of Canada by the Fenian Brotherhood, and says that once Quebec captured, the Liberation of Ireland would be secured! Does the silly writer imagine that all the puny power of the Fenians could hold a single town of Canada more than a few days, much less capture one of the strongest Fortresses in the whole world. The United States Army could not take Quebec, much less a few thousand Vagabonds, the scum of American Society. Bah! Such rubbish is only fit to wheedle the wages out of the pockets of Irish Servant Girls.

## LEGISLATURE OF ONTARIO

Thursday, Jan. 30.

A number of petitions were brought up. Among others—

Of R. J. Cartwright and 1,200 other inhabitants of the City of Kingston, praying that the covenants in the lease of Block O in the said City, granted by the late Ven. Archdeacon Stuart, may be declared binding on his successors.

Mr. Cumberland introduced a bill to incorporate the Bishop Strachan School.—Referred to Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Boulter introduced an Act respecting Dentistry