Singular to relate the current number of the *Nation* has not one editorial reference to Mr. George Brown, "Grit dictatorship" or "Amateur Ambassadors," although it contains articles evidently from the pen of the Oxford Professor who was beloved of Disraeli as much he loves Mr. Brown. The omission of any frothings from the Great Brownphobist is the journalistic event of the week.

Now that Mr. Mackenzie has very wisely decided to try Prohibition in the new North West Province, for which he deserves the thanks of all practical temperance men, that region will furnish a ready-made inebriate asylum for the victims of drink throughout Canada. Instead of wafting up Omomaniacs in the Hamilton Inebriate Asylum, they can be shipped off to the Nor' West, where they can at once follow their usual vocations and go into dry dock, all under the paternal care of Mr. Malcolm Cameron, who with his $7,000 a year is a living example to beware of the flowing bowl.

The boasted freedom of this country is open to occasional abuse as, for instance, when ingenious people set to work to write about the Cartwright loan and write themselves down as fools. A violent discussion broke out last summer, so hot and so confused as to be calculated to set the ordinary reader crazy, and the virulent disease has again attacked the correspondence columns of the Toronto papers. There should be a law protesting the public against these bores. Each wise-acre puts a distinct value on the loan and the more opinions the more fools as only one version can be correct.

Here is an excellent hint for the Ottawa *Citizen* and the other "outrage" manufacturers. A very sensational story might be concocted to the effect that the contractor for the Ontario Inebriate Asylum saw Mr. Mackenzie and, for a consideration, got him to squelch Prohibition, so that the contractor, would not be compelled to give up his contract for the Drunkard's Retreat owing to the stoppage of the supply of drunkards. That would be about as reasonable and truthful as the general run of "outrages" turned out by the Tory slander factories.

The *Globe* was severely handled in one of the city pulpits yesterday morning because, it was alleged, it leaned with undue favour towards the Catholics, in an article last Friday, for political effect. From a perusal of the article in question it would seem that the reverend critic was over severe, as the gist of the article was that the Catholics of Ireland were formerly treated with cruel harshness—an opinion which most unprejudiced readers of the present day are inclined to justify. The *Globe* frequently discusses Catholic questions and it is to be admired for its stout Protestantism in the face of strong temptation to make political capital by an opposite course.

We are not disposed to deprecate resort to the Courts for the contestation of elections, as we have every confidence in the tribunal and believe that fair justice will be done in the premises, but there is a limit to all things, and it would seem that that limit has been reached in the South Renfrew election which is now, it is said, petitioned against for the third time. Within about a year Mr. J. L. Macdougall has been elected three times for that Riding, and it is proposed to again unseat him and force him before the electors for the fourth time. The first time he was properly unseated for indirect bribery, the second time for the Returning Officer's improper exclusion of his opponent, and now he is to be made to run the judicial gauntlet once more. If he has gained his seat by improper practices he deserves the punishment, but his re-elections are strong presumptions against that suspicion, and this pursuit of him looks very much like persecution. Be that as it may, however, the law must be obeyed whoever may suffer.

Very vexatious questions sometimes arise out of practically obsolete, but unrepealed statutes which are disentombed to the surprise of "everybody" who thought that they were dead beyond the hope of an inglorious resurrection. Such a question has recently come up in New Brunswick where, according to a contemporary, "a law was passed declaring religious teachers ineligible for election to the Legislature. This almost forgotten Act has been discovered and brought to the front by the opponents of Mr. Elder, editor of the St. John *Telegraph*, who has been elected to the seat that was filled by the late Mr. Coram. Mr. Elder, previous to his entrance into journalism, was a clergyman. Whether he is or is not one at present is the point on which his eligibility will turn. He has, it is said, obtained a legal opinion to the effect that the old law does not apply to his case."

Even if it did, Mr. Elder is certainly entitled to a special Act to protect him against this legislative ghost. England has abolished the law attaching political disabilities to certain clergymen, and non-sectarian New Brunswick should not be less liberal.

The Ottawa correspondent of the London *Advertiser* pretends to give an outline of a new scandal implicating very seriously the personal honor of members of the late Government. He makes bold to state that "a committee is now engaged in unearthing the sale of certain lands and other property to the Government by Hon. Peter Mitchell in 1872. When he was a member of that Government $16,000 was paid for some land that purely by accident happened to be located where the terminus of the Intercolonial Railway at Miramichi was; or, more properly, the Intercolonial happened, also purely by accident, to terminate where the former Minister of Marine and Fisheries owned land. The papers which have been brought down leave no doubt of the Hon. gentleman's connection with this matter. The Order in Council ordering the sum of $16,000 to be paid to Mr. Mitchell was passed the day following the memorable 13th of August, 1872. There are other things equally black in connection with this matter that will be brought forth in due time." This is a very criminal accusation to bring against a public man, and it is to be hoped for the credit of the country it will prove untrue, in which case it was wanton cruelty to prefer it. If many more revelations are made similar to those with which the atmosphere of Ottawa is now reeking Canada will outrank Albany in political roguery. Happily these scandals affect those from whom the country has withdrawn its confidence, and not those now in office.

A LITTLE FUN IN THE HOUSE.—Tremendous Ministerial cheers greeted Dr. Tupper on his return from Centre Wellington, where the candidate whose interests he went to forward was defeated. After one long round somebody shouted "encore," and off they went on another. The Premier suggested that he might tell his experience, but the member for Cumberland could not hear on account of the uproar, so he got up smiling and bowed his acknowledgments, and wished to have the joke repeated, and it was. The smile faded from his face, and he looked a little taken aback, and after running his hands through his hair sat down. Mr. Plumb had been away some days at the election of a bishop for Niagara, but his man was also defeated, much more badly than Dr. Tupper's, and Mr. Blake asked that he should tell his experiences, to which he retorted in his usual ludicrous way, bringing that the member for South Bruce had similar experiences.

St. Lawrence Ward.

The persecution of Mr. John McKay received a severe condemnation to-day. The electors of St. Lawrence Ward have returned him handsomely at the head of the poll, while one of the two Aldermen who were seated last January by the vote of the City Clerk, following a blocking of the poll is defeated—a defeat all the more significant since it is the first he has encountered in his twelve years of service, with nearly an annual election. It is the first occasion on which Dr. Jarvis had presented himself for civic honors, and it was a ward that he was not altogether familiar with, or otherwise both the old candidates who were expelled from their seats in the Council would never have stepped back to them.

The polling to-day was close and exciting, Messrs. McKay and Drennan alternating in the lead, though at three o'clock on account of the large vote polled in, and the decided advantage of the former the contest was virtually decided in his favor. Thus he has triumphed over the clique and all the ingenuity it could summon to its aid, and the triumph is all the more glorious from its being won against every obstacle. The poll figures at the close were:—

J. McKay, elected	134
S. T. Drennan, elected	127
E. Chown	119
J. Jarvis	62

The County.

WESTBROOK.—We have lately been favored with two lectures from Bro. James Johnston, G.L.L. and P.D., who has arranged a series of meetings for a thorough canvass of temperance in the county. Our meeting was not largely attended on account of the storm, but resulted in a grand success in the formation of a temperance society called Westbrook Lodge of the I.O.G.T., with twenty-seven charter members. The following is a list of officers:

Brother Francis Marshal, L.D.
" William Powley, W.C.T.
Sister Lottie Leonard, W.V.T.
Brother Frederick Sproule, W.S.
" Jacob Gardiner, W.F.S.
" Henry Knight, W.C.
" William Gardiner, sr., W.T.
" William Gardiner, jr., W.M.
Sister Mary Leonard, I.G.
Brother Samuel Yole, O.G.
Sister Marinda McDonald, W.R.H.S.
" Annie Leonard, W.L.H.S.

The Lodge will meet on Friday evenings at 7:30 o'clock in the M. E. Church until a more appropriate place is obtained. The neighboring lodges are earnestly requested to visit us and help us in our new and noble work.—W.H.P.

Post Office Cookery.

Lately in answer to Mr. Taschereau, the member for Montmagny, the Minister of Justice stated that the Government had taken civil proceedings against Mr. Huot, late Postmaster of Quebec, and his sureties to cover the amount of certain defalcations by him. The Minister also stated that his predecessor had decided there was room also for criminal proceedings, but these had not been taken owing to the serious illness of accused at the time, and nothing in this way had since been done. From explanations published in the French papers it appears that a book was kept in the Quebec Post Office in which were entered by an employee the current amounts due by parties for their letters and boxes, and this book was evidence as to what was due by each. It is alleged that when Mr. Huot was discharged this book, which like the others should have remained in the safe, was found hid under a matting in the Postmaster's private office, and that it was proved he had often taken it home with him in the evening. When it was found the discovery is alleged to have been made that a large part of the entries over 500 had been falsified. The way this was done, it is said, was as follows: To a sum of $1.75 a cipher would be added after the figure 1, making it $10.75: a sum of $10.25 would by neat strokes on the 1 be made $20.25 and in this way most of the accounts, it is alleged were increased by $10, to Mr. P. G. Huot's profits. The political friends (Conservative) of Mr. Huot; it is stated, were impartially bled like the rest, the worst cooked accounts being stated to be those of the Local Government. In one month, December, 1872, the account of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, it is alleged, had been overcharged $200, by turning the 3 in the 300 entered by the employee into a '5.' It is alleged that the late Dominion Government though warned of the practices did nothing to remedy them. If these statements be correct it is utterly impossible to see how criminal proceedings can be avoided. A more serious or heinous breach of trust is scarcely known to the law.—*Witness.*

Parliament on Thursday.

A large amount of business was rushed through the House yesterday, including the bill for the relief of the Northern Railway Company. After a lengthy debate the motion for a second reading was carried on division. This timely relief will put the Northern Railway on a firm footing, by enabling the Company to increase the rolling stock and adding other necessary improvements and extensions.

THE BIG CASE.—One of Tilton's friends pretends to know that William M. Evarts was induced to become Beecher's counsel by belief in his innocence, but that since he has been connected with the case he has altered his belief and has been desirous to retire. It is asserted that he has been prevented only by the most earnest exertions of Plymouth church, and by an addition to his fee of $10,000. Persons on the other side declare that Mr. Evarts has acted solely through friendship for Beecher, refusing to receive a penny for his services. A man who knows Mrs. Tilton has offered to bet that within six months she will publicly confess her sin, and beg to be restored to her husband's favor. Beecher is reported to have lost all affection for her, regarding her as the cause of his arraignment. He is said to speak very bitterly against her in private.

WHISKEY MASON AGAIN.—Geogre Albert Mason, the notorious Toronto whiskey informer, has turned up in a new role, at New York, where he has been arrested on a charge of passing counterfeit money. He is charged with having tendered a citizen of Rochester, N. Y., $500 in counterfeit $5 bills, on the Traders' National Bank, of Chicago. The officers say he was a rebel spy during the war, and was sentenced to imprisonment for life, but was pardoned, on condition that he would leave the United States and never return. He was also, it is said, concerned in the Surratt conspiracy. His record is certainly an extraordinary one.

A SCANDAL.—Quite a flutter of excitement has been caused in a fashionable West End boarding house at Montreal by the elopement of a young married American lady, only 19 years old, although three years married, with a French Canadian, a married man, father of three children. The pair are thought to have gone to Burlington. The husband of the lady is a commercial traveller, and the wife and children of the seducer belong to Quebec.

HOW TO DO IT.—They say if you want to please a Hamilton man you must praise his musical talent; a Guelph man, his base ball club; a Cobourg man, his good-looking ladies; a Toronto man, his post office; a Belleville man, his feet; a Kingston man, his family connections; a Brantford man, his shooting; and a London man, his politics, but there is no way on earth to please a St. Catharines man except by asking him out to drink.—*Sun.*

THINGS IN GENERAL

—The pan-cake season will soon make its exit.

—The Prince of Wales is to visit India next cold season.

—Boys, there are signs of a plentiful crop of organ grinders this spring.

—The British Eclipse Expedition sailed on the 11th ult. from England for Siam and India.

—An important Victory has been gained over the Carlists at Olot.

—The steamer Acadian arrived at Halifax yesterday with 6,000 barrels of American flour.

—The consecration of the Ven. Archdeacon Fuller as Bishop of Niagara will take place about the 1st of May.

—The Saratoga Railway compact has, to use a vulgarism, 'busted.'

—In the Tilton v. Beecher trial yesterday, Bessie Turner's evidence was continued.

—A serious conflagration occurred in Kentville, N. S., on Saturday night; damage $30,000.

—President Grant has appointed twelve ex-Congressmen, who voted for the Third-Term bill, to office.

—The women of the temperance league, Cleveland, are in favor of commencing crusades in bodies 1,000 strong—the work to commence immediately.

—King Alfonso's Government are increasing the restrictions upon the Spanish press in a very arbitrary manner.

—The Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage has been invited to join Messrs. Moody and Sankey in their revival tour in England.

The steamers of the sealing fleet got away from Newfoundland ports on Saturday; but the sailing vessels are still ice bound.

—A London despatch says that the General South American Banking Company has failed.

—The failure of Hooper, Reese & Co., bankers and brokers of Baltimore, is announced.

—The retention of capital punishment was voted in the Italian Senate by 72 to 36 voices.

—In Virginia a legislator and a journalist are under bonds of $1,000 not to shoot one another.

—If the people up country could only be persuaded to water their whiskey we shouldn't have any freshet this spring.

—The other day a Buffalo man named Farding married a young girl whose mother, although quite wealthy, wouldn't give her assent.

—There has been a $100,000 fire in New Orleans; several firemen were injured, and two persons were burned to death.

—When Brigham Young was in goa the other day for contempt of court there were five of his wives weeping at each window of that institution, and twelve at the door.

—A lazy schoolboy who spelled Andrew Jackson 'Aru Jaxon' has been equalled by a student who marked the first of a half dozen shirts 'John Johnson,' and the rest 'do.'

—A furious tornado visited the State of Georgia yesterday, doing much damage to property. Several persons were killed and others seriously injured.

—The Covington man who married a widow who promised to rule him only through her love, thinks now that her 'love' gives a powerful impetus to the broom-handle.

—Messrs. Moody and Sankey have had to discontinue the system of admitting hearers only by ticket, as parties were taking advantage of the enthusiasm to make money by selling them.

—The Erie railway company have eight hundred men and one hundred locomotives standing idle in consequence of the destruction of bridges, &c., by the recent floods.

—A Norfolk husband procured a divorce from his wife because she liked corned beef and potatoes. He wanted her to be an angel and live on Cologne water and gorgeous sunsets.

—Mr. Symond of Saugus, Mass., was seized with apoplexy while attending the funeral of a friend, and died instantly. He had celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his wedding the night previous.

—Governor Allen has given instructions that energetic steps shall be taken by the Sheriff for the security of life and property at Straitsville, O., where a reign of terror exists in consequence of the mining strike.

—A satisfactory arrangement was arrived at between the Grand Trunk Railway officers and employees on Saturday, at Montreal; the details of the mutually satisfactory terms agreed to have not yet transpired.

—The Duke of Edinburgh has invented and brought into use a style of dress in which the tops of the shoes are made of the very same material as the pantaloons, which must tend to largely increase the shoemaker's bill.

—Fine sense and exalted sense are not half so useful as common sense; there are forty men of wit for one man of good sense; and he that will carry nothing about with him but gold will be every day at a loss for readier change.

—The St. Catharines *Times* wants the name of that burgh changed to Sodom. We have no objection, but we fancy the girls of that town wouldn't care to be described as being from "the city of the *plain.*"

Historical Inaccuracy.

The *Mail* makes pretensions to be not merely the best informed journal in the country upon all matters connected with its own party, but even presumes to know more than any of its contemporaries about the reform party. We pity its ignorance if it has no better knowledge of the origin of the term "Clear Grits" than the following:

It will be "Coon Cameron's turn now to resent the imputation upon the faction which he not only helped to originate, but supplied with a name.

It was not Mr. Malcolm Cameron who supplied the name. He helped to originate the party, it is true, and afterwards left it, but returned to it. When he left the Hincks-Cameron Ministry, and was succeeded in office by the late John Wetenhall, he found an opponent to the new Minister in the person of Mr. Caleb Hopkins for whom he stumped the County. It was while thus engaged that the Globe gave the name of 'Clear Grits' to the few adherents of Mr. Cameron, and strange to say, the name has stuck to the party of which the Globe is an organ, although it little thought at the time of giving the name that such would be the decisive title by which its opponents would designate the great Reform party of to-day.—*Hamilton Times.*

John Mitchell's Death.

Dublin, March 20—The death of John Mitchell has created a profound sensation throughout Ireland and Great Britain generally. He was taken ill about the first of the present month, but until within the last few days his sickness did not assume such a dangerous form as to lead to apprehensions of a fatal result, and his recovery. The excitement consequent on the election contest and other political matters of recent occurrence, produced an injurious effect on the invalid, and aided in hastening his death.

Death has thus stepped in to help the House of Commons out of a difficulty. They would have had again to declare that Mr. Mitchell could not sit in Parliament. But death's decree is even stronger than that of Parliament—no division can alter that. Mr. Mitchell was one of the few remaining links between a comparatively happy and an unhappy and oppressed past, and to some extent he was a ghost in Tipperary, and maddened the people with a tale of wrong which was much more appropriate in Mitchell's early days than now. It is probable that his son will be elected in his stead.

AROUND HOME.

DINING AND LUNCH ROOMS.—Mr. Jas. Wilson, formerly of Kingston, has assumed the business formerly carried on by Messrs. Shirley & Davy in Mills block.

"THE HARP THAT ONCE," ETC.—The pavement in front of Malloy's window, Napanee, was frequent blocked on St. Patrick's Day, by parties stopping to admire the magnificent, beautiful emblematic harp of Erin, composed of ribbons and artificial flowers displayed in the windows. Tom is a genuine artist in the manipulation of dry goods.

ARDEN IN 1875.—Ten years ago Arden was but a small affair. Then we had a grist mill, a small grocery, and three log dwelling houses, two of which were covered with troughs of basswood. Now we have two churches, a parsonage, a town hall, an orange hall, two boarding houses, grist mill and saw mill, two well-stocked country stores, two blacksmith shops in full blast, a cabinet shop, and a shoe shop.

One day this week an ordinary grade cow belonging to M. Neville, Esq., of Ernesttown, dropped an exceedingly large calf, which on being weighed, turned the scale at 98 pounds. Can any one beat it!—*Beaver.*

Intolerance.

A correspondent of the Trenton *Courier* writes:—

"A series of special services, having for their object the furtherance of a great and glorious salvation, have been for about two months carried on with increasing interest and grand success in the Wesleyan Methodist Church of this place. These meetings have been largely attended, the rich and the poor being welcomed alike within the doors of God's house, amongst whom, by a constant attendant, could frequently be seen members of the congregation of St. George's Church, representing a denomination, which, I am sorry to say, in our midst, under its present incumbent does more for the cause of Satan than of Christ. Provoked to think any of his fold should spend their evenings among God's people in a church of a different sect than his own, the respected Canon yesterday morning took advantage of the opportunity by pouring into the ears of his congregation ungentlemanly and distasteful remarks, harshly denouncing the revival meetings, speaking of them as "disgraceful," and unfit for a "respectable" person to attend, and commanding them not to countenance them in any way as they were the "spasmodic works of fanatics." Now, we ask, should this be the sentiments of a man who, having spent the most of his life in the Christian Ministry, professing to have in his heart a desire to lead poor sinners to Christ, with a solemn Judgment Day before him, when he will be called to render an account of all his teachings in this world? Any well-thinking individual who has reached the age of accountability will answer negatively, and we think he will find the greater portion of his congregation were sensible enough to consider his remarks at least uncalled-for."

If the correspondent reports the Rev. Canon Bleasdell's remarks correctly that clergyman has done his high calling and his church's dignity an injury.

Parliament on Saturday.

There was a lengthy session on Saturday, lasting till 11:30 at night. In the Senate the Marine Electric Telegraph's Bill finally passed. In the House the day was devoted to a discussion of the Insolvency Bill in Committee of the Whole. An endeavor was made to have the benefits of the law extended to non-traders, which was successfully resisted by the Government.

A NEW ENTERPRISE.—A Company is being formed, with a capital stock of $45,000, for the purpose of purchasing and running between Belleville, Bay ports, Kingston and Oswego, a first class passenger steamboat, in addition to the *Kincardine*, which will ply as usual on the same route. Up to the present time, some $35,000 of the necessary amount has been taken in Oswego, Kingston, Napanee, Mill Point and Belleville, and it is confidently expected that in a few days the full amount of stock will be taken. The boat which it is purposed to have built will be a propeller of light draught, full canal size, that is to say 169 feet in length, and of proportionate beam, with an engine of 120 horse power and a guaranteed speed of 15 miles per hour. She will be fitted with accommodation of the best character for about 80 passengers, and will be completed by the 15th of July.—*Intelligencer.*

CRAZY.—The evidence of Miss Turner in the Beecher-Tilton case on Friday, if it fails to be successfully controverted, almost demonstrates Tilton's lunacy. One of Tilton's habits, she testified, was to walk about in his night clothes, capriciously arranging and re-arranging the pictures on the walls. He would also, when restless, walk around the house in his night clothes, his wife following him with a pillow, both of them looking for "a soft bed for Theodore to lie on." He would try every bed in the house in succession, and on one occasion insisted on the witness leaving her bed at night to accommodate his desire for what his whim suggested as a soft bed! On another occasion Tilton struck Miss Turner with his clenched fist and knocked her down, then stepping up to her, said in a bland manner, "Bessie, dear, you have tripped and hurt yourself!"

ANALYZING THE RESULT.—It now turns out that Dr. Orton was along with Dr. Tupper advising Mr. Drew to reduce the Reform majority in N. Wellington. The two disciples of Æsculapius, after a careful dissection of that constituency, were able to reduce the majority one. Since their return to the capital each claims the credit for the wonderful feat. To prevent a rupture between the two it has been decided to divide the honor, and as it now stands Tupper and Orton are each credited with the honor of reducing the Reform majority with half a vote. A bitter runner, however, refuses to give either of these missionaries any credit whatever, as the reduction in the Reform vote was caused by the death of a Reformer, who, at the previous election, voted for Higginbotham.

ROUGH.—The great State of Tennessee, believing that a bird who can sing and won't sing must be made to sing, is determined to go for the hard hearted bachelors, and will soon solemnly declare by an act of its Legislature that bachelorism is a privilege, and that every male inhabitant of the State over 30 years of age, being of sound mind and enjoying good health, remaining unmarried after the first day of May, 1875, shall pay a tax of $10 annually. The bill further imposes it as a duty upon the State Assessors to obtain, for the purposes of taxation, a full descriptive list of each bachelor, giving his age and complexion. Plagues always travel east and south so that there is no danger of such a law being established in Canada.

BIG PRICE FOR A CALF.—Senator Cochrane, of Compton, Quebec, sold this week to Mr. R. A. Holloway of Monmouth Illinois, U. S., a calf three months old, 'The fourth Duke of Hillhurst,' for seven thousand dollars.

—The spirit of Christopher Columbus, according to a Boston medium, says that the eastern and western hemispheres were once connected by a belt of land extending between South America and Africa across the Atlantic. Twelve thousand years ago this section was submerged by volcanic action.

TOWN AND COUNTRY.

PROHIBITION.—The townships of Yonge, Escott, Leeds and Lansdowne are now under the influence of the Dunkin Act.

THE SNOW STORM ended this afternoon. Shocking for the 24th March. The trains are on good time.

A SNOW.—It is expected there will be a grand show of Easter meat on Friday next at the market, but we fear the hens are not doing their duty as faithfully as the butchers this season.

NIAGARA SEE.—It is rumored in Ecclesiastical circles that there was some legal technicality omitted in the recent election of a Bishop over the new diocese of Niagara, that may necessitate a fresh election. Such would be vexatious.

THE CHANGES.—It is now said that the Rev. Arthur Jarvis of Plantagenet will be the second newly appointed Anglican clergyman to Brockville, to form the new parish. The Rev. Mr. Muloch will preach his farewell sermon on Sunday evening and leave for Brockville on Monday next.

POLICE COURT.—No prisoners again to-day. This item we intend to get stereotyped for daily use, as well as a standing motion—"Resolved,—That the City Police Force be abolished, as its existence is a libel on a highly moral and eminently respectable community."

SCAN MAG.—Mill Point has a scandal of such a character that the Napanee Express feels compelled to withold particulars for the present. Of course everybody will now be anxious to know what it is. Yet Napanee just now has no occasion to turn up her pious nose at a domestic scandal.

INFERIOR OIL.—The Customs authorities have again seized a quantity of Coal Oil, which was below the required standard, at Dickinson's landing. The owners do not make light of the affair, nor will the public of the oil. It must go back to Uncle Sam or be destroyed.

THIS is a beautiful calm after the storm. The equinox is over, and, though Easter Day yet promises to be nearer like Christmas than Easter in outward appearance, there is in the weather to-day a goodly promise of a better time coming.

THE papers are crying out in all directions,—one borrowed item goes a good way—don't shoot the birds! No, we shall not in this quarter; it would give us so much pleasure to see even one of the feathered tribe that we never dream of shooting it.

SUCCESSFUL.—Col. David Shaw has returned from Ottawa, and is feeling gratified over the favorable reception the prospectus of the British Canadian Land and Settlement Company has met with. He is certain of offers of subscriptions to double the amount allotted to Canada.

RETURNING.—Mr. Youmans, of Napanee, who will be so pleasantly remembered, by the young people at least, in connection with the choral ovation at the time of the Prince of Wales' visit to Kingston, is about to return here for a professional season. He will form singing classes, and we can promise him good success.

BROCKVILLE ASSIZES.—The Greaves-Sparham abortion case will come up before the Assizes at Brockville, which are to open to-morrow. Mr. B. M. Britton of Kingston will be the Crown officer, Mr. James O'Reilly, Q.C., will defend Greaves, and Mr. M. C. Cameron of Toronto has Sparham's case in hand.

SEASONABLES.—Don't pick strawberries until they are ripe.—Will the author of "Gentle Spring" please stand in front of our door? There's room to do so.—When you shoot always shoot at something—an organ grinder, for instance.—You can transpose the letters of March into a "charm," but there is no other way to get any charm out of it, except, now on such a lovely afternoon as this.

PICTON ENTERPRISE.—The by-law submitted to the people of Picton, proposing a bonus of $20,000 to aid the construction of the Prince Edward Railway, is to be voted upon on the 29th inst. The condition is that the road be begun by the 1st of July and completed in three years, and the debentures are not to be handed over until the road is completed and ready for business. That is an improvement on Kingston style, tax-payers will admit.

DEATEN.—When the late Mr. Peter Tasse died in the city this winter, aged 107 years, and a lady dying in the township of Kingston who was stated to have been 108 years old, we felt that this section was deserving of credit as a healthful, life-giving one. But in one case at least it is made almost sickly by comparison. An old veteran who fought under General Napoleon, named John Henser, surrendered at last the other day at Port Feix, Guysboro', at the age of 112.

A KINGSTON GRADUATE.—A ruffian of the worst description was brought before the Police Court at Hamilton as a vagrant. His name is Levere. He was discharged from the Penitentiary on the 5th inst., having here spent four years for robbing and attempting to kill an old man near Thorndale. He has been sent to the Central Prison for six months. On being removed he threatened to kill the constable who arrested him. His hand were then tied behind his back.

BAD ROADS.—The sleighing in Pittsburg never was better than it is just now. It is the same in some parts of the township of Kingston, but sections of the main thoroughfare to the city are still in a very bad state. Between the city and Williamsville there are bad spots, but nearer to Cataraqui there are places to cross which would make even saints profane, if they were driving. The County Council should do a little service on this road in winter; it is shamefully neglected.

PRETTY SEVERE.—Some men have no judgment when they get angry. An editor of a newspaper at Vineland, N.J., has been shot for publishing an article that was not agreeable to a resident in the town. As this item is likely to be extensively published and encourage rash fellows generally, we beg to say that our situation can be obtained for very little money. Life insurance don't help one's peace of mind or appetite under all circumstances.

THE STADACONA.—To day Mr. Tetu, of Quebec, with the assistance of the local directors, is receiving subscriptions of stock for the new Insurance Company, the Stadacona. The share list already shows a handsome roll of names, and not less than $45,000 of the issue of stock has been taken up in Kingston. The company is purely Canadian; is to be conducted with energy and liberality, and is expected to do a very large business.

PAMPHLETEERING.—The *Daily Telegraph*, of St. John, N.B., a paper which is in character a provincial institution, has issued in pamphlet form a list of the registered tonnage of New Brunswick up to Dec. 31st, 1874, with summaries of the tonnage of the whole Dominion, supplemented by other commercial statistics of interest. The labor and care required in producing the work may be judged, when we state that full particulars in classified form are given of 1,144 vessels. A recapitulation of tonnage shews the following relative maritime positions of the various provinces:—

	Vessels.	Tons.
New Brunswick	1,144	294,741
Nova Scotia	2,785	479,069
Quebec	1,837	218,946
Ontario	821	113,212
P. E. Island	312	48,388
British Columbia	35	3,611
Total	6,936	1,158,567

The tonnage increased during the year, (British Columbia alone exhibiting any decrease, by 151 vessels and 84,849 tons. Nova Scotia added 29,968 tons of shipping to her fleet, Ontario 24,101, New Brunswick, 16,831, Prince Edward Island 9,470, and Quebec 4,903 tons. St. John heads the list of Canadian ports with 269,401 tons of shipping, standing nearly 130,000 tons in advance of the second port of the Dominion, Yarmouth.

TELEGRAPHIC.

London, March 22.—A monster meeting and demonstration of working men and others in favor of the release of Fenians still held in prison by order of the Government was held in Hyde Park yesterday. Speeches were made urging the liberation of the prisoners, and denouncing their confinement as an act of injustice on the part of the Government. Several detachments of police were stationed in the vicinity of the park, but the demonstration passed off quietly. After the meeting the workmen paraded in procession through the several streets, everything being conducted in an orderly manner.

Constantinople, March 22.—The Roumanian Government has issued an order for a levy of 100,000 troops. This warlike measure excites comment here.

New York, March 22.—The weather this morning is clear and intensely cold, the thermometer being 16° below zero.

New York, March 22.—A special from Raleigh, N.C., says that a terrific wind swept over that region on Saturday. Several persons were killed and others injured; many houses were blown down and trees torn up by the roots. The farm interests of Hope County are greatly injured.

Chicago, March 22.—The str. Minneapolis left Grand Haven, Michigan, last week for Milwaukee, Wis., but after some exciting experience was obliged to put back, satisfied that there is not 20 miles of clear water between these points.

A Council Bluffs special says that Kansas City and St. Jose have been shipping corn from the former point for the last month at an average of fifty car loads per day to Kansas and Missouri. The demand is for double that amount at fifty cents, but the corn cannot be had. The Texas shipments will soon begin. The weather this morning is warm and pleasant; the first spring-like day of the season.

New York, March 22.—The Postmaster General has received official orders from Washington to enforce the new postal law requiring one cent, an ounce for all mailable matter of the 3rd class; newspapers come under this rule. The order goes into effect immediately.

London, March 22.—Count De Garnac, Ambassador from France, a resident of this city, died to-day of pleuro pneumonia.

Augusta, Ga., March 22.—A special from Comaka, Warren county, Ga., states that every house in the village was blown down on Saturday by the great tornado except one, which is partially destroyed. Mr Fielding was badly bruised and Mr. Munston, watchman at the Georgia RR. depot, was killed. He was standing behind a train of cars which were blown over and crushed him to death. Several other persons were severely injured by the falling timber. A number of horses, mules and cattle were killed. Trains standing on the track of Comaka were thrown across the track and detained.

Baltimore, Md., March 23.—An attempt to attempt to ditch the Washington express going north on the N.C. RR. by misplacing a switch at Shark's station, was made yesterday. The engineer of a freight train, George Santer, made the discovery and righted the switch.

Boston, Mass., March 23.—Mr. Mary Brigham Young, a widow, very respectably connected, was found dead in the cellar of No. 99 Webster Street, East Boston, last evening. The body was terribly bruised and the throat filled with gravel. The discovery is the cause of excitement.

MONTREAL.

Montreal, March 23.—The City Council was officially notified last evening of the intention to hold the Inter-Provincial Exhibition in this city next fall. A subcommittee has been appointed by the joint-committee named in this relation to induce the Corporation to increase the grant towards the erection of permanent buildings to $50,000.

St. Patrick's Society raised the flag half-mast high above their Hall yesterday, as a token of respect towards the memory of John Mitchell, who had an appointment to lecture under their auspices in this city in January last.

The *Gazette* publishes this morning a column article from J. Costigan, M.P., touching Mr. Devlin's statement on the night of the 17th inst., stating that Bishop Sweeney did not approve of Mr. Devlin's vote on the New Brunswick question.

Several students in medicine attending the Medical College affiliated with Victoria University at Cobourg yesterday passed their final examinations.

Euseb Fairque, a young shoemaker, is under arrest for having attempted suicide while intoxicated.

The supply of spring flour and coarser grades are limited, and business restricted. Wheat is dull. English advices are practically unchanged.

The banks have determined to reduce the advances for speculative purposes; the commercial borrowers, however, receive reasonable assistance.

PARLIAMENT.

MONDAY.—A good deal of business was trasacted in the House yesterday. Mr Plumb moved for copies of the correspondence in connection with the attempt to secure a reciprocity treaty with the United States, and a discussion ensued upon the resolution, which was finally carried. The Premier promised to take steps to secure a commercial treaty with the Government of the Sandwich Islands. Mr. Malcolm Cameron's motion respecting the propriety of making an effort to establish an international peace arbitration was withdrawn after debate. Several new bills were introduced and read a first time, and a number of others were then read a third time and passed.

Murder Trial.

BROCKVILLE, March 23—The Grand Jury brought in true bills against Greaves, Dr. Sparham, and Mrs Sparham, for murder. The trial is likely to take place on Thursday. Mr. Jas. O'Reilly, Mr. M. C. Cameron, and Mr. T. M. Brooke for the defence; Mr. B. M. Britton prosecuting. Hon. C. F. Fraser, who was to watch the case on behalf of the friends of the deceased, is confined to his house and will be unable to appear.

THE LATE BISHOP RICHARDSON.—A correspondent of the Picton *New Nation* writes of a gallant deed of the late Bishop, (once Captain Richardson):—

"While I was doing duty in Kingston, some time in the fall of 1812, the Yankee brig, *Oneida*, and four small vessels came in at the Upper Gap and burnt a small vessel at Bath, owned by the Fairfields. They then proceeded towards Kingston. Somewhere about Simcoe Island, or the Lower Gap, they got right of a small British vessel; (the name of which I have forgotten,) commanded by Mr. Richardson. The Yankees appeared determined to take or sink her, and succeeded in making a hole in her so that she took in water. The hands on board wanted to surrender, the captain declared he would rather sink her, and accordingly ventured to cross a bar which his pursuers dare not undertake. The Captain then laid his course for the nearest land on the Kingston side and followed the shore to Kingston, when, as just he got to the wharf, she sank, leaving her deck above water."

TISER-ISMS.—Ain't it wonderful that deer can run so fast with "game" legs.—If a resident of Chicago is a Chicoshost, should a dweller in Toronto be called a Torontoast, or an Ottawa girl be termed an Ottawaist?—When a drunken husband gives his wife a beating, is she a victim of *light lacing?*

COMPULSORY VOTING IN THE COMMONS.

The eccentric Bunster, who, swears by beer and is at least honest and outspoken in his defence of grog as a national necessity, has a notice on the Paper proclaiming the advisability of compulsory voting in the Commons. Of course this is but a solemn joke, thrust perhaps at Mr. Blake, but if it be political wisdom to force all voters, not actually disabled from doing so, to vote at the polls, why should not the rule be extended to the Commons? Advocates of compulsory voting declare that the franchise involves the duty of its exercise, and that no one should shirk that duty. If, then, it be the duty of an elector to pass an opinion, by depositing a ballot, on the perhaps vague, conflicting and puzzling issues presented before him at a general election, how much more is it the duty of members of the House to give their opinion on all measures laid before them? Additional reasons weigh in the latter case, for a member can vote individually on each Bill, while the voter at the polls would have to lump a lot of confused issues and strike the balance on the side he thinks is right, or vote though he thought both sides were wrong. When the question is, shall this Bill pass? the answer is either yes or no. But when the voter is asked to vote on a hundred mixed up issues at the polls the answer is not so simple—that is viewing the matter from the standpoint of the advocates of compulsory voting who would have a man vote whether he has decided political opinions or not. And, further, if it be urged that the franchise of the voter is held in trust for the country, the position of member is a still more sacred one, and a higher and more exacting scale of duty should be looked for in its possessors. It is, moreover, a post highly sought after, and there who hold it should in a very much greater degree be held to the performance of its grave duties than the ordinary voter whom it is proposed to march by the ear to the ballot box. If the latter is to be forced to vote on a possibly confused jumble of issues, by casting his ballot for, perhaps, a man he thinks unfit for Parliament, why should M. P.'s be allowed to shirk distinct, individual issues and lounge in the lobby till the vote is taken? Surely the right of voting is a more sacred trust in one case than in the other. If a voter is not to be allowed to be a neutral in a political contest for the sentimental reason that he owes it as a duty to the country to not fail to use his franchise, why should an M. P. for this, that or the other insufficient or dishonest reason be suffered to dodge a clearly-defined issue in the Commons? If John Smith must be driven to the polls to condemn Sir John Macdonald for, among other things, bribing Riel, and has at best but a muddled idea of what the fight is all about, why should Sir John when a square vote is taken on this single issue, be permitted to skulk away and not record his vote, so that afterwards he may say—not having voted either way—to the Orangemen of Ontario, that he was anxious to hang Riel, and to the Quebec French, that he was as anxious to let him go absolutely scot free? There seems to be no logical difference between the two cases, save that in the M. P.s' the reasons are much stronger. The bibulous Bunster's mad joke is a pretty shrewd one, reducing the compulsory argument to a generally admitted absurdity. There is method in the beery M. P.'s madness after all. Mr. Blake makes a tolerable case in favour of compulsory voting, but he would not like to have it apply to himself as an M. P.! He does not often fail to record his vote, but how would he like to have been forced to vote on, say the Paterson Divorce Bill, which he very