SUNDAY DIRECTORY—HOURS OF PUBLIC WORSHIP.

St. George's Cathedral.—Morning Service, 11:00; Evening Service, 7:00; Military Service, 2.30, p.m. Daily Prayers at 3:30 p.m., except on Wednesdays, when service is held at 7½ p.m., with sermon. On Saints' Days morning and evening prayers.

St. Paul's Church (Queen Street.)—Morning Service, 11:00; Evening Service, 6.30.

St James' Church (Union Street.)—Morning Service, 11.00; Evening Service, 6.00.

St. Mark's Church (Barriefield.)—Morning Service, 11.00.

St. John's Church (Portsmouth.)—Morning Service, 10,30; Afternoon Service, 4 o'clock.

St. Andrew's Church (Princess Street.)—Morning Service, 11:00; Afternoon Service, 6.

Chalmers' Church (Earl Street.)—Morning Service, 11:00; Evening Service 6:00.

Brock Street Presbyterian Church.—Morning Service, 11:00; Afternoon Service 6,00.

Wesleyan Methodist Church (Sydenham Street).—Morning Service, 10:30; Evening Service, 6:00.

Wesleyan Methodist Church (Queen Street).—Morning Service, 10:30; Evening Service, 6:00.

Methodist Episcopal Church, (Head of Johnson Street)—Morning Service, 10:30; Evening Service, 6:00.

Primitive Methodist Church (Brock Street.)—Morning Service, 10.30; Evening Service, 6:00.

St. Mary's Cathedral (Roman Catholic.)—Mass, 7:00, 8:00 8:45 (Military Service) and 10:30 a.m; Vespers, 3:30.

Baptist Church (Johnson Street.)—Morning Service, 11:00; Evening Service, 6:00.

Congregational Church (Wellington St.)—Morning Service, 11:00; Evening Service, 6:30.

Catholic Apostolic Church (Queen St)—Morning Service, 10:00; Evening Service, 6:00.

☞ To Water Consumers.—Remember to pay your Water Bills by the 10th inst., and save the percentage.

The Daily British Whig

(Quitter per Orbem Diec.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN'Y 14, 1865.

THE HON. BILLA FLINT ON FENIANISM.

This noted gentleman has published in the Belleville Intelligencer, a silly letter capable of doing a great deal of mischief in the present excited state of the country. It can do no good whatsoever, inasmuch as there is no danger to guard against, and it can have no other effect than to alarm the timid and weak-minded, and induce them to fancy that such a thing as Fenianism exists in Canada. There may possibly be along the Frontier, and in the large cities, a few worthless vagabonds, for whom any change must be for the better; but that a single Canadian Lodge is in existence, or that a single Canadian Roman Catholic of the slightest respectability has joined the Association we utterly deny and repudiate. Canada is the stronghold of Catholicity in North America. Here the Roman Catholics are a people with place and power at their command, with large landed estates and great personal property to enjoy and protect, and to imagine that these advantages could be jeopardized or lost, by aiding or abetting an inroad of lawless men, who know nothing of the rights and privileges of their Canadian Co-Religionists, knowing well, that if by any chance such a Raid were successful, it would be followed by a greater one by the Yankees, who would sweep Catholicity off the face of the Province, or place it in the degraded condition of Louisiana, Missouri and other States where it once reigned paramount. No, Fenianism is as much the abhorrence of the Irish Roman Catholics in Canada, both Clergy and Laity, as it ever can be of the staunchest Protestant alive.

But knowing all this, as a Legislator should know, Mr. Flint, for a purpose best known to himself, has thought proper to alarm his Constituents, and as many others as may read his letter. Weak-minded demagogues, like Mr. Flint, are always alarmists, either real or affected, and sometimes fall victims to their fears upon the slightest, and frequently without any cause; and stories partly hatched to serve a purpose are at last believed. At least such is the charitable view to be taken of Mr. Flint's conduct. To show the folly which men of ordinary common sense minds will occasionally commit, here is a piece of Mr. Flint's argument. 'There is a report here, that in some book a prediction of some Saint, that at this time the trouble will be of short duration, only lasting a night or two, and that a Stocking Leg will hold provisions enough for its final consummation!' Can folly go farther?

It is gratifying to believe that here, in the good old City of Kingston and County of Frontenac, we have no such alarmists amongst us, and that the people are not to be fooled and frightened out of their wits by such ridiculous and silly twaddle as Mr. Flint endeavors to frighten the people of Hastings with.

The following letter addressed to the Hastings Chronicle by Mr. James Kennedy, of Belleville, a Magistrate and a Councillor of the Town of Belleville, and a prominent and influential Roman Catholic, we are happy to publish. It is calculated to do much good, and will no doubt quiet the nerves of many who might be influenced by Mr. Flint's nonsense:—

FENIANISM.

[To the Editor of the Hastings Chronicle.]

Dear Sir,—In last week's Intelligencer appears an editorial, as well as a letter from the Hon. Billa Flint in reference to the above subject, endeavoring to make it appear that this society (Fenians) is in a flourishing condition amongst us, and that nothing is now wanted, but the proper signal to cause the 'brotherhood' to rise and commence an indiscriminate slaughter of their neighbors and professed friends, who happen to differ from them on certain theological points.—'They advocate, to counteract this fell design, the formation of Vigilance Committees' in each section—in other words, that each man should become a spy upon the most private and innocent action of his neighbor, and no doubt should anything occur to excite suspicion in his ill-advised and disordered mind, to shoot him down without Judge or Jury, and in most cases, indeed, 'trifles light as air' would become confirmation strong as proofs of Holy Writ,' and the very conflict which they possess themselves so anxious to avert, be more surely brought about. These are certainly charitable suggestions and altogether worthy of professing Christian principles.

So far as the Catholics of the Town of Belleville and County of Hastings are concerned, I can say, from an intimate knowledge of the feelings of my co-religionists, that not one pretending to be a Catholic in name or feeling, has any sympathy with Fenianism, or with the enemies of our government, in the remotest degree. We are satisfied with our Government and laws; our interests are identified with the rest of the community, and we could not contemplate, much less carry into effect, any design against our government, without injury to ourselves. Further, our religion teaches us to abhor all Secret Societies, banded together for any purpose, political or otherwise. It is highly criminal in Mr Flint, if he knows of any such organization, that he does not at once take the proper steps to inform the authorities and bring the guilty parties to justice, and it is equally criminal in endeavor to excite religious animosities, if he does not know that it has existence. I cannot account for his change of sentiment as expressed three weeks ago, when he said it was all old women's talk. I suppose it is the same still!

James Kennedy.

Belleville, Jan. 10th, 1865.

JAPAN AND THE JAPANESE.

British power has again been brought into collision with Asiatic insolence and exclusiveness, and swift and decisive victory has crowned our arms. The latest tidings from Japan report that Prince Nagato one of the Daimios or feudal territorial lords of that singular country, whom we have been compelled to chastise into submission has agreed to keep open the straits of Simonoseki, not to rebuild the demolished forts, and to pay the expenses of the allied expedition. These Van der Capellan, or Simonoseki Straits, separate the southern island of Kiusiu from the central one of Niphon and constitute the northerly passage into the Inland Sea which flows between these two islands, and which, though it is surrounded by Japanese territory, is as much a part of the great ocean highway as the Irish or English Channel—a thoroughfare through which ships of all countries have always passed in freedom. On the north western boundary of the straits so important to the navigation of these Eastern seas, stretches the promontory of the Nagato, ruled over by the Prince of Choshin and at their narrowest point, only a quarter of a mile in width, hostile batteries had been erected, and our merchant ships fired on; and the hostilities that have now been so successfully concluded were undertaken not to extort any new privilege, nor even to enforce a treaty right, but simply to punish injury and affront and to obtain for our vessels free passage on the great highway. The expedition consisted of nine English vessels, three French ships carrying between them 49 guns, four Dutch vessels carrying 58 guns, and one chartered steamship belonging to the United States carrying one gun, representing all the Powers that have treaties with Japan, with the significant exception of Russia. After a brief yet gallant resistance, 10 batteries were destroyed and 62 pieces of ordnance of various sizes captured; and Admiral Kuper thinks that apart from the brilliant success in a military point of view, that has thus been achieved, and the injury inflicted upon the power and prestige of the Prince of Choshin, advantages of an important nature in a political sense may possibly result from the presence of the Allied Squadron in those Straits.

After long centuries of isolation this remarkable country, larger than Great Britain and with a population of 40 millions, is being thrown open to commercial intercourse, to European ideas and influence, to Western culture and enterprise, and to the comity of nations. By the treaty of Yedo, 1858, five of their principal ports were opened; and in 1861 such rapid progress had been made that the trade with foreign countries had reached the value of £1,200,000, and since then it has enormously increased. When Greece was in its palmy days, 600 B.C., and the rest of the inhabitants of Europe little better than painted savages or wandering freebooters, and pirates, China and Japan were in a comparatively high state of civilization; they could boast industrial arts unknown to the polished Greek, porcelain and enamel, and silk fabrics for which a Roman senator would give their weight in gold. Gunpowder and the compass were known to them. They have been familiar with the art of printing in various colors by blocks of wood from an unknown date. To this day we cannot produce a piece of China crape, and the Japanese have silk and crape textile fabrics which we cannot imitate; their lacquer ware is unapproachable in Asia or Europe; neither can we rival their enameled vases; or mend a hole in an iron kettle as they can, with only a little charcoal stove in the street, and a blow-pipe. Japan is a country of paradoxes and anomalies. They write from top to bottom, from right to left, in perpendicular instead of horizontal lines. Their books begin where ours end. Their locks turn from left to right. Their day is our night. Shops go to customers. People sit upon their heels. Horses' heads are where their tails would be in an English stable, facing the entrance, the food hung from the roof in a basket. There old men fly kites, while children gravely look on; the carpenter uses his plane by drawing it to him; their tailors stitch from them; they mount their horse from the off side; the bells are to their hind quarters instead of the front; ladies black their teeth instead of keeping them white; their hair is turned back from the face, which is elaborately painted and powdered; and their anti-crinoline tendencies are carried to the point of interfering not only with grace of movement, but with all locomotion, so tightly are the lower limbs, from the waist downwards, girt round with their garments. Top-spinning is followed as a profession. They indulge in loud exultations, as evidence of a good meal. Their pocket is their sleeve. They wipe the nose with a nice square of paper, and carefully fold the envelope into the sleeve, or give it to an attendant to throw away.—Their music is without melody; their lands capes without perspective, light or shade; their figures without drawing—mere, crude colours and grotesque forms dancing in midair, without ground to rest on. They have bank-notes of the value of a farthing. They have long understood perfectly the utilization of sewage, and the manufacture of paper, not from rags, but from the bark of trees of which they have 60 different kinds, all with different uses. They use no milk nor animal food; horses and oxen and cows, are employed for purposes of draught only; they have no sheep or pigs; the flowers have no scent, the birds no song, and their fruits and vegetables no flavour. They have three modes or systems of writing; their alphabetic characters to our eyes seem made up of daggers, pistols and cutlasses; their sounds have no gender, and their language has no definite article or personal pronoun. They have both a spiritual and a temporal Sovereign; the Temporal Emperor, or Tycoon, being resident at Yedo which spreads over a circuit of 20 miles, and has a population of two millions; and the Spiritual Emperor, or Mikado, having his capital at Miaco, where he lives and dies, and the boundaries of which he never passes. They have a feudal aristocracy, or confederation of Princes and territorial seigneurs, who possess the land, with much the same jurisdiction as our Barons, in the days of the Saxon rule, or the first Plantagenets.

The revenues of these Dalmios, or Feudal Chiefs, of whome there are some 360, are paid in rice, and some of the wealthiest of them have princely incomes of £750,000 sterling and 10,000 retainers. Every family has its household altar, to which offerings are daily made, always a bunch of flowers among the rest, and their graves are similarly decorated. Plays are performed in the gardens of their temples which also contain shooting galleries, bazaars, tea houses, flower-shows, menageries and exhibitions of models like Madame Tussaud's. They have a system of universal espionage, every man having a spy and being one; their cities are burnt and rebuilt every seven years. Some of the most singular customs of this strangest of all countries is the Haro-Kiri, or Happy Despatch, by which a Japanese official, charged with any negligence or malversation, calls his family together in the most business like manner, and coolly and quietly disembowels himself in their midst—What a land of odd peculiarities, in which all things are topsy-turvy! The Jesuit missionaries introduced a corrupt form of Christianity into Japan in the 16th Century; from 1580 to 1620, near one million and a-half Christianized natives perished by persecution. Let us hope that war and commerce will open a way for the Gospel; and that these most ingenious and interesting people may soon be blessed with a purer faith and a better hope.—Methodist Recorder.

DRESS IN JAPAN

The Japanese women are, in general, much better looking than the Chinese—the eyes less elongated, and the whole expression of the face more open and free from cunning. There are many, however, whose faces proclaim their Chinese origin, the offspring probably, of some of those inter-marriages which occasionally take place. Their head-dresses and hair, which are objects of especial attention, are generally arranged after a very elaborate fashion, and when disposed to their entire satisfaction, are not disturbed again for a day or two. The pillow of which they make use is admirably adapted for keeping the well-greased and pasted tresses in order. It is made of wood, and reminded us, at first sight, of a good-sized stereoscope. The head rests on a small roll of linen or paper, like a sausage in size, which they place at the top, and one would imagine that a stiff neck next morning must be the result of such an unrefreshing pillow. As we are all, however, creatures of habit, they most probably prefer that to which they have always been accustomed.—The men, likewise, have their head dressed only once in the twenty-four hours, and sometimes at longer intervals. A regular hairdresser arranges their heads in the morning, invariably selecting the front part of the house, probably in order that the individual under his hands may be able to amuse himself by gazing at the passers-by during an operation so tedious and elaborate: The entire top of the head, from the forehead, is always kept shaved, as clean as the face of a beardless boy. The rest of the hair, allowed to grow long, is saturated with grease, to which is added a kind of gum or paste, to make it stiff. The locks, thus bedaubed, are then combed up all round, and tied at the crown of the head, the ends sticking together forming a tail piece, which is again doubled back and tied, plenty of gum being applied all the time to make it pliable. When it is finished, it rests on the centre of the head, a short, neat little tail or knob. The women dress very much like the men, with a loose, flowing robes, confined at the waist by a sash. At the back they wear a bundle of cloth sash, the most costly article of their whole attire. Every woman, whether of low or high degree, poor or wealthy, always turns round on passing another woman, and fixes her eyes on this singular appendage, a scrutiny which enables her to judge of the wearer's station and wealth. They redden their lips with a preparation the name of which is Ben-ten-ba. By means of another mixture, which many avail themselves of, they give a golden tinge, the appearance of which strikes one, at first, as very singular.

CANADIAN ITEMS.

Appointment.—Mr. Robert McKenzie, Mayor of Sarnia, has been appointed Superintendent of the Indians for the Western Division, in place of Mr. Tailbourd, resigned.

Mr. Dunkin's Bill.—A vote last week as to whether or not intoxicating liquors should be sold in the township of Scarboro, under Mr. Dunkin's act, resulted in a negative majority of seven.

Promoted.—Mr. T. S. Detlor has been removed from the office of stationmaster at Napanee, and sent to Ottawa, to take charge of the Ottawa and Prescott Railway.

Sudden Death at Port Colborne.—Mr. Fortier, light house keeper and United States Consular Agent there, died suddenly on Wednesday afternoon.

Two Companies to be Stationed at Cornwall.—A special meeting of the Town Council was held on Monday last, to receive an application from Col. Wiley for quarters for two companies of Volunteers, about to be stationed here.—Freeholder.

Heavy Weight.—Mr. Thomas F. Tibbits, of little River Mills, Victoria Country, N. B, killed a hog recently, aged two years, which weighed seventeen hundred and eleven pounds. We have seen nothing recorded to equal this.

South Ontario Election.—Monday and Tuesday next are the polling days in South Ontario. There is, therefore, but little time left for work, and the friends of Mr. Farewell must bestir themselves. The best informed of them believe that, despite all the vote that have been caught by Mr. Gibbs' specious professions of independence, there is still a good majority for the Reform candidate if the vote be properly brought out.—Globe.

New Brunswick.—The latest New Brunswick papers bring the report that Mr. Hathaway has retired from the New Brunswick Government, on the ground that he is hostile to the Confederation scheme. It is not pretended, even by journals unfriendly to Confederation and to the Administration, that Mr. Hathaway's retirement will seriously embarrass the Government, and the cause of his threatened resignation is still doubtful.

The Chateau-Richer Riot.—On Wednesday week a meeting was held in St. Ann, C.E., for the purpose of denouncing the conduct of the evil disposed persons who joined in the resistance of the draft some days previously. The meeting adopted resolutions condemning those who were engaged in the riot, and assuring His Excellency the Governor General that the habitans acknowledge the utility of the prudential measures taken by him up to the present time, for the purpose of preventing all trouble between the United States of America and Canada.

The Lake Erie Raid.—On Thursday afternoon Mr Bennett G. Burley, in custody at the instance of the Federal Government, was again brought before the Recorder at Toronto in order to be present at the argument of counsel upon the law touching the jurisdiction of the court in detaining him in custody on a charge of robbery and piracy. Mr. M. C. Cameron, Q.C., appeared for the prisoner, the American government was represented by Mr. S. Richards, Q.C., and Mr. Russell, of Detroit, and Mr. R. A. Harrison appeared on behalf of the Canadian government. The case was argued for a good while, and the case was closed. The Recorder gives his decision on Tuesday.

A Man Drops Dead.—It has become our painful duty to record one of those sudden and mysterious occurrence over which man has no control, and in which God in his infinite wisdom deems fit to visit us at intervals. On Wednesday evening, a little after 9 o'clock, as Mr. Samuel James Moore, an old and devout member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society of this city, was returning home from the Brick Church, John-street, where he had been engaged in devotion, he was taken suddenly ill, and fell into the arms of Mr. Robert Campbell, who was near him on the side walk. Dr. McIntosh was near by, and as soon as he examined him, pronounced life extinct, and was of the opinion that apoplexy was the cause of his death. Mr. Moore was much esteemed by those who were intimate with him, and has always been a good Christian. He leaves a large family to mourn his untimely death.—Spectator.

Violent Gas Explosion.—On Sunday afternoon, a violent gas explosion took place at the St. Patrick's Presbytery, Upper Town, by which the building was shaken to its foundation. For some time gas had been accumulating in the house, and a man-servant went down to the cellar or basement for the purpose of investigating the cause. Having rather incautiously, as it is said, brought down a lighted candle, before the gas had time or opportunity to escape from the cellar into the outer air by any opening, and the flame communicating therewith, an immediate and terrific explosion was the result. The shock was so violent that it was feared at the moment great damage had been done. The servant and a young assistant were pitched head over heels for some distance; but fortunately escaped without injury. The side-walk along the front of the building was considerably "shaken up" by the explosion and on the whole the inmates of the house may be said to have had a very narrow escape.—Quebec Chronicle.

The Governor General on Passports.—The following letter has been addressed by the Hon. William McDougall, to Josias Bray, Esq., Passport Agent in Hamilton:—

"Secretary's Office, Quebec.

"Josias Bray, Esq.,

"Sir,—I have the honor, by command of his Excellency the Governor General, to inform you that his Excellency's attention has been called to the fact that difficulties have arisen in consequence of the issue of passports to naturalized subjects proceeding from this Province to the United States.—Her Majesty's Minister at Washington has intimated publicly that he has been instructed by her Majesty's government to say that naturalization in a British colony does not confer upon the person naturalized any claim to British protection beyond the limits of that colony; under these circumstances, his Excellency thinks that it is not desirable that passports should be issued hereafter to any but natural born subjects. You will therefore be careful in future not to issue a passport to any one unless from your personal knowledge, or from evidence adduced you are satisfied that he is a natural born subject of Great Britain. Should any naturalized subject apply for a passport, you should make him understand that, in declining to give him a passport, the government is carrying out the views of her Majesty's Minister at Washington.

"I have the honor to be

"Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"Wm. McDougall,

"Secretary."

UNITED STATES NEWS.

Railway Accident.—An accident occurred on the Hudson River railway on Saturday last by a sleeping-car being thrown into the river. A number of persons were injured to whom efficient services were rendered by Dr. James D. Trousdale, of Kingston, C. W., who was a passenger on the train.

Arming the Slaves.—Advices from Richmond through Northern sources go to show that the Confederate Government has resolved to free and arm the slaves. Events have some time pointed in this direction. The question is whether the step is not too late. It is said to be a fact that the quotas of the Confederate army are rapidly filling up without the conscription.

No More Mails by Canada.—The Buffalo Courier of Thursday says:—"We learn that an order was received from Washington on Saturday by the Lake Shore Railroad Companies, to take the Western mails, which have heretofore gone to and from Detroit by the Great Western Railway. It is probable that the order was given because the Great Western Company had withdrawn its express trains, which carried the mails, rather than any purpose to take patronage from the Canadian railway."

Alarming Desertions from the Federal Army.—The Hartford Press (Rep.) says:—We speak of what we know when we say that more men on the James desert from our side to the rebels than desert from the rebel side to ours. Day after day we are filling our quota with scoundrels, thieves, jail birds, hang dog bounty jumpers, known to be such by the substitute brokers, and often by the officers whose business it is to stop such outrageous swindling. Every day hundreds of these rogues are sent to the front. They do not add anything to the army. They weaken it. They cannot be trusted either as guards or pickets, or to go into a skirmish or battle. They steal what they can and then desert.

Beast Butler.—General, or as Sala calls him 'Boss' Butler, has come to grief. Like his great canal at Vicksburg, which refused to turn the Mississippi from its course, and the Dutch Gap canal which was to have been made the means of taking Richmond, but which didn't accomplish that purpose, B. B. has ended, his military career gloriously. His command has been turned over to another and the hero himself ordered North. This is a great blow to the American Haynau. Doubtless the benisons of the ladies of New Orleans and the fairer portion of creation all the world over will follow him into retirement, should that be the reward of his arduous labors. It is yet to be revealed what was the immediate cause of B. B.'s removal from command in the field, but we suspect that it is the result of well proved incompetency, unlimited expenditure of money, enormous speculation on his own behalf and a number of other kindred causes. We only wonder that he was not removed long ago, for it did not require his failure at Fort Fisher to prove his utter incapacity for generalship. A man of no ordinary powers he is undoubtedly, but for generalship he had no adaptation. He has been the target of the most envenomed shafts for years, and nothing short of the epithet of 'Beast' has been considered sufficiently strong to characterize the man fairly and honestly. We fancy there will be few regrets at his ill fortune outside the circle of his immediate followers. Peace be with him!

Curious Facts about U.S. Congressmen.—A Washington letter-writer gives some curious facts about present Congressmen. He says, Mr. Ames of Massachusetts is the richest, worth over two millions; a Mr. Baldwin, of the same State, the largest; Mr. Clay of Kentucky, the tallest; Mr. Cox, of Ohio, the smallest; Mr. McClurg, of Missouri, the shortest; General Dumont, of Indiana, the most prolific, being the father of nineteen children; Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, the oldest, 73 years; Gen. Garfield, of Ohio, the youngest, 32 years; Mr. Wimdon, of Minnesota, the handsomest; Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, the best speakers; Mr. Cox, of Ohio, and Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, the best parliamentarians; Mr. Kasson, of Iowa, and Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, the readiest debaters; Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, the largest farmer, having 6,500 acres of land, 175 slaves, 200 sheep, and 150 blooded cattle; while Mr. Grinnel, of Iowa, has 6,000 acres of land, and 6,000 sheep; Mr. Wallace, of Idaho, lives the farthest from Washington, and draws $6,397 for mileage, and Mr. Davis, of Maryland, the nearest, his mileage being only $32. Mr. Frank, of New York, is the best penman, and Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, the poorest. The House has twenty five members with bald heads, thirty with moustaches, and two with wigs.

Peace Rumours.—Commissioners Appointed by the Rebel Congress.—New York, January 12.—The World's Washington special says that the Democrat politician who has gone on a peace mission with the approval of the President, is General Singleton of Illinois. He proceeded Blair a day or two.—It is said the rebel Congress adopted, in secret session, the resolution to appoint Peace Commissioners, and they have been selected and sent to Grant's Headquarters. Messrs. Orr, of South Carolina, Gilmor, of North Carolina, and Alexander H. Stephens are of the commission. It is also said that Grant has telegraphed that Stevens has solicited a pass through his lines to visit Washington. It is known that Blair goes to Richmond with the full knowledge and consent of the President, and is clothed with all authority requisite to open negotiations with Jeff. Davis, with a view to restore peace, and the rebel authorities will feel assured of this when he shows his credentials. His instructions are embraced in three propositions:—

1st. Amnesty to all, no matter what they may have done since the war began.

2nd. The Constitution as it is, and the Union as it was. The South to return to the Union with all the rights and privileges which it held before and of the States seceded.

3rd. The total abolition of slavery. From this point the President will not retract one iota. He does not insist upon immediate abolition, but he does that measures be taken to secure its extinction within a reasonable length of time.

It is stated, on what seems good authority, that Jeff. Davis is strongly inclined to peace measures and willing to accept more liberal terms than it was at first supposed he would. Mr. Lincoln, on the other hand, is disposed to be as lenient as possible, but insists that the first public action on the part of the South must be to lay down their arms and acknowledge the supremacy of the Union. There is no desire to humiliate the South. It is to bow to the Union, not to the North. Under no circumstances will any proposition be acceded to which does not embrace at the first step the laying down of their arms on the part of the South. As an instance of the temper of the Administration to obtain peace, it is stated that Gen Butler was removed not solely for his incompetence and misdemeanors, but also on an evidence that our government is disposed to treat with the South on liberal terms, and is willing to remove any obstacles that may stand in the way of a perfect understanding with that section. It is reported that ex Governor Rives and ex-Governor Orr are now on their way to Washington on a peace mission.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

An old Couple.—A youthful couple, residing in the township of Trafalgar, took into their heads on Wednesday last, to enter the holy estate of matrimony; the age of the bridegroom was 89, and the blushing bride was in her 74th year.

Australia Sovereigns.—The Sydney Mint has already issued 7,025,000, sovereigns this year. This amount almost approaches double the coinage of the corresponding period of 1863, but the increase is caused by larger quantities of gold received from Melbourne for coinage, and not by an increased yield of the goldfields of New South Wales. The escorts from those fields brought 327,209 ounces in the first nine months of 1863, and only 230,811 in the first nine months of 1864.

Double Expected.—The King of Prussia is chief of all the lodges of Freemasons in his kingdom. Of this position he has just taken advantage to transmit to the grand masters of all the lodges in Berlin and the provinces a circular exhorting all the members to remain "faithful to the King, in the political struggle of the immediate future." The grand masters are requested to read the circular to their respective lodges, and to follow it up with personal exhortations of their own of a tendency similar to that of the document itself.

The Statue of Hercules.—Cavaliere Righetti, the fortunate owner of the gigantic statue of Hercules, lately discovered at Rome, has begged the Pope's acceptance of it, and His Holiness has been pleased to accept it.—The magnificence of the gift may be imagined, when it is known that only a few days before a Roman nobleman offered two hundred thousand scudi (over forty thousand pounds) for this splendid work of art, and M. Schneiz made even a higher bid for it on behalf of the French Government.

St. Domingo.—Accounts from San Domingo, though containing nothing new, represent the Spaniards as making very poor progress, and the general opinion is that Spain ought to abandon the attempt conquest of the Island. The same may be said of the French attempt in Mexico. Both Spain in San Domingo and France in Mexico are less near the end of their projected conquests than a year ago.

Confederation.—A Halifax contemporary says that Confederation is killed in Prince Edward's Island but into influence has broken up the Government of the colony. The Hon. Messrs. Gray and Pope have resigned their acts in the cabinet, ostensibly on account of the personal conduct of the Hon E Palmer, the Attorney General, but really because that gentleman, with a majority of the Government has strongly opposed Confederation.

How Men Should Treat Women.—A Persian poet gives the following instruction upon this important subject:—"Wash thou art married, seek to please thy wife; but take not to all she says. From man's right side was rib was taken to form the woman, and never did he here seen a rib quite straight. And would'st thou straighten it? It breaks, but bends not. Since then, 'tis plain that crooked is woman's temper, forgive her faults, and blame her not; nor let her anger thee, nor coercion use, as all is vain to straighten what is curved."

Another Account.—The colossal statue of Hercules, at Rome, does not, it seems, progress very rapidly toward its restoration. It is at present reclining on a green table in a large room, where the process of drying it still goes on, the metal being saturated with damp in consequence of having been so many ages in the water. A pan of charcoal is inserted into the hero's head every morning, and communicates a genial warmth to his whole bronze body. The torso on which the statue is to become the property of the Government are not yet arranged. The fortunate discoverer wishes to have a good sum down, besides an annuity, and the title of marquis. The Art Commissioners have valued the statue at 45,000 scudi—nearly 10,000 pounds sterling.

Fresh Discovery.—A most important discovery, far more so than that of the alleged source of the Nile, has just been made in South America. It is that the great river Amazon has been found to be navigable from one end to the other; that, in fact a new route has been opened between the Atlantic and the Pacific. The Morona, a Peruvian steamer, which was sent to explore the Amazon, has arrived at Mayro, about 300 miles from Lima. The Morona navigated more than 2000 miles of the Amazon proper, and 600 of the Yesyati and the Pacltizs rivers, which untill then had seen only Indians canoes. The country is, of course, inhabited only by savages, but it is of wonderful fertility.

A Priest Refusing to Marry a Couple.—A circumstance has occurred in Belgium which it was prophesied, at the passing of the Divorce Bill, would frequently occur in England, but which we believe, has never yet happened in this country. At Carleroi two persons presented themselves to be married, and the priest refused to perform the service on the ground that one of them had been divorced, and that the canon law was opposed to the civil law and would not permit him to marry in such a case. The person then went through the civil marriage. The same priest, with less reason, refused to marry another couple because the bridegroom who was a bookseller, would not promise to discontinue selling works which were not approved by the clergy.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE FIRE.

Dr. Barker, assisted by the City Solicitor, yesterday afternoon commenced the investigation into the Origin of the Fire at the City Buildings. A great many Witnesses were examined, and a good deal of information was elicited. Upon advice of the City Solicitor the Coroner adjourned the Investigation until Tuesday next, Jan. 17th inst., at the same place and hour. The evidence already given will be published to-morrow.

Council Meetings.—The City Council meet next Monday in the City Hall, for the purpose of being sworn in, and the new Council will probably hold their first meeting the same evening. The new Councils for all the Townships meet also on Monday to elect their Reeves and Deputy Reeves. The new County Council for the County of Frontenac meet on Tuesday, 24th inst., in the Court House, for the election of Warden and for the transaction of business.

Omission.—Among the heavy sufferers at the recent calamity by fire, omission was made of the name of Mr. Hugh Cummins, one of the Butchers in the Shambles, who, in addition to a large quantity of Fresh Beef and Beef in barrels, lost all the Books and Papers connected with his business, a loss that cannot be rightly estimated.

☞ The Revd. Mr. Brookman will preach in St. Paul's Church to-morrow evening.

Young Mens' Association Festival.—The Young Mens' Christian Association of the Scotch Kirk have announced a social meeting for Monday evening, at which both good speaking and good music may be expected. The Rev. Dr. Jenkins has a high reputation for eloquence as a speaker, and comes from Montreal to deliver an address during the evening. The reverend gentleman is also to deliver in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday evening, a special sermon on behalf of the Association.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Sheffield.—Ebenezer Perry, Patrick McMullen, George McKrown, John Hinch, Daniel Gilmour.

Kaladar.—Archibald Campbell, Alex. Sutore, F. Dunham, John O'Donnell, Geo. Peetle.

Barrie.—E. H. Perry, — Neil, E. Scott, W. Dempsey, James O'Brien.

LATEST FROM MONTREAL.

Montreal, Jan. 12.

At the concert of the St. Patrick's Society last night, Hon. Mr. McGee, in speaking of the statement in the Globe, denied that there were any Fenians in Montreal. Fifteen, he said, of such scamps could not meet without his knowledge, and the knowledge of those present. In answer, I would say that when the meeting about Mr. Coursol's decision was projected, one reason stated for not holding it was, that the Fenians were prepared to break it up. In conversing with three intelligent citizens at that time, I obtained the information sent. At the festival last St. Patrick's day, disloyal sentiments were uttered, and the Gazette exposed the facts. Mr. McGee may be right, but the public are not satisfied. He said also that the newspaper reports make Upper Canada cut an absurd figure in the Fenian affair.

The river is very high. The cellars of Griffintown are flooded, and ice piled several feet above the revetment wall.—Globe.

ARRIVAL OF THE CHINA.

New York, Jan. 13.

The steamer China from Liverpool 31st ult., has arrived.

Liverpool, Dec. 31.

The Times of to-day in its review of the year, alluding to the present attitude of the North to Canada, says:—In the present state of Northern feeling there is too much reason to apprehend some outrage which may render a rupture inevitable. Americans neither appreciate the strength of England nor understand the unanimity with which war will be prosecuted, if forced upon a reluctant government and nation. The first result of war would be the immediate and irrevocable establishment of Southern independence.

The West India mail steamer arrived at Southampton to-day with over two and a half million of specie.

Paris, Dec. 31.

An Imperial Decree authorizes the importation of merchandize of every description from any country and under any flag into St. Louis, Senegal and Isle of Goree; and another Decree opens the port of Cayenne to both French and foreign vessels.

The bank of Holland to-day reduced the discount from 6 to 5½.

Liverpool, Dec. 31st, Evening.—Cotton sales to day 5000 bales including 2000 to speculators and exporters; market quiet with rather better tone. Breadstuffs quiet and steady. Provisions steady.

London, Dec. 31st, evening.—Consols closed 89¼ for money.

Very Latest via Queenstown.

Liverpool Jan. 1.—The steamship Glasgow, from New York, and Damascus from Portland, arrived to-day.

Paris, Jan. 1.—The Bourse closed yesterday firmer. Rentes 66f 25c.

London, Jan. 1.—Political news unimportant.

The ship Crest of the Wave is reported at Valparaiso with eleven of the crew dead.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.

RECIPROCITY IN THE SENATE.

Washington, Jan. 12.

The Senate is discussing the proposed repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the House the constitutional anti-slavery amendment.

The Senate having ordered an investigation into the cause of the Wilmington failure, Gen. Butler has been ordered to appear here as a witness.

New York, Jan. 12.

The Commercial's Washington special says that Gen. Burnside has not resigned as has been reported.

Boston, Jan. 12.

To-morrow was the day designated for the execution of Green, the Malden murderer, but it is understood that the Governor has withheld his signature from the warrant, and that the execution of the sentence is deferred for action by the next Executive Council.

Harrisburg, Jan. 12.

The following dispatch was received by Governor Curtin this morning:—

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 11.

To the Governor of Pennsylvania:

Free Missouri greets her eldest sister!

(Signed) T. C. Fletcher,
Governor of Missouri.

Gov. Curtin sent the following reply:—

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 12.

To His Excellency the Governor of Missouri, Jefferson City:

Pennsylvania, first-born of freedom, welcomes her disenthralled sister State of Missouri. Redeemed in the agony of the nation and amid the throes of wanton rebellion, her offering to liberty comes baptized in her richest blood, and will be accepted by a faithful and free people as one of the crowning tributes to their matchless heroism and their sacrifices to preserve and perpetuate our common nationality.

(Signed) A. G. Curtin,
Governor of Pennsylvania.

Cairo, Jan. 12.

The steamer Niagara, from New Orleans on the 5th inst., has arrived with the 8th Newhaven Volunteers en route home, and 25 rebel prisoners; among them are five female smugglers, bound for Alton.

There was some inquiry for cotton at New Orleans, at low prices, but no sales. 110 bales had arrived from Matamoras via Havana.

Forrest is reported to be concentrating a large force at Paris, Tenn. A great number of his men are hovering around their homes in Tennessee and Kentucky, conscripting, robbing and murdering Union men.

Rumors prevail of a force being organized to attack Paducah again.

172 rebel officers, prisoners from Johnson's Island, arrived here en route to New Orleans for exchange.

The following further particulars of Grierson's recent raid are from a reliable source: They brought in 700 prisoners, including two colonels and a number of other officers, 1,000 able bodied negroes and 1,000 horses. They killed and wounded 150 men. Among the prisoners is Brig. Gen. Gholson.

A fortified place called Egypt on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad was carried by assault, the garrison of 500 rebels captured whilst Gen. Gardner was in sight, with 2,000 infantry which Gen. Grierson held at bay, while Col. Karge's brigade charged the stockade on horseback. The whole country was in arms by this time, and forces were brought from Macon, Ga. Hampered by the large number of prisoners, and opposed by greatly superior forces, Grierson could not go to Catawba to release our prisoners as directed by Gen. Dana, but struck for Grenada and then for Vicksburg.

Forty miles of the Mobile and Ohio R. R. are so badly damaged that Hood's whole army cannot repair it in months.

New pontoons, new waggons, and a large amount of supplies, en route to Hood, were destroyed in the cars. Besides the factories, a large amount of cloth, wool, leather and shoes were destroyed at Gainkston.

The railroad and public property was burned at Grenada, and 300 waggons and 500 new English carbines for Forrest, and a large quantity of ammunition.

Grierson's loss was 25 killed and 80 wounded.

The steamer Armada, from Evansville, reports Uniontown to be in possession of guerillas, who were firing into passing steamers.

New York, Jan. 12.

Richmond papers of Monday contain a telegram from Charleston, stating that a portion of Sherman's forces have occupied Grahamville, South Carolina, thirty-five miles north of Savannah.

A Charleston dispatch, dated the 6th instant, says the enemy crossed New River on the road to Grahamville on the 5th.

Richmond papers of the 9th say Price is still living.

Hood's official report of his defeat has been received. He puts as good a face upon it as possible, but acknowledges the loss of fifty guns in one day.

The Richmond Despatch says that, even according to his account, the battle of Nashville was a bad business. The Despatch thinks that Thomas will turn the head of his columns towards South-western Virginia.

The Examiner thinks this would be a stupendous undertaking, with but the faintest hope