THE G. T. R. E. ACCIDENT NEAR DANVILLE.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM A FRIGHTFUL TRAGEDY.

Danville, C.E., Feb. 18.

The Express train left Montreal for Quebec at two o'clock this morning—three hours behind time—reached Richmond at seven and proceeded immediately toQuebec. Two miles beyond Danville Station, and just after crossing the high bridge over the river Nicolet, the train ran off the track in consequence of a broken rail. The engine and tender remained on the track; the baggage car went off the track but did not go over the bank. There were but two passenger cars, one a second class car and the other a first class sleeping-car. The former went partially over the bank, but fortunately stuck fast in the slow. The sleeping car went clear over and rolled down the bank a depth of between thirty and forty feet. The berths were not yet made up; a portion of the passengers were yet in their berths and others standing about in the car. Among the passengers were the Hon. George Brown, Hugh Allan and family of Montreal; Mr. Rae and family of Quebec; Judge Armstrong of Ottawa; Mrs. John Macdonald of Toronto; James O'Reilly, Esq., Recorder of Kingston; Mr. Edwin Chaffey of Toronto; Alonzo Wright, M.P.P., of Ottawa, and many others. The car fell down the precipice with great crash, but strange to say, not one of the passengers was seriously injured. Three or four received bruises, but none of a serious character. Had the accident happened a few feet west, not a soul in the car would have been saved, as the Nicolet Bridge is fifty feet high, and there is neither parapet or break to avert or diminish the frightful crash that would have ensued. The passengers were taken back to Danville, and are stopping there now in expectation of a train from Quebec taking them on. The sleeping car is a complete wreck, and the other is much damaged. The track is broken up for a long distance, and will not be easily repaired. The track of the Grand Trunk, from Toronto to Quebec, is in a shocking condition. Unless the company can raise money to put it in repair, the payment of interest on the company's bonds should be stopped and the money applied to that purpose. Hardly a train passes from one end of the line to the other with some accident occurring.—Globe.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT ON MONDAY NIGHT, NEAR WATERLOO.—A Mixed Train got off the Track, near Waterloo, and the Engine and one of the Cars were seriously damaged. No other damage was sustained. The Engine was a new one, this being its first trip.

ARRIVAL OF THE SAXONIA..

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

CONFEDERATION APPROVED IN THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

CESSION OF MEXICAN PROVINCES DENIED IN FRANCE.

CONFEDERATE STEAM RAM AT SEA.

New York, Feb. 19.—The steamship Saxonia, from Southampton on the 8th, arrived this morning.

The Moravian arrived out on the 7th.

The Peruvian war corvettes, Union and American, had left England.

Parliament was opened on the 7th inst. by royal commission. The speech says that her Majesty remains steadfastly neutral between the contending parties in America, and would rejoice at a friendly reconciliation.

The Queen has had great satisfaction in giving her sanction to the conference meeting of the delegates in Canada, assembled at Quebec and the resolutions which were adopted for a closer union of these Provinces under a central government. It approved by the Provincial legislatures, a bill will be laid before Parliament for carrying this important measure into effect.

A Paris telegram says that news of the cession of Mexican territory to France is wholly unfounded. The Moniteur says that all the reports in reference to the cession, made to France by Mexico, of Sonora and other Provinces are absolute fabrications.

The Prussian government fixes the annual military contingent at eleven in every thousand. The marine minister requests authority to contract a nine million pounds sterling loan for the construction of a fleet.

In Italy the abolition of capital punishment is proposed. The King will visit Milan.

The eruption of Mount Etna continues regularly, but without damaging any of the villages.

News from Spain says the Epoca considers that Admiral Pereja ought to demand satisfaction for the Chilian attitude on the Peruvian question.

The ministry obtained a large majority in the election of committee members appointed by Congress to examine the forced loan bill.

The Phare de la Loire confirms the report that the steam ram Olinde, recently off the coast of France, is a Confederate cruiser. She was recognized as an iron-clad ram constructed at Bordeaux for Denmark. A large number of cases and barrels were transferred to her from an English steamer.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.

London, Tuesday evening, Feb. 7.—English funds continue to be unfavorably influenced by the number of new schemes daily introduced and those known to be in course of concoction, and consols declined to 89½ to 89¾. Discount demand at the bank was heavy, and in the stock exchange also advances were in increased request at only a fraction below the bank rate.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Liverpool, Feb. 6.—There has been an extensive demand for cotton to-day, and the sales exceed 15,000 bales; prices ⅛d higher por lb. than on Saturday. Feb. 7—market quiter; sales 8 000 bales; prices unchanged.

Liverpool, Feb. 7.—Wheat dull and 1 to 2d lower. Flour declined 6d per barrel. Indian corn neglected.

London, Feb. 6.—Markets firm at firmer prices; sugar steady; tea heavy; coffee steady; rice unchanged.

ARRIVAL OF THE NOVA SCOTIAN.

Portland, Feb. 21.—The steamship Nova Scotian, from Liverpool on the 8th, and Queenstown on the 10th inst., arrived at this port this morning. The dates per the Nova Scotian are two days later than those already received.

The steamship City of Baltimore, from New York arrived at Liverpool on the 9th.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times insinuates that pending the recognition of the Emperor Maximilian by President Lincoln, that France remains without a Minister at Washington.

FALL OF CHARLESTON.—The grand old city, which has so long withstood all attacks made upon it by the Federal fleet, has at length been evacuated. This was expected for some time. The new military policy of the Southern leaders embraced the evacuation of Charleston; for, in view of the capture of Savannah and the closing up of the port of Wilmington, its possession was of no use to the Confederates. The great struggle yet to come off on behalf of Southern independence is to be made elsewhere—in Virginia in all probability. It is to this struggle the Southern Government is devoting all its means and energies. A short time must develop its plans. The New York World says Lee is beyond all doubt concentrating to play a desperate game; and referring to Mr Benjamin's "cry for negro help," remarks:—"What we have been exulting over as confessions of rebel weakness and prostration, may prove to have been an effort of rebel cunning;—the deceitful torpor of the serpent as he coils up his length, not to sleep, but to strike!"—Leader.

THE ST. ALBANS' RAIDERS.—The St. Albans' raid case was resumed on Monday before Judge Smith. Mr. Kerr for the prisoner, spoke at length in opposition to the demand for extradition, assailing the Upper Canada judges for their decision in the Burley case. He was followed by Mr. Laflamme on the same side. The court adjourned before he had finished his argument.

THE LATEST ALARM.—The Raiders did not come and carry away Kingston on Monday night, as was expected, for when the Editor came to town, there stood the city as usual. It seems to us to have been a very idle alarm. The Royal Artillery, the R. C. Rifles, the 14th Regiment of Volunteer Militia and a strong Police Force,—are not these enough to protect any place? And if not, is there not Sergt. Major Franks' Troop of Mounted Dragoons? To be serious, what does all this mean?—Guards were posted at the Penitentiary, at the Common Jail, and at other places on Monday night, and are to be continued until further orders. This would not have been done without cause and warrant. There must be something to dread, and yet what is it? It is scarcely possible to believe that any attempt of lawless men can be entertained against Kingston, so well prepared as the city is against assault. We have no desire to turn precaution into ridicule, and yet the whole affair seems to us incomprehensible and slightly ridiculous. Some day or other we shall know. Might it not be as well to tell us now. To frighten a man to death is as much murder as to knock him on the head. During the troubles of 1837 and 1838, the same alarms used to be frequent, but then all knew whence they proceeded. The Sympathisers on the other side were numerous and daring, they might come at any moment, and there was cause for alarm. But now, where are the Raiders? Where can they come from? They can't come from the Moon—still that is the most probable place. The United States Authorities are as anxious to prevent Raids into Canada as the Canadian Authorities to hinder those into the United States, and really and truly, the whole thing is incomprehensible! Our opinion is that there is more danger of Raids from the numerous Bounty Jumpers, Roughs and idle Strangers stopping the winter in Kingston without apparent means of livelihood, than from anything or anybody coming from the other side. Let some of these fellows get the present benefit of the Alien Act.

THE CONFEDERATION IN THE UPPER HOUSE.—The Legislative Council on Monday night passed the Confederation scheme by a vote of forty-five to fifteen, or exactly three to one. The majority, of course, includes a large majority from each section of the Province. Those who predicted a strong opposition to Confederation in the Upper House find themselves much mistaken.

UNITED STATES ITEMS.

THE FALL OF COLUMBIA.

CAPTURE OF COLUMBIA CONFIRMED.

THE EVACUATION OF CHARLESTON.

REPORTED REINFORCEMENT OF BEAUREGARD AND FALL OF WILMINGTON.

RUMORED INTENDED EVACUATION OF RICHMOND.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS GOING ON.

THE EVACUATION OF CHARLESTON CONFIRMED.

Columbia has fallen. Sherman marched in and took possesion of the city on Friday morning.

Columbia is situated on the north bank of the Congaree river, just below the confluence of the Paluda and Broad rivers.

From Gen. Beauregard's despatch, it appears that on Thursday evening the enemy approached the south bank of the Congaree, and threw a number of shells into the city. During the night they moved up the river, and yesterday morning forded the Paluda and Broad rivers. Whilst they were crossing these rivers, our troops, under General Beauregard, evacuated Columbia. The enemy soon after took possession.

Through private sources we learn that two days ago, when it was decided not to attempt the defence of Columbia, a large quantity of medical stores, which it was thought it was impossible to remove, were destroyed.

The female employees of the Treasury Department had been previously sent off to Charlotte, N. C.

We presume the Treasury lithographer's establishment was removed, although as to this we have no positive information.

The fall of Columbia necessitates, we presume, the evacuation of Charleston, which we think it is likely is already in process of evacuation.

It is impossible to say where Sherman will next direct his columns. The general opinion is that he will go to Charleston and establish a base there, but we confess we do not see what need he has of a base. It is to be presumed he is subsisting on the country, and he has had no battle to exhaust his ammunition.

Before leaving Savannah he declared his intention to march to Columbia, thence to Augusta, and thence to Charleston. This was uttered as a boast and to hide his design.

We are disposed to believe that he will next strike at Charlotte, which is a hundred miles north of Columbia on the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad, or at Florence, S. C., the junction of the Columbia and Wilmington and the Charleston and Wilmington Railroads some 90 miles east of Columbia.

New York, Feb. 20.

The Richmond Whig's East Tennessee correspondent says many rebel soldiers are falling into the hands of the enemy's scouts; 67 North Carolina home guards were recently captured near Taylorsville. No resistance was made. The rebel reserve forces along the mountains, the correspondent says, do not seem to amount, to much as they are continually gobbled up. Much dissatisfaction exists among the grain growing stockholders at the order conscripting so many of their negroes for the service, and it seems cruel to demand the few slaves left out of the vast number they held two years since. Since this demand was made, at least three quarters of the negroes have gone over to the enemy. Farmers are now without means of cultivating their farms. The enforcement of the conscription act in East Tennessee placed 10,000 fighting men in the ranks of the Federal army who would otherwise have been at home good citizens.—Probably 2,000 men were dragged into the confederate service who have generally proved a nuisance to the government. The negroes daily running away will come back in a short time, armed, and in the enemy's ranks. This is the policy of our weak and silly Congress. To have armed the negro should have been the policy of the government two years since.

City Point, Feb 20.—The following paragraphs are extracted from the Richmond papers of to-day:—

We now know that Charleston was evacuated on Tuesday last, and that on Friday the enemy took possession of Columbia.

It is reported that our forces under General Beauregard are moving in the direction of Charlotte.

Official intelligence was received at the War Office last night that Sherman was on yesterday morning advancing towards and was near Winnsboro point on the railroad leading to Charlotte, and thirty miles north of Columbia.

New York, Feb. 21.

The World prints the following rumors in circulation here:—Telegrams from Washington to private parties in the city state that Lee has sent 30,000 men to reinforce Beauregard and enable him to check the advance of Sherman. That Grant is already aware of this fact and that the army of the Potomac is once more in motion. It is also stated that Sheridan is advancing in heavy force with Gordonsville or Lynchburg as the objective points. If it is true that Lee has moved his troops south, it is because Lee has considered safety of North and South Carolina of far more importance than even the possession of Richmond and the occupation of Virginia. It was also positively asserted that Wilmington was in our possession, having been evacuated by the rebels.

The Herald's correspondent says a party of Sheridan's cavalry, consisting of 125 men of the 14th Pennsylvania, went up the valley of the Shenandoah the other day on a scouting expedition, and while on their return fell into an ambuscade prepared by Mosby's men. A desperate fight ensued, but the guerillas were so numerous and so strongly posted that our cavalry were roughly handled, and only made good their retreat after losing a number of killed and wounded, and sixty taken prisoners.

The naval supply steamer Fort Morgan has arrived here. She brings army and navy officers and nearly 500 discharged and invalid soldiers and sailors, and the mails from the East and West Gulf squadrons, both of which she communicated with at various points, having proceeded as far west as the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The Herald's Washington special says:—There are again strong indications that Gen. Lee is preparing to evacuate Richmond, and fall back on Lynchburg for a final stand.

Advices received in Washington state positively that nearly all the valuable machinery and medical stores have already been removed from the rebel capital, and it is anticipated that the abandonment will occur within 10 or 15 days.

The Herald's correspondent says: The exchange of prisoners under new arrangements perfected between Gen. Grant and Commissioner Ould is progressing rapidly, and the steamers are now busily employed carrying released Union soldiers to Annapolis, Md., and carrying return loads of rebels.

New York, Feb. 21.—10 a.m.—The steamship Fulton, Captain Fulton, from Port Royal and Charleston bar, 18th, at 6 p. m., arrived this morning. Purser Tom. McManus furnishes us with the following memorandum: Charleston was evacuated by the enemy on the night of the 17th, leaving the several fortifications uninjured, besides 200 guns which they spiked. The evacuation was first discovered at Fort Moultrie in the morning at 10 a.m. Part of the troops stationed at James Island crossed over in boats, and took possession of the city without opposition. The Upper part of the city is on fire.

Previous to the enemy's evacuating they fired the upper part of the city by which 6,000 bales of cotton were burned, and it is supposed that before the fire could be subdued two-thirds of the city will be destroyed. A fearful explosion occured in the Wilmington depot, cause unknown, by which several hundred citizens lost their lives.

The Richmond Sentinel of the 15th has an article which says: Submission will not bring peace nor inaugurate a truce. The rebels will take to the bush and carry on a guerilla warefare. It is very severe on submissionists who appear still to exist notwithstanding the late 'firing' of the Southern heart.

The Petersburg Express says:—We learn that a Yankee force numbering about five hundred have again occupied Suffolk, and their pickets extend about three miles from the town in the direction of Blackwater. A raiding party went out from Suffolk some days ago, and visited Chuckatuck and Smithfield, doing considerable damage to the country through which they passed. It is not known for what purpose this advance is made. By the Richmond Enquirer's showing the rebel paper dollar is worth just two cents specie.

Wheeling, Va, Feb. 21.—A party of rebel cavalry dashed into Cumberland before daylight this morning, surprised and captured the pickets, and carried off Generals Cook and Kelly. It seems to have been a very daring and well-planned affair. Cavalry has been sent in pursuit.

The U. S. Government received last month by Internal Revenue, $36,178,527.

STOPPAGE OF THE 'PERSONALS' IN THE NEW YORK 'NEWS.'—Alluding to the order issued by the Federal authorities to the New York News to suspend for the present the publication of 'Personals' in that paper, the Richmond Enquirer of the 8th thus dilates:—There has never been a cipher personal, with our knowledge, published in the Enquirer, but we have strictly confined the privilege of such advertisements to its legitimate end—that of humanity. It has been the vehicle of communication for the sorrowing and afflicted, and never permitted with our knowledge to be used for or against either government. It is just as easy to write a cipher letter by flag of truce as to publish one in this newspapers And so far as detection goes, the flag of truce letter presents the surest way to escape detection; that is read but by two clerks—one at Fortress Monroe and the other in Richmond, while the published letter is open to the inspection of millions. The remarks in the News as to using the Herald or Tribune for the purposes of information is strictly true. We will inform the News of instances, now past, where the help column of the Herald was of eminent service: The expedition for the relief of the prisoners on Johnson's Island was planned, organized and arranged through the help column of the Herald, and that for the capture of the Chesapeake was also planned through the same medium of communication. The privilege of advertising in behalf of humanity which the columns of the News, protected that paper from any advertisements which communicated information. This last and little act of despotism may inflict some pecuniary loss upon the News at the expense of unnecessary sorrow and affliction to innocent persons but it will not close the great channel of communication offered by the Herald to all who choose to pay for them. The Herald has reaped more of the reward of treason, and given more aid and comfort to the enemy of its country, than any ten papers in the United States. We suggest to the Herald to employ General Scott to take and administer the oath to every person offering an advertisement as the only way to choke off the Confederate allies in New York, Cincinnati, Chicago and other places in the United States. For the present it is useless for persons to send personals to the Enquirer. Should any paper in the United States obtain permission to renew this mode of correspondence, we shall be glad to renew it.

HENRY S. FOOTE GOING TO EUROPE.—The New York Times states that Mr. H S. Foote, late member of the rebel Congress, and who came through our lines in the Shenandoah Valley, left on Saturday in the City of Cork for Liverpool. He was sent here under guard from Gen. Sherman's command, to report to Maj-Gen. Dix, and was most of the time during his sojourn in this city the guest of Col. Wm. H. Ludlow, of Gen. Dix's staff. It is understood that the alternative was presented by our authorities to Mr. Foote of returning to Richmond, or of going abroad, and he chose the latter. Mr. Foote represents the Confederacy to be on the eve of disruption and that the struggle on the part of the rebels is nearly over. High military authorities in Richmond admit that the capture of Branchville must compel the evacuation of Charleston, Wilmington and even of Richmond itself. Departure battles would probably be fought before this latter evacuation takes place; but if Grant and Sherman were successful in them, Lee, with his army, would fall back to Lynchburg, and there endeavor to make a stand. His army would in such case become demoralized, could not be held together and could not be supplied.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND MORE.—The New York Times of Wednesday last says: "Lieut. Gen. Grant, in his recent visit to Washington, did not hesitate to say publicly that if a hundred thousand more men were given him, he would, within three months, wipe out all that is left of the rebellion. Our highest military authority thus confirms what was already believed not only by the Administration, but by all civilians best acquainted with the actual condition of the South. This fact ought now to take its place in the public mind as something settled."

Another hundred thousand for the slaughter! This remark of General Grant comes very opportunely to relieve the public mind anent the pending draft. But Grant may prove as bad a prophet as his predecessors. Rather do we feel inclined to say with the World—"There is a long war before us yet."

The draft was to have taken place on the 15th in New York, but the Government gives no sign of moving in the matter. Why the hesitancy?

Weekly British Whig

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB'Y 23, 1865.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

W. N. & Co., Montreal; W. F., Quebec

QUEBEC CORRESPONDENCE OF THE BRITISH WHIG.

LETTER IX.

Quebec, Feb. 20th, 1865.

MR. WHIG,—

The Resolutions for Confederation have just been passed by the Upper House, by the triumphant majority of three to one—45 to 15! When you consider that this vote has occurred in a House which knows that it is signing its own death warrant, it shows how deeply the interests of the country have been considered in preference to private interests. Some of the men who voted for the Resolutions paid out a thousand pounds to obtain their seats in the Council, in the belief that it would give an eight years term and yet they voted the great privilege away, preferring to do what is right, and leaving the selection of the 48 members of the future Legislative Council to the Crown.

There was very little debate when the final vote was made. I was in the gallery at the time and watched the motions very attentively. Messrs. Aikins and Flint were in favor of delay and spoke some time arguing the point, but their arguments were rebutted by Messrs. Belleau, Blake and others. Mr. Reesor then wanted to affix a rider to the main motion, by adding a proviso that His Excellency be requested not to transmit the address to Her Majesty till it shall have been approved by the qualified electors of the Province; and then a short debate ensued as to the rider's being in order; which being affirmed, Mr. Reesor spoke for a long time in support of it, but yet on a division the amendment was lost—yeas, 1; nays, 37. The case being now hopeless, after a few more members had uttered their sentiments, the question was put and the Resolutions were declared carried. There was some manifestation of feeling exhibited, both in the Council and its gallery, but it was quietly repressed.

In the House to-day, before M. Joly began his speech, (he is speaking still) there was quite an exciting debate about the Amalgamation of the Grand Trunk and Port Huron Railways. Not being an Irish Bird, I could not be in two places at once, and being in the Legislative Council, could not listen to what was said in the other Chamber. A brother chip, however, has kindly furnished me with the heads of what was said. The gist of the matter is simply this. The Lake Huron Railway being in difficulties, the Grand Trunk stepped forward to absorb it, as it has absorbed other railways. This the Great Western resolutely opposes, and hence the split among the Western Members; some taking part with the Great Western and others with the Grand Trunk. Mr. Wood's Bill is to make legal the arrangement made between the Lake Huron and Grand Trunk Companies. Mr. McKellar, Dr. Bown, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. McGivern, Mr. Scatcherd and Mr. Dickson, a goodly array of talent and strength, are all deadly opposed to Amalgamation, tho' what they have to do with it, is best known to themselves. Mr. Wood, on the other side, has the support of members away from the locality, and among others, that of Mr. M. C. Cameron. I was fortunately in the Speaker's Gallery, seeking some one there, and overheard what he said in support of the Bill. It seemed to him that the circumstances of the Grand Trunk being interested in this Bill, raised objections to it which might not otherwise have been taken, but it was scarcely fair to the Buffalo and Lake Huron that it should be deprived of any advantage to which it might be entitled, because it happened to be connected with the Grand Trunk. There were arrangements in this agreement with reference to bondholders which had been allowed in other railway transactions. Why they should not be allowed in this case, he was at a loss to see. The monopoly so much objected to, and the political influence which might thus be exercised, could just as easily be obtained by running arrangements which the two companies were entitled to make, as they could be by an absolute purchase of one like by the other. He should be very sorry to see the Great Western absorbed in the Grand Trunk, and would have been just as well pleased had this agreement between the Grand Trunk and Buffalo not been entered into, but as those interested in the indebtedness of the Buffalo Company desired this union to take place, he did not see why the second reading should not be allowed, so as to permit a full and fair examination of the whole question in the Railway Committee. When Mr. M. C. Cameron had got through what he had to say, it was six o'clock, and the Recess took place. Afterwards the Debate on the Resolutions was called on, and Mr. Joly commenced speaking, so Mr. Wood's Bill was postponed. I think it will ultimately carry, but not immediately, as some necessary papers have been moved for and must be had to make the House thoroughly understand the subject. When I first heard of this Bill, I thought it a Job of Mr. Wood, but I find myself mistaken and recall my words. It is a measure that should pass.

AN OBSERVER.

P.S.—I am sure you will be pleased to learn that your good friend, Mr. James O'Reilly, the Recorder, was received here with open arms and cordially congratulated on his most miraculous escape. It showed how deeply his loss would have been felt. And indeed so were Mr. George Brown and the other gentlemen who escaped, also sympathized with and congratulated. The death of Mr. George Brown would have proved a public calamity indeed.

THE COUNTY TREASURER.

The British American again courts the vile slander of every unprincipled scribbler who offers his services in defaming the County Treasurer, as witness the article signed "Harrowsmith" in one of its late issues.

We have taken some pains at the Treasurer's Office to find out the real facts of the case referred to, and it turns out that the County Council passed a By-Law appropriating some four thousand dollars for the improvement of the various Roads and Bridges in the United Counties, to be paid for by order of the Reeves interested in the several Works, on the County Treasurer, out of the Taxes of the current year. Now, although Mr. S——t, or "Harrowsmith," as he calls himself, knew, or ought to have known, that he could not get any money on an order improperly given before the Assessment of the Township of Portland was paid up, and altho' the order in question was only presented once, and that by the Sheriff, about a year ago, who took it in part payment of an execution from Mr. S——t, and was peremptorily refused payment by the Treasurer himself, on the ground that the Township for which the order was given had not then paid up its taxes; nor has it yet done so, although 14 months past due, yet Mr. S——t insinuates that through the fault of the County Treasurer the order was not paid. Had Mr. S——t chosen to act honestly and tell the whole truth of the transaction, this notice might have been spared.

It is too true, that the Treasurer has, through defaulting Municipalities, been hard pressed to meet the legitimate demands against the Counties throughout the past year, as both the past and present Wardens can bear testimony to; and it is a poor return he has received, for bringing the Counties out of the many financial difficulties that surrounded them, through outstanding debts and debentures maturing, and for the meeting of which no means adequate were placed at his disposal by the late United County Council, although the matter had been repeatedly represented to them. It is a gratuitous piece of impertinence on the part of "Harrowsmith" or Mr. S——t to reflect on the Treasurer's being in Quebec when he has left a most competent and trustworthy Deputy in his Office, in every respect qualified to perform the duties connected therewith, and when he is at Quebec by the vote and good will of a majority of the Electors of Frontenac, attending, at much personal sacrifice, to their interests. We look upon these repeated attacks upon the County Treasurer as manifesting a spirit unequalled for malignity, happily not often witnessed in Canada, where party spirit runs high, but where respect is always paid to personal worth.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Quebec, Feb. 21.

The Speaker laid on the table returns of marriages, baptisms and burials in the counties of Chateauguay and Soulanges during 1864.

Mr. Flint, from a select committee, reported the Bill to encourage the planting of ornamental trees on the public highways of the Province, with several amendments, which were ordered to be printed and considered on Friday next.

Mr. Bull, also from a select committee, reported the Bill to provide for the obtaining of statistical returns from Insurance Companies, with a number of amendments.

Mr. Olivier moved the second reading of the Bill for the protection of settlers in certain cases in Lower Canada. He explained the provisions of the Bill, which, although it had several times passed the other House by large majorities, had as often been rejected by the Council. It was demanded by the people of Lower Canada, and, as he contended, its provisions were just, it should receive the approbation of the House.

Mr. Boulton moved the six months' hoist. This was the sixth time he had moved to throw out this Bill, and had hoped some other member would have done it on this occasion, but as no one had risen for that purpose, he had felt it his duty to offer the amendment because he believed the Bill to be pernicious in its principles and influence.

Mr. Bureau supported the Bill contending that it was necessary for the protection of the poor settlers. A large majority of the other House was in favour of the Bill, including the Attorney General East, and he trusted members from Upper Canada would not interfere to prevent this measure of Justice being done.

Mr. Mathieson thought the advocates of this Bill might wait now till the Confederation scheme was carried. They would then have their Local Legislature in Lower Canada, which could deal with the questions as it pleased.

Mr. DeBeaujeu spoke against the Bill. He feared Seigniorial rights would be effected by it.

Mr. Bureau expressed his willingness that a clause should be inserted fully protecting the rights of seigniors.

Mr. Currie said he would not stand in the way of the Bill if it was desired by a majority of the members from Lower Canada.

Mr. McCrea opposed the Bill, and contended that it contained many objectionable provisions.

Mr. Reesor supported the Bill.

Mr. Price opposed it, and said it had already done harm, squatters refusing to come to any terms with proprietors in the hope of its early passage.

The amendment was carried; yeas 34; nays 24.

FURTHER BY THE NOVA SCOTIAN.

THE REFUSAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE MAXIMILIAN.

FRANCE WILL NOT SEND AN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON.

The Times' Paris correspondent says: When the French Minister, Count Mercier, was recalled from Washington, the Americans were led to understand that no new agent would be accredited until President Lincoln should have recognized the Emperor of Mexico. This recognition has not been forthcoming, and there is no French Minister at Washington.

The writer adds:—It is believed that Mr. Bigelow will continue to act as United States Charge d' Affaire in Paris for some time.

In the House of Commons on the 8th, Sir W. J. Elphinstone expressed regret at the absence in the Queen's Speech of any allusion to the state of the public service. He said our relations with America were not in a satisfactory state, and in the event of war England was not in a position to afford adequate protection to her commerce. He intended at an early day to call attention to the state of the navy.

In bringing up the report on the address, Mr. Scully moved an amendment declaring that the state of Ireland was not satisfactory, and the abundance of emigration from there was an exceedingly bad feature.

After debate the amendment was rejected.

It is reported that Federal agents have been engaging miners in Wales to proceed to America ostensibly as miners, but really for the Federal service. The first batch sailed per the City of Boston, but nothing could be ascertained to justify police interference.

A great and influencial meeting, for the repeal of the malt tax held in London.

FRANCE.—Political news unimportant.

The Paris Bourse was steady on the 9th inst. at 67f 20c for the Rentes.

SPAIN.—Porto Rico advices via Madrid say that a party hostile to Spain were again agitating that country, and that some political agents from the United States had been arrested and were expelled by the authorities.

AUSTRIA.—The Austrian Ministers of Police declared at a sitting of their finance committee that at the end of February, all the Poles confined in Austrian towns would be released and provided with 25 florins each for the expenses of a journey out of Austria.

PRUSSIA.—In the Chamber of Deputies the Minister of War has introduced a Bill altering the law of September, 1814, in regard to the obligation to perform military service in Prussia.

The Minister of War said he hoped that the wish of the country for reconciliation between the Diet and the Government might find an echo in the House.

The Government, although maintaining its projects for the re-organization of the army, was willing to renounce the execution of the original scheme in its full extent.

A Berlin telegram says that the new Military Bill makes no concession. A majority of the Deputies will simply express regret that such a Bill has been introduced.

A reconciliation between the Chamber and the Government is considered impossible.

LONDON MONEY MARKETS.—Funds drooping, mainly owing to realizations and the daily introduction of new companies.

There was heavy demand for discount at the Bank on the 8th and some pressure in the open market. Apprehensions are felt that money may soon again become dearer.

The Times says: It can hardly be doubted that the bearing of both the British and Canadian Governments will convince the Americans that they have no cause of offence, and that a policy of retaliation will be as unjust as it it is unwise.

Liverpool, Feb. 11, Evening.—It is rumoured that the British Admiralty contemplates the reduction of the coast guard service, owing to the policy of disarmament among the continental Governments.

Hon. L. Stanley, son of Lord Stanley of Alderly, addressed a large gathering of the friends of the Freedmen's Aid Society of Manchester, last evening, founding his remarks on the impressions and information acquired during a recent visit to America; and he expressed a hearty admiration of the anti slavery movement of the North, and dwelt upon the favourable results which may be expected to flow from the American war in relation to the principle of emancipation. He earnestly hoped that the South might be subjugated and saved from a triumph which would only lead to their own destruction.

The Spanish Government is said to have resolved to prohibit the publication of the Pope's encyclical in Spain. Bishops who had published it were not to be prosecuted.

CANADIAN ITEMS.

CONFEDERATION.—The Halifax Unionist states that private advices from reliable sources bring the welcome intelligence that the Newfoundland Legislature will in all probability adopt the report of the Quebec Conference, and go into the proposed Confederation. Dr. Mullock, the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Province, following the example of the Archbishop of Halifax, has written a letter favoring the scheme. This disposes of the question with regard to Newfoundland, as the only opposition anticipated was expected from the Catholic clergy.

THE RAIDERS.—The counsel for the St. Albans' raiders, apparently dreading their extradition for robbery, have, in the evidences adduced to prove them belligerents, taken pains to show that our neutrality laws have been set at defiance by these and other refugees. All evidence tending to criminate Mr C. C. Clay, jr., was carefully kept back till he was safely out of the Provinces, and now he is made the scapegoat for the offences of the young men in custody. Who represents the Confederate Government here now is not generally known. Mr. Sanders professes himself innocent of all warlike intentions. He is for peace, while his companions are for war. A few months ago he is reported to have said to Mr. De Sala that the Confederates would within three months commit deeds which would make European civilization shudder. The Alien Act has probably had the effect of taming down some of the refugees.

SMALL POX AT KINGSVILLE.—Small-pox has broken out with considerable virulence in the village of Kingsville, Essex. No less than fourteen severe cases have occurred within a few days. The mode in which this loathsome disease is communicated is often almost inscrutable, and it would be well for those who have hitherto neglected the precaution of vaccination on to see to it without delay. Kingsville is well situated on Pigeon Bay, Lake Erie, and there is nothing of a special nature to indicate it as a likely seat for the disease.—New York is just now half terrified by the number of cases occurring in it, and those warnings should not be lost upon the thoughtful.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT.—Part one of the second annual collection of miscellaneous statistics of Canada for 1864 was laid on the table on Saturday. Mr. Langton Auditor General, prefaces it with some remarks. With reference to banks, he says that during the year 1864 the authorized banking capital was increased by about ten million dollars, of which nearly three millions of dollars has been paid up. The notes in circulation decreased $216,000; coin and bullion decreased $1,173,000; and Government securities held have increased $923,000; cash deposits have increased $2,477,000; and notes discounted $2,440,000. Depositers in saving's banks have increased by 1,144, or ten per cent. deposits by about $210,000, or twelve per cent. Every savings bank, without exception, exhibits progress. These banks held $836,000 in municipal and water works debentures; $371,000 in bank stocks; $555,000 in notes secured by collaterals; and only $202,000 in Government bonds. Notes secured by collaterals was the favourite investment last year. The Auditor General suggests the propriety of giving greater facilities for obtaining Government currency debentures. An increase in the number of depositors and amount deposited in the saving's branches of the building societies is also noted. Permanent building societies are also stated to be more in favour than terminable; moneys in the funds of these societies amounted to $3,232,000 in 1864. The investment is almost exclusively in mortgages.—Legislation to compel full returns from these societies is urged. None of the fire and life insurance companies have made returns in the forms furnished them except the Royal. The returns of the Montreal fire insurance companies are highly commended, but one having failed to make a return. The total amount of property covered by insurance in Upper Canada is $36,639,000, consisting of 51,651 separate risks. New risks taken during the year exceeded the expired risks by 8,531.—The amount of losses adjusted during the year was $76,000; not adjusted $7,000.—Globe's Correspondent.

LATE FROM MONTREAL.

Montreal, Feb. 20.

It is said the officials on the train with the six soldiers have been suspended. The 60th Regiment has lost about 50 men by desertion.

This evening, after the Court adjourned, a number of Southerners were at the St. Lawrence Hall bar. A young Canadian entered and made some remarks. The Southerners turned upon him. One of them defended the Canadian, when a bowie knife and revolver were drawn by the Confederates; others came to the rescue of the Canadian, and the police appeared before any blow was struck. This is the second row of the kind lately had. If one of the Southerners had not interfered, it would have been serious. There is great excitement about it.

The safe of Archer, Labelle & Co. was broken open, and $119 in silver and a cheque for $200 taken.

There was a fire in Griffintown to-day. Had it not been for the prompt action of the fire firemen, it might have been very disastrous a mongst wooden houses.

At the second inquest held at the tollgate, St. Martine, a verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

LATE FROM QUEBEC.

Quebec, Feb. 21.

The attention of the Government was called to the fact that the Bill involved the release of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway as surety for the indebtedness of municipalities to the Municipal Loan Fund. Between the two Amalgamation Bills before the House—the Buffalo and Lake Huron and the Ottawa and Prescott—the security of the railways is withdrawn from £1,300,000 of debt. If the Government of the country assent to this it will furnish ground for a demand for the municipalities to be relieved altogether. What will their local assets be worth to Upper Canada after Confederation unless the railway security is retained therefor? Perhaps the most disastrous result of amalgamation is that all the great outlets of the country are monopolized. Sarnia Goderich, Fort Erie, Prescott, Kingston, Rouse's Point, Portland and Quebec will be controlled by the Grand Trunk, thus placing shippers completely at their mercy. The Bill will probably be read a second time, and defeated at a subsequent stage. In the Railway Committee to-day, Mr. Clarke, counsel for the town of Prescott, was heard against the Ottawa and Prescott amalgamation with the Grand Trunk.

St. John, New Brunswick, papers to the 16th instant arrived to-day. A successful public meeting was held there on the 14th, addressed by Messrs. Gray and Tilley on Confederation. The nominations had been appointed as to Iowa:—St. John's city and county, 27th February; King's county, 8th of March; Charlotte county, 10th of March.

The St. John News says the chances seem to run strongly in favor of the Confederation party succeeding.

A return brought down shows that no tariff of rates has been submitted by the Grand Trunk for the approval of the Government, as by law required, since 1854.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

C. C. C.

The Concert of the Curling Club came off on Tuesday Evening in the City Hall with great eclat. Nearly every Curler in Kingston, together with the ladies of his family, made a point to be present. The House was not a crowded one, but a very good one, considering the high price of admission.

The performances of the Band of the R. C. Rifles demand the first notice. It is one thing to hear a military band play Marches, Quadrilles, &c., and quite another thing to hear it perform classical music, such as was given on Tuesday evening. Under the able direction of Mr. Carey, the Band played delightfully. A Pot-Pourri, in which solos occurred for the Cornet, Opheclide, Piccolo, and Clarionet, was beautiful beyond description; and a selection from the Opera of 'Don Giovanni' was given with equal excellence. The playing of the Cornet a Piston was perfection, and the performer could demand the highest salary in the leading orchestras in Europe.

Miss Hartley, who accompanied several of the vocalists, played a Solo on the Harp and another on the Piano Forte. She was rapturously applauded and encored on both occasions, but she simply bowed her thanks and declined the compliment. Mr. J. P. Gildersleeve sang in good taste, accompanied by Miss Stacy, 'England, the Home of the Free,' and was encored. Mr. W. Craig sang a couple of Songs very prettily, the last—'Home of my Childhood,' accompanied on the Harp by Miss Hartley. A very pleasing Solo on the Violin (one of De Beriot's), charmingly played by Mr George Roche, constituted one of the delights of the evening. It was re-demanded, and the performer substituted the 'Leonora Air' from 'Il Trovatore.' Two sons of Mr. A M. Brown, mere children, executed very nicely the duet of 'The Vacant Chair,' and afforded much pleasure to their numerous admirers. Mr. R. W. Barker sang with his usual excellence, the well known National Melody,

'The Flag that's braved a Thousand Years
The Battle and the Breeze,'

And was loudly called for, tho' he declined to comply with the call. And later in the evening he