The killing of the Assassin Booth is but a poor retribution of the murder of poor President Lincoln. That Booth could escape with life on this continent was an impossibility. Sooner or later he must have been taken, though it was not conjectured that he would be killed in the act of capture. It was too good a death for such a man. The habits of modern society prevent anything like torture to criminals, but were such a thing tolerated in any case, that case would have been that of the Assassin of President Lincoln! The assassins of Henry III. and Henry IV., and he who attempted the life of Louis XV., all perished amid the severest tortures the human mind could suggest. John Wilkes Booth died the death of the happy—compared with them.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

We find in the Montreal Gazette another description of President Johnson, more favorable to that potentate:—

ANDREW JOHNSON,

Who by the murder of President Lincoln, has become the Chief Magistrate of the United States, is one of the most remarkable men of the age. Born in North Carolina of humble parents, who unable to educate him, he was apprenticed to the tailor's trade, of which, to his honor be it said, he has never been ashamed. In early manhood he emigrated to Greenville, East Tennessee, and there plyed his trade for a few years.

Endowed by the Creator with the highest order of talent—his soul thirsted after knowledge—by listening to the reading of political editorials and congressional speeches, and hearing the political discussions of the day, he became embued with the political doctrines enunciated by Jefferson, and an earnest advocate of the tenets of the Democratic faith. His powerful mind grasped and analyzed every argument he heard, and his memory quickened by the want of education, retained with astonishing accuracy facts, dates and figures. Before reaching the age of manhood he married an educated lady, who with pride and pleasure, undertook the task of teaching the willing and apt scholar and future statesman, rudiments of the English language at night after his daily toil was ended.

He easily and rapidly acquired the art of reading and writing, thus opening the whole field of literature and politics to his ambitious mind. He lost no time, let no opportunity pass—but steadily and persistently stored his mind with political theories and facts to be used in the brilliant future of his destiny.

The first step upon the political ladder was his nomination and election by the Democratic party of Green county to the legislature of Tennessee. Young in politics he conducted himself with becoming modesty, yet the few efforts he made in debate marked him as a man of promise, whose ability the future would develope. His constituents, proud of his services in their behalf, soon elevated him to a seat in the Senate of Tennessee, when he became the acknowledged leader and exponent of the principles and tenets of the Democratic party.

He remained but a short time in the Senate until he was again elevated by his election as a member of the United States Congress. In that body the full powers of the man first began to develope themselves.—Temperate, studious and methodical, he made himself thoroughly acquainted with every subject and matter that was brought before the house for action. Thus prepared his fluency of language and readiness in discussion made him one of the most powerful debaters in that Assembly, in fact one of the principal leaders of his party. But the full powers of this wonderful man of the people were not fully developed until his contest for the gubernatorial chair of the State of Tennessee.

The Whig party then dominant in the State selected for their candidate one of the most accomplished gentlemen and gifted orators in the country, Gustavus A. Henry, now Confederate Senator from Tennessee. The Democratic party nominated Andrew Johnson, and well and nobly did he repay their confidence. The plain and simple language, lucid and powerful arguments, and burning eloquence of Johnson drew the people to him irresistably.

The result of the contest, memorable for the ability and eloquence displayed by the champions, was the defeat of the "Eagle orator" and triumphant election of Johnson to be Chief magistrate of Tennessee. He was again elected over a gentleman, the Hon. P. Gentry, equally as gifted as his last competitor. As Presidential elector he sustained himself with unsurpassed ability. From the gubernatorial chair he was elevated to a seat in the United States Senate. In that body he maintained the high character he had already acquired. He was nominated as a candidate for Vice-President upon the Republican ticket, headed by President Lincoln, elected and installed. The decree of fate has elevated him to the Presidential chair.

Gifted with talents of the highest order—a mind stored with the sage councils of the fathers of our country—a courage that has never even daunted—a will that never yields except to the logic of reason. With these high qualities and brilliant antecedents, may the overruling Province guide him on that path which leads to the re-establishment of peace and harmony to our distressed and bleeding country. Then his name will be handed down to future generations in immortal fame.

A TREAT FOR THE LOVERS OF PURE MUSIC.—Mr. Max Strakosch informs us that he purposes visiting this city in May, and he brings with him Mdlle. Helene DeKatow, the celebrated Russian Violincellist, who is a grand-daughter of Prince DePotkin, a minister of the Emperor Nicholas, by whom the Prince and his son, the father of Mdlle. DeKatow, was banished. Accompanying her is Mr. James M. Wehli, pianist, who has secured a brilliant European reputation. The young and beautiful Austrian Prima Donna, Madame Henrietta Behrens will also assist at the concert. Mr. S. Behrens will be musical director and conductor.—Montreal Gazette.

*** This Party won't come to Kingston, because it does not possess a Music Hall. All hopes of that desideratum are now at an end, for the City Authorities will not rent Wesley Hall to be fitted up as such, nor will they fit it up themselves. This dog in the manger conduct prevents anything worth hearing from visiting Kingston.

THE DEATH OF BOOTH.

[Official.]

War Department, Washington April 27, —To Maj. Gen. Dix.—J. Wilkes Booth and Harrold were chased from the swamp in St. Mary's county (Md.) to Garrett's Farm, near Port Royal, on the Rappahannock, by Col. Baker's forces. The barn in which they took refuge was fired. Booth was shot and killed, and Harrold captured. Booth's body and Harrold are now here.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Washington, April 27.

Yesterday morning a squad of the 16th New York Cavalry traced Booth and Harrold to a barn between Bowling Green and Port Royal, near Fredericksburg, Va.—The barn was surrounded and a demand made for their surrender, which Harrold was in favor of, but Booth calling him a coward, he refused to do so. The barn was then set on fire, and upon its getting too hot, Harrold again presented himself, and put his hands through the door to be handcuffed. While this was going on Booth fired upon the officers, upon which a sergeant fired at him; the ball of the sergeant took effect in the head of Booth, killing him. Harrold was taken alive, and he and Booth's body were brought to the Washington Navy Yard last night.

Booth was discovered in the barn by the cavalry. He declared his intention never to surrender, and said he would fight the whole squad, consisting of 28 men, if they would permit him to place himself 20 yards distant. The other party was under command of Lieut. Edwin Dougherty. Booth was on a crutch, and was lame. He lived two hours after he was shot, whispering blasphemies against the government.

MORE PARTICULARS ABOUT BOOTH

HIS HISTORY SINCE THE ASSASSINATION.

HIS EFFORTS TO ESCAPE.

MOB LAW IN PHILADELPHIA.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF COTTON AT MOBILE.

Washington, April 27.

The Star in another edition, has the following of Booth:—

Booth and Harrold reached Garretts' some days ago, Booth walking on crutches. A party of four or five accompanied them, who spoke of Booth as a wounded Marylander on his way home, and they wished to leave him there a short time, and would carry him away by the 26th. Booth limped somewhat, and walked on crutches about the place, complaining of his ankle. He and Harrold regularly took their meals at the house, and both kept up appearances well.

One day at the dinner table the conversation turned on the assassination of the President, when Booth denounced the assassination in the severest terms, saying that there was no punishment severe enough for the perpetrator. At another time some one said in Booth's presence that rewards amounting to $200,000 had been offered for Booth, and that he would like to catch him, when Booth replied: "Yes, it would be a good haul, but the amount will doubtless soon be increased to $500,000."

The two Garretts, who lived on the place allege that they had no idea that these parties, Booth and Harrold, were any other than what their friends represented them, paroled Confederate soldiers on their way home.

They also say that when the cavalry appeared in that neighbourhood and they heard they were looking for the assassins, they sent word to them that these two men were on the place. In other words, they assert that they are entirely innocent of giving the assassins aid and comfort, knowing them to be such.

The tide tug-boat, reached here about two o'clock last night, with Harrold and the two men above referred to, as well as the body of Booth.

Harrold was immediately put in safe place. He thus far, it is stated, has manifested no disposition to speak of the affair but as he was known as a very talkative young man, he may soon resume the use of his tongue.

Booth and Harrold were dressed in Confederate gray (new) uniforms. Harrold was, otherwise, not disguised much. Booth's moustache had been cut off apparently with a scissors, and his beard allowed to grow, changing his appearance considerably. His hair had been cut somewhat shorter than he usually wore it.

Booth's body, which we have above described, was at once laid out on a bench and a guard placed over it.

The lips of the corpse are tightly compressed and the blood has settled in the lower part of the face and neck. Otherwise the face is pale and wears a wild, haggard look, indicating exposure to the elements and a rough time generally in his skulking flight. His hair is disarranged and dirty, and apparently had not been combed since he took his flight. The head and breast are alone exposed to view, the lower portion of the body, including the hands and feet, being covered with a tampaulin.

The shot which terminated his accursed life entered on the left side at the back of the neck—a point curiously enough, not far distant from that in which his victim, our lamented President, was shot.

No orders have yet been given as to what disposition will be made of the body.

Large numbers of persons have been seeking admission to the Navy Yard to-day to get a sight of the body, and to hear the particulars; but none excepting the workmen, the officers of the yard, and those holding orders from the Department are allowed to enter.

A Spencer carbine which Booth had with him in the barn, at the time he was shot by Sergeant Corbett, and a large knife with blood on it, supposed to be the one with which Booth cut Major Rathbun in the theatre box, on the night of the murder of President Lincoln, and which was found on Booth's body have been brought to the city.

The bills of exchange, which were for a considerable amount, found on Booth's person, were drawn on banks in Canada in October last. About that time Booth was known to have been in Canada.

It is now thought that Booth's leg was fractured in jumping from the box, in Ford's theatre, upon the stage, and not be the falling of his horse while endeavouring to make his escape, as was at first supposed.

In the meantime, it appears that Booth and Harrold applied to Garretts for horses to ride to Louisa Court House, but the latter, fearing the horses would not be returned, refused to hire them notwithstanding the large sums offered.

These circumstances, together with the recriminations of Booth and Harrold each charging the other with the responsibility of their difficulties, had aroused the suspicions of the Garrett Brothers, who urged Booth and Harrold to leave lest they (the Garretts) should get into trouble with our cavalry. This Booth refused to do without a horse, and the two men retired to a barn, the door of which, after they had entered, Garrett locked and remained himself on guard in a neighbourhood corn-crib, as he alleges to prevent their horses from being taken and ridden off in the night by Booth and Harrold. Upon the approach of our cavalry from Bowling Green about 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, the Garretts came out of the corn-crib to meet them to the barn. Booth was at once summoned to surrender, but refused. Harrold expressed his willingness to give himself up, but was overruled by Booth for some time, but he finally surrendered, leaving Booth in the barn.

Washington, April 27.

The greatest curiosity is manifested here to view the body of Booth, which remains on the gunboat in the stream, off the Navy Yard.

Thousands of persons visited the yard today in the hopes of getting a glimpse of the murderer's remains, but none not connected with the yard were allowed to enter.

The wildest excitement has existed here all day, and the greatest regrets are expressed that Booth was not taken alive.

The news of Booth's death reached the ears of his mistress while she was in a street car, which caused her to weep aloud, and drawing a photograph likeness of Booth from her pocket she kissed it fondly several times.

Harrold thus far has evaded every effort to be drawn into conversation by those who have necessarily come in contact with him since his capture, but outward appearances indicate that he begins to realize the position in which he is placed.

There is no hope for his escape from the wilful doom that certainly awaits him.

His relatives and friends in this city are in the greatest distress over the disgrace that he has brought upon them.

Washington, April 27.

The Star has the following particulars of the capture of Booth:—

To Lieut-Col. Baker, special detective of the War Department and his admirably trained detective force, and to the 16th New York cavalry, active participators in the seizures of the criminals, the country owes a debt of gratitude for this timely service. It seems that a detachment of the 16th New York cavalry, numbering about 25 men, was despatched from this city on Monday, under the direction of Col. L. J. Baker, special detective of the War Department, in command of Lieut. Dougherty, accompanied by some of Col. Bakers officers, who captured and killed Booth. One captured Harrold, one of his accomplices, alive. The cavalry after leaving here landed at Belle Plain in the night, and at once started out in pursuit of Booth and Harrold, having previously ascertained from a colored man that they had crossed the river into Virginia at Swan Point in a small canoe hired by Booth from a man for $300. Proceeding on toward Bowling Green, some three miles from Port Royal, Lieut. Dougherty, who was in command of the cavalry, discovered that Booth and Harrold were secreted in a large barn owned by a man named Garrett and were well armed. The cavalry then surrounded the barn and summoned Booth and Harrold to surrender. Harrold was inclined at first to accede to the request, but Booth accused him of cowardice, and then Booth peremptorily refused to surrender and made preparations to defend themselves. In order to take the conspirators alive the barn was fired, and the flames getting too hot for Harrold he approached the door of the barn and signified his willingness to be taken prisoner. The door was then opened sufficiently wide to allow Harrold to put his arms through so that he might be handcuffed. As an officer was about placing the irons upon Harrold's wrists, Booth fired upon the party from the barn, which was returned by the sergeant of the 16th New York, the ball striking Booth in the neck, from the effects of which he died in about four hours. Before breathing his last he was asked if he had anything to say, when he replied—"Tell my mother that I died for my country."—Harrold and the body of Booth were brought into Belle Plain at eight o'clock last night, and reached the navy-yard here at one o'clock this morning, on board the steamer John S. Ides, Captain Henry Wilson. The statement heretofore published that Booth had injured one of his legs by the falling of his horse has proved to be correct. After he was shot it was discovered that one of his legs was badly injured and that he was compelled to wear an old shoe and use crutches, which he had with him in the barn. Booth was shot about four o'clock in the morning and died about seven o'clock. Booth had upon his person some bills of exchange, but only 175 dollars in treasury notes. It appears that Booth and Harrold left Washington together on the night of the murder of President Lincoln and passed through Leonard town, M. D., concealing themselves in the vicinity until an opportunity was afforded them to cross the river at Swan Point, which they did as above stated. The man who hired Booth and his accomplice and the boat in which he crossed the river, was captured, we understand, but afterwards made his escape. Harrold has been lodged in a secure place.

"Bowling Green near which place Booth was killed, is a post village and capital of Caroline county, on the road from Richmond to Fredericksburg, 45 miles north of the former place, and is situated in a fertile and healthy region."

New York, April 28.

It appears by Harrold's account, that Col. Baker sent Lieut. Col. Conger and Lieut. Baker, of his detectives, and Lieut. Doherty and his cavalry. On reaching Garretts' Farm they were told by a son of Garrett's that there were two men in the barn; this was at 2 a.m., yesterday. Proceeding to the barn, Lieut. Baker was sent forward, and called upon Booth to come out, give up his arms and surrender, and that young Garrett would go into the barn to receive the arms. Upon his entering the barn, Booth exclaimed, 'go out of here, you have betrayed me.' A colloquy then ensued, of which the following is the substance:

Lieut. Baker—You must give up your arms and surrender. We have come to take you a prisoner, and will treat you as a prisoner. We will give you five minutes to surrender, or will burn the barn.

Booth—Who are you and what do you want? (Instructions had been given Baker not to disclose the character of those who were in pursuit.)

Lieut. Baker—We want you. We intend to take you prisoner.

Booth—This is a hard case. It may be that I am to be taken by my friends.

After some further colloquy of this sort Booth, seeming convinced that he was in the toils of Federal soldiers, said: Give me a chance for my life; I am a cripple with one leg. Withdraw your men 100 yards from the barn and I will come out and fight you.

Lt. Baker—We are not come here to fight but to take you prisoner. You must give up your arms and surrender.

Booth—Let me have time to consider.

A conversation in the barn between Booth and Harrold, then took place, which was not overheard by the party outside. In about 15 or 20 minutes Booth called out: Who are you? I could have picked off half-a-dozen of your men while we were talking. I could have shot you two or three times, but I don't want to kill anybody.

Lieut. Baker—Then give up your arms and surrender; we have come hear to take you.

Booth—I will never surrender; I will never be taken alive.

Lieut. Baker—If you don't do so immediately, we will set fire to the barn.

Booth—Well, my brave boys prepare a stretcher for me.

After this a conversation took place between Booth and Harrold, during which Booth was heard to say: You d—d coward. Will you leave me now? But go, go. I don't want you to stay with me.

He then addressed the party outside, and said: There is a man here who wants to come out.

Lieut. Baker—Then let him hand out his arms and come out.

Another talk here occurred between Booth and Harrold, in which it appears that the latter was begging to be allowed to take out some arms with him, and Booth was heard to say: Go away from me. I don't want anything now to do with you.

Harrold then came to the door and asked to be let out.

Lieut. Baker said: No. Hand out your arms.

Harrold replied: I have none.

Lieut. Baker—Yes, you have. You carried a carbine when you came here. You must hand it out.

Booth—He has no arms; they are all mine. Upon my word as a gentleman, he has no arms. All that are here belong to me.

Lt. Baker approached the door. Harrold thrust out his hands, and was pulled from the door, tied, and placed in charge of a guard. Col. Conger was satisfied that parley with Booth was vain, and proceeding to the other side of the barn, he pulled out a wisp of hay and lighted it. Within a few minutes the blazing hay lighted up the inside of the barn. Booth was discovered leaning on a crutch, which he threw aside, and with a carbine in his hands came towards the side where the fire had been kindled, paused, looked at the fire a moment, and then started towards the door. When about the middle of the barn he was shot.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

THE NEWS OF THE FALL OF RICHMOND IN ENGLAND.

THE TIMES ON THE SHENANDOAH CASE.

THE ENGLISH PRESS ON JUDGE SMITH'S DECISION.

FATAL DISTURBANCES IN MADRID.

Halifax, April 26.

The steamship Africa from Liverpool on the 15th, via Queenstown on the 16th, arrived here this evening with 57 passengers for this port and 50 for Boston. Her dates are three days later than those already received.

The steamship St. David from Portland arrived at Liverpool on the 14th. The steamship Australasian from New York arrived off Crook haven on the night of the 14th.

The news of the fall of Richmond created intense excitement in England, but it arrived too late to admit of the papers generally commenting upon it, and as most of the markets had closed from the 13th to the 17th, the effect of the news cannot be fully developed until they are open.

The London Daily News says that the army of Virginia, so long deemed invincible—the pride, the hope, the centre, the citadel of the Confederacy—has been not only beaten but shattered. The Davis Government is now vagrant and fugitive. Richmond, which received it, and gave it for a time a dignity which it could never have acquired while it remained among the cotton plantations where it had its rise, was set on fire by its departing guests. That the Confederate army fought with all its old tenacity and elan we cannot doubt, but it has been broken up by men who, as we have often been told, were the sweepings of Northern cities. Davis began the war by declaring that he would carry it where food for the torch awaited Southern armies in populated cities, but the attempt to burn New York ended in nothing but an execution, while Davis set his borrowed capital in flames and decamped.

The Morning Advertiser says the further circumstances and consequences of this heavy blow will be looked for with intense anxiety, in the close of the war or the inauguration of a new and wide spread guerilla conflict of unknown duration, which may spring from the conflict.

Other papers are silent as yet upon the news. The London Times has an editorial regretting that the people of Melbourne should have displayed so much sympathy with the crew of the Shenandoah, who are engaged in the destruction of ships coming upon errands of peace to their ports.

The Times has an article strongly condemning the conduct of Judge Smith, of Montreal, for the ill-considered and dangerous charge on the subject of the St. Alban's raiders.

FRANCE.

The debate on the Italian portion of the address was progressing in the Chambers.

M. Thiers declared himself adverse to the unity of Italy, in which he says there is danger, and no utility to France. He defended the Papal Government and favored an alliance with Austria.

The debate was adjourned.

Advices from Algiers say that a visit of the Emperor to that colony was still considered probably.

The Paris Bourse on the 14th inst. was quiet and lower. The rentes closed at 67f. 80c.

ROME.

A telegram from Rome says it is asserted that the Count de Sartiges will shortly be withdrawn from Rome, and that France will only be represented by a Secretary of Legation until the difficulties of Rome are settled.

SPAIN.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times says that the disturbances at Madrid, were more serious than heretofore stated. On the evening of the 21st, an assemblage in the street was suddenly dispersed by a volley of musketry. The troops fired right and left. M. Navas, who was going to the Casino, was killed. Another gentleman, who was wounded, died in a few minutes. Some other persons were killed, and fifteen wounded; more or less seriously. There was no provocation given on the part of the people. The cavalry charged through the streets, and used sabres.

London Markets.—Coffee firmer and 6d higher.

Bullion in the Bank of England has decreased £318,000.

Consols closed on Thursday at 91 to 91¼.

Liverpool, April 15—evening—The fall of Richmond is the universal topic to-day.

The friends of the North are greatly elated at Grant's successes, and are strengthened in their conviction that the final triumph of the North is near. Even those who have manifested the strongest faith in the rebel cause show unmistakeable signs of despondency.

The rebel loan has declined about 6 per cent, closing at 23 to 25, while the Federal securities exhibit a decided improvement. 111 C shares 63 to 64, Erie 36½ to 37, U S 5 20's 64½ to 65¼.

Many English journals condemn the Judge's ruling in the case of the St. Alban's raiders.

Liverpool, April 16.—The Globe says the fall of Richmond leaves the Confederates threatened on every side. This is a tremendous price to pay for the luxury of pushing an army to Nashville, and refusing until the eleventhhour to free and arm the negroes.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

The Meeting of Convocation of Queen's University was held on Thursday afternoon, the Very Rev. Principal Snodgrass in the chair. On the platform at the right of the chair were a large number of the Trustees, and on the left more than a dozen of the Professors of the College. The Hall was crowded with spectators. After the meeting was opened, and the preliminaries were got through with, the Professors presented prizes to successful students of their classes. The proceedings of Laureation were very much the same as on the last meeting of Convocation, when Degrees were conferred upon Graduates in Medicine, the Sponsio Academica, of course being different, as taken by Graduates in Theology and Arts. The candidates were presented to the Principal by the Senior-Professor, Dr. Williamson. The following is a list of those upon whom the several Degrees were conferred:—

MASTER OF ARTS.—James Hope, W. B. Thibodo, Silas Milor, Alexander Macpherson, John Bell.

DOCTORS OF DIVINITY.—Rev. John McMorine, Ramsay, C.W.; Rev. Mr. Bayne, Pictou, N.S.; Rev. Henry Gill, London, England; Rev. Mr. Bergne, London, England.

BACHELOR OF ARTS.—Donald McKay, Alexander McBean, James Fraser, Samuel McMorine, John R. Thomson, Robert O'Loughlin, John McAllister, John Muckleston, George Malloch.

BACHELOR OF DIVINITY.—Alexander McMillan, B. A.

After the ceremony of capping was concluded the Principal addressed the Graduates in a few well chosen words, and then called upon Mr. John McMillan, B.A., B. D., to deliver a Valedictory Address, which that gentleman did in a very fine manner.

The Principal then announced the following Prizes for Essays, to be competed for by students next session:—

I. THE CARRUTHERS PRIZE OF $50—Offered by John Carruthers, Esq., Kingston, for the best Essay on "The sources and uses of Petroleum and other Hydrocarbon Oils, with observations on the best modes of obtaining and transporting them, special reference being had to Canada." Open to all Students. Without reference to the Essay, competitors are requested to add a short notice of the Economical Minerals of the Counties in which they reside.

II. A PRIZE OF $30—For the best Essay on "Metastasis considered in relation to Rheumatism, Pyæmia and Cancer." Open to all Medical Students.

III. THE OTTAWA PRIZE OF $40—For the best Essay on "The advantages and responsibilities of our connection with the Parent Country." Open to all Students in Arts.

IV. THE MONTREAL PRIZE OF $40—For the best Essay on "The didactic in relation to the devotional element in the Lord's Prayer." Open to all Students of Theology.

CONDITIONS.—1. The Essays are to be sent to the Registrars not later than the first Monday of November next, before which date competitors must be registered as Students.

2. Each competitor is to inscribe a motto on his Essay and attach a sealed envelope bearing the same motto, and containing his name, with a declaration that the Essay is his unaided composition, and the envelope is to be opened and the author's name to be ascertained in Convocation only.

3. The successful Essays to be deposited in the Library and remain the property of the University. They may be printed upon recommendation of the judges.

4. Any Essay to be successful must be judged to be of sufficient merit.

These Prizes, though instituted by private liberality, rank as University Prizes, and successful competitors will carry very high honors.

Rev. Dr. Gill then read, on behalf of the Graduates in Divinity, a very good address, after which Prof. Mowatt spoke a few parting words on behalf of the professors, which were rapturously received.

The audience was then dismissed, and the Members of Convocation proceeded to the Election of Fellows in the several Faculties. No Fellow was elected among the Graduates in Medicine, but in Theology, John McMillan B.A., B.D., was elected Fellow, in Arts, Francis Harkess, B.A., of the E. I. Civil Service, and in Law, the Hon. J. A. Macdonald, LL.D. The Principal then pronounced the benediction, and the meeting was closed. The Convocation was the most successful of any for some years.

JUSTICE IN GUELPH.—DESCENT UPON A HOUSE OF ILL-FAME.—About 12 o'clock on Wednesday night, our policemen made a descent upon a house of ill fame on Cork Street, and arrested the keeper, a woman named Mrs. Oxly, and several other parties, male and female, of bad repute. They were brought before the Reeve this morning, when the keeper of the house was fined $2 and costs, and the others $1 each and costs.—Guelph Advertiser.

*** The authorities in Kingston entertain a different opinion of the enormity of this offence.

The authorities at Washington have been guilty of a serious breach of international comity in giving a place to the Fenians in the funeral procession programme prepared at the War Department. Such a quasi-acknowledgment of a body organized ostensibly in opposition to Great Britain is one which requires explanation, and we do no doubt that Sir Frederick Bruce will be authorized to demand it.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG.

VOL. XXXIV. KINGSTON, CANADA, THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 4, 1865. NOS. 102 & 18.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 1, 1865.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

O. D. & Co., Boston; W. & B., Paris, (France); C. W., Montreal; E. C. & Co., New York.

THE KINGSTON VOLUNTEERS.—The steamer Grecian arrived on Saturday morning about half past four o'clock, having on board the Kingston Company of Volunteers, commanded by Lieut. George Seale, lately stationed at Niagara, and the Belleville Company of Rifles, commanded by Major Levesconte. After landing these Companies, the Grecian passed on down with a Company of Volunteer Militia of Hamilton, to be stationed at Prescott, and a relieved Company of Rifles for Brockville. The Kingston Company left Niagara on Thursday by the 'City of Toronto,' and arrived in Toronto the same day. On leaving Niagara they were escorted to the steamer by the battalion, the fine band of the Volunteers playing "The girl I left behind me," and other airs, as they marched through the town. A large number of inhabitants accompanied them to the wharf, and seemed to regret the departure of the gallant young fellows.—Shortly after 12 o'clock the steamer swung out from the dock and steamed away, amid the loud parting cheers of the crowd, and the band playing "They are jolly good fellows." The Company were general favorites in Niagara, and many of the inhabitants of the town were sorry to see them leave, and we are sure that the "Kingston boys" will ever remember the manner in which they had been entertained in Niagara. The Company was obliged to remain in Toronto on Thursday night, and did not leave there until three o'clock on Friday, when they were played down to the steamer Grecian by the Band of the Queen's Own, being also accompanied by many of the Torontonians.—On the Company arriving in Kingston they were received by Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and escorted to the Armory, where they deposited their arms, and afterwards sat down to a hot breakfast prepared for them at Mrs. Scott's Hotel and the Armagh Inn, at the expense of the Corporation, afterwards leaving for their homes, to meet again at half-past seven o'clock in Wesley Hall, to be formed into Company No. 2 (lately Major O'Reilly's) of the 14th Battalion. The men of the Company were in the best of spirits, and made a very fine and robust appearance. They do not seem at all tired of their garrison life, and would volunteer to-morrow again if their services were required. The Company has borne as good a name as any Company on the Frontier Service, and Kingston has every reason to be proud of it.

The Belleville Company on landing were escorted to Wesley Hall, where they were quartered for a few hours, leaving by the Steamer Watertown, about nine o'clock for Belleville. They are all young men, like our own volunteers, and are a very fair sample of the young men of Canada.

It is not very often Toronto does anything to please Kingston, but there is one thing deserving of notice, and as it comes with a good grace, we give publicity to it. Before the Kingston Company left Toronto, Mr. Seale received the following letter, which explains for itself:

SIR,—On behalf of the Officers of the "Queen's Own," permit me to offer the use of our Band, to play the Kingston Company down to the wharf to-day. I have given Mr. Murdoch directions to place himself at your disposal for that purpose. With good wishes and a safe journey.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. R. HARRIS, Captain,
Chairman Band Com. Queen's Own.

LIEUT. SEALE,
Com. Kingston Co. Volunteer Rifles.
Toronto, April 28th, 1865.

EXAMINATION OF VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.—Pursuant to orders, a Military Board will assemble at Kingston on the 10th of May next, for the examination of all Volunteer Officers holding commissions, that may present themselves.

FIRE IN NIAGARA—MOVEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS—Niagara, April 28.—The woollen factory of the Hon. John Simpson was destroyed by fire last night at 12 o'clock. The factory has not been occupied in four or five years. Loss about $4000. No insurance. There is no doubt that it was the work of an incendiary.

At 4 o'clock this morning, the Simcoe Rifles left for home, being relieved from frontier service. Their splendid band played through the town, where teams met them and conveyed them to the Great Western Railroad station at St. Catharines. At 1.15 p.m., Nos. 1 and 2, Queen's Own, Toronto, and the Whitby and Scarboro Rifles also left for home on board the steamer City of Toronto. A large crowd assembled to see them off. The Belleville, Milbrook, C.W., Argenteuil and Waterloo, C.E., Infantry Companies, under command of Major Campbell, arrived here this morning at 10.45, by the steamer City of Toronto. They marched direct to their quarters in Buller's Barracks.

FIRE IN BRANTFORD—ARRIVAL OF VOLUNTEERS—Brantford, April 28.—A fire occurred here last night in the workshop in the rear of Dalrymple's cabinet shop. The workshop, together with the stables of Bingham's hotel were destroyed. Dalrymple's house and store were not burned; the furniture was removed. The workshop and contents were not insured.

Captain Grant's company of Volunteers, from Sarnia, arrived here this afternoon They were met at the station by the band and a great number of people. They will be entertained at a suppef this evening at the Brant Hotel.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 2, 1865.

THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

From the fact that Tenders to complete the residence of the Governor General at Ottawa are only now called for, it is certain that the next Session of Parliament will be holden in Quebec. The calling for these Tenders however assures us that Ministers have no intention of giving Ottawa the go-by, but will adhere to their pledge of removing there so soon as the new Buildings are ready for occupation, which probably will not be until next Spring.

A SHORT ESSAY ON NEWSPAPER WRITING.

The art of journalism is 'sui generis'—it must be acquired by long and diligent practice. It is easy to write, but difficult to condense. Brevity is the soul of wit. Look at the Contributions that flood the teeming sheets of the Weekly Press—how few of them can be read a second time. Not on account of their barrenness or grammatical imperfections, but because of the redundancy of expression. How easy could all that is said in them be said in one third the space, and with one third the number of words. Under the hope, that attention being directed to this great fault, it may cause its amelioration, this short essay has been penned. Upon several occasions we have pointed out the vice of journalists, everlastingly we-ing their readers, and with some success too, and it may not be presuming too much to expect a like success now.

The English newspaper writers stand at the head of Journalism. Not a single word is superfluous in what they have to say. The Penny-a-liners were early taught brevity, and when they advanced to the dignity of editors and reporters, they practiced the lesson they had been sadly taught. The New York Press is also excellent. Perhaps in paragraphs it excels its elder brother. The art of paragraphing has never been carried to a greater extent than in the New York Dailies, imitated by those of Liverpool. The heavy leaders of the Times, charming essays as they usually are, do not suit the taste of a busy commercial people; they want knowledge done up in smalls, and could not possibly spare the time necessary to read the Times. Hence the similarity of the Press of New York and Liverpool. No people on the face of the earth are so thoroughly posted up in newspaper lore as the people of the United States, owing in great measure to the condensing of news, the multum in parvo mode of American Journalism.

Things are not so well managed in Canada. Six or seven Dailies and two or three Weeklies are well written and properly conducted, but the great mass of Provincial newspapers are anything but a credit to the Province. This arises from a combined want of education and taste, occasioning a meretricious style that invariably disgusts every one but those accustomed to it. Plastering every one with the title of Esquire is one of the petty evils that always offend; but the great fault is redundancy, the using of a dozen words to express the sense of three or four. Now, the cure of this is simple—let each paragraph or article be carefully read over, for the purpose of seeing how many words can be struck out and after a short practice the pruning knife would be needless. The common use of Latin and Greek phases is another great fault, because it is seldom that they are correctly set, and still more seldom are they properly applied. Instead of showing learning it shows the very opposite.

Again—there is a species of fine writing exhibited occasionally in the Canadian Press, that is very much admired by many, tho' detestable to others. This consists in stringing words together very prettily, but very superfluously—saying a very little with many words. This fine writing is often mistaken for good journalism, with which it has no real resemblance, because it occupies space, that might be more profitably filled. Here is a sample, the commencement of a recent leader in the Kingston News:—

"While we would be very unwilling in joining to raise the alarm which some journalists both in England and America have tried to create with regard to the Russian epidemic, which it was supposed would surely travel westward and visit Great Britain and North America in succession, we wish to urge that it will be the part of wisdom to adopt a course of sanitary purification which some of these journals have recommended as a precautionary measure. The principles of public health are ever the same; and it is a reflection on the sagacity of human nature to say, as must be said, that too often it requires the fear of an approaching pestilence to cause them to be attended to. If the principles of public hygiene were regularly put in practice, the mortality of our cities would no doubt be greatly diminished. But there ever stands in the way either ignorance, prejudice or indifference, unless maybap the terror of an actual or a coming plague stirs men to action."

This may be called fine writing, 'demm'd fine,' but what do all these fine words say?—merely, that cleanliness is the best preventive of contagion, a truism that would be better admired if said in plainer language.—An instance of a good sensible newspaper writer was afforded in the person of the late Mr. Robert Smiley. He was a Kingston lad, and studied the rudiments of composition in the office of the British Whig. At least he was taught there not to use more words than were necessary when writing paragraphs. Hence he went to Hamilton and founded the Hamilton Spectator, which, with the simplicity of his style and his strong common sense combined, became one of the best journals of the land. It often happened, that in a long political leader, not a single word could be struck out with advantage, a rare thing to be said of a Canadian newspaper.

In the Australian Provinces Journalism stands on a better footing than in those of British America. There are fewer newspapers there, all much better supported with advertisements, and seem to be edited by men of greater education. Each village does not aspire to possess its own brace of newspapers, but centralization of news as well as of business is the rule. In Upper Canada the Globe and Leader are fast producing a change, and it is not improbable that they may even forestall the little good this short essay has been written to effect.

The Editor's Table---No. 592.

Mrs. J. P. Grant, a Canadian Poetess, has politely sent us a copy of her new volume of Poems:—

STRAY LEAVES—A COLLECTION OF POEMS, by Mrs. J. P. Grant. John Lovell, Montreal. 12mo. pp. 166.

Canada is by no means barren of Poets, if not of the first order, yet by no manner of means a low or uneducated class. Charles Heavysage, Ascher, C. Sangster, McLaughlin, Moodie, McColl, and a dozen others we might name, show that the 'Nine' have especial worshippers in these hyperborean regions and stand fully on a par with those farther south, blest with more sunny climes. And lo! here we have another aspirant to fame, in the person of a Canadian lady. Her little book lies before us, and we look over its pleasing stanzas with becoming delight; but not being blessed with a poetic temperament, may not discover so many of their beauties as others more fortunately endowed. In this case, it may be better to allow the lady to speak for herself. Here are a few verses on

MOONLIGHT.

'Tis sweet to watch the Queen of night
Wade through the stormy sky,
Vapours and mist obscure her light—
Clouds on her pathway lie.

Yet calmly she pursues her course,
'Mid all their dark array;
With firm, untiring, gentle force,
She braves the troubled way.

Image of patent virtue, firm,
Life's duties to fulfil,
Treading truth's high and holy path,
Through good report and ill.

Having within herself a power—
A pure and heavenly light—
That calumny and sorrow's hour,
May hide, but cannot blight.

That yet shall stream through endless sky,
Shall onward fearless move,
Radiant with immortality
And holy faith and love.

A SCHOOL HISTORY OF CANADA, AND THE OTHER BRITISH AMERICAN PROVINCES, by J. George Hodgins. John Lovell, Montreal. 12mo. pp. 282. 66 engravings.

This little book, designed for the use of the Common Schools, has been very much wanted. It is carefully compiled, and the authorities are the very best that can be had.

The remainder of the Month's Magazines have reached us:—

HARPER'S for May. John Creighton, Kingston. $3,00.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for May. Ticknor & Fields, Boston. $3,00.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS for May. No. 5 Ticknor & Fields, Boston. $2.

THE PACIFIC MONTHLY for May. G. M. Gazlay & Co., New York. $3,00, or $2,50 specie.

'Harper's' as usual is full of life, and will be read with avidity. The two Serials, 'Our Mutual Friend,' and 'Armadale' are its chief attractions. Every one is praising 'Our Mutual Friend,' and to our eyes, it appears the most unmitigated bosh that Dickens ever penned. Altho' the novel is more than half over, it is almost wholly incomprehensible, abounding with characters, mere sketches, all jumbled up higgledy-piggledy. Here and there a flash of the old genius that tells us of old, but these flashes are few and far between. The simple fact is, Dickens has outwritten himself, and like Thackeray, of late date, his mannerisms overmaster his excellencies. 'The Atlantic' steadily increases in public favor and bids fair to become a power. Fine writing is still its greatest blemish. How singular it is, that with such a model as Washington Irving, American writers should prefer and copy the obscurity and mysticism of Nathaniel Hawthorne. But there is no disputing about taste. Still, the clever editor of the 'Atlantic,' whoever he or she may