LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

W. N. & Co., Montreal; M. D., Quebec; T. H. G. & Co., New York; J. E., Bowmanville; C., Durham.

ON CANADA.

We publish to-day an article from the London Times on the reception and work of the delegates from the Canadian to the imperial Government. From a private letter received in town yesterday, we are permitted to make the following extract:—"The visit so far of the Delegates is, I understand, most satisfactory. They had an interview with the Duke of Cambridge yesterday, and to-day they met Lord DeGrey and Ripon (Secretary of War). Their interviews at the Colonial office are, as I am led to infer, most satisfactory." This is cheering news and it is not the less pleasant as it comes with the announcement of an advance in Canadian securities. On the 28th ult., an advance of £1 was noted in our Government stocks, £1.10 in G. T. R. stock, and £1 to £2 in its preference bonds. A similar increase is also noted in Great Western securities—its six per cent bonds rising as much as £3. A portion of the rise in all these securities is doubtless also due to the settlement of the much-vexed postal question with the Grand Trunk Railway Company.—At the meeting of that Company, the Chairman said:—

"The gentlemen now in power in Canada have come to the conclusion that it was a question which ought to be settled, as it was doing great damage to the credit of Canada. They have approached the subject, I am bound to say, in a spirit of the most honorable and straightforward character. I think we may now consider the question disposed of. I do not mean to say we have received so much for the conduct of the postal service as we expected. I will not even say that we have received as much as we ought. But the Canadian Government fairly referred the question to a commission. That commission took evidence, and, as the result of that evidence and discussion, proposed a settlement, which Mr. Brydges has signed with Mr. Howland, the Postmaster General of Canada. I think we owe to the members of the present Government of Canada much credit for having taken an opportunity of settleing this question, which has been making bad blood and discussion amongst us for between three and four years."

This acknowledged good faith and fair dealings must better our position in the London money market.—Montreal Gazette.

THE CANADIAN DELEGATES.

[From the London Times]

The Canadian Deputies just arrived in this country have enjoyed an early opportunity of publicly explaining the views of their countrymen and the objects of their present mission. It is well known that the scheme for a general Confederation of the provinces of British North America, which at first seemed to meet with unanimous approval on the spot, and was cordially supported by the Imperial Government, received a check at the late colonial elections. New Brunswick returned candidates adverse to the project, and the vote of that province, in fact, was cast against the proposal. It is true that the majority was not large in itself, and that the entire population of the dissentient Colony was of slight numerical significance. Still, there was the opposition established, and it was sufficient, if maintained, to defeat the whole scheme. The proposed Union was impracticable if a single province stood out. As soon, therefore, as the results of the New Brunswick elections were known, the Canadian Government decided promptly on a new course of action. The Ministry completed the business of the Session in Parliament, took the necessary votes of credit, including £200,000 for colonial defences, and then deputed two of their number to proceed to England and confer with the Imperial Government upon the views of the colonists, the attitude of New Brunswick, and the prospects of the scheme. Accordingly Mr. Cartier, the Attorney-General for Lower Canada, and Mr. Galt, the Finance Minister of the Province, have arrived in this country, and the banquet at the Fishmongers' hall on Wednesday disclose their desires. Of this opportunity they availed themselves with uncompromising frankness and courage.

Mr. Cartier treats the whole question as a question of interests, but he maintains that the several interests involved are identical and not conflicting. Canada, he admits, desires a seaboard and looks upon the maritime provinces much as Prussia looks upon Schleswig. No country is really great, he says without ships and commerce. The Canadians have a boundless territory, and, comparatively speaking, a numerous population, but they lack that maritime element in their national constitution which conduces so powerfully to the greatness of England. On the other hand, the maritime provinces, though they have the sea at their service, are circumscribed in territory, and are but thinly inhabited. Link all together in a well-devised Confederation, and each province would gain the advantages of the other without losing its own. The argument disposes of colonial interests. Then the interest of the mother country would be equally promoted at the same time. England has no wish but to see her Colonies prosperous and strong, and union is strength everywhere. Especially is it desirable that Canada should neglect no element of defensive power; for the contingency which has been discussed both in the British Parliament and the French Assembly forces itself upon our consideration, and cannot possibly be overlooked. In case of so deplorable an event as a war between Great Britain and America, the Americans might be expected to attack Canada, and Mr. Cartier grapples boldly with the question. He trusts the case may never occur, but if it does Canada, he says, will be the battlefield, and Canadians will accept the burden. They will look to this country for support, but they will contribute to the common work of defence as far as their means will allow, and those means would be largely increased by a Confederation of the provinces. The position of Canana must be a trying one, for though the cause of such a war must necessarily be Imperial, the worst of its calamities would fall on the colonists. Nevertheless the colonists do not shrink from the prospect. They have no desire to be annexed to the United States, or to become absorbed in the American Republic. 'Such an idea,' says Mr. Cartier 'we view with horror.' So, looking these chances boldly in the face, the Canadians come to this country and discuss the obligations before them. They do not ask for more than they already possess; on the contrary, they come, as Mr. Galt declared, 'to show that if this Confederation be carried out they will be able to assume a greater responsibility, than that which has hitherto fallen on Canada.' Lastly, both Deputies were emphatic in their assurances that no ulterior views of independence or separation entered into this scheme for uniting the North American provinces, and that it was not for the sake of standing alone or disgarding their allegiance that the Colonies wished to become more powerful than they are.

We are willing to accept all these assurances and we need hardly add that we receive them with satisfaction. It is pleasant to learn that our colonists are so contented under the British Crown, and that they understand the advantages of their position. We are complimented by the value they put upon the connexion, and we have not the least wish to see it impaired. We feel, too, that a Confederation of Colonies thus situated must be advantageous to all of them, and so plain, indeed, does the fact appear that it hardly seems to need argument. But when Mr. Cartier informs us that he and his colleague have come here in order to impress upon the British Government the absolute necessity of carrying out the scheme of Confederation," we cannot but think that the truth would be inculcated to better purpose on the people of New Brunswick than on the Government of this country. We cannot coerce the New Brunswickers into a new political Union, nor can we object to their remaining in the position which they have so long occupied without complaint on our part of theirs. We think the offer now made to them is a good one, and that they do ill to refuse it; but if they profess to be content as they are, it would be very hard for us to interfere. The Confederation scheme is the project of ours. It comes to us from the Colonies, and it is for the Colonies to decide upon it. Believing it to be full of promises, we have cordially adopted it, and the colonists have been already apprised that so far as the Imperial Government is concerned its approval and good wishes are given. But the work must be done on the other side of the Atlantic; it is only indirectly that it can be promoted here.

We should hope that the account given of the New Brunswick elections is correct, and that the accidents of a political contest, rather than any deep convictions on the project of a Confederation determined the provincial vote. After all, even upon the aggregate of polls, the majority against the scheme was but 455—a slender balance enough to sway the destinies of half a continent. We know full well in this country how many elements enter into a popular election, and how a mere local question may influence a great political verdict. The people of New Brunswick cannot be blind to the advantages of Union, strength, and the prosperity by which strength and Union would be followed. That small local interests may clash with interests of a higher kind is probable enough, and we have already observed on former occasions that the opposition based on such considerations would meet with no approval in this country. But all we can do is to make our opinions known. If the Canadian Deputies can establish to the satisfaction of the Imperial Government the case which they have so frankly stated, they will be able to return with the assurance that we wish every success to the project of Confederation, and that the ratification of the Crown will not be wanting when the accord of the provinces is complete. In such arguments, however, ought to be as congent in New Brunswick as in England, and that little Colony should either reconsider its decision, or show reasonable cause for impending so promising a scheme.

The American Watch Company.

Watches, which in former years were regarded as a luxury of the opulent, have now become a common necessity of the world at large. The fact that they have become so general a necessity gives importance to the circumstance that we are no longer dependent upon a distant market for our supply, and that to American ingenuity, aided by American capital and American enterprise, we are indebted for the ample and constant production of watches, which in all respects are equal and in many important respects superior to the best articles of European manufacture. The American Watch Company, of Waltham, Mass., established in 1850, has grown into proportions which entitle it to a first rank among the manufacturing enterprises of the New World. It employs between 900 and 1000 artizans, and produces an aggregate of nearly 75,000 watches per annum. The quality of these instruments has been thoroughly tested by minute comparisons, and the result is decidedly in favor of the American over the imported article. The principal difference arises from the mode of manufacture. Foreign time-pieces are made principally by hand, and each is finished separately. All those mysterious and infinitesimal organs which, when aggregated, produce the watch, are the fruit of slow and toilsome manual processes. In the results there must of course be lack of uniformity. The constituent parts of the American watch, on the other hand, are fashioned by machinery.—Wheels, pinions, springs, screws, absolutely uniform in weight, circumference, dimensions, and in every possible particular, are turned out in myriads by unerring mechanical processes. The difficulty of manufacturing by hand these trivial miracles of metal must be evident. It involves such digital cunning, such superlative acuteness of eye, such exhausting patience of effort, that it is almost a wonder how the workshops of Geneva and La Chaux de Fonds continue to replenish their armies of operators. In the Waltham Manufactory, machinery supplies the means of their production. Wheels, pivots and jewels, all prepared by the same unswerving iron hands. As one practical and easily appreciated result of this perfect method, it may be instanced that the owner of a watch of which by accident any part gets lost or injured, has only to address the Company, enclosing the number of his watch and stating the organ wanted—screw, wheel, jewel, spring, or what not—and forthwith by return mail comes the desired article, which any watchmaker may adjust to its place.

The first duty of a watch, as all the world understands, is to keep good time. Its other qualities are decorative and subsidiary. The simpler its mechanism, the more trustworthy its action. The system upon which watches are constructed by the American Company is the perfection of simplicity. The motive power is applied directly to its purpose, and is not dissipated amid a useless complication of machinery. The importance of this extreme simplification of structure must be apparent. The motive force has no longer to vitalize cumbrous and unnecessary impedimenta; friction is lessened one half, and the liability to fracture two-thirds. These advantages of improved construction having been secured to the fullest extent that is expedient, those of perfect uniformity are of course more easily attained. And it is to these, more than to any other cause, that the real value of the Waltham watches must be attributed. The fact is, that there is virtually no variation in the working of even the minutest details of all these instruments. They must all inevitably be equally good. Exact unity is the first quality which watches, by whomsoever produced, can possess. Exact unity is absolutely unattainable by the European processes. Of the instruments simultaneously completed in a foreign workshop, it is impossible to expect that they will bear more than a general and superficial relationship to one another.—There is no tie between them to hold them to exactitude. Deviations in regularity are always expected in imported watches—their harmony being contingent upon doubtful conditions. The dexterity or good faith of individual workmen is all that can be trusted to for correct results. But in the Waltham Manufactory nothing is left to the discretion of the artisan. From beginning to end, all is carefully wrought out by unvarying mechanical rule. The isolated particles must of necessity be identical in every watch, since they are modelled by force of machinery, and not by labor of hand. The most practised eye or delicate touch might sometimes err, but the operations of machinery necessarily repeat themselves with perfect precision. The grand result of this veri-similitude is, that in regard to time-keeping, the Waltham watches are all alike. Microscopic variations, dependent upon accidental conditions, which under no circumstances can ever be guarded against, do of course exist but they are so slight, as compared with the wider defections of works of foreign manufacture, as not to invalidate the rule of positive unity. In certain instances there might, it is true, be single instruments of foreign production finished with an accuracy beyond even the regular workings of machinery. But to meet this, the American Company have devoted one department of their factory to the construction of a much more elaborate article than their usual average. Thus the advantages of strict identity in component parts are combined with the most dexterous workmanship. In this way, watches of absolute equality with the finest results of European manufacture, are, in such quantities as may be demanded, regularly produced.

An important question, naturally, is that of the relative costliness of European and American watches. We find that the advantage of cheapness is on this side of the Atlantic. The difference in prices is not excessive, but is sufficient to be an object to any purchaser. The virtue of superior durability, however, is one which ought, in an economical view, to be the most seriously considered. American instruments will certainly outlast all others. It has been estimated that we pay Europe five millions of dollars a year for watches, and a like sum for keeping them in order. At our own doors watches are manufactured for a lower price, of better quality, less liable to become disordered, and so arranged that in case of injury by violence, the derangement may be cheaply and expeditiously repaired.

The success of the Waltham Company is ample evidence of the estimation in which its wares are held. Its operations have steadily widened since its establishment. At present it employs more hands and produces more watches than at any former period. Each year contributes testimony to the excellence of the instruments, and increases the demand for them. New varieties of form and quality have in late years been introduced, to accommodate peculiar exigencies of taste or necessity. There is the costly time-piece for the millionaire, and the inexpensive one for the clerk or artizan; and there is the compact and tiny watch, jewelled and enamelled, which ladies delight to wear at their girdles, and which they never remember to wind up. The varieties are ample to satisfy all the demands of utility or fancy; and it is but moderate eulogy to say, that in exterior form and embellishment, no less than interior excellence, they rival the best instruments of European importation, and this notwithstanding the fact of their comparative cheapness.

The following new Post Offices were established in Canada on the 1st May, 1865:—

Bergerville, Township Quebec; Coleridge, Township Amaranth; Eversley, Township King; Glennevis, Township Lancaster; Hammond, Township Elma; Pentland, Township Pilkington; Shetland, Township Euphemia; South Lake, Township Leeds; Totnes, (re-opened), Township Ellice; Ulster, Township Wawanosh; Wimbledon, Township Sandwich.

The Post Offices at Allan Park, County Grey, and Bois de l'All, County Lotbiaière, have been closed.

The Name of the Post Office at St. Vincent, County Grey, has been changed to 'Meaford.'

UNITED STATES NEWS.

New York, May 16.

The Commercial's special says the evidence of the guilt of the prisoners at the conspiracy trial appears so conclusive as to completely check the current of sympathy in their favor produced by the proposed secret trial. It is said that the prisoners are warned by counsel to abandon all hope. They appear utterly broken down. Reverdy Johnson takes but little part in the trial. He is preparing an elaborate argument, challenging the jurisdiction of the Court.

It is now proposed to substitute a street parade of the returned armies in Washington before the President, for a grand review.

Washington, May 4.

Dr. J. B. Morrill, Confederate, from Tenn, who was sent to Canada last year, has been endeavoring to procure the return of his property, but failed to establish his loyalty.

The Marquis de Montholon was introduced to the President by the Acting Secretary of State to-day and delivered his credentials as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of his Majesty the Emperor of the French. The Marquis made some remarks upon the occasion of which the following is a translation:—

"Mr. President:—I have the honor to place in your hands the letter of the Emperor of the French, which accredits me in the character of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary near your Excellency. If I seek for what may have determined His Imperial Majesty to give me this distinguished mark of his confidence, I can attribute it only to the recollection of the ties which already attach me to this country, the personal relations which I have previously contracted in it during a long sojourn, and the sympathies of which I am proud to have received. Numerous proofs have made me appear without doubt better prepared than another to serve as the interpreter of the sentiment which animates the Imperial government towards the government the people of the United States. In fact, glorious traditions, the importance whereof we maintain with pride, do not permit that France should ever be indifferent to the destinies of this great Republic. Immense interests which every day develope themselves more fully will draw together more and more closely this noble and ancient alliance. I am happy to bring hither on a solemn occasion the loyal and frank expressions of the wishes which the Emperor, my august sovereign, forms for the complete restoration of peace and concord on the continent of America. The whole of France participates in the same thought and will always view with satisfaction the consolidation of the property and the greatness of the United States. Animated by the sentiments of deep sympathy with the American Union, their Imperial Majesties and France share equally with their whole nation in the grief in which the most atrocious of crimes has just plunged the government and people of the United States."

The President replied as follows:—

"M. L Marquis De Montholon:—I cannot forbear to welcome as the diplomatic representative of France, a gentlemen who claims to be so strongly attached to the United States, by those ties incident to family connection and long residence in this country, to which you so gracefully allude. The intimacy with the head of your own government, which has resulted from well known antecedents, cannot fail to impart perhaps universal confidence to your representations, in respect to his purpose and policy with reference to the United States. The people of this country have a traditional regard for France, which was originally and warmly cherished, that it must continue to flourish and expand, unless it should be checked by events most uncommon, and not to be anticipated by ordinary foresight. I trust that the result of your mission will be to strengthen and perpetuate the good understanding between our two governments, and that perfect peace may be restored on the American continent pursuant to those wishes of your sovereign to which you refer. I offer you my hearty thanks for the sympathy which you express in behalf of their imperial Majesties, for the recent tragical events in this metropolis."

The Herald's special says that President Johnson has under consideration a new amnesty proclamation, the insurance or suppression of which it is expected will be decided upon in the cabinet meeting to be held to-day. This proclamation if issued will announce what classes of rebels are to be held responsible for their treason and what others will not be.

The Herald's Wilmington correspondent says there has recently been considerable excitement in Wilmington, N.C., in consequence of rumors that the rebel ram Stonewall is to make a raid on that place, and the garrison of Forts Fisher and Caswell have been reinforced, in anticipation of the raid.

Weekly British Whig

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1865.

LETTERS & TELEGRAMS.

R. B., Brighton; D. C. & S., Toronto; A. M. C., Buffalo.

THE FATE OF JEFF. DAVIS.

That the Federals will be as cruel as they possibly can be to Mr. Jeff. Davis is highly probable, but will they dare to murder him? As to his being concerned in the Conspiracy to assassinate poor Lincoln, that is so barefaced a calumny, no one believes it. What good could he or his party get by killing the late President and putting the present one in his place? To say nothing of the detestation such a crime would create in the bosoms of all favorable to the South. To kill him for being a rebel would be murder. What difference is there between Jefferson Davis and George Washington? Simply successful rebellion. Would the British have hanged George Washington had they taken him? Not a bit of it. The British respect the laws of Nations and humanity, and when they view a brave man fighting for the independence of his country, as George Washington did, they admire the man, however much they may dislike the losing of Provinces. The eyes of Europe will be upon the new President and his Cabinet, and they must succomb to public opinion. It is difficult to say what will be done to Jeff. Davis, for hang him the Federals will not dare to do. As to bringing home to him the charge of conspiracy to murder, that's morally impossible. All the swearing of false witnesses will never make the world believe so gross an improbability.

THE RIDEAU CANAL.

This great feeder to the business of Kingston is not so much considered by the business men of Kingston as it should be. Were it once to become unserviceable, then they would cry out. As it is, it has been left to the Ottawa men to stir in the matter. Last Session of Parliament Mr. Powell obtained a Committee to enquire into the shortcomings of the Canal, the Report of which has only now been printed and come to hand.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SUPPLY OF WATER IN THE RIDEAU CANAL:—

The Select Committee appointed to enquire into the feasibility of regulating the supply of water in the Rideau Canal, and to the mills thereon, by means of retaining-dams on sundry lakes, being the head waters of the Rideau River, and also of considering the practicability of, and the advantages that would arise from, the opening up of the navigation between these lakes and the Rideau Canal, beg leave to submit the following Report, together with the accompanying evidence:—

The Committee find it to be established that serious inconvenience has been suffered on the Rideau route for some time past, owing to severe freshets in spring and very low water in summer, and they are led to attribute this injurious state of matters to the clearing up of the country, which causes the ice and snow in the interior to melt earlier than was formerly the case, and also to the better drainage of the country, allowing a more rapid discharge of surface water than previously took place.

To remedy these evils the Committee are persuaded that all that is necessary is, in the words of one of the witnesses, "by artificial means to do what the swamps and woods effected before they were cleared up; that is, to collect and hold back the surplus of the flood waters, and feed them out as required." The way to accomplish this desirable object would, in the opinion of the Committee, be by the erection of a few retaining-dams and waste-gates upon the Lakes on both sides of the Canal, which could be effected at a small cost.

The Committee have ascertained that the summit of the Rideau is fed by a chain of lakes situate on the west side of the canal, and emptying into the summit lake at West Port, and that these lakes could be made, by a moderate outlay, to afford a large water supply. Another large chain of lakes, situate on the west side of the canal, commences with Myer's Lake in South Sherbrooke, and discharges by the Tay River and the Tay Canal into the Rideau at Port Elmsley, below the summit level on the Ottawa side of the canal. The erection of inexpensive dams on this chain of lakes would, without much damage to land, owing to the high and rocky character of the banks of the lakes, add from fifty to seventy-five square miles of water surface to the present supply, and increase the depth of water in the lakes in question by an average of six to eight feet above the present level.

The Committee have further learned that a third chain of lakes exist, the waters of which flow into the Rideau Canal on the level below the summit on the St. Lawrence side, at Bedford Mills and Massassgua Creek. These lakes cover an area of nineteen square miles of water, and drain about eighty seven square miles of territory. By the erection of a few inexpensive dams, the water in these lakes could be raised an average of four feet, and an abundant supply of water could thus be obtained.

With regard to the question of establishing a line of internal navigation through the secondly mentioned chain of lakes on the west side of the Rideau, the Committee are led to believe that it would be found to be practicable, and that at a moderate cost. The evidence establishes that by making a cut of half a mile, chiefly through a swamp, connecting Otty Lake with Long and Adam's Lakes, access could be had from the Rideau Canal to a point within two miles of the town of Perth, whereby a large trade in sawed lumber and minerals could be secured; while eventually navigation with the lakes connecting with Otty Lake and Myers Lake, through the Townships of South Sherbrooke, Po, Hinchinbrooke and Olden would be created, thereby opening up a large section of country for settlement; and also, as it would appear, giving facilities for the development of great mineral resources.

Respecting the larger subject of the maintenance of a sufficient supply of water in the Rideau Canal, the Committee are strongly impressed with its importance as affects the Province at large, as well as the section of country through which the canal passes, and they are entirely satisfied that an abundant supply can be obtained at a very moderate cost. The canal is indispensable to the towns and villages, and the large commercial and milling establishments created by it, and it is also of the greatest value to Ottawa and Kingston, its termini. It is, besides, of the utmost importance that the Province should be in possession of an internal route of navigation, lying away from the frontier, and consequently less exposed, and that that route should be in such a state of efficiency as to be serviceable in the event of interruption of the St. Lawrence Canals, from any cause.

The Committee therefore recommend that a thorough examination of the lakes in question should be made early in the ensuing spring, under the direction of the Department of Public Works, in order that the objects with regard to which the Committee were directed to inquire, and which they consider to be both important and of easy practical accomplishment, may be attained in an efficient and yet economical way.

J. M. CURRIER,
Chairman.

Committee Room, March 14, 1865.

For the British Whig.

TO A FRIEND.

How sweet it is to think of thee
When gazing on the deep blue sea,
A noble ship sights land, I see,
Yet I am far away from thee.
The sailors, glad to see the land,
With joy their brave hearts do expand,
Like a mother's love for an only son
Who has returned with laurels won.
She greets him with parental voice,
Which makes his care-worn heart rejoice,
To think he has yet got a friend
Who will some consolation lend,
With truthful intent to do good,
And brighten him in darkest mood.
Such pleasures are debarred to me
By being so far away from thee;
Still, I'll fondly think of thee
While gazing on the deep blue sea.

A.

CANADIAN ODE.

Inscribed for the approaching Anniversary Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, 1865.

Great God! from thy almighty throne above,
Guide thou in safety, with thy arm unseen,
Ecompass with thine everlasting love,
And bless our loved, our honored, widowed Queen!

When at thy footstool she will humbly bow
To plead for strength, to rule o'er England's might,
Dispel all sorrow from her sceptred brow,
Guard thou our liberties, with Britain's right!

Monarch and mother's virtues be extolled
Where'er on earth, she holds benignant sway,
Full forty-six eventful years have rolled
O'er her, this cherished, great memorial day!

As weeks, and months, and years speed on with time,
And sweep behind them, records of the past!
O'er British soil, and in Canadian clime,
May sacred bonds of friendship ever last!

Praise God! that heaven's peaceful guiding star
Resplendant o'er our Sovereign's realm has shone!
Whilst brother kinsmen, by revolt and war,
Now tread the earth in sadness, and forlorn!

Imdue with wisdom, Ministers of state,
Give strength to hands that steer the noble helm!
Whatever may be our Colonial fate,
Let not invading foe, our peace o'erwhelm!

With Britain's sons, Canadians will rejoice
And swell from loyal hearts, the nation's song!
Send forth the prayer, with united voice
That Queen Victoria's life God may prolong!

CANADIA.

Durham, Co Grey, May 12th.

ARRIVAL OF THE CUBA.

FURTHER EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THE CANADIAN DEPUTATION.

NAPOLEON'S RECEPTION IN ALGIERS.

EVACUATION OF SAN DOMINGO DIRECTED.

DEFEAT OF THE PRUSSIAN MILITARY BILL.

New York, May 16.

The steamer Cuba has arrived, from Liverpool on the 6th via Queenstown on the 7th.

The Kangaroo and Helvetia arrived out on the 5th.

Political news unimportant.

COMMERCIAL.

Breadstuffs—Flour quiet and steady.—Wheat quiet and easier and partially 1d lower. Corn dull and 6d lower.

Provisions—Beef active and firmer. Pork steady. Bacon and butter bare; season over. Lard easier. Ashes firmer. Sugar active and 3d to 6d higher, closing quiet. Rice ditto.

London Markets—Wheat firm and 1s higher on the week. Sugar easier. Coffee steady. Tea quiet and unchanged. Rice firmer. Petroleum steady.

The bullion in the Bank of England increased £75,000.

The steamer "Sacramento," from Lisbon arrived at Dover on the 2nd.

Resolutions of sympathy with America continue to pour in. Almost every public body and place in England must have given an expression of its sympathy.

Amongst the latest demonstrations was a great meeting of working men in London.—In addition to resolutions of condolence, they adopted one rejoicing at the Federal successes and the destruction of slavery.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce voted an address expressing a hope that the calamity may not retard a speedy peace.

The London Times has a friendly and hopeful editorial upon the speeches of Sir F. Bruce and President Johnson, which it regards as a fresh earnest of amity. It says that Johnson's language is pacific and statesmanlike, and will meet with a response in England.

The Times hopes that the idle words of provocation which have been employed by irresponsible persons, may be buried in the grave of Lincoln.

The Queen's response to addresses from Parliament says that she entirely participates in the sentiments addressed to her on the assassination, and she has given directions to her Minister at Washington to make known the feelings entertained by Parliament in common with herself and the whole people.

In the House of Lords, Lord Ravensworth questioned Lord Derby as to the meaning of his expression that Southerners, if connected with the assassination, committed worse than a crime—a blunder.

Lord Derby said he did not see how his expression could be wrongly interpreted. He used the well known political aphorism of Talleyrand to simply convey his meaning, that Southerners, by sanctioning what was not only highly immoral, would at the same time approve that which could do nothing but inflict most serious injury on their political cause.

The House of Commons voted the leading provisions of Gladstone's Budget, but the reduction of the tea duty is postponed till the 1st of June.

In the House of Lords, in reply to an enquiry relative to Canadian defences, Earl de Grey and Ripon said the Government had just commenced negotiations with the deputation from Canada, and would report as soon as negotiations were closed.

Lord Palmerston has almost recovered.

Constance Kent was fully committed for trial on her own confession that she committed the Road murder.

Napoleon was enthusiastically received in Algiers.

The Government Bill fixing a hundred thousand men as the contingent of 1866, passed the Corps Legislatif.

The Bank of France gained 9,000,000 francs cash during the week.

The Bourse was firm at 67f. 55c.

It is rumoured that the mission of Signor Vegezzi to Rome on the subject of religious matters in the Italian Kingdom, had failed.

The health of the King of the Belgians was more unsatisfactory.

The Spanish Government published a decree ordering the evacuation of San Domingo.

The Prussian Chamber of Deputies rejected the Government Military Bill paragraph by an overwhelming vote.

LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN.

Liverpool, May 6.

Evening.—Cotton easier, and slightly declined; sales 6,000 bales, including 1,500 by speculators and exporters.

Breadstuffs quiet.

The weather is favourable for the crops.

Provisions quiet and steady.

London, May 6.

Evening.—Politics unimportant.

More remote continental journals now coming to hand teem with sympathy for Lincoln's assassination.

Paris, May 6.

The Bourse firm. Rentes closed at 66f. 55c.

Pekin, April 13.

The ministerial crisis is over. Prince Kung resumed his position as Prime Minister.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

DISMISSAL.—The Quebec Journal states that Mr. Charles Baillarge, architect, superintending the constructions of the Parliamentary buildings at Ottawa, has been dismissed from his office.

ROBBERY IN OTTAWA.—Mr. A. J. Eastman, of North Gower, was robbed of $300 in a city hotel a few nights ago. He had the money, in gold, in his pantaloons pocket, and while he slept, the thief entered his room and cut out the pocket, taking it and the contents with him. No clue to the thief has yet been found.—Union.

FIRE IN HAMILTON.—This morning a fire broke out in the wooden building occupied by Z. Pattison, as a Confectionery store, on Cannon Street. It almost immediately communicated to the large wooden building, used by Mr. Pattison as a store house and carpenter shop for the manufacture of wooden boxes. The night was very calm, the fire was confined to those two buildings. The brick dwelling of Mr. Pattison was on fire once or twice, but was put out without doing very great damage to it. Mr. Pattison's loss consists of about $3000 worth of cigars; the two wooden buildings, bakery and carpenter shop with an immense lot of lumber and other stock, machinery, &c., which will amount to at least $3000. The dwelling house and furniture are insured in the Gore District Mutual sufficient to cover any damage they may have sustained. On the east side there is a wooden dwelling house occupied by Mrs. Bain; the furniture was all removed, but the building is uninjured.—Spectator of Tuesday.

FAST WAR STEAMERS.—The Federal Government has discharged a large number of men from the navy yards, and issued instructions to cease work on the vessels building by contract. It intends however, to finish six frigates and twenty troopships on the stocks, and which it is claimed will be "the best and fastest war vessels in the world." The frigates are to have cylinders 100 inches, and the sloops cylinders of 60 inches in diameter. All their other appurtenances are to be on the same colossal scale.

EDITORIAL CHANGES.—Mr. Labreche-Viger, M. P. P. for Terrebonne, has retired from the editorship of L'Ordre. According to Le Canadien, Mr. Labreche-Viger also proposes to retire from public life, and will not contest his seat at next election. He will be succeeded in the management of L'Ordre either by Mr. J. A. Genand, the present "sub" of this establishment, or Mr. Honore Mercier, ex-editor of Le Courrier de St. Hyacinthe.—Quebec News.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—On Saturday night about ten o'clock, the stables and barn of William Graham, Esq., Lumber Merchant, Gloucester, about three miles from Ottawa, caught fire, and with their contents were burned to the ground. The fire was the result of an accident occasioned by a couple of men, engaged about the place, catching rats in the barn. There were in the buildings a quantity of seed grain, two buggies, three sleighs etc. Mr. Graham's total loss will amount to between $4000 and $5000. He had an insurance of $2000 on the whole.—Citizen.

POOR JOHN DOUGALL.—Among the prominent Bankrupts, published, we find the name of John Dougall, Esq., Commission Merchant, and proprietor of the Montreal Witness. There has been no paper that has abused the Upper Canada Trader for fraudulent preferences, &c., more effectually than the Witness. It has asserted time and again, that the Montreal Merchant was continually swindled by the retail Merchant from these parts. This could not have been the cause of failure to the Commission Merchant, and one so shrewd as Mr. Dougall. While regretting that he should be subjected to so severe a lesson, it should at least teach him to be more moderate in his assertions hereafter, when he speaks of unfortunate traders in this part of the Province.—Hastings Chronicle.

THE HOUSE OF PROVIDENCE.—The managers of the House of Providence acknowledge with thanks the following donations, viz:—Alderman Vickers, $5; a Protestant lady, $5; Mrs. F. Perkins, $5; Rice Lewis & Son, $10.—The following letter, with the enclosure, has also been thankfully received:—'Toronto, May 8, 1865. Rev. F. P. Rooney, St. Paul's. Rev. Sir,—Please accept the enclosed ($5) fifty dollars in aid of the House of Providence charity, from one who does not approve the contracted views of the majority of the city Council as evidenced in their late refusal of the use of the Crystal Palace grounds; from one who can sympathize with christian philanthropy, regardless of creed or country, and who, although not of your faith, denies the Protestantism that would stir up enmities amongst men. I have the honor to be, Rev. Sir, yours, truly, A PROTESTANT.'—Leader.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN RIFLE BAND.—This excellent Band will play in the City Park on next Saturday afternoon at four o'clock, and will continue to do so every Tuesday afternoon during the summer.

MILITARY SCHOOL.—The following gentlemen have passed their examination at this school, and are entitled to second class certificates: A. S. Kirkpatrick, J. Hopkirk, J. P. Gildersleeve, and Harold Vardon, Kingston. J. Murphy, Ottawa; Donald McCrae, North Lancaster.

A GRAND MUSICAL CONVENTION AT BOWMANVILLE.—Messrs. J. Everett & Co., well known throughout Canada as teachers of Sacred Music, have been preparing for the last six months for a Grand Musical Convention, to be held in Bowmanville on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of May.—About 1000 singers will be present on the last day, being a few from each of the classes taught by the company. The Convention it is thought will be the most successful gathering of musical talent which has ever taken place in Canada. The object is mainly to create a more general interest in the subject of Church Music, especially in regard to the improvement of congregational singing, a result naturally to be expected from the social intercourse thus induced between singers from all parts of the country. The music to be brought out, at it will be plain, consisting of psalms and hymn tunes, anthems, &c., and the performances will be conducted on the plan of congregational singing. The fares on the Grand Trunk Railway, to holders of tickets for the Convention, will be greatly reduced, so as to permit of all attending it. A visit to Bowmanville would repay the excursionist.

THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.

The following are the gentlemen who obtained certificates at the late examination for Volunteer Officers:—

FIRST CLASS.

Capt. Worthington, 10th Royals, Toronto.
Sergt. Major Horsey, 14th Battalion Vol. Rifles, Kingston.
Capt. Callaghan, do do do.
Capt. Phillips, do do do.
Capt. Kerr, do do do.
Lieut. Seale, do do do.
Alfred Davis, Gent. Kingston
Private Richard A. Field, 23rd Battalion Vol. Infantry, Brockville.
Sergt. Robert Bowie, Vol. Rifle Company, Brockville.
Capt. Dunnett, Pakenham Rifle Company, Peterboro.
Ensign J. W. Thomson, 15th Battalion Vol. Infantry, Belleville.
Capt. Spring, 2nd Storrington Rifles, Inverary.
L. S. Lazier, Gent.
Ensign Bowell, Vol. Rifle Company, Belleville.
Sergt. Alfred H. Starr, 23rd Battalion Vol. Infantry, Brockville.
Ensign Edward Woodcott, Vol. Rifle Company, Brockville.

SECOND CLASS.

A. H. Mayes, Gent.
Ensign Chas. Lett Stephens, 1st Frontenac Militia, Kingston.
Lieut. William Douche, Battery Garrison Artillery, Ottawa.
L. H. Henderson, Gent.
W. King, Gent.
Ensign Fred. White, 16th Battalion Vol. Infantry, Picton.
Alexander Macalister, Gent.
John Macalister, Gent.
Lieut. Cromble, 15th Volunteers, Belleville.
Ensign Johnston, 14th Battalion Vol. Rifles, Kingston.
Ensign N. Potter, 3rd Rifle Company, Ottawa.
Lieut. L. S. Boyd, Battery Garrison Artillery, Iroquois.

AN ONTARIO COLLEGE.—The Lord Bishop of Ontario has in contemplation the forming of a College in connection with the Diocese of Ontario. The most favorable site is the property of Mrs. Ryland, near Picton, and it is said that negotiations are already going on for the purchase of it, $12,000 being required for that purpose. At a Public Meeting held in Picton on Wednesday week last, the following Resolution was passed:

"That this meeting view with great satisfaction the proposal of having Ontario College established in the vicinity of Picton—a locality which need only be seen to convince all that His Lordship the Bishop of Ontario has fixed upon a most desirable site for such an Institution—and this meeting therefore pledge themselves to do their utmost to assist in providing the $8000 of funds, the amount required of this Town and County."

A meeting of the Committee was held in Picton on Monday, at which the Bishop was present. The question was asked his lordship, whether the purchase of the property above named was decided upon by him, or was it open to the selection of any other suitable site, and the reply was, that as it was his wish to open the College in October next, he thought it desirable to secure the Ryland property without delay.

The Times says that already $3,000 have been subscribed by a few individuals in Picton; and the Committee feel sanguine that the whole amount will be readily taken up.

POLICE COURT, Wednesday.—Daniel Flynn was charged with assaulting a man named J. Donoghue, on Monday last, by striking him across the neck and head with a heavy whip. Fined $5 and costs or 30 days in gaol. Patrick Lynch, who was given in custody by the Sheriff on Tuesday, for conversing with prisoners, by climbing on top of the gaol wall, was discharged, it being his first offence. This will be a good warning to those who make it a practice to converse with prisoners in gaol. The next one caught will not fare so well. James Manning and James McIntyre, charged with drunkenness were sent to gaol for 14 days (bread and water.) John Maloney and George Cochrane were charged with selling liquor without license, by Mr. Inspector Mostyn, and on the charge being proven, were fined $20 and costs each.

BREAD INSPECTION.—The Mayor, High Bailiff and Inspector of Weights and Measures made an inspection of the City Bakeries yesterday, and found the bread generally of good weight. The following bakeries were inspected:—

Craig's Bakery—Weight.
McCammon's Bakery—Weight.
Shaw's Bakery—Overweight 1 oz. to the lb.
Pillar's Bakery—Underweight.
Carnovsky's Bakery—Underweight.
McKay's Bakery—Overweight ½ oz to the lb.
Foote's Bakery—Full weight.
H. Ross' Bakery—Overweight ½ oz to the lb.
Kingston Bakery—Weight.
Cummins' Bakery—Bread in Oven.

Montreal, May 16.

At about three o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in some wooden buildings on Ottawa street, Griffintown. Repairs are going on at the water-works, so there was no water, and the flames were uncontrolled. The people in the houses which were consumed