

The Steamer Merlin from St. John's, New- foundland, arrived here on Wednesday evening last, with 75 passengers on board. She had been out 12 days, and it was feared by many had met with some serious accident. It appeared, however, that her detention was owing to the heavy boisterous weather and a deficiency of coals and water. So near were they on Sable Island, that the waves were beating over her carried quantities of sand on to her deck. However, they managed with difficulty to clear the Island, and were driven some distance south. The weather abating on Monday, the 7th, they ran into Sydney, C. B., where they got fresh supplies. The Merlin was despatched again on Thursday for St. John's N. F., with the mails, which had been waiting her return. The passengers are making great complaints at the sufferings they endured through the deficiency of provisions and coals. On her last trip down she put into Trepassy and towed a ship thence to St. John's.

On Wednesday last A. Mackinlay, Esq., delivered the opening lecture at the Mechanics' Institute, subject, "Heat." A number of highly interesting experimental illustrations were given which showed the lecturer to be quite familiar with his subject. In the course of the conversation which followed, surprise was expressed that more of the artisans of the city do not attend on these occasions. The Hon. Joseph Howe will lecture this evening.

ESCAPED CONVICT.—A young man named Pratt made his escape from the Penitentiary on the evening of Saturday last. When the Governor Mr. Fish accompanied by the under-keepers, was going his rounds to fasten up the prisoners for the night, Pratt managed somehow, to slip out of his cell, as Mr. Fish was in the act of performing the routine of his duty; and on doing so he instantly closed the door upon the Governor and Keepers and fastened it, thus making them prisoners. Pratt being now free, took the Governor's double-barreled gun, which was loaded, marched out, crossed the North West Arm in a boat, and has not since been seen that we are aware of. Parties are in pursuit of him. This fellow is we believe an incorrigible villain. He is a native of Colchester. In 1854, he, together with a younger brother, was tried at Truro, convicted, and sentenced to seven years in the Penitentiary for robbing the Eastern-mail, upon Mount Tom. In the following year, he managed to make his escape; and only a few weeks afterwards, he, along with a general spirit whose name we do not recollect, was detected in the act of burglary and robbing a shop at River Philip. He was tried at Amherst in June of that year, convicted, and sentenced to a further term in the Penitentiary. He has now escaped a second time, and from the character of the scoundrel we may be sure that he will soon be heard from in some part of the Province. He is still quite young—cannot be over twenty-one years of age, if so old as that.—Recorder.

Inquests were held on Tuesday and Wednesday the 10th and 11th inst.—at Campertown, Lunenburg Co., before Aaron Morse, Esq., Coroner—upon the view of the bodies of Alexander Bohannan and Jacob Zwicker, senr., who were drowned on Sunday the 7th inst., while crossing the ice on the "Crooked Lake", at that place. This melancholy accident has thrown a large circle of relations and friends in mourning, and should be a warning to others not to attempt crossing the ice until it is sufficiently strong.—Communicated by Mr. G. Bigelow.

"On Monday the 25th, a fatal accident took place in Messrs. A. Ritchie & Co's Steam Mill. A young man called David Beattie, while assisting to place a plank before the circular saw, slipped and fell on the bench before it, and was so severely cut in the body and one arm, that he only survived four hours."—Gleaner.

FIRE.—A large establishment consisting of mills, manufactory, &c., at Antigonish, and belonging to Mr. R. Trotter of that place, was totally destroyed by fire on the night of Wednesday last. The loss is estimated at £3,000, and there was no insurance on the property.

The Grand Trunk Railway will cost £11,500,000 a mile—Canada has three millions and a half at stake in the enterprise—for the year ending 30th June last, the receipts were £295,000. Expenses £270,000—leaving only £25,000 to pay interest and dividends.—Montreal Witness.

The motto on the seal of the Electric Telegraph Company is "Ocyor Euro"—swifter than the East wind.

Very Important to Families.—To Mothers and old Heads of Families.—This may certify that in my profession as nurse, I have used Dyer's Healing Embrocation for several years past in a great variety of cases, and have never known it to fail in relieving the worst form of sore nipples, broken or caked breasts, numbness and pain in the limbs, rheumatism, cuts, wounds, scalds or burns, and various local injuries, strains, bruises or sprains, &c. It is decidedly the best remedy I have ever known for an immediate and effectual application in these cases; and I consider it of the highest importance that every family should keep a quantity of it on hand, to be used in any emergency. I therefore most cordially and earnestly recommend it to all as an invaluable preparation. Providence, July 15th, 1855. MARY RAND. For sale by G. E. Morton & Co., and Druggists everywhere.

Holloway's Pills an unfailing remedy for irregularities of the bowels, bad breath, and bilious disorders.—Mrs. Ashmore, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, was afflicted for several years with irregularities of the bowels, an overflow of the bile, and disagreeable breath. The services of the family physician were called into requisition, but the lady was not benefited. As every other medicine had turned out unavailing, she commenced using Holloway's Pills, and in eight weeks was completely cured by their use alone. She has never since had the least return of any of her complaints.

Letters Received. S. Brown, Dec. 4th. Rev. W. Chipman, 2nd and 5th. Rev. C. I. Burnett, 3rd, 1 sub. R. T. Upham. E. Sears, 8th. H. N. Paint, 8th, 25s. That will do. R. Kennedy. Rev. W. Burton. Rev. J. C. Hurd, 9th. Rev. C. Randall, 10th, 23. C. H. Harrington, 9th. W. Sabeau, 9th.

NOTICES.

ACADIA COLLEGE. There will be a Public Exhibition in the Hall on Friday evening, Dec. 19, where Oration will be delivered by students of the second and third Classes. The Public are respectfully invited to attend. To commence at seven o'clock. J. M. CRAMP, Chairman of Faculty. Dec. 13th, 1856.

The half-yearly Examination of the Classes will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 17th and 18th. To commence each day at nine o'clock, A. M. J. M. CRAMP, Chairman of Faculty. Dec. 6th, 1856.

The new Baptist Chapel situated near the Little Fork Bridge, Macaan, will be opened on Tuesday, the 30th inst., at 11 o'clock, a. m. Ministers and friends in general are requested to attend. D. MCKEN.

The usual Semi-annual Examination of Horton Academy will take place, (D. V.) on Friday, 19th Dec., to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M. The parents of the pupils generally are respectfully invited to attend. A. S. HUNT, Secretary.

WHAT THE NEW YORK CITY FOLKS SAY OF Dr. M'Lane's Celebrated Vermifuge.

MANUFACTURED BY FLEMING BROS. NEW YORK, August 25, 1856. This is to certify that I am well acquainted with a man fifty years of age, for many years a resident of this city, who has been at times extremely ill, but could not tell from what cause, unless it was worms. He told his attending physician his suspicions, but the physician at once ridiculed the idea, and refused to attend him any longer. His son then mentioned Dr. M'Lane's Vermifuge, and asked him if he would take it; his reply was—I must take something to get relief, or die. They at once procured a bottle of Dr. M'Lane's Celebrated Vermifuge, and he took one half at one dose. The result was, he passed upwards of three quarts of worms, cut up in every form. He got well immediately, and is now enjoying most excellent health. He is well satisfied that Dr. M'Lane's Vermifuge, prepared by Fleming Bros. of Pittsburgh, is far superior to any other known remedy, and that if more generally known would not fail to save many valuable lives. For further particulars inquire of Mrs. Hardie, 124 Cannon Street, New York City.

Purchasers will be careful to ask for DR. M'LANE'S CELEBRATED VERMIFUGE, manufactured by FLEMING BROS. of PITTSBURGH, PA. All other Vermifuges in comparison, are worthless. Dr. M'Lane's genuine Vermifuge, also his celebrated Liver Pills, can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores. None genuine without the signature of FLEMING BROS.

Sold in Halifax, by JOHN NAYLOR, and Wm. LANGLEY.

Commercial.

HALIFAX MARKETS.

Table with columns for goods and prices. Includes items like Bread, Navy, per cwt., Beef, Prime, Ca., Butter, Canada, per lb., Coffee, Laguays, Jamaica, Tea, India, per cwt., Flour, Am. sp. per bbl., Canada sp., Rye, Cornmeal, Indian Corn, Molasses, Mus. per gal., Clayed, Pork, Prime, per bbl., Mess., Sugar, Bright P. R., per cwt., Bar Iron, com., Hoop, Sheet, Codfish, large, per qt., small, Salmon, No. 1, per bbl., No. 2, No. 3, Mackerel, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, Herrings, Alewives, Haddock, Coal, Sydney, per chd., Fire Wood, per cord, Fresh Beef, per cwt., Oatmeal, Pork, Fresh, per lb., Veal, Lamb, Bacon, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, per dozen, Poultry—Chickens, Geese, Ducks, Turkeys, per lb., Calf-skins, per lb., Yarn, Potatoes, per bushel, Apples, per barrel, Plums, none, Homoeop. Cloth (wool), per yd., Do. (cotton and wool).

PRICES AT THE FARMER'S MARKET, DEC. 16.

Table with columns for goods and prices. Includes items like Fresh Beef, per cwt., Oatmeal, Pork, Fresh, per lb., Veal, Lamb, Bacon, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, per dozen, Poultry—Chickens, Geese, Ducks, Turkeys, per lb., Calf-skins, per lb., Yarn, Potatoes, per bushel, Apples, per barrel, Plums, none, Homoeop. Cloth (wool), per yd., Do. (cotton and wool).

Married.

At Dartmouth, on the 10th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Shreve, Mr. Peter Farquharson, to Eliza, daughter of B. Elliot, Esq. On the 19th ult., by the Rev. P. G. McGregor, Mr. Adams A. McLeod, to Miss Mary Corbet, both of Middle Stewiacke. At the house of the bride's father, on the 27th ult., by the Rev. Charles Randall, Mr. Joseph Teabout, to Miss Wealthy Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Wagoner, all of Weymouth. At the house of the bride's father, on the 1st inst., by the same, Mr. Ethel Ring, of Long Island, Westport, to Miss Zilpha, sixth daughter of Mr. David Saxton, of St. Mary's Bay, Co. Digby. At Canaan Horton, Oct. 16th, by the Rev. William Barton, Mr. William Davison, of Falmouth, to Miss Eunice Rand, of Horton. Dec. 3rd, by the same, at Greenville Inn, the residence of the bride's father, Falmouth, Mr. Robert Laurence, to Miss Amanda L. Manning. At the same time and place, by the same, Mr. Otis Fitch, to Miss Anna Manning, both daughters of Thomas Manning, Esq., of that place. At Sackville, N. S., on the 21st ult., by the Rev. John Cameron, the Rev. John M. McLeod, of St. Eleanor's, P. E. I., to Miss Amelia, second daughter of Francis Parker, Esq., M. P. P. At St. John, N. B., on the 21st ult., Mr. Alex. McKay, of P. E. Island, to Miss Cooke, of Amherst, N. S. At Melford, Cornwallis, on the 19th ult., by the Rev. A. S. Hunt, Mr. James Burkhous, to Rebecca Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Wm. Huntly, both of Melford. On the 3rd inst., at the same place, by the same, Mr. George Andrew Jackson, to Mary Sophia, second daughter of the late William Tupper, both of Cornwallis. Oct. 23rd, by the Rev. W. G. Goucher, Mr. Harris H. Morse, of Annapolis, to Miss Eliza M. Morse, of Niagara. Oct. 29th, by the same, Mr. Silas P. Chute, of Cornwallis, to Miss Mahettable W. Morse, of Niagara. Nov. 11th, by the same, Mr. John Blancha, of Granville, to Miss Jane Katherine, of Wilmot.

Died.

On the 11th inst., Mr. Edward Sturmy, in the 71st year of his age. At St. Margaret's Bay, on the 10th inst., Isabella Hannah Bullock, aged 21 years. At Sheet Harbour, on the 1st inst., Mary Ann, the beloved wife of Capt. Daniel Lang, in the 47th year of her age. At Margarettville, Wilmet, on the 18th ult., Sarah Jane, youngest daughter of John and Eleanor Clark, aged 10 years. At Clarence, on the 5th inst., of inflammation, Caroline S., youngest daughter of the late George Brown, of Wilmot, in the 11th year of her age, leaving a widowed mother and one sister to mourn their sudden and unexpected bereavement. Short was the struggle which she bore, Brief was the painful strife, And then her spirit upward soared, Into immortal life. On the Coast of Labrador, on the 5th June, David Kennedy, aged 17 years, son of Capt. B. Kennedy, of Indian Harbour, East. The remains of deceased were preserved and brought home in October and interred in his native soil.

Try Stone's Liquid Cathartic. Habitual Constipation, Affections of the Liver, Impurity of the Blood, Etics, Epilepsy, Scrophulous and all other humors, Dyspepsia, Bilious Affections, Diarrhoea, and all diseases of the bowels will be completely removed by its use. In short, it will renovate the whole system and place it in a condition to resist the attack of all contagious diseases. Let those who do not enjoy perfect health resort at once to the use of this medicine. Agents in Halifax—G. E. MORTON & Co.

The California Herb Pills are astonishing everybody who has an opportunity to witness or experience their effects upon a disease. By them, humors of every kind are removed from the system; indigestion, sick or nervous headache, foul stomach, and all diseases arising from an impure, or morbid state of the blood, are readily cured. Agents in Halifax, G. E. MORTON & Co.

To sneeze, or not to sneeze, that is the question. Whether 'tis better to have a cold and suffer, or by taking snuff—and it! Buy Durno's Catarrh Snuff. A Liniment that will stimulate to action paralysed limbs, can not fail to cure the Rheumatism! We refer to the Mountain Indian Liniment of Dr. Durno. Agents in Halifax, G. E. MORTON & Co.

So universal was the use of ointment and cosmetics in the latter days of Rome, that the household of a wealthy Roman was considered incomplete if he had not in addition to a host of other servants, an attendant ointment-bearer, or unguentarius. Now, however, the discovery of the Vegetable Ointment, known as the Russian Salve, enables every householder, by the payment of 25 cents, to possess himself of an ointment more valuable than those of the ancients for the cure of cuts, bruises, burns, sores of every kind, and all wounds. Redding & Co., Proprietors. Agents in Halifax, G. E. Morton & Co.

Shipping List.

TUESDAY, Dec. 9th.—Brigt Golden Rule, Simpson, Matanzas, 16 days—Crestlight & Grassie; schrs Union McKenzie, Guysborough—Allison & Co; Highland Lass, McKenzie, Gabarus, C. B., 3 days—do; Hargett Newall, Parsons, St. John's, N. F., 4 days—Oxley & Co; Telegraph, McNab, P. E. Island; British Queen, P. E. I. WEDNESDAY, 10th.—Govt schr Lady Vivian, Walker, from a cruise on the Western coast; brig Sarah, Hopkins, St. Thomas, 19 days—H. Lytle & Co.; B. M. S. Merlin, Corbin, St. John's, N. F., via Sydney, 12 days—70 passengers; schrs Achiver, Banks, New York, 6 days—J. Lithgow, B. Wise & Co; Mary Ann, Balcom, Sydney, 4 days; Belleisle, Taylor, Baltimore, 6 days—D. Cronan; Albert, Townsend, Louisburg, 4 days; Matilda, Purves, Cause, 4 days; Emma, Pearson, P. E. Island—Black, Bros & Co; Challenge, and Elizabeth, do. THURSDAY, 11th.—Brigt Belle, Sphen, Ponce, 28 days—N. L. & J. T. West; schrs Lunenburg Packet, Lunenburg; Susan, Lang, P. E. Island; Amelia, Adelaide, Leblanc, do; Hero of Kars, Fraser, Victou; Eason, and Hook & Co; John Benson, Lunenburg; Fanny, and Catherine, Sydney; Three Brothers, Noaring, Pleasant Bay, N. F., 5 days; Deck, Active, Lady Smith, and Rainbow, P. E. Island. FRIDAY, 12th.—Bremer barque North America, Frederick, Bremen; 80 days—bound to New York passengers, all well, leaky, and in want of provisions; brig Arctic, Nickerson, St. John's, N. F., 6 days—Eason, Hook & Co; schr Emigrant, do—J. Whitman & Son; Independence, P. E. Island; Vulture, do; Sylvia, Young

Lunenburg; Emerald, Stewart, St. John, N. B.; Regina, Burke, Newfoundland; R. M. S. Delta, Hunter, St. Thomas and Bermuda.

SATURDAY, 13th.—Brigt Advalem, Harding, Porto Rico, 30 days—Salter & Twining; Dasher, Dolby, Montego Bay, Jamaica—J. Strachan; Onward, Lawson, St. John, P. R., 22 days—G. H. Starr & Co; brig Avosetta, Tufo, Baltimore, 21 days—S. A. White & Co; schrs Happy Return, P. E. Island; Augusta Parker, Smith, Boston, 3 days; Dove, Landry, P. E. Island; Lady of the Lake, Mermaid, St. John, N. B.; Lydia, Burke, Newfoundland. MONDAY, 15th.—Brigt Iris, Peters, Sydney, C. B., 15 days; reports has been twice driven off by the late gales—had deck swept and lost a man overboard; returned from sea, Curlew, hence, for St. John, N. B.

Cleared.

TUESDAY, Dec. 9th.—Schr Amagant, Nicholson, P. E. Island. WEDNESDAY, 10th.—Schr Palestine, Dixon, Newfoundland; barque Halifax, Laybold, Boston; R. D. DeWolf, Liverpool, G. B.; brig Ada, Simpson, St. John, N. B. THURSDAY, 11th.—R. M. S. Merlin, Corbin, St. John's, N. B.; C. W. Wright, Dickson, Newfoundland. FRIDAY, 12th.—Don, Morgan, Kingston, Ja. SATURDAY, 13th.—Hopeful, Fortune Bay, N. B.; Blanche, Cleverley, St. John's, N. B.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY

Will be offered our Friends in Lower Horton, Gasperaux, Wolfville, Kentville, and Cornwallis, during the Winter, FOR PROCURING LITHOGRAPHERS At Moderate Prices. Our SALOON will be located in the above named places, and those who desire Ambrotypes or Daguerreotypes, should call early; as our stay is somewhat limited. L. L. KEITH, J. B. DAVIDSON, Hantsport, Dec. 12, 1856.

UNITY

Fire & Life Insurance Associations, OF LONDON. Capital £2,500,000 Sterling.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR NOVA SCOTIA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, AND NEWFOUNDLAND. DIRECTORS: Hon. Joseph Howe, M. P. P., Chairman. Donald Murray, Esq. William J. Stairs, Esq. John Robin, Esq. M. P. P. Hon. Benjamin Wier, M. P. P. MEDICAL OFFICERS: Hon Wm. Grigor, M.D., and Patrick Molloy, Esq., M.D. SOLICITOR: Peter Lynch, Esq. SURVEYOR: William Finlay, Esq. SECRETARY AND MANAGER: James H. Liddell.

Advantages to insurers in the Fire Department.

A PARTICIPATION IN TWO THIRDS OF THE PROFITS; and as a guarantee to insurers, beyond the large proprietary, consisting of six thousand shareholders, the London Directors have deposited £10,000 Stg. in the BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, to be permanently invested as a Security Fund. All losses will be promptly settled by the Local Board without reference to England. There is a subscribed and untouched capital of £1,109,567 Stg., and a Premium Income of £33,000 per annum. The business of the Unity Fire Association continues to increase, and its popularity throughout England to be fully maintained, despite the efforts made to lower its standing; and the Directors of this Branch having faithfully investigated the state of its affairs, have no hesitation in recommending it to the Public. They have also resolved to place the rates of insurance as low as the safety of both the shareholders and the public will admit, and thus bring the benefits of insurance against Fire within the range of all parties; DEFENDING MORE UPON THE NUMBER OF INSURANCES EFFECTED WITH THEM, THAN ON A HIGH RATE OF PREMIUM. The best evidence of the continued and growing popularity of this association may be found in the fact that the London Office alone effected, in the two last weeks of October and the first in November, 1856, 500 Policies, covering £304,851 Stg.

Advantages to Insurers in the Unity Life Department.

Persons assuring their lives, can, after five annual payments, discontinue their Policies without loss, as the office will give a paid-up Policy for all the premiums received. Blank forms and Prospectus can be had on application at this office, or from the agents in the country districts. HALIFAX OFFICE, PRINCE STREET, Dec. 17.

Minutes of Associations Wanted.

THE MINUTES of the N. S. and N. B. Baptist Association for 1810, 1814, 1817, 1818, 1819, and 1822. The Minutes of the New Brunswick Association from 1822 to 1847 inclusive. The Minutes of the Eastern New Brunswick Association for 1818, 1850, 1852, and 1853. The Minutes of the Western New Brunswick Association for 1818, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855. The Minutes of the Baptist Convention for 1846 and 1847. Persons having copies of any of the above will much oblige by sending them by mail, with their address on the wrapper, to the Christian Messenger Office, Halifax, and shall have 3 copies of Crapp's Concise View of Christian Baptism sent by mail in return, for each year.

BELLER'S & CUNNINGHAM'S ALMANACKS FOR 1857. May be had at the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER BOOK DEPOSITORY wholesale or retail at the lowest rates.