

given at the opening of the Session. If any have wished to make it a party measure, they have found, as His Excellency remarked, that it is "a question so broad that in reality it covers the ground of all parties, and precludes it from becoming the measure of merely one Government or one party."

The action for carrying the Railway on to the New Brunswick border and to Annapolis, will, we trust, be followed up and rendered effectual. Difficulties will doubtless present themselves, but the sooner they are discovered the sooner may we expect to have them overcome, and the facilities of travel increased all over the province.

We cannot say that we are altogether satisfied with everything that has been done during the session, but it will be the duty of all to try and make the best of it, and we hope that what is still defective will receive attention at some future time; and thus secure what is the proper end of all good government, the benefit of the governed.

The Post office in Great Britain is becoming a remarkable blessing to the nation as well as a great public convenience. Not only is it a wonderfully economical arrangement for the transmission of letters, parcels and money, but for some time past it has assumed quite a paternal character by becoming a national Savings Bank for the small earnings of the poor.

This will be an unspeakable blessing to many laboring men; and will doubtless save thousands from becoming burdens on the public. The circumstance of the Annuity having Government security will present some guarantee for securing confidence in receiving the amount promised, instead of what has been sometimes the case in clubs formed for this purpose, when the time for drawing out has come, the funds have been deficient, or the club has wound up its affairs.

New Publications.

"LIFE IN HEAVEN," by the author of "Heaven our Home" and "Meet for Heaven." Roberts Brothers, Boston. Z. S. Hall, Halifax.

The former works of this author have secured an extensive circulation. This volume is an effort to render the contemplation of heaven and its associations a more constant habit of mind, and a subject of more familiar intercourse and conversation.

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, for May, published by the N. S., Board of Agriculture, contains some good articles, original and selected on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c. A review of "The Canada Farmer," in this month's issue, we presume written by the editor himself, speaks very highly of that periodical, stating that each number contains 61 quarto pages, replete with instructive and interesting matter, illustrated so fully as to render the work intelligible and attractive to all who have any interest in or love for rural affairs.

CHRISTOPHER DUNKIN, Esq., M. P. P. for Brome, Canada, will accept our thanks for the pamphlet containing a copy of his speech in opposition to the Confederation Scheme. It fills 64 pages.

We received a circular a few days since from Morris, Illinois, concerning arrangements for a "MINISTERS' INSTITUTE," for the purpose of giving two courses of Lectures in Doctrinal Theology, Ecclesiastical History, Evidence of Christianity, and Systematic Theology. The first to be given June 9th and following two weeks, at Shurtleff College, Illinois; and the second at the University of Chicago, Ill., June 30th and two following weeks.

Three lectures a day may be expected, making thirty-six to each session, and a portion of each day is to be spent in the consideration of some important topic connected with the labors of the ministry.

This is a fine plan for supplying those who have had but limited opportunities of educational training, and doubtless well adapted to aid a large number of those who have entered the ministry with but imperfect preparation for their work.

NEWS SUMMARY.

THE news of the week has been comparatively unimportant, compared with the exciting events that have of late marked the lapse of time.

Our English mails have arrived by steamer, bringing dates as late as the 15th of April, but there is little of interest beyond what we already knew.

The Plague, or by whatever term it may be designated, is still making fearful ravages in St. Petersburg and other parts of Russia. It is also said to have reached the borders of Prussia. The pestilence is said to have sprung from the Rye bread, in very general use among the poorer classes in Russia, rendered noxious by a disease called ergot, which attacks the grain as it ripens.

As the time approaches for the French troops to be withdrawn from Rome, reports are current of the withdrawal of the Pope from his capital to some of the Catholic countries of Europe, as it appears that there is every probability that without the aid of Foreign force, his subjects will compel him to abdicate his temporal power and confine him wholly to the exercise of the spiritual authority.

It will be seen by our extracts that the assassin Booth has been captured and killed in attempting to escape his pursuers. Several others of those concerned in the murderous plot have been apprehended. The funeral obsequies of President Lincoln have been observed with great pomp and solemnity in New York and other large cities.

The Confederate armies have, we believe, very generally surrendered under conditions, and have been sent back to their homes on parole.

Notices, &c.

On the 19th inst., I intend leaving home to visit New Ross, in the service of the Home Missionary Board. The Brethren and friends there may expect services as soon as possible.

Publino, April 18th, 1865. AUGUSTUS SHIELDS.

Annapolis Co. Ministerial Conference.

The Annapolis County Ministerial Conference will hold its next meeting at Parker's Cove, on Tuesday, the 9th inst.

Letters Received.

Rev. A. Weaver, 24th. W. J. Gates, 24th. G. S. Bailey, 11th. W. H. Chipman, 25th. \$4, 2 subs., and 2nd, \$7, 1 sub. I. M. Soley, 25th. Rev. M. P. Freeman, 22nd. E. Chute, 3rd, \$2.—1864 not pd. Rev. W. Hall, 26th. M. Kinsman, 26th, \$5.—Much obliged for suggestions whereby the C. M. will reach subscribers more speedily. Rev. Dr. Tupper, 27th and 28th, \$5. Rev. J. C. Morse, 25th, \$1, 1 sub. J. Whitman, 29th.—Fanny Weaver published monthly, 7 copies sent for a year for \$1.00

"Good Intent." Your article will appear next week. A letter from Rev. A. B. R. Crawley to Rev. Dr. Tupper came to hand too late for our present issue, but will appear in our next.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

NOT EASILY DISHEARTENED.—A proposal is made to form a new company to dig at Oak Island in search of the hidden treasure!

A NEW DREDGING MACHINE has just been completed at Cunard's establishment. It is intended to operate with it on the coast of Cape Breton.

The Bullfrog has again announced its death, on Saturday last, "at one o'clock, p. m." Its last dying gasp is the motto "Morituri Salutant."

ESCAPED PRISONERS.—Five persons—three soldiers and two civilians—broke out from the Provincial Penitentiary on Saturday morning last. A reward of \$500 was offered for their apprehension. They escaped by getting through the drain.

They were captured by the Military detectives on Sunday afternoon, at Terrence Bay. Five men will have to share the reward of \$500.

On Monday last another big lump of gold was brought from the German Company's Diggings at Waverly. It weighed 480 ounces. The produce of nine days labor of 130 men—more than two-fifths of an ounce to a man for one day's work.

OUR STREETS.—Some enquiry is again being awakened as to the proposed horse-railway for Halifax. It is now proposed to bring it along Lockman Street into Poplar Grove, and through Argyle Street. This would be a decided improvement to the city, and would avoid encumbering Water Street, already too narrow, with the increase of traffic which a horse-railway would occasion.

It is proposed to extend Hollis Street as far as Freshwater. This might be easily done if attended to forthwith, and buildings which would be obstructions, prevented in that direction.

New Brunswick.

THE CABINET.—The two vacant seats in the Executive Council of New Brunswick have been filled by the Hon. W. H. Odell, of the Legislative Council, and Mr. Hutchinson, one of the representatives of Northumberland.

Dr. Vail has been elected speaker of the New Brunswick House of Assembly, by a majority of 17 over Mr. McClellan.

The Legislature was opened on Thursday last. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor says in his Speech.

"In compliance with the desire expressed by addresses from both branches of the Legislature at its last session, I appointed Delegates to meet others appointed by the Lieut. Governors of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, for the purpose of considering the practicability of effecting a Legislative and Administrative Union of the Maritime Provinces of British North America. The report of these delegates will immediately be laid before you.

At the request of the Governor General of Canada, and with the approbation of the Queen I also appointed Delegates to a conference of representatives of the British North American Colonies, held in Quebec, in the month of October last, with a view of arranging the terms of a Federal Union of British North America.

The resolutions agreed to by this conference appeared to me to be so important in their character, their adoption fraught with consequences bearing so directly on the future condition and wellbeing of British America, that in order to enable the people of New Brunswick to give expression to their wishes on the subject, I determined to dissolve the then existing House of Assembly. I now submit the resolutions to your judgements.

You will do well to enquire whether it is possible to afford further facilities for the development and improvement of the railway system already existing in this Province.

Works for the completion and extension of the European and North American Railway from the frontier of Nova Scotia to that of the United States, will be undertaken as soon as practicable. But any immediate steps in this direction appears to be precluded by existing legislation.

STREET RAILWAY IN ST. JOHN.—A movement is on foot for making a railway from Reed's Point to Indian Town. A Bill is to be submitted to the Legislature for this purpose.

STEAMER BURNT.—The splendid steamer New England which has afforded such fine accommodation between St. John and Boston, was burnt to the water's edge early on Thursday last, while lying at the wharf in St. John. It is supposed to have originated from the breaking or explosion of a kerosene oil lamp. Two men were burned to death and one is supposed to have been drowned. The materials of the steamer were of so inflammable a nature that in 15 minutes from the alarm she was in flames from stem to stern. Captain Fields had not time to dress, but escaped with a portion of his clothes on, and saved nothing besides. The officers and crew barely escaped with their lives. Her hausers were burnt, asunder and she drifted out into the stream. Little could be done by way of extinguishing the flames till chains were passed around her and she was brought back, when the steam fire-engines played upon the flames, not in time, however, to save her from almost total destruction. She cost about £30,000 about three years since, and was not insured. She was owned almost entirely by parties in Boston and Portland.

SAD ACCIDENT.—TWO MEN DROWNED.—We learn from the News of Friday last that by the upsetting of a boat at Loch Lomond, having a fishing party on board, three persons were drowned.—Mr. James McLean, Deputy Shipping Master, Capt. Couillard of New York and Capt. George, of the ship "Hemisphere."

The St. John Telegraph has changed again from a daily to a tri-weekly issue. We learn from the St. John Globe of the 28th ult. that two boys were blown off to sea, from Quaco, in a small boat on Wednesday night week, and that they had not since been heard from.

Canada.

OIL.—The Toronto Globe of the 2nd ult. says: "We may expect an enormous development in the oil region during the present season; which will add largely to the wealth of the Province."

NAVIGATION on the rivers and canals of Canada is now entirely unobstructed.

PROLIFIC.—The Ingersoll Chronicle tells of a Durham cow, not quite six years old, belonging to a Mr. John Cannon, of West Oxford, giving birth to nine calves in three years. The latter calving she brought forth five weighing from 25 to 36 lbs. each. They died shortly after birth.

MAPLE SUGAR.—The Merrickville "Chronicle" says:—"Notwithstanding the prognostications of the wise ones, we understand that the quantity of sugar likely to be manufactured during the present season will far outweigh that of any ordinary year."

THE WHEAT CROP.—The Norfolk "Reformer" says:—"winter wheat in Charlotte looks remarkably well. The prospects for a good harvest were never better in this section at this season of the year. The plant comes out from under the winter covering of snow, green, healthy, and with scarcely a plant dead or missing."

FALL WHEAT.—The Goderich "Signal" says:—"From all the information we can gather, it appears that the fall wheat has passed through the winter remarkably well. The fields have not presented such a promising appearance at this season for several years past. Thus far the appearance of things for 1865 is very encouraging."

EARLY AT WORK.—A farmer residing in St. Pie, named Girouard, sowed six bushels of wheat on the 1st of April. It is decidedly the earliest operation of the kind in that locality, for many years back.—Quebec Chronicle.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS.—The Montreal Witness says that some of the Canadian manufacturers are dismissing all their hands owing to the gloomy prospects of business, and others are working partially.

THE FLOODS have caused great destruction in various parts of Canada. On the Islands of Sorel and Isles de Grace and Madame several lives have been lost. The water arose eleven feet and carried away many dwellings.

CARPETINGS, HEARTH RUGS, FLOOR, OIL CLOTH, &c. &c.

Just received per Steamship "Thames," at 150 Granville Street, A superior assortment of CARPETINGS,

CONSISTING OF— All Wool 2 & 3 Ply, Tapestry Carpetings, (very neat patterns,) Stair Carpetings, Hearth Rugs.

—ALSO— Floor Oil Cloths, in all Widths. SAM'L STRONG & CO.

April 26, TO MERCHANTS, SHIPMASTERS AND SAILMAKERS.

THE SUBSCRIBER would most respectfully inform the public, that he has invented and patented an improved Wrought Iron THIMBLE. Suitable for Iron Clews, and all kinds of hooks that are used on board of vessels of all sizes. The advantage of this thimble over the old plan, is that no serving or leather is required to keep the rope from chafing. The thimble is made in such a manner that the rope cannot touch the lower parts of the eyes in which it is spliced.

The Subscriber would caution parties against making, or in any way infringing on the said Patent Thimble without his permission as such infringement would be prosecuted according to law.

N. B.—For any further information, please apply to ALEXANDER ROBINSON, BLACKSMITH, Upper Water Street, Halifax, N. S. 3 mths.

W. E. HEFFERNAN'S FURNITURE HALL, Prince Street, near Fuel Yard.

ALWAYS ON HAND, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF PARLOR & BED ROOM FURNITURE.

Also, Mattresses of all kinds, Feathers, Looking Glasses, Iron Bedsteads, &c., &c., selling at the lowest prices. W. E. HEFFERNAN.

April 27, 1 yr

Blanks. Magistrates Blank Summonses, Executions &c., &c., Prothonotary's and Lawyers Blanks for sale at the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE, 69 GRANVILLE STREET, Halifax, N. S.

April 26, 1 yr

Ayer's Cathartic Pills.