THE CHINESE QUESTION.

We in Canada are having our share of the great "Chinese question," and are likely to have more of it as the years pass by. Wherever John Chinaman has made his appearance, he has given rise to many discussions, and not a little heart-burning. It is to be borne in mind, however, by those who cry out against the presence of these Chinese in Canada or the United States, that they are not on this continent or in Europe by sufferance, but by right. According to the provisions of all the treaties made between European or American Governments and the Chinese, the subjects of each of the contracting parties have full liberty to travel or reside within the territories of the other on the well understood terms of conducting themselves in a peaceful fashion and of obeying the laws of the land in which they sojourn. The Chinese did not seek intercourse with the outside nations. It was all on the other side, and if the results are turning out to be not quite what was anticipated, let the blame be laid on the right shoulders. The expulsion of the Chinese from British territory could not decently be asked without every British subject being at the same time withdrawn from Chinese soil, and on that condition we have not a doubt about the Chinese Government being quite ready to order home at a moment's notice all its wandering subjects found within the British dominions. Indeed, those who are crying out about the Chinese invasion, and the ruinous effects of cheap labour may be reminded that only have the Chinese treaty rights giving them power to travel or settle in British territory, but that that right was not asked for by the Chinese Ambassador, but was voluntarily inserted by the British Envoy, in order to give an appearance of fairness to what had been forced on the Chinaman at the point of the bayonet. We are besides in danger of forgetting in all these discussions and outcries that the Chinese are not ignorant, barbarianss; but a shrewd, keen, accomplished, and in many respects talented people, who have a wonderful adaptability of character, a keen commercial instinct, and an energy and perseverance which may yet astonish the Anglo-Saxon, with his overweening confidence in his own superiority, and make him doubt whether that confidence has been so well founded as supposed.

On this subject a rather interesting paper appears in the current number of *Harper's Magazine*, in which statistics are given to show how rapidly the Chinese are supplanting the Anglo-Saxons and other Europeans in the business transactions of Eastern and Insular Asia, and that not merely in the humbler departments, but in all those enterprises which require breadth of view, energy of purpose, a certain amount of prudence and dash combined, as well as accuracy of calculation, and that alertness and accuracy of decision; the lack of which renders all other mercantile excellences of little use. They came in at first when China was opened to foreign commerce, in a comparatively humble character, and were used for comparatively humble work. But they have gradually made themselves indispensable to their employers, and are now taking the business into their own hands. The Chinese *Comprador*, or go-between, has in Chinese traffic, in the vast majority of cases, the master, and both in buying and banking can dictate his own terms. So it has come to pass that by associating with and being used by foreign merchants, the Chinese have learned their lesson with surprising accuracy, and where all used to be foreign at Chinese ports open to foreign traffic, there are Chinese Banks, Insurance Companies, Boards of Trade, Steamship Companies, etc., all under Chinese management and supported by Chinese capital. Chinese importers and exporters have agents in London, San Francisco, and elsewhere, and do their work without the bondage or expense of any middle man. Foreign houses had all the traffic at first. In a short time they will have scarcely any. Foreigners in China are year by year giving up the competition in despair. Even in Hong Kong the proportion of Chinese merchants is large and every year on the increase. In the traffic of Cochin China the Chinese have already secured five-sixths of the whole. In Singapore, Java, Malacca, Burmah, and all round that country the same process is going on. John lives and thrives, spreads and triumphs, in ways and in places which could never antecedently have been expected. The carrying trade has become largely his, so has banking, and so have all the different shades of business in all those extensive and wealthy countries.

The secret is that he does his work as a servant well and cheaply, and has all the energy and self-reliance necessary to his going in due time into business for himself.

As yet he has got littte further west than Burmah, but he is working his way in that direction, and it is but a question of time when he will be in large numbers among the millions of India, and he will make his mark there as elsewhere. Is the Chinaman likely to be a formidable social and commercial factor in the future of our continents? Everything seems to indicate that if matters are allowed to take their natural course he will. If things are *not* allowed to take their natural course, some very cogent reason will need to be given why an embargo should be placed upon ingenious, peaceful, and industrious people going wherever they please, and taking and doing work on terms agreable to themselves wherever they can find an opportunity. If every one who is comparatively ignorant, with rather demoralized religious ideas and a spirit that is content with little, is to be excluded from Canada for instance, where shall we begin, and where shall we end? Levy a prohibitory tax upon the Chinese, is the same thing to be done with the negro, or the East Indian, with the Italian or the Irishman? If not, why not? Are we afraid that the heathen, semi-civilized habitudes of the Chinaman will be too much for the counteracting forces of Christianity, and the higher Anglo-Saxon civilization? Or are we to confess that if the British merchant is to continue to exist, he must be "protected" against the competition of one who till lately was thought good enough to serve in the lower walks of commerce, but now shows that he has both the desire and power to rule in the highest.

THE EFFECT OF STIMULANTS.

The action of the stimulants in so far as they effect the system and tissues is but imperfectly understood, and the question of its elimination from the body or its retention and oxidation there has been angrily debated. It was long supposed, even by experienced chemists and physicians, that alcohol passed from the system wholly unchanged, acting while there only as a stimulant. Some valuable scientific evidence was given a short time ago upon this point before a committee of the House of Lords. According to the opinions expressed by the eminent authorities examined, the view that alcohol is eliminated from the organs unchanged is now no longer held, but is wholly refuted by the result of experiment. Pro. Binz, of Bonn, has conclusively demonstrated that, to the extent of two ounces, pure alcohol is absorbed into the system, and oxidizes there, this oxidation producing the agreeable feeling of warmth and comfort which induces many persons to drink spirits. To this extent, too, it may be regarded as food, producing, as it does, a definite amount of certain formes of force. According to Dr. Brunton, alcohol in small doses, increases the gastric secretion, and thus promotes and aids digestion. As a therapeutic agent, medicinally used, it has a powerful and beneficial effect. In fainting of the heart, constitutional or temporary, owing to shock or otherwise, alcohol stimulates and rouses the process of stimulation. Contrary to expectation, it lowers the temperature of the body when administered to persons suffering from fever. In the form of port wine it has a valuable soothing effect upon the patient, reducing the burning heat of the blood, and calming the delirium of the brain. It has also the power of arresting fermentation and preserving animal matter, while it seems to hinder the development of organic disease germs in certain zymotic maladies. This fact is of the utmost possible importance, though, as yet, but insufficiently understood and investigated. There can be little doubt, that the use of stimulants —of course, in moderation—does, as Dr. Farr implies, act as a preventative of infection and contagion with those who temperately indulge in good wine or even pure spirits. On the other hand, an excessive indulgence in these powerful and stimulating beverages produces the most disastrous effects. Causing a rush of blood to the surface of the body, it leaves the internal organs cooler, and the colder the external air the greater the liability of the system to be chilled down. It further contributes, when taken regularly in large quantities, to the degeneration of the tissues, which compose the principal organs of the system, such as the liver, the heart, the spleen, the kidneys. When the degeneration has commenced, owing to an incipient disease, it hastens the destructive process, and of course, shortens considerably the life of the drunkard or dispsomaniac. The tendancy of dram-drinking to produce disease omong the poorer classes is additionally enhanced by the fact that the spirits they drink are adulterated, and the vile concoctions they occasionally swallow are a frequent cause of illness, apart from the indulgence itself. Even middle class people should be careful of the wine they are in the habit of drinking; for M. Pasteur, in his work *Maladies des Vins*, shows that poor wines undergo a peculiar change of the nature of a disease, and this Dr. Farr points out, accounts for many of the sad conseqnences of excessive drinking.

Irrespective, however, of all medical and scientific testimony as to the beneficial effects of stimulants when taken in moderation, there is one decisive test which has long ago settled the question. The universal experience of mankind throughout centuries in various conditions and under all circumstances is conclusive as to the necessity of a beverage partaking of the nature of a food and a stimulant. It is only a reasserting commonplace truth to say that the 5,000 individuals who annually kill themselves by indulgence in excessive drinking are merely so many cautions against intemperance, and furnish not a single argument in favour of its abstention. As reasonable would it be to prohibit the employment of chloroform an anæsthetic because, if carelessly administered, it is sometimes fatal; or, forbid the use of strychnine as a medicine, because, uncautiously taken, it is a virulent poison. To abstain wholly from the use of wine and fermented liquors through fear of becoming a drunkard is about as logical as never going near or on a river for fear of drowning, instead of learning to swim. Besides this, the implication that a man must be either a total abstainer or an habitual drunkard, is mischievous and discreditable to rational beings. The wisest of men and the most renowned of nations have ever enjoyed in moderation the "goods the gods provide." From the symposium of Plato to the meetings at the Mermaid, where the assembly included Shakespere and Ben Johnson, the wisest, wittiest, and worthiest of mankind have ever found inspiration, while they derive pleasure, from a genial cup of wine. "Man," says Dr. Farr "has many wants. He requires water but only a certain quantity. He requires meat and bread, but in definite quantities. He requires wine; but also a certain quantity, precisely as a steam engine requires water and fuel in certain proportions." Men supplies these needs automatically. He has appetites and desires, and he measures his wants. But all these have to be regulated by a higher faculty. He must gauge his wants by his reason, and judge of what is necessary for him by repeated experience. Herein, too, lies the remedy for intemperance and excessive indulgence in all fleshly appetites and sensual excesses. Improved education, tending to a higher degree of intelligence, will continue to reduce the proportion of death from drink, and, for the rest, most persons will agree with Dr. Farr's assertion that "the present mixed dietary of wines and ales, in due proportion with vegetable and animal food, while yielding the maximum energy of life, is conductive to its duration."

Communications.

For the "Agriculturist."

CITY VOTING.

SIR,—I was much pleased with your editorial remarks of last Saturday, and struck with the novelty at the scheme proposed. I have long been of the opinion that the citizens of Fredericton require some reform in their Civic institutions, if they value cheap or good government. As matters now stand, the franchise is an altogether one-sided affair, the lowest rate-payer is a sufferer as well as the wealthiest, while the latter is at the mercy of the extravagant and reckless representative. With regard to the present Council,—the members of the different wards—I believe them to be all actuated by the loftiest motives, and if unbecoming expenditures sometimes present themselves in the actions of the Board, it is because they feel that there is property enough in the City, as a backbone, upon which to make the outlay, and that necessity requires it. But if property owners had more to say in the election of Aldermen, the candidates would understand that injudicious expenditures would not meet with the sanction of their supporters, and good would result to all the rate-payers. There is one point, Mr. Editor, you might have brought out in your excellent remarks in reference to the "cumulative" principle of voting. You are aware that the defaulters' list for years, has been very heavy. Last year, if I am correctly informed, there were upwards of 300, involving a deficiency to the revenue of some thousands of dollars. What is the effect of this? Why, that property the next year has to make up the deficiency, in other words, those who are able must pay for those who are not able; and hence the burden falls year after year, upon property (including income), tuhs making good the previous year's deficiency. But I agree with you, that eight votes would be too many for any single rate-payer to cast. I think that five would be ample protection. For a man who had two votes, would feel it to be his duty to exercise his franchise against extravagance, as one having five votes. But, as you remark, this belongs to the details of any plan or scheme that may be adopted. Some change, at all events, however small, would be an improvement upon the present system.

A TAX PAYER.

Fredericton, August 23, 1878.

BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "AGRICULTURIST."

The State elections which takes place on the 5th November next, bid fair to be more than usually exciting. The Republican party is very sanguine and expects to be successful; but then again so does the Democratic. The outlook generally is very hazy and doubtful. It is doubtful who will be the Republican candidate for Governor, it is still more doubtful who will be the Democratic. Will the Democrats unite in support of Butler? If they do, will a portion of the party bolt and go with the Republicans? Will any of the Republicans bolt the party and vote for Butler? That Butler himself intends to make all the trouble in his power, and that it lies in his power to make a great deal, is the one element in the whole matter which is *not* doubtful. He is already sending out circulars from his office, Pemberton Square, to all parts of the State. His high-priest, Kearney, supposing the working-men have a moderate amount of brains, has certainly done him more harm than good. The advice to "pool your issues" is not likely to be followed, unless that one can show by good, solid argument the necessity of doing so. This is entirely out of his power to do. He is simply a windy blatherskite, whose speeches shorn of their indecency, profanity, and blasphemy, are the veriest bosh, as devoid of argument, as of common sense. Again, what do the people here care for the Chinese question which he is forever bringing forward, making "down with the leprous Mongolian" a companion cry to "pool your issues." His principal stock-in-trade consists of a few set phrases, which, when not indecent, are profane, and when not profane, are blasphemous. The greatest danger for the State, perhaps, lies in the possibility of Butler capturing the Democratic Convention. A few days since, Speaker Randall (Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives), paid Boston a visit, and it is presumed that he came for the purpose of conferring with prominent Democratic politicians as to the advisability of nominating him (Gen. Butler), for Governor. And there is no doubt he would secure a large vote, if he did not get the majority, He has a reputation for smartness, which goes a long way with a certain class, which, though not the best, is very numerous. He can smell out a flaw, or technical error in an indictment with the unerring scent of a well-trained hound; enlarge the smallest conceivable loophole of escape sufficiently to allow a burgular or midnight assassin to jump through it; and is besides utterly unscrupulous and devoid of principle. The Nationalists, Greenbackers, the criminal classes, and the ignorant will unite under his banner, and will probably give the Republican party enough to do to defeat him, if he obtains the Democratic nomination. The Republicans will nominate either Gov. Price, or ex-Gov. Talbet; probably the letter. If so, I venture to predict that he will defeat all comers.

A very interesting paper, especially interesting just now when the great question of labor is creating so much attention, has just been issued from the Bureau of Statistics of Labor of this city. By its investigation last year the Bureau showed that the number of employed had increased over the number of unemployed in 1875, this was, of course, very satisfactory, but it was felt that something more was needed to enable the people to judge for themselves and to prove conclusively that the reckless assertions of agitators and demagogues were gross exaggerations.

The canvass was intended at first to include cities only, but it was finally decided to take in the whole State. The smaller towns were not *canvassed* as the cities were, but estimates were made by officials in every way competent to do so; and where the different officials varied in any way the *highest* estimate was invariably adopted.

The returns show that there were in this State, on the 1st June, 1878, 8,560 skilled, and 13,252 unskilled workmen out of employ; or a total of 21,812 *males* above the age of eighteen. To ascertain the number of females, 30.7 per cent. is added to the above total (this being the proportion of females to males employed), which gives 28,508 as the aggregate number of both sexes. The report proceeds "The public can place the utmost confidence in this statement; and we have no fear of successful refutation. Against it can only be placed the wild guess of some one who does not stop to consider his statement, and who has not the slighest foundation for his figures. The figures given are greater, rather than less, than the real number out of work."

The figures given in the report may seem large, but the public generally will appreciate the efforts made by the Bureau to obtain possitive information. Such wild statements have been made by speakers who appeal, for their own purposes, to the passions of the working men, that it was high time something was done to prove them false. It has been said, again and again, in the halls of Congress as well as on the stump that not less than 200,000, and some have gone as high as 300,000, were out of work in this State, and that there were at least 40,000 in this city alone.

Business is looking up; the outlook has not been so favorable as at present, for some years. Merchants are looking forward to a lively Fall trade. All hope that hard times has reached bottom at last, and that the return tide "which taken at the flood leads on to fortune" has set in. If our statesmen will only legislate for the good of the country, instead of for the party, business will soon recover, and attain a natural and healthy condition.

The weather during the past week has been the vilest of the season. To breathe was painful, to work impossible, all one could do was to lay down and pant. Men walked about (when compelled) with legs as limp as their collars, praying for a breath of that easterly breeze they will so much abuse next Spring. But soon the dog days will come to an end, and life will be more bearable.

R. C. H.

Boston, Aug. 20, 1878.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 24, 1878.

THE SITUATION.

An official notification from Ottawa has fixed beyond doubt the time of holding the Dominion elections. The 16th and 17th of September will be nomination and polling days. In view of the near approach of such an important event, which as leaders of both political parties are accustomed to say, will decide for five years, "the weal or the woe" of the Dominion, it will not be out of place here to take a glance at the situation. It is distinctly to be understood that whenever the leaders, whether they be Grit or Tory, speak in that way of weal and woe, they always mean that it will be for the weal of the Dominion if they have its government on their hands, and for its woe if they are sent to or kept in the cold shades of opposition.

Everything it may be presumed, has now been said by speakers and writers on both sides that can be said in favor of their own party, and to the detriment of their opponents. No one will ever be able more clearly to understand the situation than he is now. What Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Cartwright said in St. John on Thursday night; they said substantially more than a month ago in Toronto and Strathroy. They introduced a few variations to suit the locality, but the body of their argument was the same there as elsewhere.

There are two issues on both sides in the present contest, the conduct and the policy of the present government, and the policy of the opposition and the character, to put it shortly, of its leaders. Charges of corruption or mal-administration against the Grit government are easily met by the *tu quoque* argument by showing that the McDonald government are guilty of similar, but infinitely worse offences. The boldest members of the Tory party would pass the spunge of oblivion over the acts of their leader. Mr. McKenzie is on trial they would say, Sir John is a witness against him, and not a criminal in the opposite dock. But Sir John himself, as one of his late speeches proves, does not assume that attitude. He is quite willing to confess that he was by no means immaculate when he was leader of the government, nay, that he was corrupt, if it will be conceded that Mr. McKenzie is as bad as himself. He would probably be glad to dismiss summarily mutual charges of corruption, feeling that the less said about the subject the better for himself. But Mr. McKenzie will not, nor will his Grit followers by any means, admit that he is bad as Sir John. He is altogether a different sort of man. He will admit that in the heat and fury of a great election both parties will go great lengths, though it would be to much to expect him to confess, that his friends would go so far as his foes. His friends may write big push letters, and drum very hard for subscriptions and supporters, but as for himself he will say, (and the Toronto *Globe* has said as much for him) that he would die sooner than sell a railway contract to a great capitalist, in order to raise means to enable him by bribery and corruption to maintain himself in power. Take the most unfriendly view of the charges against his administration, the needless and ruinous purchase of steel rails, the Neebing Hotel, the Fort Frances Lock, and Fort Pelly buildings, jobs, the relieving Mr. Foster in Georgian Bay branch contract, the favoritism shown for contracts with Norris, Nelson & Co., the purchase of Kaministiquia terminus, &c., &c., and sum up the total loss to the country, as Senator McPherson does at 4½ million dollars or so, still the feeling raised by such acts as charges like these point to, is nothing akin to the feeling that was aroused by the Pacific Scandal. Most people probably do not clearly understand to what these charges really amount, and they are pretty indifferent about them; they may think that they are capable of a decent explanation, they certainly do not feel ashamed or wrathful over them, they are not the kind of corrupt acts that convulse a country, create a crisis, hurl a government, that has long enjoyed the confidence of the people, from power and that form a turning point in history. In contrasting the characters of the administrations of Mr. McKenzie and Sir John A. it is but common justice to take into account these circumstances, which make for adversity and prosperity and which are quite beyond the control of leaders, however able. Bad times came in with Mr. McKenzie it will be said, but that is very different from saying as his enemies assert, that bad times came in because Mr. McKenzie came into power. Let Sir John A's speeches be read, and it will be seen that he is never tired of glorifying the years of his administration; at that golden time the people of the Dominion was united, prosperous and happy; Providence smiled upon him, Sir John; but when Mr. McKenzie took his place, then followed general depression of trade, manufactories were closed, workmen has either to starve or fly the country; then came yearly deficits of the revenue, and still with all there came increasing expenditures, and last but not least, the Colorado bug appeared. But it is pretty certain, that if Sir John A. had not been constrained to resign at the close of the year 1873, when the pinch of hard times began to be felt, but had held the reins of government up to this year of grace 1878, he would not in his public utterances have been found so confidently asserting that Providence was on his side. We do not pretend to account for the general depression of business that has so extensively and for so long prevailed, not only in Canada, in the United States, and over the world at large, nor is it requisite for us to do so. We need only to point to some of the results of the general depression of trade that appear uncontrollable by any administration, such as the glutting of the market with goods caused by overproduction, leading to the complete or partial stoppage of manufacturing industries, and the decline generally of business, the fall in wages and incomes, and the consequent inability of workmen and others to purchase dutiable goods so freely, the decrease in the amount of goods producing revenue and causing deficits. The opponents of the Grit administration assert that it should have done something to relieve the distress, and that if the Tories had been in power, they would have done that something. They have the advantage of dealing with a matter not capable of direct proof, but this much may be said, that if they knew how the general distress could have been relieved, their patriotism was not so strong as their partisanship, and that they preferred to see the country in trouble to strengthening at what they declare was a critical juncture of affairs, the hands of Mr. McKenzie.

Sir John A. McDonald and Mr. McKenzie are only fairly accountable we think, for the faults of their administration. It may be asked, did not Sir John lay the foundation of a good deal of the financial involvements that made the task of governing more difficult for his successor than it might have been. Sir John legislated as if good times plethoric revenues were to be perpetual, when he should have known that ever since Canada had a government, there have been flux and reflux in the revenues, a period of advance having always been followed by a period of decline, and he ought surely to have taken this inevitable law into consideration.

But while he was carried on the crest of the wave of prosperity, animated by the idea of completing the work of union (in which idea if it was all purely disinterested and patriotic, there was something grand). Sir John pacified Nova Scotia, acquired the Hudson Bay and Northwest Territory brought in British Columbia, and P. E. Island, on liberal and most extravagant terms. If any jaring claims were to be reconciled, any discontent smoothed over, by, or granting better terms, increasing subsidies, and any difficulty was to be removed. and money could do it, Sir John did it. He had great ideas, worthy a statesman of a very great and very rich country. He undertook great works, which he would have been perfectly justified in carrying out if he had sure means at his command. The worst fault perhaps that can be charged against him is that he was premature and too rash. He was bound to construct the Intercolonial railway, but might have chosn a much less costly route. He undertook great works whose usefulness cannot be denied, the deepening and the enlargement of canals that committed the country to vast expenditures, rolling up the amount of debt, and entailing a perpetually increasing charge on the revenue, he unnecessarily committed the Dominion to proceeding with work on the Pacific railway route, and in many ways he increased the cost of governing the country as by increasing the salaries of governors, ministers and members, and by adding to the numbers as well as adding to the incomes of the clerks of departments, &c.

If Mr. McKenzie objected to various vast expenditures under the McDonald administration, it will be with some an unanswerable accusation against him, that he did not, when he was in power, put a stop, to while the revenue was falling off, and debt liabilities increasing, some of these great works and bring back the salaries and pay of all officials to their first amount. To which it might be answered that it would cost the country eventually more to put a stop to works once begun than to carry them out, and that it is an excessively delicate thing to carry out a reduction of salaries. If with unbiased mind the acts of the McKenzie administration with regard to reduction of expenditures, within their full control are considered, it will hardly be denied that a considerable saving has been effected, about a million and a quarter of dollars. The sum total of expenditure is larger now than it was five years ago, and there is no use blenking the fact that the public expenditures will increase as the debt contracted in carrying act great public works and other engagements rolls up, adding to the perpetual and uncontrollable outlay of the country, but, if the present Grit regime continues. it may be with some confidence expected that the ordinary and untrollable expenditures will be reduced, or, at least, kept within prerent bounds. Mr. McKenzie has it may be said, been tried by adversity, what great things might he not do in prosperity, if Providence, in the McDonald sense, smiled upon him. We must take up the second part of our subject another time.

HEATING OF A CITY BY STEAM.

An attempt is being made at Lockport, N. Y., situated on the Erie Canal, to introduce the Holly system of steam heating of cities through pipes laid in the public streets.

A party of gentlemen from Toronto, including three mechanical engineers, on the invitation of the holder of the patent right for the Dominion of Canada, visited Lockport and inspected the system, about a fortnight since. A few capitalists formed a joint stock company—a year ago—and subscribed $25000. Pipes were put down to the aggregate length of three miles, extending through portions of fifteen different streets, ascending and descending several heavy grades, and connected with forty large dwelling houses, two large public buildings, and two steam engines. A correspondent of the Toronto *Globe*, one of the visiting party, writes:—

In order to understand clearly the nature of the test, to which the works were subjected, it should be borne in mind that the mains had not been used for the transmission of steam for heating purposes since last spring, and that the fire in the boiler-house had only been lit once, some six weeks before, for the satisfaction of an inspecting party from New York. It may also be explained that there are three boilers arranged side by side, but for ordinary purposes last winter two were found amply sufficient, and only one was heated during the experiment on this occasion. For a very short distance from the boilers the conducting main is six inches in diameter. It then falls to four inches, and shortly afterwards to two. From the boiler-house the main makes an extensive circuit of about one and one-third miles to a spot where a guage can be affixed and the lateral mains for streets and houses intervening bring this distance up to about two miles. At something like half-way between these extremes another gauge was affixed to the main, so as to afford the means of testing the rapidity with which the pressure could be got up at points of varying distance. At thirty-four minutes past two the fire was started, and in 28 minutes the gauge on the boiler indicated a pressure of 50 lbs. The steam was then let into the main, and in nine minutes more the pressure had fallen to 35. It was found that in exactly an hour from the lighting of the fire the steam had reached the middle opening, or in other words, had traversed about a mile of cold piping, driven out all the water of condensation and so heated the pipes as to sensibly lower the rate at which concensation took place. Within a trifle over an hour and a half from the start the gauge at the distance of two miles began to indicate pressure, and in two hours the amount indicated was 28 lbs., that at the boiler being at the same moment 21 lbs. higher. It was ascertained afterwards that the test was at first supposed, for as soon as the steam began to be produced in sufficient quantities one of the engines supplied by the mains was set at work sawing wood, and was kept working all the time of the experiment. The fire being kept on the whole of the night, it was found that the difference next morning between the pressure at the boiler and that at the furthest opening was only 8lbs., while the middle guage showed only a difference of 4lbs. Even this discrepancy was abnormally great, the pipes not having become quite as hot as they would have been after two or three days' use.

The Holly works were in use last winter in Stockport. Everybody, it is said, inventors, capitalists, engineers are quite satisfied that the scheme is a triumphant success. Before they claim a triumph they had better extend their works in Stockport and to other cities, and try them for two or three winters yet. But is fair to add that the consumers are satisfied also. It is estimated that the average consumption of coal by each of them per day was 37½ lbs.

On their recent visit to the Spotted Tail Agency, the Indian Commissioners were addressed in the following vigorous manner by the noted Chief whose name the Agency bears:—

I am going to talk to you, and I want you to take down my words. What you say I want to take down also. Every big council we hold we look ahead for our children. I went to my Great Father and saw him. I was told that he had sent the Congress away and had taken the chair. You were there (addressing Mr. Hoyt, Commissioner of Indian Affairs). He told us that there was no money to haul my goods and provisions. He told me to come here and eat my food. That is the law my Great Father gave me and I have stuck to it. My Great Father told me, when you go back "pick out a good country." I have done so. I now want to move inside of ten days. That is what my Great Father told me, and that he would give me waggons and horses, so as to mow the grass. He said he would give us a big schoolhouse, and I told him I wanted the Catholic priests, and you heard it, and Red Cloud said the same thing. These people here who are ringing the bells (Episcopal clargymen on the reservation) are lying to me all the time; take them back. I don't want them. If you can't let me have the priests, I don't want any of them at all.

I want a lot of wagons so my people can go to work. I want the whites and half-breeds in my camp taken care of. I want a paper with the amount of money appropriated for me. The bald-headed men (Congressmen) all lie to me. The Catholic priests are the ones I want to educate my children so they can read and write. My Great Father gave me Major Lee as Father but took him away and gave me another. I would like to have him for ten years (meaning Major William I. Pollack, the agent now in charge.) I don't like to change agents after they know my ways. Look at us all and see if we are not able to work. Hire forty or fifty of us and pay us; see if we can't work. We can cut hay and put in work. How much will you pay us a month? I went to my great Father and told him my wishes. I have been waiting for you. My young men had horses but bad men stole them away. I have told my agent and I have raised my hand, swearing to have my horses paid for, but it don't do any good. I also told my agent that white people were cutting down my timber. I want pay for it, but you have not told me about it.

Lately in an article on the settlement of our Forest Lands, we said in effect that something might be done to induce the young men of the Province to settle on its lands, and that the first condition for success was the construction of good roads. The following paragraph, concerning a new settlement near the St. John, from the *Telegraph*, is to the point.

There are now some fifteen settlers who have made clearings and got crops in on the south branch of the Becaguimic, commencing about four miles from Woodstock Junction on the New Brunswick Railway. The wheat which they have planted looks remarkably well as do the other crops. A survey is being made for these settlers and if good land enough be found in the locality, twenty five or thirty more will become settlers. The flats on this stream are said to be very good, but their extent is not very great. The tendency to settle on farms among people in the country is on the increase and if good roads were made through good wilderness land, thousands of acres would be occupied by young men desirous of becoming farmers. We must have the roads, and the Province and also our leading citizens should assist in getting such roads.

Lockjaw is one of the most terrible diseased to which mortals are exposed. A Calafornia exchange asserts that no one need be in danger of such an attack from wounds caused by rusty iron. The worst cases of inflamed wounds may be cured by smoking the injured part with burning wool or woolen cloth. Anything that produces safety from such a fatal disease is worth recording.

Communism is one of the admitted dangers of the time. It may be said to have scriptural warrant for its existence, for with the early christians were not all goods in common? If all men were honest, selfdenying, disinterested, loved their neighbors as themselves, communism might be possible, but while selfishness is the main passion of human nature, the attempt to establish and maintain it would lead to civil war and "universal uproar." Communism has assumed various guises and names, but the thing itself is as old as the discontent of men who are dissatisfied with their portion in life. In its worst form it is a revolt against all religion, all restraints on passion, against society as at present constituted; it would confound all distinctions of rank, station, ability, character, reduce life to a level uniformity, where everybody would be equally well or ill off, and equally miserable. There has been, and is, great discontent among a portion of the working classes, in the United States, fears have been entertained that they will rise in revolt, and it is certain they are tainted with the spirit of communism. When inquiry is made into what the discontents think would remedy the evils complained of, it is seen that very extraordinary and conflicting ideas have possession of their minds. They want easy hours of work with frequent holidays, wages fixed by law, cheap food, clothing, luxuries abolishment of tariffs, reduction of taxes, free railway travel, free loans from government, and such an amendment of the constitution as would place preponderance of political power in their hands. Yet they would destroy the means of maintaining themselves in work and comfort by abolishing capital and capitalists, and they would take away all incentines to individual energy, skill, industry, by making it impossible that anyone could accumulate wealth hold private property, or become owner of land. They would make wild work of Government and society, if they had their way.

A strange scene took place in the British House of Commons one evening this month. During a discussion on the allowance granted to the wives and children of the Reserves. Major O'Gorman, member for Waterford, Ireland, interrupted Col. Stanley, Secretary of war, by calling "hear, hear" in stentorian tones after every sentence. On being called on by the Speaker to desist the Major excitedly declared that he was not interrupting Col. Stanley, and insisted that he had a right to cry "hear, hear" after every comma, every colon, every semicolon spoken and that he intended to do it. The House was now in rather an excited state. Some of the Irish members tried to smoothe over the conduct of the Major; the Chancellor of the Exchequer insisted that he should apologise to the chair, on his persisting in his unruly conduct, and on refusing to apologise, the speaker, said: I name you Major O'Gorman for having interrupted the proceedings of the House etc.' "Hear, hear" called the member "named." As the Chancellor of the Exchequer was speaking of the propriety of his withdrawing in order that the House might consult on his conduct the Major, with an "obsequious" bow to the speaker withdrew. Next day the member of Waterford was a sadder and wiser man. On being called to his seat by the Sergt-at-Arms in pursuance of a resolution passed the previous evening to answer for his conduct to "the chair" he made a suitable apology which the House hastened to accept. The cause of the Major's excitement was the refusal of the War Dapartment to promote his nephew, after 13½ years service as Lieutenant. He had came into the House after seeing his relative sail for Malta, in state of great exasperation.

A new universal Postal Treaty was recently concluded at Paris, being a revision of the Berne Postal Treaty 9 Oct., 1874. Canada is a party of it.

The changes made, so far as they affect postage rates, go into effect on April 1st next, and are restricted to articles of mail and printed matter other than letters. The Treaty of Berne in the latter respect remaining unchanged as to rates. Five cents are charged for letters, and two cents for postal cards; printed matter of every kind, patterns, and samples of merchandise, books, commercial paper, etc., one cent, for each package to one address, and for each weight of two ounces or fraction of two ounces, provided the charge on commercial paper shall not be less than five cents per package, and the charge on patterns or samples not less than two cents per package. Another change is that the maximum weight of commercial paper and printed papers of every kind is fixed at two kilogrammes, or four pounds six ounces. This is an increase of from one to two kilogrammes, or from two pound three ounces to four pound six ounces. The maximum weight of packages and samples remain at 250 grammes, or equal to 8¾ ounces. Under the new Treaty both letters and printed matter can be forwarded on partial payment of postage, subject to a charge on delivery of double the deficiency.

A. G. Blair Esq., one of the local members for York, has preferred to resign his seat and appeal again to the electors rather than subject himself and his friends to the delay, expense, annoyance and inconvenience that, the contesting of the protest of Dr. Dow, in the court to be held on the 25th of October, and the subsequent late new election would entail. His card to the electors of York, explaining his reasons for taking the step was about the city and out in the county last Tuesday. Mr. Blair, of course, acts independently in this matter. Several rumors have been afloat, but the report that two of the other members, Messrs. Thompson and Coulter, had followed his example has not, as yet, as far as we know, been confirmed.

We are sorry to say that there is trouble with regard to the Exhibition Building. Work has come to a stop upon it, for want of money to pay the men engaged. The time within which the building must be completed is limited, every day is of importance, and any further delay must imperil the exhibition itself. It is said that $3000 is required, and the question is where is the money to come from, how is it to be raised? Neither the Government or the city we hear, feel disposed or able to give more than they have already done, $4000 each. Will not the County that has as yet contributed nothing, come to the rescue, and subscribe towards the necessary $3000. The matter is pressing, urgent.

We congratulate our Canadian athletes on their record, and especially on the accession of their new laurels; at billiards, at snow-shoeing, and on the lacrosse field, they have long since proved their prowess; at Wimbledon when they won the prize, and this year again, when they nearly won it, they made their mark; and now in another manly exercise Hanlan has thrice borne the palm, within as many weeks, (if we may alter Shakespeare a little) "Witching the world with noble oarsmanship."—*Canadian Spectator.*

The London *Post*, gives it to be understood that a dissolution of the British Parliament is not probable.

The 13th of September has been fixed for the distribution of awards at the Paris Exposition.

OSBORNE TRIAL.

The trial of the Osbornes for the murder of McCarthy, that has lasted six weeks has come to an end withsut being finished. 118 witnesses in all, 64 for the Crown, and 54 for the defence, were sworn and put on the stand. Mr. Palmer, counsel of the prisoner made what may be called gigantic efforts on their behalf, sparing neither his own labor or the feelings of adverse witnesses. His chief effort was concentrated on breaking down the credibility of Annie Parker, the only direct witness, and who by her own showing was a tacit accomplice of the murder. In his closing speech, which took 12½ hours in delivery, (and of which the reports in the papers can convey no right idea) he was very vehement in his language towards her, pouring a copious shower of epithets, of which "witch," "monstrous" liar were among the mildest. Loose in life she might have been without imputing to her the devilish malignity as the counsel of the Crown pleaded of having manufactured the story of the murder of McCarthy, from feelings of revenge to the Osbornes, and the great improbability of an uneducated girl being able to conceive such a story, and hold to it, with some inconsistencies, it is admitted, is against the theory of invention. Mr. Palmer's line of defence was to prove that McCarthy, after leaving the Weldon House, and parting with Mr. Chip Smith, set out to walk for Point Du Chene, but missing his way fell over the railway bridge into the Scadouc, a height of 36 feet, and was drowned,—without the body receiving any marked injury.

Dr. Tuck's argument went to show the great probablity of the truth of the grisly story told by Annie Parker. He dwelt on the expression used by Annie Parker, that McCarty after drinking the last glass of brandy into which Mrs. Osborne poured a white powder, breathed hard. She could know nothing of this effect of drugging, and her mentioning it was evidence of the truth of her story. A strong corroboration was her telling Edward McCarthy that the body of his brother was in the Scadouc, and in a certain place, and its being found as directed. He also spoke of the conduct of Harry Osborne, on seeing White coming to the Waverly in his wagon, "he ran and told his mother that here was the man who left his wagon there that night." Undoubtedly if Harry had used that wagon (to convey the body of the murdered man to the Scadouc as Annie Parker said he did), it came vividly into his mind on seeing it, and that accounted for his conduct. There are only one or two of the points of the prosecution.

The Judge closed his charge on Friday morning, and the Jury went into their room at half-past ten. The Court assembled in the evening, when it appeared that the Jury had come to no decision, ten being for conviction and two for acquittal, when the Judge discharged them. The Court was then adjourned until the 2d Tuesday of November. John Osborne, one of the prisoners, has been admitted to bail on sureties. Annie Parker is retained in custody of Sheriff Botsford until further orders.

The great event of the week was the visit of the Hon. Messrs McKenzie and Cartwright to St. John on Thursday, and the consequent proceedings. Their reception was enthusiastic, and they created, among their friends, a most favorable impression. An address of welcome from the citizens, was read and presented to them by A. Chipman Smith Esq., in the Rink in the morning. A number of prominent men were on the platform. In the afternoon the Hon. gentlemen paid a visit to the Reform party's committee rooms, in the City Hall Carleton, where they were heartily received, and where they had to indulge their friends by making a few appropriate remarks. In the evening a grand mass meeting took place in the rink. The very commodious building was crammed with an audience computed at between 7 and 8000. Those in the outer rings must have heard very indistinctly, and it is hardly to be wondered that the murmur and the movement of that great assembly sometimes drowned the voices of the speakers. The presence of Mr. Tilley and Mr. King, opposition candidates, Who had expressed a wish to be present and to speak at the meeting was a pleasant featnre. But of course as they were limited to time, these gentlemen would not consider that they had a "fair shake." But it would be impossible to have a fair discussion on both sides of the political question if four such fluent speakes, as the Premier and the Finance Minister, the ex-Governor and ex-leader of the Local Government were allowed their full swing. As it was, the meeting did not break up until the earliest hour in the morning. It is the firm opinion of the supporters of the Government that the presence and speeches of Messrs McKenzie and Cartwright have strengthened the hands of Messrs Burpee, Deveber and Weldon, the Government candidates, though the opposition draw totally opposite conclusions. Both parties see only what they