The General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church has refused by 313 to 278 votes to sanction the use of instrumental music in churches. What will the Assembly say to an Irishman who, as happened in Victoria-park on 8th June led the hymn of an open-air preacher on a key-bugle?

The "Flying Dutchman," the fastest train in the world, has recently been accelerated, so that Exeter is now within four hours and a quarter of London, and Plymouth can be reached in six hours. Between Paddington and Swindon the speed is 60 miles an hour, the highest known on any regular service.

Thomas Bishop, an elderly man, was sent for fourteen days to prison at Guildford England for stealing twopence of asparagus from an unoccupied garden. If fourteen days imprisonment be a fair punishment for stealing twopence worth of asparagus, what punishment ought the Glasgow Bank directors to have received?

According to the *Railway World*, nearly 400,000 persons are employed on the railroads in this country, and five times that many depend upon the roads for support. It is also estimated that between $300,000,000 and $400,000,000 are annually paid to employees and to persons who furnish the companies with supplies of various kinds.

The Russian rustic, though he has no linen and seldom changes his clothes till they drop off him, is as fond of steam-baths as the Turk, and prospers finely all through the winter when he can plunge out of his steam and take a roll in the snow, and set every pulse in his veins tingling. During the warm weather he is apt to mope, reclining on the dust in front of his door—a lazy, malcontent being, ready to hear the jargon of Nihilist bagmen.

A return issued yesterday shows that the total number of Parliamentary electors in England and Wales now on the register is 2,459,999, there being 883,649 in the counties, 1,563,319 in the boroughs, and 13,013 in the University. In Ireland the electors number 231,289, of whom 172,570 are in county constituencies, 55,247 in boroughs, and 3,472 in the University. The total for Scotland is 307,941, there being 92,310 in counties, 204,142 in boroughs, and 11,489 in the Universities.

The *Gewerbe Zeitung* gives an account of a new kind of belting made of steel wire which is intended to replace leather or rubber belts in driving machinery. The paper claims that these belts are in every way superior to all other belts heretofore employed. These belts are of the best crucible steel wire, in tranverse network of one or two wires, in any desirable length and width. The two ends of the belt are joined like the middle, so that there is no beginning and no ending, the belt forming an endless band.

A novel "service of praise" was given at the Kibble Palace, Glasgow, on Sunday, by the band of a Volunteer company, previous to and after the sermon delivered by the chaplain. The band, it is believed, for the first time in Scotland after a Sunday service, accompanied the regimental choir, and woke the Sabbath echoes in a style which must have sorely discomposed the "unco' guid." The music was, of course, all sacred; but it takes a deal of performance of "Old Hundred" to enable some people to listen quietly to it blown through brass tubes on Sabbath.

John Smith of Middlesex, England, was brought up to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond. On the 30th of April the prisoner, accompanied by two women, who, like himself, were drunk, was under the pretence of selling pipelights, begging the ladies and gentlemen passing through Russel-square. When they refused to give him money he and the women rolled against them as if by accident and knocked them off the pavement. John Macintyre, sessions officer, proved that the prisoner had been convicted 79 times. The Assistant-Judge passed sentence of 10 months' imprisonment with hard labor.

The rector of Piddletrenton, near Dorchester, England, has been fined 1s. The case is a peculiar one. The Rev. gentleman had seven cows, and to his parishioners have sold the milk to them at fourpence a quart. But the police requested him to register, and he declined, saying a clergyman must not carry on a trade. The case was explained to the clerk of police, and to the Privy Council; and the latter declared that, "in the circumstances detailed," he was not a purveyor, and need not register. But the police, nevertheless, summoned him; the magistrates took a different view of the law from the Privy Council, and accordingly inflicted a nominal fine. The case will be appealed, and it is understood the decision will affect several other clergymen who act in a precisely similar way.

A case of considerable interest to tenant-farmers is in course of hearing in the Irish Courts, in which the Duke of Leinster is sued by a tenant of his, the Rev. S. Patterson, a Methodist Minister, for damages, laid at £1,000. The plaintiff holds a farm in the County Kildare from year to year, at the annual rent of £270. He charges the defendant with entering on the lands and cutting down 270 trees, the property of the plaintiff, illegal conversion of the trees so cut down, trespass by the defendant's gamekeepers and servants, and trampling down plaintiff's crops, cutting down fences on plaintiff's lands, and lastly causing plaintiff's crops to be injured by rabbits. The defendant denies the the acts charged, and lodged £5 in court to cover damages. The trial very naturally excites great interest in Ireland.

Ezekiel Hayes, the great-grandfather of the President of the United States, was a successful mechanic in Connecticut, and kept a number of apprentices. It is said that, sometimes, like apprentices in all ages, they felt that they had long work and short rations. At one time a new cheese was put on the table whole. It stood uncut for a day or two, Hayes, saying at each meal, "That is a nice-looking cheese. It is a pity to cut it!" The boys thought this was growing rather monotonous, and planed to show their sentiments. The blacksmith had one day got a bar of iron nicely heated, and laid it across the iron anvil to be cut the proper lengths. The boys, with chisels and sledges, were to cut it off. But no hand was raised. Hayes asked why they did not "strike." One of them replied:—"That is such a nice bar of iron; it would be a pity to cut it." Hayes quickly saw the point, and shouted, with a laugh, "Strike, boys, strike! the cheese shall be cut!"

In addition to these officers sent to Zululand, there are no less than 13 colonels and 27 lieutenant-colonels, either actually in Natal or on their way there, besides a very large number of special service officers sent out for duty with Native levies and with the transport. The force now in Natal muster 15 battalions of Infantry, two regiments of Cavalry, six batteries of Artillery, four companies of Engineers, and three companies the Army Service Corps, besides detachments of the Army Hospital Corps; while, in addition to the Infantry and Artillery furnished by the Royal Marines, a troop of Engineers and three companies of the Army Service Corps are *en route*. Our army—for such it now is—in Natal is stronger than the force which landed in the Crimea; and, when we consider the probability of the war being prolonged to two campaigns, and the fearful drain upon our home army to fill up the vacancies caused by sickness and battle, we may estimate what the cost in human life will be; and to what end?—*English Paper.*

An Italian correspondent of the London *Echo* who writes from Milan, says that the silkworm cultivators never had so bad a season in prospect. The mulberry-tree, which is the exclusive food of the Italian silkworm, needs a warm and dry May. This year, however, May has been characterised by almost incessant rain, and when the rain ceased it was frosty instead of sunny. Hence the mulberry-leaf has been developed very sparingly, and the few leaves which the trees contain are yellow, unsound, and deficient in the usual nutritive material. The sikworm rearers, on account of this scarcity of food, have been compelled to throw away half their live stock; and, as the continuous wet and cold have hindered the improvement of the leaves, the silkworms which remain are being fast decimated by famine or sickness. The old silk stored in the warehouses is consequently rising in price every day, and those dealers who have a large stock are asking immense prices, and will have a good year, whereas many of the producers can look for nothing less than ruin. A bad year for the peasant—that is, for the mass of the North Italian population— helps many a silk dealer rapidly forward on the road to fortune.

Communications.

For the "Agriculturist."

To the Electors of the County of York:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have thought it right to inform you through the public press of some of the movements of Tilley, Fisher & Co., in regards to what I consider your interests. A short time since I received a letter from Sir Samuel L. Tilley, C. B. K. M. G., Finance Minister of the Dominion of Canada, informing me that I need not be surprised if he, Sir Samuel, deemed it necessary to seek advice through other channels other than the peoples' representative, giving his reason for the course indicated, *to wit:* that I was opposed, he said, to the present Government. I suppose that reason would be sufficient for him at least, to attempt the prostitution of the rights of a free people. I question very much if he could have found a man in York, except C. H. B. Fisher, Esq., a defeated candidate, and supporter of the National Policy, who would have volunteered to do his dirty work in the County. I apprehend that no man who has the welfare of the County at heart will for a moment agree that the patronage of the County should be taken from their representative, and given to an irresponsible person, and one in whom the people had no confidence, as they expressed by their votes on the 17th day of September last.

In discharging my public duty, I have endeavored at least to defend your rights as free and independent men, and in no way have I allowed your honor to be trampled upon without a protest. I have no hesitation in saying the course taken by Sir Samuel, aided as he is by Fisher, is an attempt at wholesale debauchery of your rights, and if followed out must be fraught with evil. I, on my own behalf, informed the worthy Knight, that he need have no fears in regard to the surprise he was so kind to inform me about, for years had passed by since I could be surprised at anything he might do. If it was for his own gain, I believe he would sell his country's best interest, and prostitute the rights of the people—his letter to me proves the fact.

I leave the whole matter for the people to judge. Any further notice on the part Mr. Fisher is taking, is to me unworthy of any comment further than to say it is an insult on the people of the County of York, and will be by them considered as such. He may think otherwise. Time will inform him of the fact.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN PICKARD.

Fredericton, June 26, 1879.

For the "Agriculturist."

The Old Burial Ground.

SIR,—A communication appears in your paper of last Saturday, over the signature S. R. A., complaining of the desecration of the grave of a relative, by robbing it of flowers, planted above the mound by loving hands. I can fully sympathise with, and enter into the feelings expressed. But it seems to me that Fredericton is an exceptional place in many respects, for which it is difficult to account. For years the inhabitants have been complaining of the overcrowded state of the Old Burial Ground, and amazement has frequently been expressed, that we should continue to bury our dead in the very heart of the city, which must be considered any thing but right in a sanitary point of view; and when at length the Methodists selected a piece of land for burial purposes, and also the citizens representing other denominations purchased Forest Hill for a cemetery, one would suppose that the means having been provided every man, woman and child would have united and cried aloud for the closing of the Old Burial Ground, as has been done in all other places. Instead of this we find a disposition to oppose any change whatever, and thus this ground, instead of being regarded as sacred has become a public nuisance; the receptacle of all sorts of filthy abominations, where loose characters, the vicious, the depraved, the licentious, congregate by day and by night, by night particularly. Robbing the grave of a few flowers, wicked though it is, is nothing compared with the desecration of the place generally, and this has become more particularly the case since the bodies of many have been removed to other cemeteries. It is no uncommon thing to see, in broad daylight, especially on the Sabbath, grown lads, smoking and skylarking among the tombs, with as little compunction as if they were in the market place. Some months since, according to a half way measure passed by the Legislature, the charge of the Old Burial Ground was placed in the hands of the City Council, and that body appointed a committee to take the matter in hand and to appoint a caretaker. But it is self-evident that the business is disgracefully neglected, as the common complaint shews. Now, sir, to render that spot what it should be, sacred, nothing short of the plan adopted in St. John, Dorchester, St. Stephen and all other places where new cemeteries have been opened, should be carried out with us, namely; thoroughly close up the old ground, not only against further interments, but the possibility of anybody being enabled to go upon the ground at all. Place locks upon the gates for a few years as was done in St. John, and thus after the vicious, have been weaned away from making this their place of rendevous, we may gradually go on and make improvements, and by that time the cultivation of flowers may be conducted, because in that time the public taste will be better prepared for it. New legislation, however, is required before the ground can be closed, and Mr. Editor, you will be doing the town a great service if you will enlist the sympathies and co-operation of our York members in order to bring about a consummation so devoutly to be wished.

Yours,

A. B. C.

Fredericton, June 23rd, 1879.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., JUNE 28, 1879.

Canadian Loyalty.

The London *Examiner* has the poorest opinion of Canadian loyalty, it believes that it comes not from the heart but from the teeth outwards. On a comprehensive discovery of the different nationalities which make up its population, it comes to the conclusion that:—

"To speak of such a mixed population as that of the Dominion of Canada, now consisting of seven Provinces, as being loyal, is simply a delusion. Loyalty is defined as fidelity, or firm and faithful devotion to a sovereign; while a loyalist is represented to be one who religiously professes and observes an inviolate adherence to a monarch. Why, the Canadian population of French descent numbers about one million and eighty-three thousand; the Irish population eight hundred and fifty thousand natives of the United States number sixty-five thousand, to say nothing of Swiss, Norwegians, Danes, Swedes, Icelanders, Greeks, Mexicans, Indians, Italians, Spaniards, Russians, and even Chinese and Japanese. How can the people of such nationalities be expected to form an attachment to the British Throne, or even the British nation? The Irish, it is well known, are hostile to England, and sympathized with the Fenian movement when a raid was made upon Canada. Not only so, but they had formed rebel organizations among themselves, and no doubt would have aided the invaders had their project been successful."

The London *Examiner* has not examined this matter thoroughly enough. No doubt among the French Canadians there is a small party who hate British connection, but the great body of the people are loyal, well satisfied to be subjects of the British Crown. The French Canadian clergy and people as a body no more desire annexation to the United States now, than they did a hundred years ago. They see now as they saw then, that it is for their best interests to remain British subjects. It is a libel on the Irish in Canada, to accuse them of Fenian sympathies. There is no doubt that a small party amongst them would have rejoiced if the great O'Neill had made a successful invasion of Canadian soil, but the great majority, if the Fenian business had turned out serious, would have been found amongst the staunchest defenders of Canadian soil. The Irish in Canada have everything to make them loyal, they labor under no political or religious disability, and they prosper under the freest government under the sun. As for the other nationalities which make up the mixed population of Canada, they are severally so few in numbers that they can hardly be taken into account. If they are peaceful, content and industrious under the British Crown, that is as much as can be looked for from them.

But how can the *Examiner* who must have read the accounts of the enthusiastic welcomes the Princess Louise has every where received from the Canadian people, doubt of their loyalty? was it all lip loyalty, and all delusion. We do not believe it. In so warmly welcoming the fair representative of the Crown, they paid a tribute of devotion to the Queen, and we are bold to say if it became necessary to testify their devotion to the throne, by some act of self-sacrifice, they would do it with heart. The Canadians like all people are governed by self interest. They are very touchy when their interests and independence of action are interfered with in the smallest way, but in the hour of danger and difficulty to the British Empire, we are sure that Canadians would be found to be its zealous defenders. The Toronto *Mail* as the representative of the conservative might say in a hurry and a huff, "that if the carrying out of the National Policy endangered British connection, so much the worse for British connection," but we only, we are sure, do the *Mail* and its party bare justice, when we say, that in the hour of need they would show that their loyalty, was not mere lip service and lung power, and all a delusion.

Encænia.

On Thursday afternoon at three o'clock, the Encænia took place in the Library of the University. The Lieutenant-Governor, the Metropolitan, Members of the Senate and of the Associated Alumni, besides a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen were present. The President, Dr. Jack, in the absence of Mr. Foster, late Classical Professor, who had engaged to deliver the customary oration in honor of the founders of the University, gave a short oral address. The present year, he said, was the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the University, and, in that time, it gone through many changes, but it stood now, as much in need of benefactors as it did fifty years ago. He appealed to the men of wealth in the Province, and markedly, to the people of Fredericton, who, did not, he was afraid, sufficiently appreciate the elevating advantage to themselves of having such an institution in their midst, to help to further endow the University and keep it abreast of similar institutions elsewhere. He intended to divest himself of his Scotch modesty and try what he could do towards raising $1,000 to purchase necessary apparatus, as a beginning.

Mr. McLeod the successful Douglas Gold Medalist then read passages of his essay on "The Essentials of Success in Life," which were far above common place in sentiment and composition. It was surprising to find a young graduate, just on the point of leaving the seclusion of his Alma Mater to enter in the struggle of life, in possession of such clear ideas of the qualities that make for or against success in life; to him there should be no such thing as failure—if "to do good were as easy as to know what were good to do." The Lieutenant-Governor then presented, with a few complimentary remarks, Mr. McLeod with the Douglas Gold Medal. The medal of the Alumni, for the best latin composition was presented by Dr. Atherton to Mr. H. P. Pickard, the successful competitor.

The winners of the scholarship were then called up, and the President announced their names—Mr. Hudson, Senior, Mr. Wilkinson, Junior, and Mr. Bridges, Freshman, and complimented them on their high standing.

Honorary certificates were presented to the following students by the President—

J. T. Horseman and W. D. B. Jack in mathematics; W. D. McLeod, C. G. D. Roberts, and J. D. Hazen in mental and moral philosophy. and W. D. McLeod, J. M. O'Brien and J. C. Coleman in French. —Seniors.

A. W. Wilkinson, J. W. McCready, and W. Winslow in English, C. P. Hannington, and M. McLaren in science, A. W. Wilkinson in classics, H. P. Pickard in mathematics. —Juniors

H. V. Bridges, W. B. Carman, J. Harrison F. Harley in classics, W. B. Carman in mathematics, and G. R. Devitt, A. McPherson, F. Harley Freshmen.

Rev. Mr. Roberts, Examiner for Degrees, then on latin formula, announced the names of those on whom the degree of B. A was to be conferred, viz:—

J. T. Horseman Albert; W. D. McLeod, Carleton; G. H. Balkam, Charlotte, C. G, D. Roberts, Fredericton, J. M. O'Brien. Gloucester; W. B. D. Jack, Fredericton; J. D. Hazen, Fredericton; J. C. Coleman, Sunbury; A. W. Stratton, Fredericton; H. M. Balkam, Charlotte; C. A. Hoben, Sunbury' W. Jeffreys, St. Mary's, J. H. Hoyt, York, C. C. Connolly, Fredericton; (W. D. McLeod and J. D. Hazen graduated with honors in mental and moral philosophy, and J. M. O'Brien with honors in modern languages.)

After the ceremony of capping, the President addressed the graduates wishing them all success in life, and admonishing them ever to remember, in midst of their active career, their Alma Mater and that the honor rested upon them. The degree of M. A. was then conferred on George Allen and Hazen Grimmer. Principal Crockett acting as sponsor. Dr. Atherton then introduced Mr. Pugsley, the Alumni orator, who had that forenoon been elected a member of the University Senate. Mr. Pugsley's oration or address, was marked by a just conception of the advantages to be derived from a Collegiate training in after life, if those who had enjoyed it, did not rest upon the honors won in the University, or cease to cultivate the power which that training gave them. The oration was delivered in the most clear and pleasing manner, and the orator was loudly applauded at its close.

The President announced that the Gold Medal for the Juniors and Seniors and a Silver Medal for the Freshmen given by the Governor General would be competed for next year.

The Governor gave out the subject of the Douglas essay for next year:—"The advantage to the people of New Brunswick of increased attention to Agriculture."

Dr. Atherton then announced the subject of the Alumnal Latin Essay for next year: "The Life, Character, and writings of Quintus Horatius Flaccus."

After a few valadictory words from the President, the Encænial proceedings came to a close, which were listened to and witnessed with great interest by the large assemblage.

CHEAP TRIP.—A special Excursion Train will leave Gibson for Woodstock on Tuesday next, Dominion Day, at 7 o'clock, A. M., to enable parties to attend the Bazaar and Races which takes place that day. Returning will leave for Fredericton at 6 P. M. Fare only one dollar for the round trip.

On Tuesday afternoon the cricket match between the Fredericton Club and the Eurekas was played in the Officers' Square, and was won by the former by 30 runs. It was decided by the first innings—the Frederictons scoring 89 and their opponents 59. The game was much enjoyed by the numerous onlookers.

The Street Lamps.

The *Reporter* charges us with changing our mind on the street lamp question. The charge is not a grave one, indeed in one sense it is a light one. On first mentioning the subject we gave the reasons which influenced the City Council to shut off the night lights and said they were sufficient, which, certainly they were, if, of course, no contrary reasons could be adduced to lighten their force. Last week we gave the Gas Company's view of the question as they were presented to us, in a moderate manner, with the purpose of placing both sides before the public. We are convinced that the public generally do not wish that the City Council should economize at the expense of light, but desire that the street lamps should be relighted if a satisfactory arrangement can be arrived at between the City and Company; and to pave the way to such an arrangement, it is necessary that all information bearing on the question should be presented. We do not wish to appear as the defender of the Gas Company, though we think that the figures given by us last week, and those presented by a shareholder in the *Reporter's* own columns this week, if found to be correct, are a good defence against the charge of asking exorbitant prices for the lamp lights. The *Reporter* is inclined to be hard on the Company and charges them with having acted in their communications and relations with the city either in an "arbitary" or "precipitous" manner. We can not give an opinion on this charge, it is entirely too steep for us. We think that the citizens should adopt the suggestion which we gave last wekk, and appoint one or more competent persons outside the Council and Company to investigate into the charges. The directors are most anxious that such an investigation should be held.

It is to be feared that if the street lamps lamps are not lighted on dark nights individuals of bad tendencies and burglarious propensities will be encouraged to give their evil natures scope, and therefore for the reasons the as *Reporter* says, of "security" and "respectability" the street lamps ought to be relighted. Instead of there being too many lamps lighted in the city, most people will agree that there are too few. We cannot understand why the number of the street lamps should be fixed at or limited to 41, unless there is a typical reason, as for instance the House of Assembly sits in Fredericton and the authorities may have wished in the past, to do some honor to the representatives of the Province by lighting a lamp for each, including the Speaker. No one will say that Fredericton ever has been a well lighted city. At night, the illumination which the 41 lamps cast in the darkest nights only makes darkness visible. If the Council and Company do not quietly come to terms to relight the city at night in an efficient manner, the citizens will be compelled to call on Mr. John Babbitt to furnish one or two electric lights. We hope that this threat will have an electric effect on the Council and Company, and that they will see the way soon to relight the street lamps under a mutualy satisfactory arrangement.

University Public Examinations.

The public oral examinations took place in the University Library on Monday morning. Among these present were Hon. Mr. Wark, and Dr. Rand, members of the Senate, Rev. G. G. Roberts and Principal Crockett. Examiners for Degrees, Rev. Messrs. Stevens, and McKinnon, Geo. Parkins Esq., Dr. Currie and several old graduates. The Juniors were examined on Natural Science, by Prof. Bailey, the Seniors in mental and moral Philosophy by Prof. Harrison, the Freshmen in mathematics by President Jack, the Freshmen in Greek by Prof. Dole; the Juniors in French by Prof. Rivet. After the examinations which spoke well both for Professors and students, the students numbering 50 were summoned into the library, and briefly addressed by the President who spoke of the work of the session as having been very satisfactory. The Rev. Mr. McKinnon, P. E. I. made a pleasant address in allusion to the examinations which he had then listened to and particularly complimented the graduating class on the soundness of their philosophical training. The Rev. Mr. Stevens made some complimentary remarks which were well received, and Dr. Rand followed, closing the proceedings, by a short but eloquent address in course of which he expressed his warm sympathy with the work and the workers in the University, and dwelt on the great advantages to be derived from a collegiate training.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—On Thursday evening the Reform Band gave one of their performances in front of the City Hall. A more than usually large assemblage was attracted, owing to the exhibition of the electric light from one of the upper windows of Mr. Randolphs store. The light which was under the management of Mr. John Babbitt shone with brilliancy at intervals, and lighted up Queen Street to a large extent. Phœnix Square was illuminated and the surrounding buildings, and all objects within the path of its rays were brought out with intense clearness, the effect of which was heightened by the dark shadows. The brilliancy of the same was further enhanced by the illuminated and artistically dressed windows of A. A. Miller & Co's., Dry Goods Store, which were much admired. The electric light is a success for illuminating purposes, but it seems it would be too hard and hurtful for the eyes for ordinary store and household use, if it could be so utilised.

A public Missionary Meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions, for the Diocese of Fredericton, will be held in the Temperance Hall, on Monday evening next, 30th inst. Chair to be taken by the Lord Bishop of Fredericton at 8 o'clock. The order of addresses will be as follows:—

1. Financial Statement and Address, by the Treasurer of the Board.
2. Mission Work in British Columbia, by the Reverend Canon Brigstocke.
3. Women's Work for Missions, by the Reverend E. S. W. Pentreath.
4. Neglected Churches—Forgotten Parishes, by the Reverend George Love.

Collection will be taken for Foreign Missions.

WATERING CART.—At a late meeting of the City Council a petition numerously and most respectably signed was addressed to the City Council, requesting the authorities to provide a watering cart. The matter was referred to the committee of streets and roads, and many citizens are anxious to know why there is no water cart about yet. The hot season has fairly commenced, and the summer bids fair to be a dry one; at any rate the authorities ought not to trust that frequent rains will obviate the necessity of artificial sprinkling, but should provide a cart at once.

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of New Brunswick, will be held in St. Dunstan's Hall in this city, on Monday evening next, 30th inst., at half-past 7 o'clock.

WALKING MATCH.—The twenty-fourhours walking match between Fletcher of Woodstock, and Cahill of Fairville, commences in the Exhibition Palace on Monday evening at 9 o'clock.

Next Saturday, 5th July, the 71st Battalion Camp will be pitched on a site on the Hanwell road, about a mile from the city.

Nihilism in Russia.

A great deal has been said lately about Nihilism. It has no doubt given rise to a great deal of sensational writing, and it cannot all be gross exaggeration. Mr. Stoughton, United States Minister in Russia, says it is, but having lived in the court circle he has imbibed its air. It can readily be believed, that whatever secret apprehensions may be entertained, the Czar and the Imperial Court are anxious enough that the impression should not become fixed abroad that serious dangers are threatening the social and political fabric of the empire, that they, in speaking of Nihilism, affect to treat it lightly, and that Mr. Stoughton, as a courtier has come to look upon it in the same way that those with whom he has mixed do. Mr. Stoughton may, also, not be above enjoying the position of one who thinks he has special information; the more general he finds the opinion of the grave nature of Nihilism prevailing in the United States, the more inclined he may be to treat it as a light matter. A *Times* correspondent interviewed him immediately on his landing in New York. According to one account:—

Mr. Stoughton said that not only were the reports of these troubles greatly exaggerated, but that nearly every material statement made about them was absolutely false. Some of the stories he knew personally to be false, and others he had absolute information to be so. Stoughton added that when he left St. Petersburg the city was as tranquil as New York, and it it was not then different from what it usually was. It was a great error to suppose that the Nihilists were numerous, or had any extensive organization; it was not true that the Russian people were deeply infected with Nihilism; it was not true that whole troops of students had been arrested by the police and sent off to Siberia or tortured in dungeons; it was not true that whole regiments of the army, with their officers, were tainted; and it was not true that any woman of respectability had been found among the Nihilists. Mr. Stoughton declared that the statements which had been made to this effect were entirely false. A few miscreants, he said, had banded together for plunder and murder; they had no other programme; but they were only a few, as compared with the body of the people. What they wanted he had never been able to find out, though he had taken particular pains to inquire into the subject. Mr. Stoughton characterises the Nihilists as a "band of miscreants." He declares that the great body of the Russian people are entirely contented with their government—although what an American unacquainted with the Russian language, and residing only at the capital and in the atmosphere of the court, can have learned of the sentiments of the "great body" of the people of that vast empire in eighteen months may not be universally accepted as the best of evidence. Mr. Stoughton said he did not believe that the recent attempt on the Emperor's life was part of an organized plan of the Nihilists. "You saw," he added, "what the Emperor did after the attempt upon him—drove unattended in an open carriage to the church. He drives about all the time unattended—not even a footman with him. Do you think he could do this in safety if these Nihilists had any organization, or if the people were not so deeply attached to him?" Perhaps yes, perhaps no. Mr. Stoughton speaks in glowing terms of the Emperor as a man and brother. If all the millions of Russia were admitted on the same terms of intimacy as he had been admitted to the Russian court, probably there would be no more Nihilism. Mr. Stoughton believed that Nihilism in Russia—what there is of it—was not a native production; nothing suggesting some coming upheaval of society; nothing that the body of the people could ever have any sympathy with. It was a foreign importation—a piece of Internationalism or Communism; and he added that he believed for one Socialist in Russia there were ten in Germany. The thing seemed to have spread there; it had not in Russia to any extent. He repeated that it was the opinion held by all the best informed foreign observers in Russia that the Nihilists were few, that they had no extended organization, and that they had no programme but murder and assassination. He suggested that our reports got colored in passing through London, which is prejudiced against Russia.

The British Army.

We quoted an article from the *Pall Mall Gazette* in a former issue, which was calculated to arouse grave reflections regarding the state of the British Army. The truth of its allegations are well borne out by official returns. The following article from the London *Echo* is as startling as that of the *Gazette*. The *Echo* is not a paper that commands much respect, though it has some influence with certain classes in the metropolis, and if it condemned the material of the regiments of the British army in a general way, its animadversions would not be worthy of notice, but as it founds its statements on grave parliamentary documents which surely cannot lie, its word, in this matter, is as good as the best:—

"If any proof were required of the unfitness for active service of most of the regiments in the British Army it is most abundantly furnished by the Parliamentary return recently obtained by Colonel Mure with respect to the five battalions of infantry which embarked for Zululand in March last. The 2nd Battalion 21st Foot had to leave behind 355 non-commissioned officers and men, who were either untrained or medically unfit, and 282 transfers from other corps had to be hurried into the ranks at the last minute, to bring up the battalion to something like war strength. Of the non-commissioned officers, 7 were boys under 20 years old; and of 798 privates 117 were under 20 years of age, and 303 had less than twelves months' service. The 58th Foot were a little better off; all their non-commissioned officers were over 20, and only 106 privates were under that age; 203 men were left behind as unfit, and 197 volunteers from other corps were embarked. The 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles took out 43 men who had not completed drill and musketry instruction, and left behind 131 men medically unfit; 215 volunteers were required to bring this battalion up to its full strength. The 91st Highlanders had to obtain no less than 374 volunteers from other corps—nearly half its strength being thus made up of strangers; 5 non-commissioned officers and 213 men were under 20 years of age, and 260 had less than twelve months' service; while 179 men were left behind as unfit for foreign service. The 94th Foot were almost as badly off, 346 privates having to be obtained from other regiments to make up the strength to 801; five non-commissioned officers and 178 privates were under 20, and 221 men were recruits with less than 12 months' service; 187 men were left behind as unfit, 35 being medically unable to serve abroad. Colonel Stanley stated in the House the other night that the 18 battalions standing first on the roster for foreign service were kept up to their foreign establishment. If we were to take these five as a sample, the establishment cannot be a very affective one, as the ranks are filled with men who are strangers to the officers and to their comrades, and boys, and even untrained men, have to be embarked, while nearly a quarter of each battalion is unfit to proceed abroad.

The Anglo-Afghan treaty of peace is condemned by *The Spectator* as a "botched-up affair, bringing Great Britain nothing but some new and heavy, responsibilities." The substance of it is that Afghanistan becomes one of the vassal States of India, differing from others principally in this—that whereas they pay tribute to the Indian Treasury, the Indian Treasury pays tribute to Cabul. *The Spectator* trusts that the public will understand that the frontier of India has been pushed 500 miles nearer to the Caspian, and within 150 miles of the new boundary of China; that it has been brought into direct contact with Bokhara, and that it marches for nearly 200 miles with that of Persia. "There does not live the man who could say within 10,000 square miles what the Dourance Empire really is, or at what point throughout its vast circumference it begins and ends. Yet throughout that enormous territory, 30,000,000 of befooled taxpayers in these two islands—are responsible for all Foreign Affairs."

A Sort of Letellier Case.

The Lieut Governor of Manitoba, Hon. Mr. Cauchon, has just shown that he can act independently, that he does not believe that it is duty to carry out blindly the wishes of his responsible advisers. There has been a crisis in the government out west, in consequence of the resignation of two of its members. Finding some difficulty in filling up the vacancies, Hon. Mr. Norquay, the Premier, wrote to the Governor, recommending that the government as then constituted, be allowed to proceed with the necessary legislation, (which legislation included some very important measures) and to defer the filling of the vacant seats in the Cabinet until the end of the session. But Governor Cauchon could not see his way clear to comply with the modest request of the Premier. He regretted very much that he could, under no circumstances, accede to such a position, so contrary to the spirit and meaning of the Constitution, and more particularly when amongst the measures of legislation mentioned in Mr. Norquay's paper, some of a very grave character and great importance had not been made known by the Government to the people at the last general election, or even foreshadowed by them in the speech from the throne at the beginning of the session.

There is no doubt that Governor Cauchon, in setting himself against the wishes of his government acted rightly, and within the powers given him by the Constitution. It seems to us that this case is a crucial instance of the necessity of a Governor acting, on occasion independently. Governor Cauchon would have been perfectly justified in dismissing the incomplete Cabinet and calling on the leader of the Opposition to form another had not Mr. Norquay, on receiving the rebuff, very promptly filled up the vacancies. Those who condemn Governor Letellier of Quebec for exercising his perogative in dismissing the De Boucherville ministry and calling on M. Joly, will probably condemn M. Cauchon for having acted against the spirit of responsible government; but there is no doubt but that he would have been greatly to blame if he had followed the recommendations of his Premier.

Government House.

During the last three weeks or so, Government House has been undergoing a thorough renovation, outside and inside, from the basement to the upper story. Masons have been at work in the stone portico, painters and paper hangers have been busy in the hall of entrance, the vestibules, and most of the chief rooms; carpenters, plumbers and gas fitters have been about generally, and women and children have been engaged sewing carpets, and doing "chores." The walls of the dining, drawing room, the library, council room, breakfast room, and some of the state bed rooms have been newly and elegantly papered, and their floors laid with tapestry carpets, and refurnished to some extent. The entrance hall, in its new coating, will present a light and cheerful appearance, and generally, old Government House will have, when all the workmen have left, and it is "swept and garnished," a finer and fresher look than it had in its palmiest days, and be worthy to receive the much beloved daughter of the Queen. Outside, a number of hands, under Mr. James Berry, the chief gardener, have been at work in the garden and grounds, and restoring to beauty and order the lawn, pastures and shady walks. At one time there were as many as fifty four hands, men women and children, engaged in and about Government House, and a great deal has been done in a short time. The work has been done under the general supervision of T. B. Winslow, Esq., of the Board of Works Department.

The Lumber Trade.

In the lowest depths there is a lower still, seems to be true regarding the wood trade. Last year it was thought that prices had touched bottom, but this year that bottom is out and they have reached a lower depression. Advices from Liverpool and Glasgow all tell the same story of little demand, reduced consumption and lowering prices. There is a plethora of stocks on hand at home, and shippers are advised to keep their stocks in America until the excess is worked into consumption. There has been this year a much smaller production of lumber of all kinds of timber in Quebec and of logs in New Brunswick than there was in the two preceding years. Looking at the present state and prospect of the wood trade in Great Britain, it would almost appear that lumberers would have done wisely if they had refrained from operating at all this year.

Homicidal Wave.

A homicidal wave, the Toronto *Mail* says, has been sweeping over this continent. Referring to the murders in the Dominion it says:—

Canadian statistics undoubtedly show that the vast proportion of the murders, and those of the most atrocious nature, have been committed in country villages and on quiet homesteads. Of late the history of the Dominion has been stained with deeds of blood. Edward Thickpenny was sentenced to death at the Assizes held in this city last week, his crime being the murder of Elizabeth Thompson at Markham. The charge rested on the confession of the prisoner, who is evidently insane. Dr. Albert DeWolfe, in a fit of jealousy, fatally shot Elizabeth Harris, at Wolfville, N. S., the other day. Near the Village of Arthur, Ont., last week, Anticknapp, a farmer, literally smashed into fragments his wife's skull with an axe. The murder of Quenville, a Montreal watchman, and subsequent firing of the premises by the assassins, sent a thrill of horror through the country during the present month. Quenville was on night duty at Morey's stables. The murderers entered from a side street, and while pouring oil on the carriages for the purpose of igniting them, were surprised by the watchman. The latter sprang to the telephone connected with one of the city hotels, but was stabbed. The final blow must have been given as the poor fellow tried the street door as a means of escape, for his bloody finger marks were found upon the latch. The side of the wall was spattered with blood which followed the crushing in of his skull. Although the city council has offered a reward, no trace of the murderers has yet been obtained. This deed partakes of the character of a trade outrage, the victim being the watchman employed by a cab proprietor, whose success was envied by his rivals in business. The failure of the Montreal police to track the murderers is another proof of the incapacity of the detectives to unravel crime, except under circumstances where it could be traced by an intelligent reporter.

Some of the largest and most productive wheat farms in the world have been already opened in the territory traversed by the Northern Pacific. Take the following from the Dakota *Republican* as an example: The Cass Cheney and Dalyrymple farm, situated about 20 miles west of Fargo, embraces a tract of about four miles square—the total area being about 10,240 acres. Last year from 5103 acres, there were harvested 111,933 bushels, or 21.9 bushels per acre. Though only about half the farm was under cultivation in 1878, it produced 136,698 bushels of grain. The Grandin farm, 35 miles north of Fargo, contains 68,000 acres, 40,000 of which are devoted to wheat culture. There were under cultivation last year only 4490 acres, and from them there were produced 80,000 bushels of wheat, 14,000 bushels of oats, 6700 bushels of barley, 3000 bushels of turnips, 2000 bushels of potatoes and 2500 tons of hay.

The Cattle Trade.

The Maritime Provinces are coming within the movement of the export cattle trade. Messrs. John McDonald and David O'Keefe, with whom were associated Messrs. P. McDonald and Felix McGirr, the first New Brunswickers who have been engaged in it, made a venture lately, and sold some stock at good profit in Glasgow. They intend trying Ireland next time, and are making preparations to ship another lot of cattle and sheep raised in the Maritime Provinces from Quebec in the middle of July. This fact ought to be an encouragement to the farmers of New Brunswick to turn their attention to improve their breed of cattle and sheep with a view of doing their part in supplying the home market. They could engage in nothing within the scope of their calling that would bring them in greater and more constant profit. There seems no possibility, at the present at least, of overstocking Great Britain and Ireland, with good cattle. Once the business is well established in the Maritime Provinces cattle dealers will send their agents all over them to pick up the choicest beasts, and farmers need have no apprehension of not being able to dispose of them, if they are at all up to the standard.

It will be seen by the communication in another column that "A. B. C." follows up our correspondent of last week in drawing attention to the desecration of the old burial ground. A. B. C. brings charges much graver than "the robbing the graves of a few flowers" against some parties who are in the habit of frequenting it. Anything like unseemly conduct should be strictly forbidden in a place of such sacred associations. If no other remedy can be found, the grounds should certainly be closed. In framing a bill to affect that object, discretion might be used in favor of parties who possessing family lots, desire to bury their dead there. All general burial should be put an end to, and the grounds kept closed, with the reservation that they shall be opened to the parties above named. It would be no hardship after all to deter the public from making the old burial ground a thoroughfare, as when it was closed they would soon, in taking a short cut to the back of the city, come to