

The present age is one of the most remarkable that the world has ever seen. The impossible of a hundred years ago, owing to the science, skill and engineering ability of the men of our time, are the accomplished facts of the present day.

from the ocean. An English engineer took the contract for \$12,000,000, and it took him thirteen years to accomplish the work.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

The Crown Heads of Europe at the present time appear to be in the very best terms with each other, as they have laid all their old animosities aside and are paying each other friendly visits.

"The new deal among the Mediterranean powers seems likely to result in Tunis and Tripoli taken from Turkey to go to France, Egypt to go to England, and the other portions of European Turkey and Asia Minor to fall as the ring of monarchs of Germany, Russia, Austria, and Italy choose to divide them among themselves.

OUR BOARD OF HEALTH.

When do the members of our Board of Health intend to make up their minds that it is time to do something? We have that fearful pestilence Diphtheria raging in our town and its vicinity, carrying off the younger members of many families of our citizens and yet that body has not made the slightest effort to purge the town of one of the many poisonous and deadly cess pools with which it is infected.

For works in which great engineering skill has been displayed, Holland has been famous. During long centuries its people have been actually creating their country by reclaiming it from the sea.

"The authorities of the town of Sydney, Cape Breton, have taken a commendable course in ordering a thorough isolation of all cases of diphtheria. The Board of Health have passed most stringent laws relating to the matter, and have even gone to the extent of enacting the imposition of a fine, not to exceed \$100, on any person coming into the town of Sydney from any dwelling in which diphtheria exists.

POLITICS IN ENGLAND.

The returns of the late Municipal Elections throughout England show a gain of eighty-six boroughs for the Conservatives and forty-five for the Liberals.

"MODERATION AND CANDOR."

"The ——— is a humble weekly local paper conducted quietly by its publisher. Its political preferences are on the Liberal-Reform side and the MODERATION and CANDOR with which it treats political matters ———"

As examples of the moderation and candor with which it treats political matters the following "gems of ribaldry" from the very issue in which the quotation occurs will be sufficient illustrations. A gentleman against whom this "moderate and candid creature," has a personal as well as political spite is described as "one of the most pliant creatures of the present Dominion Government that ever made the New Brunswick Executive a subject of contempt and ridicule has attempted to drive Mr McLeod out of the lumbering business, etc., by pursuing a policy towards him which a decent highwayman would despise."

GET READY FOR IT.

The following inscription is on a marble slab at Oberlenan, Germany,— "Quando illareus Pascha dabit Et Antonias Pentecostem celebrabit Et Joannes Christum adorabit Totus Mundus vaele clamabit."

Which means that when Easter shall fall on St. Mark's day (April 25th.) Pentecost on St. Anthony's day (June 13) and Corpus Christi on St. John's day (June 24.) all the world shall cry woe. In the year 1886 the above feast will fall on the days named.

Another old rhyme reads as follows: "Quand Georges Dieu cracefera Que illare le resussitera Et que St. Jean portera Le fin du monde arrivera."

That is when Good Friday shall fall on St. Georges day (April 23.) Easter on St. Mark's (April 25.) Corpus Christi on St. Johns (June 24) the world will come to an end. In 1886 these three feasts will be celebrated on these days, so we have got a little time to get ready.

EDITORIAL GLEANINGS.

BURIED ALIVE.

Among the heroes who ought to be canonized stands Ralph Gore, a contractor, of Erie, Pa. Mr. Gore was superintending the building of a sewer in that city last Monday, and while at the bottom of a deep excavation it was noticed that the earth on the west bank was giving away.

other bank was giving way. The men had to fly for their lives, leaving their companion wedged as in a vise. He was alone, with the tottering avalanche above him, and on the bank a crowd of people with pitying looks and averted heads, waiting the fall.

BURGLARS AT LARGE.

The New Glasgow Eastern Chronicle furnishes us with the following information respecting the supposed doings of two enterprising Burglars at present on the tramp in search of business:

"In February last two men were arrested in Quebec for being drunk, and in their possession was found a number of skeleton keys and a letter signed 'T. B.' sent from Charlottetown, saying, 'As soon as you get out of the penitentiary come to Pictou and I will meet you there for there is lots of work to be done in your line in N. S.' The next morning they paid their fine for being drunk and left Quebec, taking tickets for Pictou. They gave their names as Troy and Riley and had just completed a term of two years in the Kingston Penitentiary.

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY BUSINESS.

From the Moncton Times of Thursday last we take the following interesting article upon this subject:—

"There has not been since the construction of the railway between St. John and Bangor, so great a quantity of freight and so many passengers over it as at present. The road has been re-laid with steel rails, and has greatly enlarged its rolling stock, and yet its officers are embarrassed for want of sufficient cars to accommodate the traffic.

The officers of the St. John and Maine anticipate an increase of fifty per cent. in the amount of through business on the building of the projected bridge across the Falls. The trucking from the Intercolonial to the depot of the St. John and Maine in Carleton is something enormous, 150 tons having been carted across one day this week.

The rapid development of our international trade must be a puzzle to the wisecracks of the Sir Albert kind, who predicted that our trade with the United States would be utterly ruined by the National Policy.

THE CESSION OF GIBRALTAR.

The London correspondent of the New York World telegraphs: For some time past it has been whispered at the clubs that the Government intend to sell Gibraltar to Spain, and the story seems to have some foundation. It is said that the subject has been discussed in the Cabinet and that the Premier's proposal met with no very decided opposition from his colleagues.

be a notice to all the world that England was about to retire from the imperial business. The Spaniards know their man and will offer a low price at first; but the bidding will advance and the Premier will probably be easily satisfied.

DEATH OF MISS LONGWORTH.

Poor Miss Longworth, whose name will long be remembered by lawyers in connection with the celebrated Yelverton marriage case, is dead. Her romantic story is well known. The Scotch courts and the House of Lords decided against her claim to be the wife of Major Yelverton, who subsequently succeeded to the title of Viscount Avenmore; but she clung to him to the last.

THE HEAVENS IN NOVEMBER.

On Nov. 1, Saturn will be in opposition to the sun, rising as the sun sets and setting as the sun rises. The beautiful rings can be easily observed with a small telescope, if the weather is fine. On the 7th Mercury will make a transit across the Sun, but will not be visible in New Brunswick. Mars is becoming brilliant late in the evenings, and is approaching for the second time since the discovery of his moons by Professor Asaph Hall, in 1877.

ENGLANDS MARINE.

The extent to which the United Kingdom is using iron for ships, and is substituting steam for sail, is growing more marked each year. Of all the vessels built in 1880 in the United Kingdom, 58,119 tons, were sailing, and 414,831 tons were steam; of these only 17,925 tons of the former and 1,382 of the latter were of wood.

CENSUS OF INDIA.

The census of India was a work of such magnitude that Mr Plowden, the Census Commissioner, may well say it may fairly claim to be the largest work of the kind, of which the record is available, under taken in any country. To take a population of 252,541,210 persons, with all the details required, is indeed a stupendous work.

BUSINESS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The antipodean sister colony of New South Wales appears to have had a fair year. The acreage under wheat was \$252,240, with a yield of 3,708,737 bushels; showing an increase of 19,172 acres, and 95,471 bushels. The area in maize—123,679 acres—had declined by 8,671 acres since the previous year, and the yield was less by 275,399 bushels.

BANK FAILURE.

The Mechanics' National Bank of Newark, which was supposed to be the strongest bank in the State of New Jersey, has failed. The disaster was caused by the dishonest transactions of the cashier, who is a defaulter to the amount of \$2,000,000. The contingent losses and can as yet only be surmised, but they will be large.

THE CHARACTER OF ITALY.

London Truth is not very complimentary to Italy. It says:—"Italy was long the paradise of beggars, and in becoming a nation the Italians have not lost their national characteristic. When anything occurs in any part of the world, Italy at once presents herself, cap in hand, and with whining bluster asks 'what she is to be given?' It is only necessary to reply 'nothing' for her to resume her cap, and, with a few muttered curses, to move off in order to see whether any crumbs are to be picked up elsewhere."

COTTON FACTORY IN MONCTON.

The Moncton Times informs us that on Thursday last a stock list for the Moncton Cotton Factory Company was circulated about town and some \$30,000 subscribed in moderate sized amounts in a short time. The company will have a capital of \$400,000, of which at least \$200,000 must be subscribed before operations can be commenced.

What is Chatham about? From what we heard a few weeks ago from some of our men of capital and enterprise we were led to believe that they intended to take immediate action with respect to the establishment of a Woollen Factory in Chatham. But it all ended in talk, brag and bluster.

CURIOSITIES OF TRADE.

Some of the movements of trade are really curious. One would suppose that Europe would have enough to do to feed itself. Nevertheless, it is sending onions, cabbages and potatoes to this continent, and Normandy, France, is exporting apples to New York. Another curious fact is that American flour, purchased on French account and shipped to Havre, has been re-shipped to New York, where it sold for a higher price, freight both ways included, than could be got for it at Havre.

NEWCASTLE NOTES.

Messrs Staples & McAllister have discontinued as partners, Mr. Staples having bought out the stock and removed the stock to the store lately occupied by Mr. F. Carter. Mr. McAllister will purchase a new stock and continue in the old site.

Since Messrs Staples & McAllister have dissolved partnership, the Agency for the Star is now in the hands of Mr. George Staples only. Our Newcastle subscribers will please call at Mr. Staples's for their paper or else they will please let us know and we will direct the paper to Newcastle Post office.

There was great scrambling on Thursday last at one of the public wharves after an ox which had slipped out of the slings whilst being hoisted out of a schooner. They succeeded in getting the poor animal out of the water after it had received a very unpleasant bath.

The chimney of Messrs. Ritchie's mill, which was begun about two weeks ago, is being built up very speedily. It will be completed in an other month.

Hon. Peter Mitchell arrived in Newcastle at 11.30 p. m. on Wednesday last. On his arrival at the I. C. R. Station, he had all the prominent men of the place to greet and cheer him, after which he was escorted to the Waverly Hotel. We learn that he will remain in the County for eight or ten days after which he will return to Montreal.

Mr P. Hennessy who has run a successful business in Newcastle for many years, ends his old store too small for his daily increasing trade, and commenced the erection of a more spacious building about a month ago which he will occupy in a short time.

From his office advanced the utterly too— All dressed and perfumed like a comical fool; His polished shirt-front was a-gleaming like glass, And he looked, as he was, an aethetical ass. His kinship was plain to a neighbouring horse, And a quick recognition was natural of course; So the sociable beast; with a thundering thud, Saluted his cousin with plenty of mud.

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