The Colonial Farmer,

FREDERICTON, N. B., SEPTEMBER 3, 1877.

In another column will be found the official reporter's *resume* of the discussion relative to the non-publication of the Consolidated Statutes. It does not give a very correct idea of the debate and it particularly does not do justice to the speech of the Attorney General. We propose to give the points which that Honorable gentleman did make with a few running comments.

It must be borne in mind that what the Opposition sought to establish was that the Government ought not to have asked the House to bring the Consolidation into operation the first of May without having perfected arrangements for its publication by that time. Mr. King's first excuse was that the Government intended to delay the time for the Consolidation to come into force until the first of November: but it being necessary, for political reasons, that the Municipalities Act should come into operation on the first of May, it was determined not to delay the coming in force of the Consolidation, as the whole body of the Statute law was affected by the Act in question. We do not understand this excuse. Passing over "the political reasons," in regard to which a little explanation would be acceptable at any time, it may be worth while to inquire in what manner the Municipalities Act "affected the whole body of the law." If this Act is complete in itself, it would render unnecessary the re-publication in the Consolidation of any of the law relating to the local government of Counties, and therefore no necessity existed that this should come in force on the first of May. The only way in which the rest of the Statutes could be affected would be to render it necessary to substitute the word "Municipality" in the place of the phrases "General Sessions," "Special Sessions" or phrases of similar import But these are reasons which would justify delay in bringing the Consolidation into force, and if Mr. King has nothing better to offer as an excuse for his blunder, he has good reason to thank his stars for his servile and plastic following. A word here to Mr. Pickard and Humphrey. The Legislature is not responsible for this mistake equally with the Government. As to the time in which departmental work can be done the Legislature has no criterion to go by, except the assurance of the Government, and although the House votes unanimously the responsibility of the Government if not removed, if it should appear that the information upon which the vote is based is inaccurate. For bringing the laws into force the House is responsible, for fixing the time the Government is.

Mr. King having given this reason for selecting the first of May, proceeded to account for the delay since that time. The first reason he gave was that the Department of Justice having asked that the Acts of Assembly should be sent up to Ottawa for approval within six weeks after the Session, it became necessary to expedite the printing of the Acts of the last Session. This request included the Consolidation, but said Mr. King "clauses *ultra vires* are probably more apt to occur in private acts than in public ones" and therefore the sessional Acts were hurried forward, and the larger work kept back. This excuse is an afterthought, and is based on a fallacy, for it is not a fact that *ultra vires* clauses are less likely to find their way into public acts than into others. Mr. King cannot value his reputation as a lawyer very largely, or he would not offer such foolish excuses.

His second excuse for delay was that the Government determined to publish 4,000 copies instead of 2,000 as was at first intended. This might cause some delay, but not one half or one quarter of what has occurred.

He did not offer as an excuse the fact that half the working copy was destroyed in St. John, for he said that the copy in the printer's hands was always in advance of the work. This may be literally true; though we have good reason to doubt it, but what law is there that says the Queen's Printer's office shall only contain the present number of employees, and have not the Government a right to require Mr. F. to do his work more rapidly? We think so; but we at the same time know that no responsibility for the delay rests upon the Queen's Printer. The Attorney General then proceeded to justify the delay by representing that the Dominion Acts of last Session. Mr. Elder had already taken the same position and had said that no complaint ought to be made because the New Brunswick laws could only be found in one place, for the Dominion laws of last Session could only be found in the Custom House; whereupon Mr. King, Attorney General of New Brunswick, said "and you will only find those there which relate to the Customs," and in his own speech he said "Important changes were made in the Criminal law of Canada last Session, and possibly men are being tried, convicted and punished for crimes improperly, because no one knows what the criminal law of Canada is." Can it be possible that Mr. King is so abjectly ignorant as not to know that the Public Statutes of Canada are published in the *Canada Gazette*: or did he deliberately state a falsehood? The language is strong, but the question is warranted by the the facts. If Mr. King does not know what the criminal law is, and he says he does not, then he is utterly unfit for his position as the first law officer of the Crown in the Province. If he knew when he spoke on Wednesday that all the Acts of Parliament in which the public are interested were published in May last, then he is beneath contempt. As for Mr. Elder, he long ago ceased to regulate his utterances by the truth, and it will alter no one's opinion of him to detect him in a deliberate falsehood.

Mr. King's last excuse was that the changes made in the law by the Consolidation were perhaps less than those made in any one Session. Pray, Mr. Attorney General, what was the House occupied in doing for about six weeks in the Session of 1876? But the question which causes the confusion is not how many changes were made, but what are the changes? The judge, the barrister, the parish officer do not want to know how many score of alterations have been made; but are anxious to learn the character of the alterations, and are daily being inconvenienced because they do not know and cannot ascertain. We deny emphatically that one can even find these changes by referring to the rolls in the Secretary's office. What can one tell when he reads that the forms of procedure shall be as in Chapter ——, and the fees to be taken according to Schedule —— in Chapter ——, and nothing to indicate how the blanks are to be filled? Who can tell what the Attorney General has or has not thought necessary to be struck out, changed or amended?

Mr. King closed by saying that he regretted the delay, and no doubt the whole House and the country regretted it; but it was one thing to feel regret, and another thing to express it, especially when the result of such an expression would be the resignation of the Government. What would the Honorable gentleman say if some murderer whom he prosecuted were to say to him, "Sir, I killed the man, and I did wrong and am sorry. It is right that you should be both sorry and indignant; but do not put your opinion in the form of an indictment, for I will be hung if you do?" but such a request, absurd as it is, would only require to be supplemented by a statement from his Counsel that it would be a shocking bad taste to prosecute in view of the late disastrous fire in St. John, to funish an exact parallel to Mr. King's argument. Mr. King admitted that a state of facts existed the constitutional effect of which was that his Government should resign; and he deliberately asked the House to ignore these facts, and that body, with eleven honorable exceptions, did so.

This threat of resignation is a favorite with the Attorney General. He used it once before with success when the members had hardly got comfortably seated in their places, and now he brings it into play again, and makes it more effectual by an appeal to the House to consider the position of St. John. Now it was admitted by every member of the House who spoke, that the resolution expressed the unanimous opinion of the members, but as the chief reason against its passage it was urged that it would disarrange public business at a time when it was necessary that certain Acts should pass. But this is not so. Had the resolution carried, as the Attorney General admitted it ought to do if every member voted according to his convictions—we can make no distinction between personal and political convictions as he appears to do— we have Mr. King's authority for saying the Government would resign. Well what if they did? A dissolution would not be the result. Indeed the Lieutenant Governor would not be justified under the circumstances in dissolving the House; neither would he be under any obligation to accept any resignation until the St. John business had been got through with. But so completely has the King administration demorilazed the Assembly that it is possible for them to maintain their seats under an acknowledge state of facts, the constitutional consequence of which is resignation.

The *Telegraph* calls the moving of the amendment a blunder; but it was not. The division was just as was anticipated; and the resolution was intended only as a protest against the mismanagement of the Government; for the Opposition deemed it fitting that they should record one.

One word more as to the Attorney General's statement relative to the Dominion Statutes. Not only are these—that is the public Statutes—published in the *Canada Gazette*, but the *Gazette* is sent to all the judges, all the departmental offices, and can be obtained by any one who chooses to subscribe for it. Thus the changes made in the law by the Parliament of Canada are communicated to those who administer the law at the earliest possible moment and invariably within a week or two after the Session.

The Legislature was opened on Tuesday with the usual ceremonies. The following was the

SPEECH:

"*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"I regret the circumstances which have rendered it necessary to summon you so soon to the resumption of Legislative duties.

"By the disastrous fire which occurred in the City of Saint John on the twentieth of June, the larger and more important part of the City was in a few hours laid in ashes, a number of lives lost, millions of property destroyed, and about thirteen thousand people deprived of their homes.

"To the sad sufferers by bereavement and in property; to those whose homes have been broken up, and whose means of living has been impaired; to all who in mind, body or estate have been affected by this calamity, I would, on my own and your behalf, tender my warmest sympathy.

"I avail myself of this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude, in which I know you will join, to the inhabitants of other Provinces of the Dominion, to our fellow countrymen in the United Kingdom, and to the citizens of the United States, for their prompt and generous aid in our distress; and we would render thanks to Him who has made of one flesh all the Nations of the Earth, that He has put it into the hearts of His people to succour those who are in want.

"I have also to regret that during the present Summer the flourishing Towns of Woodstock and Saint Stephen have likewise suffered severely from the same cause.

"The Corporation of the City of Saint John having determined upon seeking further powers to deal with the present emergency, Bills will be laid before you to amend the law for the better prevention of conflagrations in the City of Saint John; to regulate the construction of buildings, and to provide for the due inspection thereof; to provide for rebuilding and replacing public property destroyed by fire; to widen and extend certain public streets; to authorize the Board of Assessors of Taxes to grant relief in cases where taxable property has been destroyed, and to provide for deficiency in assessments; and to regulate the storage of petroleum and other inflammable articles within the limits of the City and the Town of Portland.

"Great as the calamity has been, I nevertheless have faith in the future of the afflicted City. Its inhabitants are of the most enterprising of the Dominion; evidence of this is shown by the extensive preparations already made for its reconstruction; and I am convinced that at no distant day it will be rebuilt of less destructive material, presenting a more imposing appearance, its trade and commerce in no way impaired, and its people chastened by their misfortunes, and strengthened by the exhibition of Christian charity which these misfortunes have called forth.

"The circumstances to which I have referred seemed to render it desirable that the Provincial Exhibition of Agriculture and Manufactures, which had been arranged to be held in Fredericton in the month of October, should be deferred for another year.

"I now leave you to discharge your Legislative duties, having the fullest confidence in your desire to promote the public good."

On Wednesday at 11 o'clock Mr. MacKay moved the address in reply to the speech. He touched upon the extent of the St. John fire calamity and the aid and sympathy it had called forth everywhere; referred to the necessities of the city growing out of the conflagration, which had called for a special session of the Legislature; also to the calamities in St. Stephen and Woodstock: the aid extended by cities, towns and individuals everywhere; also approved of the postponement of the exhibition under the circumstances, and closed by expressing the hope that the session would be characterized by the quick transaction of the necessary business.

Mr. Dow seconed in the customary manner.

The Address passed to section three, when Mr. Covert rose to accord on the part of himself and other members of the opposition with the expression of sympathy for St. John in its calamity and the gratitude which he believed every one felt for the generous aid sent from all quarters for the stricken city.

Mr. Speaker said he wished he knew some way in which the House might mark the passage of this paragraph with unusual emphasis. The charity evoked by the great calamity, and which overwhelmed the citizens of St. John with unspeakable gratitude, was as magnificent as it was spontaneous. At least he would ask the House to pass the paragraph by a standing vote.

All the members then recorded their votes by standing in their places.

Mr. Covert attacked the ninth section, which related to the postponement of the exhibition, and said the Government had not treated the Fredericton Committee, which had gone to expense preparing for the event, right, while the necessity of postponement was not sufficient, and the attempt to save the $4000 grant was hard to understand, in view of the fact that the Government claimed such a full exchequer last session. He also blamed the Government because there was nothing in the address in reference to the $25,000 given to St. John.

The Attorney General defened the postponement on the ground that St. John's mechanical exhibits would have been wanting in consequence of the fire, while in another year they would probably be forthcoming. He had never heard, nor was there any authority for Mr. Covert's statements that the Government desired to save the $4,000. St John's quota of visitors, a very essential element in the financial and popular success of the Exhibition, would also have been wanted, and was in the interest of the whole Province that there should be a delay, for all would feel better prepared next year to contribute to the undertaking. The assent of the Legislature would be asked to the $25,000 grant before it was paid.

Mr. Willis said the Opposition's course on the present occasion had called out as usual Government explanations obtainable in no other way. He said scarcely a factory which would contribute to the exhibition was burned out, and agricultural interest of the country demanded exhibition. He approved of the giving of the Government grant to St. John, but thought it should have been mentioned in the speech.

Hon. Mr. Fraser said the country felt it was due to St. John that sympathy should be shown for its calamity by the postponement of the Exhibition. The Fredericton Committee's application was under consideration of the Government, and would he believed be satisfactorily arranged.

Mr. Johnston urged that while he as well as others was so willing to aid St. John, poor back settlers in Kent should also be remembered.

The section passed without division.

On last paragraph of address coming up Mr. Covert said it was good as far as it went, but did not go far enough. He moved to amend, expressing the regret of the House that Government has not caused the Consolidated Statutes to be printed in accordance with the understanding of the House in the matter, so as to prevent the inconvenience that has been experienced in the administration of the law. He enumerated cases in which the Opposition had already been obliged to check the Government for the nonperformance of their duty, and charged that the failure to get the Statutes out in time was a fresh instance of Government mismanagement. He referred to the inconvenience to the country arising from there being practically no law save a manuscript copy, which rendered the administration of all the Courts in the Province very difficult and uncertain. He also blamed the Government because the Legislature was not called earlier and said it was probably becaused they were afraid to meet the House with the statute work so far behind.

Mr. Burns seconded, expressing sympathe with St. John, which he said could not be measured by words, and admiration of the liberal and noble contributions sent in aid of the destitute city. Though the session was one called for a special purpose, he believed it right that the House should record its sense of regret that the Government had caused the country so much inconvenience in the matter of the non-publication of the Statutes.

Mr. Elder reproved Mr. Covert for raising faction questions in the presence of the calamity which had called the House together, and claimed that the Statutes were being printed as fast as could reasonably be expected under circumstances which had intervened to delay the work, which after all was being done as rapidly and in as good time as similar work was done in Ottawa. He also dwelt at some length on thoughts connected with the fire.

Mr. Willis urged the House not to be led astray by Mr. Elder's glowing rhetoric, and said though the House met to deal with matters growing out of the St. John calamity, yet it was right that it should take occasion to record its sentiments in reference to the dereliction of duty on the part of the Government. He refered to all the points which had been touched upon in the debate, and spoke into the afternoon session.

Mr. Pickard regretted that the amendment had been moved, not because he did not regret the non-publication of the Statutes, but because he doubted whether the Government was responsible for the delay, and it had not been shewn that they could have secured the publication earlier.

The Attorney General explained the cause which had led the Government to fix the date of the Consolidated Statutes coming into operation earlier than was originally contemplated, and also subsequent unforeseen events which had delayed the printer's work. He went into other subjects brought up in the debate, giving a flat contradiction also to the *News's* statement that he had interfered with the St. John Council in the guarantee matter, and saying that Mr. Willis was a success in manufacturing facts. He said the reports circulated in reference to this Consolidated Statutes matter were conceived in a spirit which was childish and foolish, and that it came of ignorance of the law itself. Through all regretted that the laws were not ready, it was another thing to ask the House to express that regret in such a way as to have a certain constitutional effect on the Government of the day, and he, therefore, thought the amendment should not pass.

Mr. Davidson argued that even if Canadian law printing was behind time, it was no justification of the course of the Government in the matter under discussion, and the House would be justified in saying so. He referred to the inconvenience to judges, lawyers and the public, arising out of not having the laws printed, and said the Government only was in a position to know at the close of last session in what time it was probable the printing could be done, and they were to blame for misleading the House and the country in the matter.

Dr. Dow replied to some allusions by Mr. Covert and others to matters not connected with the amendment and was followed by Mr. Tweedie who styled Dr. Dow "King's jester," and said he was admirably fitted for the office, referred to the inconvenience resulting from the non-publication of the Statutes, and said the delays that had been referred to in connection with the Canadian Statutes formed no parallel to this case. He agreed with the Government that it was well to delay the exhibition this year while he condemned them for their management of the Statutes.

The Provincial Secretary alluded to remarks made by Dr. Dow and the Attorney General, and was followed by Mr. Butler, who said that as the country had been disappointed in not getting the Statutes, it would have been well for the speech to have expressed regret in the matter; therefore, Mr. Covert did right to bring it up and set it right. Other members had brought business before the house not relating to St. John, and if it was to be said Mr. Covert was censurable for occupying time with business other than that of St. John, these members were equally to blame.

A division was then taken on Mr. Covert's amendment, which was lost by the following votes:—

YEAS.—Willis, Covert, Burns, P. Ryan, Johnston, McLeod, Jones, Butler, Davidson, Tweedie, Cottrell.

NAYS.—Fraser, King, Kelley, Stevenson, McQueen, Crawford, Perley, Marshall, Murchie, Theriault, Flewwelling, Philips, Beveridge, McKay, Ryan, Austin, Robinson, Dow, Barker, Humphrey, Pickard, Elder, Swim, Wood, Mackenzie.

On Thursday Mr. Speaker read a letter from Dr. Hand addressed to the Provincial Secretary, informing him that for the accommodation of members who might wish to visit the Normal School, he would have it open at six o'clock, and be present to accompany such of them as desired to go through the institution.

Mr. Marshal introduced a bill to enable the trustees of St. Andrew's Church, St. John, to sell and convey certain property for church purposes, with a petition from the minister, trustees, etc., who favor the same.

Mr. Elder presented a petition from the Municipal Council of St. John, praying for the passage of a bill to provide for relief from taxes in certain cases for the present year, and provide for the deficiency in the assessment.

Mr. Marshal introduced a bill to amend the law for the better prevention of conflagrations in the City of St. John, with the Council's petition in favor of the same.

Mr. Butler introduced a bill to provide an additional Circuit Court in Queen's for the present year.

On motion Mr. Marshal's St. Andrew's Church bill was read a second time.

Mr. Humphrey committed a bill to incorporate the Moncton Gas Light and Water Company, Mr. Burns in the Chair. The bill was agreed to.

Mr. McKay, from Address Committee, reported that the Committee had waited on His Honor the Lieutenant Governor with the address, and received the following reply:—"I thank you for your address, and I am well assured you will give your earnest consideration to the measures submitted you to enable the City of St. John to deal with the present emergency." The report was received.

Adjourned.

After routine Friday Mr. Beveridge committed a bill to authorize the Municipality of Victoria to assess the County for aid to sufferers by the St. John fire to the amount of $250, Mr. Tweedie in the chair. Agreed to.

The Secretary committted a bill relating to Provincial debentures, Mr. Flewelling in the chair. The bill as explained by the Secretary is to make provision for the issue of duplicate Provincial debentures or coupons in place of those destroyed by the St. John fire on sufficient evidence of loss and security being given to indemnify the Province in case the original debentures or coupons may at any time turn up. The Railway debentures of the Province being in some cases sold at a premium, the bill also authorizes the Receiver General, if deemed advisable, to sell such debentures at not less than par so as to give the Provincial Treasury the benefit of the premium. In the course of the passage of the bill the Secretary said the demand for Provincial debentures was constantly increasing.

Mr. Davidson thought as the companies had to take the risks of the debentures being at a discount they ought to be permitted also to have the benefit of any premium that might arise out of them. The bill seemed to alter the terms on which the companies were to undertake their contract.

After some discussion on minor points the bill was agreed to.

Mr. Marshal introduced, with petition, the bill to define and establish the side lines and prevent the encroachments on the streets of St. John, which was read a second time.

Mr. Marshal introduced a bill to regulate the construction of buildings in St. John and provide inspection thereof and for other purposes, with a petition in favor of the same; also a bill to authorize the Board of Assessors of St. John to grant relief for the present year in cases where taxable property has been destroyed by the recent fire, and provide for deficiency in assessment, with a petition in favor of the same.

Mr. Marshal committed the bill to authorize the Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, St. John, to sell and convey certain properties for Church purposes, Mr. Willis in the chair.

In explaining the bill the mover referred to the fact that out of one hundred and ten families belonging to St. Andrew's Church congregation at the time of the fire, no less than seventy lost their homes, while five adherents to the church lost their lives. It is the intention to replace the church which was destroyed by a handsome modern edifice of brick and stone. The bill is to enable the trustees to raise money to assist in its construction by selling or mortgaging its properties in the City and County of St. John. Agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Fraser committed a bill to authorize the City Council of Fredericton to raise money, by way of loan, to aid the sufferers by the St. John fire. Mr. Ryan in the chair. The mover referred to the meeting of the citizens in Fredericton, and the City Council, after the great fire, and the determination of the latter to grant $5,000 to aid the sufferers, besides the general contribution from the citizens. The bill was to provide for the issue of debentures at 6 per cent. to cover said grant. Agreed to.

The omission from the Speech of any reference to the grant of $25,000 to the St. John sufferers was much remarked on by the Opposition in discussing the Address. Mr. King said the House would be asked to grant the amount before it was paid. We thought it was paid long ago, and that the chief merit of the gift was its promptness: but it seems it was only promised, that the "princely generosity of the Government," as the organs put it, consisted of a promise to pay. Verily "our rulers" are getting prudent as the terrors of June approach, the Attorney General to the contrary notwithstanding. Three years ago Mr. Stevenson might take $49,000 without so much as saying by your leave, and parcel it out so that all trace of it is lost. Two years ago Mr. Kelly could take $46,000 he had no right to handle and waste it. This year they do not dare, without a vote of the House, give $25,000 for the relief of thousands of sufferers. Come, Mr. Elder, now is your chance to say "St. John will remember the men, &c."

The Metropolitan Theatre Company open here on Wednesday for a season of four nights. The Company is spoken of very highly, and we have no doubt but that they will meet with good houses here. The *Telegraph* of St. John thus speaks of the performance of the Company there:—

"Rip Van Winkle" was played by the Metropolitan Theatrical Company to a full house, in the Institute, last night. It was placed on the stage in a very creditable manner for a traveling company, which cannot be expected to be provided with all the adjuncts that have been furnished hitherto, on coming here. Their scenery was far better than the average. Mr. John Murray's interpretation of Rip Van Winkle was decidedly good and fully justified the encomiums passed on him by the press in other cities. As the careless, good-for-nothing husband his humor was irrestible and displayed in a high degree, the principal *forte* that he possesses. In awakening after the twenty years' sleep, and the return home to find himself a stranger, he won loud plaudits, and his portrayal gave every satisfaction, being fully equal to what has before been seen here.

The part of Gretchen was acceptably rendered by Miss Cartland throughout the piece. Phineas Leach's Derrick Van Beekman was well done in the last act, though an improvement might have been made on the part in the first act. Little Meenie was well played by Eddie Harrison. The Phantom Crew of the Catskill Mountains was represented in an interesting manner.

"He constituted himself solicitor for a race track," sneeringly said Mr. King," referring to Mr. Covert as though it were a contemptible thing to advocate the claims made by such gentlemen as A. A. Sterling, James Tibbits, F. B. Coleman, F. P. Thompson, N. Campbell, Esqrs., Dr. Brown and others; and Messrs. Fraser, Barker, Robinson and Dow smiled in approval. Happy York, that must trust to Covert for an assertion of your rights, to Elder for a vindication of your representatives; and whose noble four sit dumb while King sneers at an honest claim put forward by respectable business men.

The cause which the Government assign for postponing the Exhibition is that the number of visitors from St. John and the exhibit of manufactures would be small. These are very poor reasons; we would rather it had been put off for the reasons which Mr. Fraser said he felt personally to be of the most importance, that is, that it was fitting in view of the terrible calamity which visited St. John to postpone what was intended to be a season of festivity.

Dr. Dow has confessed in the House that he loves a horse like his brother. We always thought the Doctor looked on the electors of York in much the same way as he did on his horses,— as being valuable because they could take him where he wanted to go, but at the same time he will always sell them when no longer of use.

"The terrors of June are too remote to have any effect on the ordinary governmental mind." So said Mr. King referring to the general election next summer. It will be worth while for the electors of York to bear in mind that Mr. Fraser has not hesitated to sacrifice their interests because the time when they could express their indignation is somewhat remote.

Our Stanley Correspondent writes:—

A public Temperance meeting was held on Tuesday evening, Aug. 22, at McClaggan's Settlement, Upper Nashwaak, when we were honored with the presence of two town gentlemen. The chair was taken at 8 p. m. by the Rev. R. W. Weddall. Very able and interesting Addresses were delivered by W. Wilson, Esq., and Rev. G. M. Campbell, W. J. Kirby and W. T. Howe, Esq., the Chairman closing with a few very appropriate remarks. At the close of the public meeting a Lodge, under the name of the "Forty-Second," was organized by the President of the W. T. A. with a membership of 24. The prospects are very encouraging for this place.

The farmers around Stanley are cutting their oats and other grain, and seem very well satisfied with the yield. Only hay seems to have failed.

Several teams have already passed through for the woods, making their way for the Texas and Miramichi rivers.

The reprint of BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for August has been received from the LEONARD SCOTT PUBLISHING CO., 41 Barclay Street, New York.

Besides the serial stories, "Mine is Thine," and "Pauline," which are each continued at considerable length, there is an article on Victor Hugo, embodying a rapid review of "Légende des Siècles," which is declared to be a magnificent poem, and short criticisms upon his novels, beginning with "Notre Dame." Admitting that he is a great poet, the writer pronounces that he is more likely to live in his novels than in his poems.

The pleasant, gossiping "Wanderer's Letters" are continued, and this number gives a sketch of the career of Murat as King of Naples.

"The Storm in the East—No. III." condenses the war news up to the 20th of July, and gives a better conception of the progress of the campaign than can be gathered from the hasty perusal of the fragmentary bulletins in the daily papers, which not unfrequently contradict the assertions of the day before.

Brigham Young, the able Mormon leader, is dead. His successor has not yet been named, and it will be very difficult for the Mormons to find a man capable of filling his place. We greatly doubt if the Sect will long hold together now that he who was the life and soul of it is gone. That he was a man of great ability no one who is familiar with his history will deny. He did a great deal to promote the welfare of his followers, and his record is not all bad even when viewed from the most orthodox standpoint.

ABOUT TOWN.

An attempt was made on Friday night to set fire to the Messrs. Dever's Dry Goods establishment. The fire had made considerable headway when discovered. It was extinguished with the aid of one of Wood's Fountain Pumps.

The Rev. Mr. Brewer will preach in the Methodist Church on Sunday both morning and evening.

Mr. Thos. W. Smith believes in Printer's Ink, if ever a man did. Witness his Column Advertisement in to-day's issue of the FARMER. Mr. Smith a little over a year ago started a Clothing Establishment on a small scale, which to-day is one of the largest in the city. He attributes his remarkable success to judicious advertising in various ways, principally through the medium of the FARMER.

Our readers will not forget Dr. Talmage's Lecture in the City Hall, on Tuesday evening next. It will be given under the patronage of His Honor the Lieut Governor.

The *Religious Intelligencer* reached us this week looking like an old friend. It is again printed in St. John and looks as much like its old self as new type can make it.

There will be a union pic-nic of St. Anns Lodge and Mangerville Lodge, B. T. on Wednesday next, at Jemseg. The Steamer *City of Fredericton* will leave her wharf in this city at half-past seven, and call at all the different stopping places. Tickets 50 cents: from Taylor Town 40 cents, from Upper Gagetown 30 cents and from Gagetown village 25 cents.

The Methodist S. S. Pic-nic which was to have taken place on Tuesday last at Smith's Corner, Keswick, owing to the wet weather, had to be postponed. It will take place (weather permitting,) on Tuesday next, 4th inst.

Our readers cannot fail to notice Mr. McPeake's Advertisement in this issue of the FARMER. The extent, the dash and brilliancy of this purchase is rather surprising, especially when it is considered that Mr. McPeake has already in successful operation a large Dry Goods and Tailoring Establishment in Edgecombe's Block and a Clothing Store in Colter's Building. He must have full faith in the resources of York. The old saying that "small places make small men" will not hold good in this case.

The Annual Maine State election takes place next Monday, 10th inst.

Apples will be only half a crop in Maine this year.

The tent caterpillar has made its appearance in some sections of Aroostook, Co., Me.

The *Times* says there is no doubt but that the Colorado Potato Beetle has appeared in Maine. Specimens of it in different stages have been found in various localities.

A little son of Mr. Jos. S. Hall, of Fort Fairfield, was poisoned a short time ago by his mother who was insane. She steeped some pieces of fly paper, and administered the decoction to him from the effects of which he died.

The three mile scull race for professionals, at Newburgh, on Thursday was won by Frenchy Johnson, of Boston.

The recent rains have improved the crops in the Presidency of Bombay.

Twenty-five lives were lost by a fire at Rosario Mine, Mexico lately.

Gen. Grant and wife are at Edinburgh.

The *Freeman* and *Temperance Journal* have again made their appearance in St John.

We have the authority of our "Catarrh Doctor" for the fact that "the Dry Goods men are having a run upon a fresh line of goods. Red pocketandkerchiefs being all the rage for Catarrh Remedy uses.

The School House at District No. 2, Beaver Harbour, Pennfield, Charlotte County, was destroyed by fire during the night of the 21st ult. A man named Wm. Foley has been arrested on the supposition of having set fire to the building. So says the *Courier*.

In our last issue we made it to say the *David Weston* would leave this City for St. John at 4 o'clock, p. m., on Saturday. It should have been leave St. John for Fredericton at that hour.

WAR NEWS.

The fighting in front of Schipka Pass was still in progress yesterday, but it is claimed, by way of Sistova, that the Russians, under Rodetzky, maintained their positions, although the losses thus far have been very heavy.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* maintains that the crisis has passed and the Muscovites have virtually gained the greatest victory of the war.

The English Embassy has received a telegram confirming Mukhtar Pasha's account of the victory on Saturday.

The reported Turkish victory at Kizalteps, Armenia, is confirmed, but in attempting to capture Kuruk Dara the Ottomans failed, the Russians under Melikoff defeating them. Losses on both sides heavy.

The Russians still hold Fort Nicholas, Shipka Pass. The Turks are attacking the highest Russian positions in the Pass. Large numbers of Turkish wounded are arriving. The Russians occupy Popkeoi. A battle is expected.

The indications are that the Roumanians will act under Russian orders. They have been crossing over the bridge at Korabia in order to operate in the rear of Plevna.

Boovatovitch, commander-in-chief of the Servian army, arrived Tuesday. Servia and Greece, it is believed, will take up arms at the same time. Special envoys from Athens are expected here. The Russian loss before Kuruk Dara was two generals and eight officers killed and 237 soldiers killed and 712 wounded. Deserters say the Turks lost 3,000 men.

Since Sunday afternoon and during to-day the Turks have maintained a feeble fire against our defences in Schipka Pass. The Russians maintain all their positions. The Turks hold the neighboring heights, continually relieving each other in the fighting.

The Porte recently instructed Musnas Pasha to call the attention of the British Government to the armaments of Greece, declaring that if an outbreak occurs it will send troops to Athens to extirpate the evil at the root. England thereupon addresses remonstrances to the Greek Government. The latter has just sent a note to the Porte giving pacific assurances and promising if necessary to co-operate with the Ottoman troops to repress brigandage on the frontier.

The Pope is again reported greatly prostrated, and has barely strength to attend any business. A committee commands at the Vatican and acts in the name of the Pope. Intrigue has commenced, which is preparatory to a crisis, and some Cardinals are holding a meeting to provide for any emergency.

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A special from Shumla on Tuesday says: "Suleiman Pasha made an assault on the Russian position in Shipka Pass at nine in the morning. The battle, which was sanguinary, lasted until six o'clock in the evening. The enemy, assailed on both flanks, were unable to resist the attack, and the Turks gained possession of all the earthworks at the opening of the defile. Russians lost 3,000 killed and wounded."

The *Standard's* despatch says it is reported the Russians abandoned their works, and Suleiman Pasha is pursuing them. The last version, however, seems exaggerated.

It is reported the Czar is ill and been advised to leave for a healthier locality than the general headquarters.

The Bosnian insurgents have again been notably defeated near Czernypotak, and driven over the Austrian frontier.

The Turkish corps, commanded by the Turkish ex-Minister of War, together with other corps, will operate on the Timok. They are ordered to be in readiness to march in three days. The Turks are naturally anxious to know what Servia intends to do. The Turkish detachment from Widdin is reported ing towords Servian frontier on the Timok.

A despatch from Suleiman Pasha, dated 26th, details operations to that day. It says the Turks occupied Alekridjebel Heights, to the left of the enemy's works, threatening their line of retreat on the 21st, but the Russians succeeded on Friday in dislodging them. But on Saturday Vessel Pasha, with two brigades, succeeded in gaining a footing. The fighting continued all night, and by three o'clock on Sunday morning the Russians were completely driven from the Heights. The Russians, receiving reinforcements, made a final assault, but were unsuccessful, and returned to their fortified works. The cannonade continued all Sunday without effect. Suleiman concludes: "The matter is not yet decided, as we have not yet taken the enemy's fortified works. Our losses are yet unknown. One thousand Russian dead were found when the enemy were driven from Alekridjebel Heights."

The *Times*, in its summary of the war news, says: "For many days the army of Grand Duke Nicholas has been closing together against Plevna, with a view to an attack on that place. The headquarters are reported to be on the point of moving from Studeni to Bulgaieni."

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs: The mere fact of Servia trying again the issue of war with Turkey would scarcely be in itself a sufficient motive for the country to change her expectant and watchful attitude. She could perfectly well afford to look on as long as her interests are untouched. On the other hand Austria might be provoked into action without a single battalion of the regular Servian army crossing the Servian frontier, if Servia lent herself to become the focus of pan-Slavic revolutionary agitation, and tried to spread this agitation by sending bands across the river Drin into the Turkish Provinces bordering on Austria. This seems to have been understood in Belgrade. Servia is preparing to act as a part of the Russian army.

Officers from the Russian headquarters are buying large quantities of grain and cattle in Servia.

A Bucharest special asserts that Roumania has not concluded any military convention with Russia. The Roumanian army will preserve its individuality, although they are acting in concert with the Russians. Prince Charles, with the bulk of the army, will shortly follow the vanguard, which have already crossed the Danube at Korabia.

Sulieman Pasha telegraphs on the 28th: "Our entrenched line of investment is only one hundred and fifty paces from the enomy's fortifications."

MURDER WILL OUT.

A few years ago "August Flower" was discovered to be a certain cure for Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint, a few thin Dyspeptics made known to their friends how easily and quickly they had been cured by its use. The great merits of GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER heralded through the country by one sufferer to another, until, without advertising, its sale has become immense. Druggists in EVERY TOWN in the United States are selling it. No person suffering with Sour Stomach, Sick Headache, Costiveness, palpitation of the Heart, Indigestion, low spirits, etc., can take three doses without relief. Go to your Druggists, Davis & Dibblee, Queen Street, Fredericton, and get a bottle for 75 cents and try it. Sample bottles 10 cents.

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J.nov 1876

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NOTICE.

THE undersigned have purchased the Stock in Trade of Messrs. McDonald & Kedey, as also the Books and book debts.

All persons indebted the said McDonald & Kedey will please make immediate payment to us.

Dated August 9, 1877.

DANIEL & BOYD.

Fton, Aug. 13, 1877.