The World's Ingratitude.

The ingratitude of the world to its heroes is a never failing source of cynicism. We read the following paragraph in an English paper of late date:—

"Thomas Welsh, a soldier who had fought at Rorke's Drift, was sent to jail for three days by the Britol magistrates for drunkenness. He was on his way from Netley Hospital to Ireland."

This fight at Rorke's Drift was one of one hottest and most deadly of all the campaign. It is a very valley of the shadow of death. Poor Thomas Welsh was wounded and invalided. On going home after his fight he gets drunk and is imprisoned. Now, a man who fought at Rorke's Drift ought *not* to have got drunk; but since it is not such a deadly crime after all, a magistrate *might* have let him go, after one of those touching sermons which magistrates know how to bestow.

As a commentary on the foregoing paragraph which is even more suggestive than the other, were give the following from the very same paper:

"The Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Waterpark, the Hon. Horatia Stopford, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Ponsonby, and Colonel McNiell, paid a visit to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley. Her Majesty was received on landing by Col. Stewart, commandant of the hospital, and was conducted through the hospital by Surgeons-General Massy, C. B., and Longmore, C. B. Before leaving Her Majesty *decorated Private Hitch, of the 1st battalion, 24th Regiment, who was wounded in the defence of Rorke's Drift, with the Victoria Cross*, in the presence of the invalid, who were drawn up in front of the hospital. Private Hitch had saved the lives of wounded men in the hospital at Rorke's Drift, which was burned, and had brought them into the fort at the risk of his own life."

The moral of the story is, we suppose, that Private Hitch did not get drunk while Private Welsh did. But the satire of circumstances may be such that that was Welsh's first offence, while Hitch may be an old toper.

Lord Dufferin's New Appointment.

The London correspondent of the Manchester *Guardian* says:—Lord Dufferin's appointment to succeed Sir Henry Layard has become a subject of much interest. I hear that Mr Montagu Corry, the Premier's confidential secretary, intends to visit Constantinople and spend part of the autumn there. The relations known to exist between this gentleman and Lord Beaconsfield invest his proposed journey with unusual significance, but I incline to the opinion that any semi-official service he may be engaged in will have strict reference to our Embassy. It is true, as I understand, that Colonel Baker is going to Kurdistan, and that he will have charge of the Amenian frontier. Another matter which gives occasion for comment is the appointment of Mr. St. John as Consul at Asterabad, instead of Bagdad, as was first intended. It is not strange that this concurrence of movements should be taken to indicate a general plan on the part of the Government. With Lord Dufferin at Constantinople, Colonel Baker on the frontier of Asiatic Turkey, military consuls in Asia Minor, and a military man on the Caspian to watch the northern frontier of Persia, it would be difficult to doubt that the English Government, while working with Russia to put pressure on Turkey, are going to make a show at least of carrying out their undertakings in regard to the Asiatic possessions of the Porte, and it is remarkable that these movements become visible at the moment when Russia has been got out of Turkish territory.

Business Facts and Anticipations at the West.

"Everything," says the Chicago *Times*, "looks highly encouraging for a prosperous retail trade in lumber, general merchandise, cattle, hogs, provisions, dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, and, in short, in all lines of commerce, not even excepting lake freights, which have been in a healthier condition this season than had been anticipated, owing in part to a revival of the iron trade calling for increased shipments of iron ore. Of course, with the competition of mammoth propellers and the numerous lines of railroads, owners of sail vessels can hardly expect to amass much wealth in the grain, lumber, coal, salt or ore carrying trade; but they have done better than they had dared to expect, and many of the large craft and most of the big steamers are doing quite fairly. The lake shipments of the several articles enumerated above have been much larger than in ordinary years during the present navigation season, and on several occasions during last week the supply of vessels in our harbor sell so far short of the demands of grain shippers that freights advanced sharply. A good deal of grain and provisions was also shipped out by rail, but it is probable that the bulk of such shipments were made on contracts effected prior to the adoption of the present railroad tariff, which went into effect on Monday."

Political Economy in Germany.—The quarrel between protectionists and freetraders has become so violent in the town of Herborn, near Wiesbaden, that a numerously signed petition has been addressed to the municipal council, demanding the abandonment of the national festival hitherto held to commemorate the battle of Sedan. The reason given for this request is that the battle is commemorated as having been the foundation of German unity and freedom, while recent political and social events have shown that, if Germany is united, it is as yet doubtful whether German people have achieved their freedom. It is said that the council is disposed to accede to the request of the petitioners, especially as several societies have decided that if the festival should take place they will not take part in it, but arrange a national festival of their own for the last week in August. The Hanover *Courier*, in an article on the subject, remarks that it by no means approves of the present political and commercial tendencies of the Government, but that it does not understand the satisfaction which is being expressed by many National Liberal papers at the petition of the Herborners. "Those who think that the value of the present organization of Germany is diminished by the fact that a policy to which they are opposed has temporarily obtained the upper hand cannot be very serious in desiring that Germany should remain united. We do not think that Herr Windthorst will soon become the Chancellor of the Empire; but even if this should be the case, we should still rejoice on the 3nd of September that the German Empire has been established."

Corporal Punishment in the Austrian Army.—On the night of Sunday, July 6, at Prague, an Austrian regiment of infantry was being paraded (preparatory to some night manœuvres) in the yard of the Karolinenthal Barrack, and the soldiers inspected by the regimenial officers. Lieutenant Wondracsek espied one private, Frank Franek, whose cravat seemed to him too high. He seized the soldier by the collar of his tunic, tore the cravat off his neck, and struck the unfortunate man a blow over the left eye with the buckle. The soldier put his hand to his eye with a loud shriek, and the regimental surgeon coming up at the moment, ascertained that the eye was destroyed. The buckle had literally knocked out the ball of the eye. The man was taken to the hospital, and the officer placed under arrest.

Confederation in South Africa.—Sir M. Hicks-Baach's despatch on the subject of confederation has been received at Capetown, and is expected to be laid before the Cape Parliament, now in session, during the present week. It is understood to be an invitation to the Cape and sister Governments to forward the scheme of an Unitey South Africa on lines of the Dominion Act, which passed the Imperial Parliament a couple of years ago. The question of defence is the main point, however, and it is said there is a proposal on the part of Her Majesty's Government to continue for a period of five years an annual grant equivalent to the total amount which the several colonial governments may contribute for the maintenance of a defensive force in the country.

A new thing in London shows is a bull fight by a circus performer and a trained bull. The beast plays his part wonderfully well, making a pretence of furious rage, tossing the man, and tramping on him, but does it all so carefully that no injury is done.

Communications.

"For the Agriculturist."

Sir,—Can you inform the public whether Lieut. Col. Marsh has complied with the Militia Regulations by reporting to Head Quarters the Communication from the Captain of No. 5 Company, 71st Batt., which appeared in the St. John *Telegraph* lately. The good of the service requires that the Militia Regulations should be strictly carried out, and the public are anxious to know if the Lieut. Col. has done his duty in the matter.

Yours,
Red Coat.

Fredericton, August 29, 1879.

The Agriculturist.

Fredericton, N. B., August 30, 1879.

The Return of the Knights.

The three knights errant, leading members of the Dominion Government, are expected back again in Canada. Sir Charles and Sir Leonard, to-day, or soon; Sir John, some time in September. The Toronto *Mail* makes a flourish of trumpets over their return, and the success of their mission; but it is difficult to make out why it is so jubilant. Perhaps the flourish is made to hide its confusion. It may be granted that Sir Leonard Tilley has obtained a good loan, but it is not a matter for rejoicing that money was borrowed, however good the terms; that Sir John has been sworn in member of the Imperial Privy Council, but though the honor is very gratifying to himself, it will hardly strengthen the position of Canada in the Councils of the Empire as the *Mail* presumes. But what has Sir Charles Tupper done with the aid of his two colleagues? Nothing but order 45,000 tons of steel rails to be delivered at Montreal for the Pacific Railway. He has secured them at 97s. 6d., say $20 per ton, and the Ottawa *Citizen* chuckles that he has got them $30 cheaper than Mr. McKenzie who paid $54, and received unlimited abuse. But surely Sir Charles is not entitled to much credit. He has failed to obtain a guarantee for the Pacific Railway, and there is no certainty that an Imperial Commissioner, as he and his colleagues desire, will be appointed to act in conjunction with the Dominion Commissioner to have charge of the lands hypothecated for the construction of the railway. Since they cannot get the guarantee they would like to commit the Imperial Government to an emigration scheme, but they are not likely to be successful. The *Mail* says, as if it meant something, whereas it is pretty evident that it is blankly disappointed, "that negotiations have been going on. What has been actually done, it is not our province to state. Enough, we are convinced, that what has been done will be satisfactory to the people, and that the scheme of the government for building the Pacific Railway will not have to be abandoned for want of energy, wisdom and means on the part of the ministry." No definite statement of the object and policy of the Ministers, it says, will probably be made till meeting of Parliament. As if, had the three knights done anything tangible the *Mail* would not have heard of it, and triumphantly proclaimed it to the confusion of the *Globe*, and all opponents of the Ministry! But the generous people of Canada will not grudge the three knights their pleasant trip to England, though they have done very little.

The Commissioners.

The eyes of large sections of the inhabitants of Great Britain are now, it may be said cast with considerable anxiety on America. Peopled mainly by men of the same blood and lineage, they possess the same perseverance, doggedness and pertinacity which characterise themselves, with, it is acknowledged by some, a certain well defined freshness of ingenuity and adaptability which British people generally do not to anything like the same extent possess. Truly these Americans those distant relations, those cousins so to speak, are growing up to be their formidable rivals, bent on wresting the trade of the world, if possible, from their hands. Those in England who look deeply into the state of trade, and agriculture, are growing more and more dissatisfied with the present state of affairs, and look anxiously to the future.

The depression which has rested so long on all branches of trade, which presses so very heavily on the agricultural interest is exceptional. In several branches of trade there are symptoms of revival, but it is felt, or it is feared, that the full tide of prosperity will not return again, unless some special effort is made to bring it back. Masters and men must shake themselves out of the apathy, and their contempt of foreigners and outsiders, and adapt themselves to the changing conditions of the world. Masters must study how it is that many American goods are beginning to supplant their own, in their own and foreign markets, and manufacture a style of articles that will suit foreign customers better, and the men must consent to work longer hours, for lower wages, in order to enable the masters to lower their prices, and bear up against American competition.

In truth the situation in England is very difficult. The soundness of the principle of free trade is being sorely tested. Weak kneed disciples are loosing heart, and writing to their apostle, Bright, for light and comfort, but receive nothing but a surly answer, that free trade will come out all right in the end. But many are not disposed to wait, Manchester men see cheap, and superior American calicoes taking the place of their own in Lancashire stores; sheffield men see American cutlery underselling their own at their own doors; and the unfortunate British farmers, rendered gloomy and morose by the detestable weather, and the certainty of short crops, see droves of cattle, cargoes of dead meat, shiploads of agricultural produce landed on their shores, bringing down their profits to zero.

Something must be done, it is felt, to protect the farmer and the manufacturer, but how to do that something is the difficulty. In order to obtain some clew to the solution of that difficulty, gentlemen acting in the interest of the manufacturer and the farmer, have arrived, or will shortly arrive in America, Mr. Thomas Bayley Potter, member of Rochdale, and chairman of the Gobden Club, who is now in the United States, and Mr. C. S. Reade, President of the Norfolk Board of Agriculture, and Mr. Albert Pell, chairman of the central chamber of Agriculture, who have been appointed by the British government to take evidence for the Imperial Commission of Agriculture, who are expected shortly. The object of Mr. Potter is to obtain, if possible, a modification of the American tariff, to persuade the Americans to break down some of their trade barriers, and admit some lines of British manufactures which are now excluded. The object of Messrs. Reade and Pell, is to investigate the agricultural capabilities and facilities of the United and Canada States.

It is to be feared that Mr. Potter's mission will prove abortive. The manufacturers and farmers of the United States, however much they appreciate the free trade policy of England, as furthering their own interests, have no idea, as long as that policy obtains there, of favoring a relaxation of their own tariff in the interest of the British manufacturer. What Messrs. Reade and Pell hope to accomplish it were hard to say. Probably like Sir George Campbell, a prominent member of British Parliament, who visited the United States two years ago, and wrote a book, they will be impressed by nothing so much throughout their tour, "as the great extent of country, north, south, east and west, in which the farmers are going into cattle breeding for our own market with enthusiasm," when they come to Canada, and if they vsiit the Dominion Exhibition in Ottawa, they will see, that there is a vast extent of fine agricultural land there, and that the farmers are capable of raising any amount of fine cattle, sheep and swine and produce for the English market also, but how their evidence as to the vast agricultural capabilities of the United States and Canada is going to benefit the English farmer, it is hard to see. If their evidence could persuade a number of English farmers of means to settle in Canada it would do some good, but a partial emigration would not relieve the general agricultural distress in England.

The result of the mission of the Commissioners will possibly be, that the growing feeling for a modified protection or reciprocity, as it is called in England, will gain strength, and that an endeavor will be made to protect manufacturers in England, by laying a duty on certain discription of American goods, and to put some tax on live stock and produce imported from Canada and the United States in the interest of the British farmer. Mr. Potter leans to the reciprocity idea, and Mr. Reade, who has long been the farmer's champion in Parliament has lately given in the Toronto *Globe* says:—"An unequivocal adhesion to the doctrine of protection for British farmers."

Cetewayo and Ta Whiao.

In the British Empire the gates of the temple of Janus are never closed. There is always war going on in some part of its vast bounds. No sooner is one little war off than there is another little war on. Now that the war in Zululand is seemingly passing off, trouble is threatened in New Zealand. There is great uncertainty, though, whether King Cetewayo and the northern tribes are humbled enough to sue for peace, and equal doubt whether King Ta Whiao and his Maori adherents in the center bush country of the North Island, New Zealand, will venture to resist the Colonists. But the great likelihood is, that the old African lion will be thoroughly tamed ere long, and that an end will be made of the independence of the Maori king.

If war does break out in New Zealand, the whole brunt of the fighting and the cost of the war will fall on the colonists themselves, and the knowledge of that fact may make them restrain their impetuosity. The Maoris are doomed people. Like the red Indians of North America, they have withered away before the presence of the whites, and like these same Indians they have been treated with equal hardness, unscrupulosity, by the Christian palefaces with whom they came in contact, and like them, again, have, while being driven back, turned upon their hunters and time and again, bloodily avenged themselves. Forty years ago there was, it was computed, 100,000 Maoris in New Zealand, now there is probably not more than 40,000, and the most aggressive of the colonists are eager to wipe out that small remnant.

The last Maori war took place some ten years ago. At its close King Ta Whiao and his adherents "the Kingites" retired to the interior of their inaccessible bush, and from that time have maintained an attitude of sullen reserve towards the white colonists. By an act called their "magna charta," the Maoris were maintained in the possession of their lands but the colonists looked upon the said act with hostility, and denounced it as standing in the way of the settlement of the country, and proceeding on a presumption of native rights and possession, where frequently neither existed. To a certain order of colonists, no black man, Zulu or Maori has any rights he is bound to respect. For the last ten years there has then been latent hostility between the black and whites in New Zealand, and the cause that has made it flame out is thus explained. At the close of the war the Waimate plains were confiscated by the government, but for ten years no steps were taken to occupy these lands or eject the Maori residents. A few months ago without warning being given to the occupants, a survey was begun and the lands were advertised for sale. This proceeding naturally aroused the Maoris and their fanaticism and ferocity were further excited by a Prophet, who announced that it was revealed to him that some great calamity was impending over the whites. One of the natives was so worked upon as to shoot a surveyor, and all Europeans were warned off the confiscated land. Unless the Colonial government exercise great discretion, and restrain the aggressive portion of the Europeans in New Zealand, and unless Ta Whaio and the Kingites shrink from a contest, in which they will be greatly overmatched, war will follow from this incident. The Colonists are very confident that they can make short work of the Maoris but not more confident than Sir Bartle and the Cape Colonists, that they could eat up the Zulus. But Cetewayo, before he was beaten, if he is yet beaten, made his assailants repent their attack, and so may Ta Whiao.

Sir Rowland Hill, the author of the penny post system, died last Tuesday at the venerable age of 84. He was the son of a Birmingham schoolmaster, and therefore not of the order to whom promotion comes as of right, but he rose steadily, against opposition and illusage. He held the position of Secretary to the Commissioners for the colonization of South Australia in 1835, and in 1837 published a pamphlet developing the cheap postal system. Three years afterwards, in 1840, it was carried into effect. He received an appointment in the Treasury, but was turned out in 1842, on the ground that his services were not required. This act of illiberality was the making of him, for a generous British people showered their gifts upon him, the most substantial, being a testimonial of the value of £13,360. He was subsequently reinstated in office, Knighted and awarded a pension of £2,000 a year, and a parliamentary grant of £20,000. Sir Rowland Hill lived to see his cheap postal system which has given a great impulse to epistolary correspondence, fully developed, and prevailing over the world. It has been wonderfully aided by steam and rail, and will grow in volume as the world advances, though telegraph and telephone come more and more into competition, for rapid communication.

A remarkable railway bridge is in the course of erection in Scotland. The centre pier, that on Inch Garvie, a small island in the centre of the Forth, is 530 feet high, about 100 feet higher than the loftiest chimney, and nearly equal to the combined heights of the London Monument and St. Paul's Cathedral.

Lecture on the Jews.

On Thursday evening, the Rev. Jacob Freshman, the son of a converted Rabbi, and a Methodist minister, lectured on the Jews before a very respectable audience, Judge Steadman in the chair. The Rev. gentleman had to contend against the distraction of the Reform Club Band, whose strains were heard through the open windows of the hall, but being young, vivacious, and full voiced, he succeeded in rivetting the attention of his hearers. He treated his subject in a masterly manner, giving many interesting particulars, of the customs, religious ceremonies and literature of the Jews. He wore the robe of a Rabbi and exhibited articles used in Jewish ceremonial worship. One could not fail to be impressed, as he listened to the lecturer, with the wonderful, marked character, and the strange destiny of the ancient people, with the tenacity with which they have clung to their national characteristics and customs through centuries of the most barborous persecution, and ostracism, and with the faith in their grand and exceptional destiny that has sustained them and kept them separate through long ages and the darkest of days. It was a mistake for the reverend gentleman to import into his lecture stale jokes, and not particularly choice anecdotes, with a view of enlivening his theme; it was quite interesting in itself, and did not need the aid of anything approaching to Joe Millenious, and we think that his enthusiasm, as a convertite, carried him away in the latter part of his lecture, when dwelling on the causes which indisposed the Jewish people to embrace Christianity, to speak too bitterly against the Catholic church. He could tone down his diatribe without impairing the force of his lecture.

At the request of a number of citizens, Rev. Mr. Freshman will repeat his lecture on Wednesday evening, in the City Hall.

Supplies Stopped.

The enemies of M. Letellier and M. Joly have shown their teeth. The conservative party in the Quebec Legislature, have acted as their bitterest enemies said they would, endeavor to obstruct the Joly government by all means in their power. It was said that they would obstruct the passage of the supplies, and they have done it. The party in Assembly attempted it, but were defeated on a square decision by 3 votes, but the Council 15 to 7 refused to pass the Supply Bill. A crisis has been reached and M. Joly may appeal to the country. In all the Provinces there is a feeling against "the Upper Bodies" in the Legislature, and this obstructive act of the Legislative Council of Quebec, will strengthen the prejudice against them in the minds of those who would like to see them abolished. What with reckless and bloody labor riots, and frantic partyism, the reputation of Quebec has suffered.

The Cattle Trade in New Brunswick.

We learn from the *News*, that McDonald & Co., of St. John, and Mr. H. O'Leary, of Richibucto, intend despatching by rail from Moncton, seventy-five head of cattle purchased in Sackville, and 400 sheep in P. E. Island, to Point Levis, where they will be shipped on board of the steamer, and conveyed to the English market.

The same firm will despatch from the same place, by the same route, to the same destination, a second venture of 45 head of Nova Scotia cattle and 400 P. E. Island sheep, on the 24th of September. It is to be hoped that this trade will grow to large proportions.

The Double Pic-nic.—The double picnic on Wednesday, in Kenny's grove, was a pleasant affair. About 300 of the St. Aloysius brethern, joined the St. Dunstan's, and contested the various games with great spirit. The Carleton Serenade Band and the Band of the 71st. Batt. furnished a continual flow of choice music. The refreshments served were excellent. After the St. John section left, the St. Dunstan's had a dance, which they kept up in the nicely illuminated grounds and neath the moonlight, until 10 o'clock.

A late telegraph despatch states that a Mr. Scott, a well known agricultural authority, estimates the outcome of the grain crops in England one-third less than the average; inflicting a loss of £25,000,000 upon cultivators, and that 16,000,000 or 17,000,000 quarters of wheat will be required from abroad. Scott also estimates that the deficiency in the potatoe crop will cause a loss to cultivators of £15,000,000, and the deficiency in beans, peas, and rye, a loss of £3,000,000.

Excursion to Grand Falls.—Messrs. J. F. Leslie and T. S. Glasier have organized an excursion to the Grand Falls, and offer extraordinary inducements to parties to join. They have put the price of the ticket at $3.50, which will cover all expenses of the trip, going and returning, with board, ball and bed, and guides to the Falls. Everybody should see the Grand Falls, and so favorable an opportunity seldom offers.

Lieutenant F. P. Robinson, son of Beverly Robinson, Esq., of Nashwaaksis, has returned to Fredericton from the Northwest, where he has been doing duty with the Mounted Police, after an absence of three years. The country and the service has, evidently, agreed remarkably well with his constitution. His many friends are pleased to see him again in their midst for a prolonged stay.

Honorary.—Mr. David S. Stockford has been elected an honorary member of the "Silsby" Company, in recognization of his efficient services with the Company at the fire this morning.

The City Treasurer wishes to remind Tax Payers that Monday next is the last day of discount upon Taxes, and that the office will close at the usual hour, 4 o'clock P. M.

In the first six months of 1879, 14,365 more emigrants arrived in New York, than during the same six months of 1878. The figures are 37,919 in 1878, 52,284 in 1879.

The regular monthly meeting of the City Council will be held at the City Council Room on Tuesday, 2nd September, at 7.30 o'clock.

The Rev. Mr. Freshman will occupy the pulpit of the Methodist Church to-morrow evening.

Prof. Foster will speak in the Free Baptist Church, to-morrow (Sunday) morning and evening.

Political Cricket Match.—Yesterday afternoon the Grits beat the Liberal Conservatives by a score of 66 to 36, two to one.

The postponed Bazaar at Marysville is postponed until further notice.

An incredibly large number of settlers have located between the western boundary of Manitoba and Oak River this season, extending southward for some distance beyond the Assiniboine River. Last summer emigrants wandered for days around the country, trying to decide where they would select their homestead. But this summer a much larger number have spent a greater length of time rambling in search of vacant quarter sections.

Disastrous Fire.

About one o'clock this morning flames were seen on the roof of a barn in Cork Alley way between King and Queen Streets and the alarm bell was struck. Fire could hardly have caught in a more dangerous neighborhood, and had there been a strong wind blowing it would have stood hard with the whole square, formed by King, Regent and Queen streets, and Cork Alley. Fortunately the morning was still, not a breath of wind was blowing, and the moon, in the cloudless sky looked down on the ravages of the fire, which speedily destroyed five houses, and turned out ten families with their household goods on the streets. The fire companies answered promptly to the alarm, the "Silsby" was stationed at the large tank opposite McGrath's factory on King Street, and the "Alexandra" at the ferry slip, behind the County Court House, and the No. 4 Hand Engine at the tank near the old Telegraph Office. The state of the hose most unfortunately nullified to some extent the force of the engines, and the exertions of the firemen; several of the joints burst, causing a waste of power at a most critical time.

The fire first broke out in a barn belonging to Mr. Kelliher, and then caught Mr. James Howie's house fronting in Cork Alley, and Mrs. Driscoll's adjacent, it spread to Mr. S. Akerley's house, at the corner of the Alleyway, and fronting on King Street, and to Mr. Kelliher's and Mrs. Hagarty's next the upper Alleyway, and opposite Mr. Moran's, making a clean sweep. The roof of Mr. Minchin's barn caught fire, and was considerably charred, and a great pile of hard wood was burnt. The barn in rear of the Queen Hotel was, with difficulty, saved, if it had gone, there is no saying how much further the fire would have spread.

The alarm roused the citizens from their first sleep, and they crowded to the scene of the fire on King Street. The inmates of the doomed houses were able, with aid to save a large part of their bedding, furniture and clothes, but the disaster has fallen heavily on some of them.

Ten families will have to seek other homes. In Mrs. Hagarty's house dwelt Mr. Alex. Orr, carpenter, and Mr. Heustis teamster. In the Kelliher house, Mrs. James Kelliher and family. In Mr. S. Akerley's, James Christie, employee of Queen Hotel, and W. McGeorge, laborer. In Mr. J. Howie's house, John Kelliher, Jas. Rae, laborers, Wm. McMahon, moulder, and Robt. Tracey, mechanic. Mrs. Driscoll with her daughter, occupied her own house.

The losses of the owners of the tenement houses are in great part covered by insurance. Among the occupiers none seem to have suffered more than Mr. Tracey, who lost six dozen of chairs, and other articles of furniture, upon which he was about to put the finishing touches. This fire should surely arouse the citizens to a sense of the danger to which the city is exposed. They should imperatively demand that the fire department be furnished with an adequate supply of the best hose; without it their expensive and powerful steam fire engines are all but useless. There should be no delay in procuring it, for the alarm may sound again at any time, and under very different conditions of the weather, in a gale instead of a calm.

J. R. Howie is insured for $1,500, $1,000 in the Western, and $500 in the North British and Mercantile. The estate of M. Driscoll is covered by insurance in the North British and Mercantile, in the same Company Agnes Hagerty is insured for $500, Jas. Kelliher for $400 in the Commercial Union. S. A. Akerley for $600 in the Central Company, G. H. Minchin's loss, also M. Moran's (city building) are covered in the same Company.

Sport on the York Driving Park.

Mr. J. H. Reid offers horsemen and all lovers of the race two days great sport on the York Driving Park, next Thursday and Friday, 4th and 5th of September. The racing and trotting matches will be held under the auspices of the York Agricultural Society, and premiums amounting to $1,200, gold, are offered. So handsome an inducement should cause entries of first class horses to be made. Entries will close on Wednesday at 9 o'clock. Every precaution will be taken to have the races come off on the square. The American Jockey Club rules for racing, and the National Trotting rules will be stringently enforced, and the names of the stewards are a guarantee that fair play will be shown and good order will be kept. If it is favored with fine weather we have no doubt that the gathering will be most successful. The following is the programme:

First Day.

1st Race, City Plate, $200. Open to all comers. Two-mile heats, best two in three. Weight for age.

2nd Race, Maritime Stake, $150. Open to all Maritime bred horses. One mile heats best two in three. Weight for age. Winner of first race excepted.

1st Trot, Purse $150. Open to Maritime bred horses that have never beaten 2.50. Mile heats, three in five, to harness.

2nd Trot, Purse $200. Open to all comers that have never beaten 2.34. Mile heats, three in five, to harness.

Second Day.

3rd Trot, Purse $150. Open to all Maritime bred horses that have never beaten 2.40 Mile heats, three in five, to harness.

4th Trot, $200. Free for all. Mile heats, three in five, to harness.

3rd Race, Steeple Chase. Open to all. Purse $150. 3 years old, 147 lbs.; 4 years old, 154 lbs.; 5 years old, 161 lbs. All the leaps will be on the grass inside the track, and to consist of one water leap, fifteen feet across, three hurdles, three and one half feet high, one single ditch, six feet across, and bank three feet high, about one and one-eighth mile, best two in three.

The Ross-Smith Race.—Wind, weather and the fates are against the Ross-Smith race. Five times, has it been postponed; the water of Bedford Basin having been as rough at four o'clock to-day, as at any time since last Tuesday, when the race should have come off. The St. John men who have laid a pile on Ross, are terribly disgusted.

The business of the Suez Canal shows a slight decline for last year, the tonnage being 3,291,535, against 3,418,919 in 1877. The revenue declined in about the same proportion, being, 1878, 31,098,299 francs. Of the 3,291,535 tons in 1878, 2,630,259 were British vessels. As compared with other nations, the British traffic through the canal declined 2.54 per cent.; the Danish, 53; and the Egyptian, 47. On one day, March 19, there were 25 ocean steamers in the canal, which is one-sixteenth of the entire number that passed through in the whole year 1870, the first complete year of the canal's history. The passage of the Indian troops to Malta put 1,200,000 francs in the Company's coffers. English opinion seems to be that the traffic of the canal has attained its greatest development—at least, for several years to come.

The British army, if not very large, has certainly plenty to do. During the years 1878-9 not fewer than 8,000 cavalry and 50,000 infantry have been employed in the Jowaki, Afghanistan and African campaigns. All these combatants are entitled to war decorations. This force was composed of 17 regiments of cavalry (12 Indian) about 40 batteries of artillery (5 Indian), 3 companies of royal engineers, and 63 battalions of foot, 35 of which were Indian regiments. Two hundred and forty guns were in the field.

The Japs are not wanting in dash and pluck. The dispute betweed China and Japan with respect to the sovereignty of the Loo Chow islands has been brought to a crisis by the latter power annexing the islands. They are thirty-six in number, and are situated in the Pacific, about half way between Formosa and Japan. The King of Loo Chow has formally acknowledged his dependency upon China on several occasions. He has, however, been deposed by the Japs, who have changed the whole administration, and confined the principal islanders suspected of Chinese proclivities. The naval strength of the Japanese has enabled them to throw down the gauntlet to the Chinese, for, should a contest ensue, it must be waged at sea. Several war vessels are being built by private English firms for the Pekin Government, and they may play an important part in future engagements. The Chinese are also reorganizing their military troops on the European system, and arming them with improved weapons. Trouble is undoubtedly brewing in that quarter of the world, the Emperor of the flowery kingdom having quarrels on hand with both Japan and Russia.

The London *Echo* thus discourses on the new Agent General of Canada:—Sir Alexander T. Galt, who arrived in England by the Allan Line steamer from Quebec, is a distinguished statesman, and is the son of John Galt the Scottish novelist. He was the British Commissioner on the Fisheries Arbitration, and was a party to the award of $5,500,000 against the United States. But he is most notable as the anti-Papal champion in Canada, and has written an effective pamphlet condemnatory of the Vatican decrees, following the lead of Mr. Gladstone in this country. He has done good service, too, in calling attention to the dangerous development of Ultramontanism in the Province of Quebec, the exercise of undue influence on the part of the priests at the polls, and the danger to the State of an appeal from Her Majesty's Judges in the Provinces to the authority of a foreign potentate in the person of the Pope. It is a strange anomaly that Sir Alexander should be identified with the Tory party.

The Cunard Steamers.—Some one signing himself "B" has published in the *Pall Mall Gazette* three articles giving a description of the miseries attending a steerage passage in a Cunard steamer. The facts stated are so startling, so disgraceful and so apparently truthful, that they may cause a great sensation and bring the managers of the Cunard boats out in reply. The story, as told by "B," is certainly one of the ugliest stories of petty insolence, great hardships and inhuman suffering, needlessly inflicted on people who should have the especial care of the officers. As a rule the officers of the sea-going steamers do treat the steerage passengers with great rudeness and indifference; but "B's" story is one which calls for the expression of a public opinion that will force an investigation and a reform.

New York has its Guibord case. The authorities of Calvary cemetery have refused to permit the body of Dennis Copper to be interred in a lot which had been purchased by the deceased during his life time. Copper was a Roman Catholic, but had become a Freemason. The funeral procession was allowed to proceed to the cemetery gate before the fact of the refusal was made known. The Roman Catholic authorities boldly take the ground that the exclusion of Copper's remains from the cemetery was that he had violated the regulations of the Church by belonging to a secret society; and hence that his body was not entitled to be buried in consecrated ground. Legal proceedings have been instituted, similar to those which took place in the celebrated Guibord case, and the contest promises to be equally bitter.

There is, it seems, a growing coolness between the Vatican and Camden House, Chiselhurst. Pope Leo, it is said, conveyed his condolences to the Empress Eugenie on the death of Prince Louis Napolean through Cardinal Bonaparte only, making no direct communication himself. This Eugenie resents, as being so different from the conduct of Pio Nono on the occasion of the death of Napolean III. Not content with transmitting a telegram of condolence himself, he sent an official letter through Cardinal Antonelli. The widowed Empress thinks Pope Leo might have been equally attentive on the death of her son; and, to show her irritation, it is said that the Pope was not asked to celebrate the usual requiem for the repose of her son's soul.

Fuss is being made in Paris about a new breed of horses brought by some Nubians to the Jardin d'Acclimatation. The animals are of the Dongola breed, and are brought from the mountains of Abyssinia. Bruce in his "Travels" describes the breed. They are supposed to be of Arab blood, average 16 hands, have good shoulders and forelegs, a blood-like head, and a long well-set neck. In color they are bay, black, or white, never grey. Is is not likely that the horses of western Europe can be improved by this new importation, for it is a pretty well ascertained fact that the best of Arab blood can be distanced and outlasted by the thoroughbreds of England, which, however, owe a great part of their speed and stamina to the Arabs.

To August 1st, there had been constructed this year in the United States, 1122 miles of new railroad, an increase of 222 miles over the same period last year, and the largest recorded construction of the same time of any year since 1873. New companies are constantly organizing and building, and the old lines are constructing feeders, branches and connections, and generally strengthening their systems. It is in nearly every case undertaken in response to a legitimate demand for increased transportation facilities, and is, therefore, a healthy movement, assuring actual and permanent advantage to the public and the country, and profitable returns to the projectors.

Praying for Rain.—A rural rector in England being entreated by his parishoners to supplicate fine weather, stepped meditatively to the barometer, tapped it, and said, "Gentlemen, I think we had better wait till the glass rises a little." Far preferable to such levity or forgetfulness was the simple earnestness of the Orkney minister who, being asked to pray for better weather, went into the task heartily as follows: "Lord, send us braw weather, and a bit sough of breeze that will dree the stra' and winna harm the heads: but if ye blaw us a tearin' rivin' bletherin' gale, like what we've been ha'ing, ye'll play the vara mischief wi' the aits, and fairly spoil a'."

It appears that *La Galissonniere*, the French frigate at present in the harbor of Quebec, is named after the Count De La Galissonniere, a distinguished naval officer of France, who acted as Governor General of Canada for a short period, about the middle of the 18th century. His appointment was rendered necessary by the capture of the Marquis De La Jonquiere, on his way to Canada to assume the Government. La Galissonniere is described as a very small man and deformed, but an able and brilliant officer and a scientist of great ability. The arrival of the Marquis De La Jonquiere terminated the Governor Generalship of La Galissonniere in 1749.

At first Lieut. Carey was condemned to death by court-martial. He was condemned by public opinion. He would have been mobbed, if that were possible. He was ordered under arrest, suspended and sent home. Now he has been reinstated and the latest news is that the Commander-in-Chief has written him a letter apparently of congratulation. It only remains now to present him with a silver tea-set and a colonel's commission, and the rehabilitation will be complete.

There would appear to be a splendid chance to export hay to England this year. The price of clover hay in London is $30 and $32 per ton of 2,240 pounds. Here it is only $10 or $11, baled per ton of 2,000 pounds. No doubt there will be considerable quantities exported from the United States as well as from the Dominion.—*Toronto Globe.*

We offer no apology for frequently calling attention to *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*, as it is the most valuable remedy that has ever been produced. It is a sure cure for diarrhœa, dysenterey and cholera morbus.

War, famine and pestilence all combined do not produce the evil consequences to a nation which result from impure blood in our veins. *Parson's Purgative Pills* make *new* rich blood and prevent all manner of diseases.

The New Classical Professor.

We take the following from the Toronto *Globe* of 22nd inst.:—

"Mr. John Fletcher, a graduate and gold medalist in Classics in Toronto University, has, after a four years' course in Oxford, graduated there with first-class honors in classics. Mr. Fletcher received all his previous training in Toronto, passing from the Public School to Upper Canada College, where he was head boy of his year. He spent the ordinary time in University College, and was a distinguished proficiency scholar in the University of Toronto. Mr. Fletcher has been appointed to the Classical chair in the University of New Brunswick."

The above paragraph puts to rest the rumor that Mr. Fletcher, having been appointed to a classical chair in the Toronto University, would not fill the chair in the New Brunswick University to which he had been elected. We hope that Mr. Fletcher, who though acceptable as a High School teacher, and distinguished as a scholar, is untried as a Professor, will prove to be "the right man in the right place." Especially it is to be hoped that by his general acquirements and character, and his manner of conducting his important class, he will give no cause of doleful complaint to the party who hold that the chair ought to have been given to a New Brunswicker. We agree with the Toronto *Mail*, in speaking of the appointments to the vacant chair in Toronto University, that the interests of superior education should not be subordinated to the vulgar prejudices of mere nativeism which is perhaps the unworthiest of all unworthy passions. "Those," it says, "who know little and care less about academic education are sure to be the loudest brawlers for native Canadian professors. There is no taint of know-nothingism in this view. Mr. Flether though not a "native, and to want born," is a Canadian, or at least one-half of the objection to his appointment as a stranger falls to the ground. In appointing a classical professor or any professor, the progress of the Uuniversity and the elevation of the standard of learning should be the chief objects kept in view. And we may say that, it is to be hoped, that Mr. Fletcher will not give those who have no sympathy with nativism, either particular or general, cause to regret that the testimonials of a ripe and good scholar, a native of Ireland, and a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, were overturned.

The Programme of the Nihilists.

Land and Liberty, the Russian Nihilist organ, has recently published the Nihilist programme, which is as follows:—1. Security of personal freedom (*habeas corpus*). 2. Religious liberty. 3. Freedom of the press, of speech, and of association. 4. Self-government of cities, of districts, and of provinces. 5. The assemblies of the elected representatives of the people shall control the administration. 6. Investigation of the economical and social condition of the people. 7. General amnesty.

There does not appear to be anything bad, mad, or unreasonable on the face of the above programme. It only in the main, ask what English, Canadian and American people now enjoy. But Englishmen had to go through revolution before they attained their present liberties, and the Americans and Canadians, had to do considerable fighting and struggling before they attained their present position of civil and religious liberty, and it is certain the Russians will not obtain their programme except by revolution, which will be fierce and bloody in proportion to the severity of the repression under which they have so long groaned. But the programme is, it is to be feared only plausible. How are the Russians who have never been educated to liberty to reach the high estate of freemen at one bound? It took the French ninety years in course of which one great revolution which overturned everything, and two lesser ones broke out, and many changes from kingly to republican and imperial government, and back again to republic, kingly, and imperial government, took place before it attained its present position, which is yet not secure. What reason is there to expect, if Russia breaks out on the revolutionary path, that her experience will not be something similar.

There is in Cincinnati, a National Association for the Promotion of Marriage. Its constitution says: "We have viewed with alarm and the deepest concern the rapidly-growing tendency of the people of the country (particularly those living in the large cities,) to remain unmarried—a condition unnatural and prejudicial to the welfare, success, and happiness of the country—therefore, to correct this evil, we do establish and organize a society." The aim of the society is declared to be, "in all honorable ways, to to promote the marriage of citizens; and to secure such an end this society will, so far as in its power, assist and give material aid to young couples in beginning married life, such as helping them to secure homes and the husbands in getting employment, or in any other manner within the province of the association." The society has not been long enough in existence to afford the means of judging of its practical value. It held a picnic on Sunday last, at which the attraction was the marriage of three couples; but it was not claimed that the mating had been brought about in an unusual way. Six thousand persons paid 25 cents each for admission, and there was a great deal of dancing and beer drinking. The marriage ceremony was performed on a high platform so that all could see. The bridegrooms were an engraver, a painter, and a peddler, and the newspaper reporters gallantly describe all the brides as beautiful.

Presidential politics among our neighbours are a series of surprises. The latest surprises comprise the announcement of General Grant that he declines to re-enter the political field, and the circumstance that this decision should be first announced to the Chinese viceroy as Tien Tsin. The New York *Herald* believes the report to be accurate; but other journals doubt its authenticity, and the question is now being keenly debated by the American press. But Grant's statements during the interview with the Chinese official are almost identical in sentiment with those contained in a letter written by him four years ago. He then said that he "never sought the office for a second, or even for the first nomination;" that he did "not want" the third term "any more than the first," and that he would not accept a nomination for a third term "unless it should come under such circumstances as to make it an imperative duty." He declared that in accepting the first term he had made "sacrifices" and remarked:—"I was made to believe that the public good called me to make the sacrifice." The ex-President now says that the "place" is "distasteful" to him and that he has no further claims upon it. The true explanation may, therefore, prove to be this—that General Grant made the statement attributed to him, and that his future actions will be guided by the success attending the Grant "boom."

The Sincerity of the Great Frederick.—He writes to the Russian Ambassador on the occasion of the death of the Empress Anne: "It would be impossible to express the loss of this great Princess, for she was endowed with every virtue, was the delight of the people and her numerous friends, among whom I hardly dare to assume even a modest place." The day before he had written to his own Minister: "The Empress of Russia is dead; Lord favor us, and luck is on our side."

Dr. Evans, the American dentist, who identified the remains of the Prince Imperial by the "filling," is probably the only man who ever snatched an advertisement literally from the jaws of death. He is the same Dr. Evans of whom Secretary Evarts at one of the banquets after the Geneva Award gracefully observed that "the princes and sovereigns of the earth, so reticent with most people, had freely opened their mouths to him."

The Panama Canal.

It appears that there has been more enthusiasm than earnestness over the Panama Canal Scheme. The 800,000 shares have not been covered. M. De Lesseps announces in a circular, that he prefers to let the company drop at present, and to wait until more light has been thrown on the value of the attacks which have been directed against the scheme at the last moment. He is coming to America. The *Engineering News* says:—

"The De Lesseps Darien Canal scheme is a failure. Only a small number of shares were taken in Europe and none were taken in America. The Pope's blessing was obtained for the purpose of influencing the lower classes of people in France and Belgium to take shares, but it didn't work. Neither did the stories of favor toward the canal in America influence anythi[illegible] We are glad that this [illegible]eme has failed. We have as capable engineers in America as De Lesseps is; men who have received their training in the successful completion of the grandest engineering enterprises in the world and to them belongs whatever honor and profit may result to the profession from the carrying out of this great work. Meanwhile, Capt. Eads is pushing his railway scheme, which is indorsed by some of the best known and most competent engineers in the country as being perfectly feasible. The Nicaraguan Government has also taken up the matter in earnest, and having already improved some portions of the route, are negotiating for the completion o[illegible]icaraguan route. It is very evident that the subject is well stated, and it is possible that this century will witness its successful solution."

French Engineers are daring, they sometimes succeed and sometimes fail. De Lesseps may yet construct a canal through the Isthmus. It would not be as difficult, we fancy, as to throw a bridge or viaduct over the channel, and connect England and France as M. de Sainte Anne proposes to do. The distance from Cape Grignez to Folkestone is 22 miles, the greatest depth of water 700 feet. He would have to erect 170 enormous piers and pillars, at great enough intervals, and sufficiently high not to impede navigation, and to lay his roadway over them. Capitalists will be more shy of this French bridge scheme than they are of the canal business. Yet though capitalists button their pockets and unmonied people make fun, a future generation may see these schemes, (and many more extraordinary ones) carried out, and laugh at "our" incredulity and want of enterprise.

The British Fleet.

There is no limit to the inventive genius of the designers for the Royal Navy. As soon as one formidable engine of destruction is complete another is projected. Millions have been spent in this way, and the vast expenditure is held to be strictly necessary. As England must continue to rule the waves at any price. The British Navy is fast loosing the beautiful and imposing which the wooden walls under a cloud of canvas used to present, and its most efficient vessels are ugly complicated engines, for the greater part under water. The Glatten, a ship of the latter description, is a late addition to the Navy, but a later and more formidable addition is the Polyphemus. A Scotch paper thus describes and contrasts them:—

"The Glatton is a turret-ship ram. Its single turret carries two 25-ton guns, and its ram, which is eight feet below the water-line, projects twelve feet from the bow. It has two decks—an exposed main deck and a protected hurricane deck; but when the ship goes into action the water ballast is increased so as to sink the main deck below the water level, and then nothing but the hurricane deck and the turret is exposed to the enemy's fire. Now, excepting that the Polyphemus has no turret, its general appearance will be very similar to that of the Glatton when in action. Its hull will not be wholly submerged, but its most prominent feature will be its hurricane deck, which extends to nearly two-thirds of the length of the vessel, and is about half its breadth. The upper part of the hull is made convex, so as to deflect any shot which may strike it; but it is flattened on the top, beneath the structure which carries the hurricane deck. The lower part of the hull is angular. The design as a whole presents the appearance of a half-cylinder resting on a prolonged wedge, and with pointed ends, while a section of the has been appropriately likened to the section of a peg-top. The top of the cylindrical hull will be only $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the water-line; and the hull, throughout its entire length, is covered with steel armor, 3 inches in thickness, which is carried to a depth of 6 or 7 feet below the water-line. Like the Glatton, the Polyphemus will carry a powerful ram projecting 12 feet in advance of the stem, and so fitted as to be removable when not required for use. The great difference between the two vessels will consist in their armaments. Both have low or submerged main decks and exposed hurricane decks, and both are powerful rams. But the Polyphemus has no turret, and carries no heavy guns. It carries a few light shell guns and Gatlings on the hurricane deck for the purpose of repelling boat attacks; but the destructive power on which, after its ram, it mainly relies is concentrated in its torpedo batteries. While, therefore, the Glatton is a turret-ship ram, the Polyphemus is correctly described as a torpedo ram. The torpedo ports are three in number—one at the bow, under the ram, and one on each side amidships, so that Whitehead torpedoes may be ejected both ahead and from the broadsides.

The most of these ingenious, intricate, mechanical monsters of the deep, is that those on board (if such a phrase can be used) run almost as much danger from the internal disarrangement of their parts as from external broadsides of the enemy.

A couple of mishaps in criminal trials which have occurred in England have materially tended to weaken public confidence in the jury system. At the murder trial of Gerald Mainwaring, a gentleman who on a drunken spree in London shot a policeman, the jurors balloted for a verdict, and six of them voted murder and six manslaughter. According to a communication which was filed about a fortnight ago with the Home Secretary by the foreman of the jury, his fellows, without any opportunity of preconcert, and therefore by a plain submission of the whole matter to chance, balloted for a chairman, whose decision it was agreed, should be the sworn verdict. None of the twelve knew which way the others had specifically voted, so that the selection in question was an unbiassed one. The choice of the majority of the twelve happened to fall upon one of the six who had voted for murder, and accordingly the jurors returned into court, and there rendered a verdict in conformity with their agreement. The second mishap was in the case of Hannah Dobbs, who last month was acquitted of the Euston Square murder. She was tried for the killing of her mistress, whose body had been discovered in the cellar of a lodging-house many months after death. Dobbs was acquitted because it was doubtful whether the victim had been murdered or had died a natural death; and there were no circumstances to show any motive for the killing or any connection with it on the part of the accused girl. But within a fortnight after the acquittal, an old-clothes dealing woman appeared to claim the reward for discovering the murderer, and she most conclusively showed that within a few days after the disappearance of the murdered mistress, Hannah Dobbs had sold the entire wardrobe and jewellery of the unfortunate lady.

There is some likelihood of an agitation in the States in favor of and amendment of the constitution to provide for a general and uniform marriage law throughout the Union. The conflict of opinion and practice is lamentable. As regards divorce there are dozens of different laws in force, while as to the formation of the marriage relation the diversity is equally real. In one State simple consent of the parties is all that is necessary to a legal marriage. In another certain ceremonies more or less religious are indispensable, an so on in endless variety.