General Business

ATTENTION!

THE Advertiser wishes to ascertain whether any newspaper in Canada has within a year or two advertised for heirs of Jeremiah Smith, formerly of Lesemahagou, Lanarkshire, Scotland, who settled in Granville, Nova Scotia, about the year 1777. Any information concesning his estate or heirs will be thankfully received by

JAS. NEILSON.

Chatham, Miramichi, N.B

CITATION NOTICE,

NEW BRUNSWICK,
COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND SS.

To the Sheriff of the County of Northumberland. or any Constable within the said County, Greeting.

Whereas Ann Forrest, the administratrix of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of Robert Forrest, late of the Parish of Chatham in the said County, deceased, hath filed her account of administration on the Estate of the said deceased and hath by her petition represented that there has not come to her hands any personal estate, belonging to the Estate of the said deceased, and hath prayed that the said account may be passed and allowed and that License may be granted to her to sell the Real Estate of the said deceased for the payment of the debts due by the said deceased.

You are therefore required to cite the heirs and next of kin of the said deceased, the creditors and all others interested in the said Estate to appear before me at a Court of Probate to be held at my office, Newcastle within and for the said County on Friday the Twenty-Seventh day of November instant at the hour of eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and show cause (if any they have) why the said account of administration should not be passed and allowed and why License to sell the Real Estate of the said deceased should not be granted to the said Ann Forrest as prayed.

Given under my hand and the seal of the said court this Third day of November A. D. 1885.

(L.S.) (Sgd.) SAM'L THOMSON,
Judge of Probates,
Northumberland.

(Sgd.) G. B. FRASER,
Registrar of Probates
for said County.

Notice of Sale.

To John Forsyth and the heirs, administrators and assigns of Robert Forsyth, deceased, of the Parish of Northesk in the County of Northumberland and Province of New Brunswick, Farmers, and to all others whom in may concern.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a power of sale, contained in a certain Mortgage bearing date the First day of February, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Nine, and made between the said Robert Forsyth and John Forsyth both of the Parish of Northesk in the County of Northumberland and Province of New Brunswick, farmers, of the one part and the undersigned Alexander Morrison, of Chatham in the said County, merchant, of the other part, which mortgage was duly recorded in the Records of the County of Northumberland, on the third day of March A, D. 1879, in volume 59 of the County Records, pages 304, 305 and 306 and is numbered 247 in said volume—

There will, in pursuance of the said power of sale and for the purpose of satisfying the moneys secured by the said indenture of mortgage, default having been made in payment thereof, be sold at Public Auction on Friday, the Eighteenth day of December next, in front of the Post Office in Chatham, in the said County at twelve o'clock noon, the lands and premises in said indenture mentioned and described as follows namely; one equal undivided moiety or half part of all that piece or parcel of land, situate lying or being in the Parish of Northesk aforesaid, being part of that certain lot or tract of land orginally granted to William Curry, situate at Bass Point, (so called) on the North side of the Northwest Branch of the River Miramichi, and abutted as follows to wit, commencing on the shore of the said River at the upperly line of that part of the said tract known as the upper boundary of the lot, (parcel of the same tract) now occupied by James Forsyth, thence running back along the upper line of the said lot occupied by the said James Forsyth to the rear of the said tract, thence westerly along the rear line of the said tract to the upper side line or corner of the said tract, granted to the said William Curry as described in the said grant, thence along the said upper side line of said tract to the bank or shore of the said river, thence down stream along the bank or shore of the said river to the upper side line of that part of the said tract occupied by the said James Forsyth being the place of beginning, being the same lands and premises on which the said Robert Forsyth and James Forsyth reside and which were conveyed to them by James H. Peters by deed, dated the 27th July, A. D. 1860, as by reference thereto will more fully appear, together with all and singular the buildings and improvements thereon, and the rights, members' privileges hereditaments and appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, &c., of he said Robert Forsyth and John Forsyth of, nto or out of the said lands and premises and very part thereof,

Dated the ninth day of November, A. D. 1885.

L. J. TWEEDIE, Solicitor for Mortgagee. ALEX. MORRISON, Mortgagee

At the request of the mortgagors above named the sale is postponed until the 9th of January next.

L. J. TWEEDIE, Solicitor for Mortgagee. ALEXANDER MORRISON, Mortgagee

Chatham, N. B., 15th Dec., 1885.

General Business.

CAPTIAL PRIZE, $75,000

Tickets only $5. Shares in proportion

L.S.L.

Louisiana State Lottery Company

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Quarterly Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorise the Company to use this certificate, with facsimiles of our signatures attached, in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early

Commissioners.

We the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in The Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY,
Pres. Louisiana National Bank.
SAMUEL H. KENNEDY,
Pres. State National Bank
A. BALDWIN,
Pres. New Orleans National Bank.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a Capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d A. D. 1879

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never scales or postpones.

Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the extraordinary Drawings regularly every three months instead of Semi-Annually as heretofore, beginning March 1886.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, JAN. 12, 1886—188th Monthly Drawing.

CAPTIAL PRIZE, 75,000

100,000 Tickets at Five Dollars Each. Fractions in Fifths in proportion.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1 CAPITAL PRIZE		$75,000
1 do do		25,000
1 do do		10,000
2 PRIZES OF $5000		12,000
5 do 2000		10,000
10 do 1000		10,000
20 do 500		10,000
100 do 200		20,000
300 do 100		30,000
500 do 50		25,000
1000 do 25		25,000
APPROXIMATION PRIZES.		
9 Approximation Prizes of $750		6,750
9 do do 500		4,500
9 do do 250		2,250
1967 Prizes, amounting to		$26 5,50

Application for rates to Clubs should be made only to the Office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. **POSTAL NOTES**, Express money Orders, or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (all sums of $5 and upwards at our expense) addressed

M. A. Dauphin,
New Orleans, La.

Make P. O. Money Orders payable and address Registered Letters to
NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK,
New Orleans, La.

WIN more money than at anything else, by taking an agency for the best selling Book. Beginners succeed gradually. None fail. Terms free. HALLETT BOOK CO., Portland, Maine.

MIRAMICHI Steam Navigation Company

The adjourned Annual Meeting of the Miramichi Steam Navigation Company will be held at the Temperance Hall, Chatham, on Friday, January 15th, next, at three o'clock, p. m.

WM. MURRAY,
PRESIDENT.

Chatham, Dec. 19th, 1885.

Purdy & Currie,

MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN

FURNITURE! FURNITURE!!

WHOLESALE & RETAIL.

WATER STREET, - - CHATHAM, N. B

We beg to quote the following low prices to the public for the remainder of the year:

PARLOR SUITS—Walnut Frame,	from	$40.00	up to	$300.00
BEDROOM SUITS -	from	12.75	"	200.00
SOFAS—Walnut Frame, -	from	14.00	"	30.00
LOUNGES - - -	from	4.75	"	25.00
STUDENTS' EASY CHAIRS	from	5.50	"	15.00
MATRASSES - - -	from	1.75	"	25.00

The above goods are our own make, and we Guarantee Satisfaction

We also keep on hand a large stock of

Centre Tables, Extension Tables,

CHAIRS, ORGAN STOOLS, WASHSTANDS, SIDEBOARDS and BEADSTEADS, which we are offering at small advance on cost.

Call and examine our stock and if we have nothing on hand to suit you, we can make to order in short notice.

Re-upholstering and Reparing done on the Premises.

PURDY & CURRIE.

Nov. 2nd, 1885. Water Street, Chatham, N. B

LAURENCE'S SPECTACLES.

Save Your Sight!

A further supply of those celebrated SPECTACLES just arrived. We are daily fitting glasses to persons who are delighted at being able to procure a properly adjusted Spectacle and who have been tormented with cheap glasses, which ruin the sight. We fit them on scientific principles and guarantee perfect sotisfactisn. Testimonials from hundreds in this County.

AT THE MEDICAL HALL,
J. D. B. F. MACKENZIE.

Chatham, Oct. 14th, 1885]

1886---HAPPY NEW YEAR---1886

TO ALL.

Sutherland & Creaghan,

NEWCASTLE.

Immense Bargains! Tremendous Reductions!

SWEEPING LOW PRICES IN DRESSES, MANTLES, HOLIDAY NOVELTIES and MEN'S CLOTHING!

In fact, **$50,000.00 WORTH OF** GENERAL DRY GOODS MUST BE SOLD OFF before Stock-taking, REGARDLESS OF COST.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Sutherland & Creaghan,
NEWCASTLE

Removal.

The ADVANCE office is removed from the old stand Upper Water Street, to the building next (east) to Messrs. Guy, Bevan & Co's Office, Lower Water Street, Chatham.

1885.

It may not be unprofitable on this, the last day of 1885, to recall some of the events of the year—to scan chapter eighty-five of volume nineteen of the chronicles of our civilization—one not notable in the way of great national events, it is true, yet furnishing to our home history, as well as to the records of the world at large, much that is interesting and memorable.

The year opened in the United Kingdom with the culminating event of the war in the Soudan. Khartoum fell to the Mahdi through treachery and, with it, the heroic "Chinese" Gordon, the "Bayard" of Egypt, *sans peur et sans reproche.* The moral of this expedition is that he who begins war without heart will end it without glory. Egypt continues in military occupation by Great Britain and, for all practical purposes, is a part of the Empire for the present. The road to India is guarded in this direction and the rights of the bondholders are in security. The country is saved from internal anarchy and external intrigue and cupidity.

The cloud which threatened war with Russia at the beginning of the year on the frontiers of Afghanistan, has happily disappeared with the infirm-of-purpose policy and administration of the absolute Mr. Gladstone. It only required the moral force of the traditional fighting party, led by Lord Salisbury, to close the negotiations by having the line defined upon which will depend future peace or war.

On the eastern side of India a fourth and last Burmese war has been begun and ended. Mandalay is now occupied by a British force under General Pendergast. Thus, Burmah becomes a dependency of the Empire and the vile and imbecile intrigues of France in that quarter receive their final quietus and are confined to the swamps and marshes of Tonquin, where she may sink money and bury men *ad libitum* among Anamites and Black flags.

Mr. Parnell, having squeezed the orange of liberal and radical compromise to exhaustion, pitched the skin to the mercy of the opposition and turned his natural friends out of office. The advent of a Conservative minority to power has had neither time nor opportunity to effect more than pacify foreign relations by firmness and give breathing space and refreshment to a country weary with the transformation scenes of political change.

The liberal party is now in a state ot transition or, as doctors might say, "sloughing," preparatory to the healing process. It is without form and void over which the spirit of rapacious radicalism broods with socialism.

A general election, under the new Franchise and Redistribution Acts, has just been held, but with a result indecisive to party distinction and strength, yet hopeful to those who seek stability and order, and shows that the day of chivalry is not done yet for Britain, nor that of "sophisters economists and calculators succeeded" to her departed glory. A new party of constitutionalists is likely to develope out of the confusion and chaos, to which will be opposed a conglomerate one of Radicals, Socialists, Agnostics, Parnellites and all the infidelities of new-fangledom. In the meantime, Lord Salisbury may honorably hold office against a suppositious opposition. He may meet Parliament and submit a programme which may satisfy patience and moderation and be the centre round which justice and loyalty to contract and obligation may crystalize. If he offers what is fair and final without fear or favor, he may safely abide with faith in the instincts of the nation and, if necessary, appeal to the country on the new issue with confidence in the result. That the integrity of the Empire will be maintained need suffer no doubt.

Those who sincerely desire Home Rule for Ireland will get it in a municipal shape consistent with justice and reason and its working will test both the capacity and honesty of the home rulers to the utmost, while those who covertly or openly demand practical independence, which would result in ruin, bloodshed and speedy defeat, will not get even the shadow of it. Civilization is not yet prepared for retrograde steps in the direction of polyarchies with their mimic nationalities and lilliputian politics. The experiment of partial local independence is by no means reassuring on this continent. Its application in the United States made some history in the form of a big civil war, which, in effect, was waged in the interests of rational centralization. Extent of territory and largeness ot the scale of its working tend to obviate the conflict and friction which result in smaller areas and less separated relations.

The land question is receiving some experimental analysis in the crucible of the political chemist, but has not been reduced to anything either wise or satisfactory. To make exceptional expediency laws for property of this description at the instance of those who have nothing to lose opens the door of socialistic ideality, which may well make the holders of all other kinds pause. Mr. Chamberlain's promise of three acres and a cow to the new voters in the agricultural districts of England was successful as an alluring election bribe. In the absence of any check to the natural law of unequal capacity to possess in all men, the mind contemplates a near future when the many would again be without milk or pasture and the few careful and frugal swains would have all the cows and the acres. Nevertheless some changes to simplify transfer and define the tenure will be effected on true and final lines. As a matter of fact the value of land has not fallen in sympathy with that of its products, through the competition of the world, facilitated by steam and electricity, as it would have done in poorer and more commercial hands than the majority of its present owners. The gap between these two interests is the chasm into which the discussion falls and must be crossed by some trustworthy bridge of justice and equity—and not filled up with the wreck and ruin of communistic appropriation.

It would be incredible, if we had not the history of Cromwellian times to forewarn us, to believe that Scotch Liberals could coquette with Irish Extremists in their ill-disguised attacks on the unity of the Empire. Yet so it is reported. If retaliation were wisdom and division statesmanship, Ireland might have an opportunity to repay the unsolicited favor with compound interest. But her proven loyalty to imperial demands is her warrant that she would not accept the challenge.

The disestablisment of the Church of England has again been thrust forward, more by envy than piety, to be again thrust back by vested interests and affection. The history of England since Henry VIII is that of this question. To touch it with irreverent hands is more treasonable than blowing up the Tower. The degradation of the clergy of this church would lower the moral force and social elevation of that of every other in the Kingdom, if not in Christendom. "Right-reverends and wrong-reverends of every order" look well to your cloth! The fringes of your phylacteries are in danger. Even Cardinal Newman, with his prophetic insight, sees this, and is opposed to the sacrilegious murmur at dignitaries.

The undying eastern question has cropped up again, this time, among the pigmies. The merits of the squabble between the bantam kingships, while not important to us, seem to puzzle everybody. Whether Servia or Bulgaria is in the right or has the best of it is about as important to us on this continent as the wranglings of a cock fight or the issues of the prize ring. Some ashes will be thrown on the fire and the eastern question and quarrel will smoulder for a while longer. When the great conflagration breaks out and the roasting of Turkey begins, we may be both warmed and feasted with our own share of the business.

The confederation of the Australian colonies is delayed by the refusal of New South Wales to consent. We have seen no reason given why New Zealand is also absent. In the discussion involved, the dream of a federation of the Empire, which even ventures to embrace the United States in its vision, occupies the attention of theorists. We have as little confidence in paper constitutions as we have great faith in national traditions and history, affinity of race and language, and common commercial interests—links that though "light as air, are strong as bands of steel," to bind the scattered parts of the Empire together. If these fail paper or parchment are inflammable substitutes. Relations that need the intervention of the lawyer to adjust end in the amenities of litigation and general misunderstandings. There is no court of appeal strong enough to enforce the terms of a contract on states which they, on second thought, judge disadvantageous, except the arbitrament of arms. The millenium is not now, nor is it a material paradise, but a moral perfection. But the unwritten laws of habit and association are unconsciously obeyed and are enforced by the gentle pressure of growth and nature.

France is still hopefully, but without faith, striving to sew the new cloth on the old garment. Her constitution is now so patched and pieced that the original is covered, if not gone. A Joseph or a Lazarus might glory in it for its many colors and rags. While she tinkers at home she is testy, yet harmless abroad.

Spain has lost what she called a King and the naked goddess of liberty seems to be about mounting her steed to head revolution for something not clearly in view to the Dons.

Portugal lives on in the happiness of insignificance and in the strength of weakness.

Italy continues to consolidate her power and importance and is of account in Europe. To Britain she supplies the place of a lost France in the Mediterranean and the East.

The Germans have still a real King and chancellor to whom they owe much more than they do to the politician. When the brains of the one and the sovereignty of the other are succeeded by party we may look for dark days in Europe.

We know little of Austria except geographically. She is still great on the maps.

With Russia we have more in conflict than in common than with almost any other country and are continually meeting her at "Phillipi." Whether at Constantinople or Herat will be the next parley it is hard to foretell, but, in any case, we should be as careless as we are ready for either.

Turkey remains in *statu quo*, strong in props from adverse sides. Like a tumble-down house in the midst of a town, she can only fall into the street and be removed as an obstruction and her vacant lot be put up to a hot auction.

With the smaller states all seems well. Their national health depends more on that of their big neighbors than their own conduct; therefore the former fill our attention.

With the Scandinavian Kingdoms of Sweden and Norway we have lively common interests which keep us warm to their welfare. They carry our lumber, which they undersell on arrival and otherwise play the "Heathen Chinee" in our trade. Nevertheless, our friendship is of the rugged, northern, sincere type, which luxuriates in tit for tat encounters and comes up smiling every time. Daggers and deceit are not fashionable north of latitude fifty. Their king finds it hard at times to ride his two parliamentary horses; another example of too much party. We have had no recent tidings of the situation of their political affairs which were at one time in jeopardy. But their climate and temperment are too cool for the fermentation of revolutionary measures.

In the United States the year will be memorable for the return to office of the grand old Democratic party after a vacation of a quarter of a century. Rust and desuetude may be answerable for the slowness of any changes in administration or policy. Congress is now sitting and may produce something, but we have ceased to expect anything original or radical from American representative institutions beyond the capacity of the executive. Congress ratifies, but does not originate. The presidential election seems to exhaust the political activity of the people at large, after which they lapse, outwardly, into silence and apathy for another four years, while the managers assiduously turn their attention to developing the caucus. It may be said that the United States is governed by an absolute party in republican regalia, with a four years lease of almost arbitary power, renewable at pleasure. President Cleveland may find the cleaning of the augean stable at Washington a more herculean task than that at Albany, and that it requires perseverance as well as strength to pull up the roots of civil service corruption.

The trade and fiscal policy of the United States has suffered no change with that of the administration. Protection is maintained by desperate interests not easily met in conflict. We may, nevertheless, rest satisfied with the foreign policy in the hands of Secretary Bayard, whose sense and insight leave nothing to be desired in maintaining amicable diplomatic relations between Washington and London.

The death of Vice-President Hendricks is some loss to the administration but more perplexing in the matter of necessary machinery with which to fill his place, and another proof that the framers of the constitution were not inspired, although they did deliver themselves of the platitude that "all men were born free and equal" while they forgot the negro in their levelling creed. Some men become great by inverting a trueism or demonstrating a self-evident proposition. In their surprise at the discovery they think the world is astonished.

The year that is now closing began with the Dominion of Canada in some expectations which have not been fulfilled. A fine harvest was reaped, but trade continued struggling, and still struggles against the reaction following the first years of fictious prosperity produced by the adoption of the principle of protection into our fiscal system. Now that the National Policy, so called, has been moulded and the business of the country, in a measure, shaped to the inequalities of its surface, it has, in a great degree become, of necessity, a part of our fiscal system and is taken into our calculations as a permanent thing. It has ceased to be a practical issue at present for it has become the requisite of its own creation.

The great work of building the Canada Pacific Railway, which, at the opening of the year, weighed on the minds of people who judged the cost enormous and the charter a monopoly, is now claimed as completed. It is a gigantic national achievement, notwithstanding all difference of opinion as to the details of its construction. These have also ceased to be practical issues with us, now, and belong to the things that might have been otherwise to reach a similar or better result. The result being attained it remains for us loyally to make the most of it.

The session of the Dominion parliament which closed so late and was the longest in our history, was more remarkable for length of time than breadth of view. Doubtless the rebellion in the Northwest and the protracted debates on the Franchise Bill contributed to this. During these discussions we saw a sharp example of the powers of constitutional and, in the main, necessary obstruction practiced on models culled from the Imperial House of Commons. The session was barren of any measure of real utility. A new Franchise Bill has become law; a large number of new voters will have the privilege of using their ballots for the first time, and feel all the emotions of the political man consecrated in the tabernacle of the polling booth and at the shrine of the ballot box. Much good may it do him, "so say all of us." We will not enter into a post facto argument as to the need or usefulness of such a measure. The tendency of the times is to trust in these things and to seek wisdom from below rather than above. We are fast getting to look upon numbers and majorities for both power and prophecy and to submit the destinies of society to the fluctuations of popular excitabilities. The harvest of this will be to intensify the antagonisms of classes and local interests and bring about disintegration when the cement of common aims has lost its cohesion by being subjected to incessant hammering and readjustments. Truth, wisdom and intelligence will leave the administration of public affairs, and money, place and the professional politician will have it all to themselves. The politician will be the servant of the millionaire; capital, in order to protect itself, will go to a still lower constituency—one that it may buy and sell and thus the dreams of utopian republics or democratic socialism will be dispelled and swamped in the depravity of unredeemed human nature, which is still dross and can be bought wholesale or retail at a price.

The year witnessed a conflict between semi-barbarism and civilization in the Northwest Territory, which called into action the courage and serviceableness of our Volunteer Militia. The result was satisfactory and inspiring, as the cause was deplorable. General Middleton won fame, title and tangible reward and our army of citizen-soldiers credit, confidence and script. The spirit and prowess of Anglo-Saxon manhood still proclaims it the imperial race.

The unfortunate and fanatic Riel met his twice-earned fate, and by a strange affinity probed the quality of the loyalty of our French-Canadian people in a tender, if not festering place. They shewed that with them, also, blood is thicker than water, and that theirs is loth to mingle in the irresistible current of modern culture and is alien to many things which will not, as they cannot, compromise. It is not likely that any new or old party will result in the subsiding eruption of supersensitiveness. It is of too light and aerial a quality to build on and although it may give color to party warfare for a time, it cannot turn the march of inexorable events on their undeviating career. Whether Sir John A. Macdonald or Mr. Blake holds the helm, no local aspirations of race, language or religion may trim the sails of the ship of state.

The year has witnessed a number of changes in the Canadian Ministry. Indeed the shuffling about of portfolios at Ottawa seems to have become a regular vacation pastime. One of the changes has been the elevation of Hon. Mr. White to the office of Minister of the Interior, where it is said he will remain until the present "Riel" cloud blows over, when he will take charge of the Finance Department, which Sir Leonard Tilley left to accept the governorship of New Brunswick. Mr. McLellan of Nova Scotia was recently appointed Minister of Finance, but it would be absurd to suppose that Sir John intends his tenure of the office to be otherwise than temporary. Ex-professor Foster of King's County, N. B., has been made Minister of Marine and Fisheries and Hon. J. S. D. Thompson, one of the Nova Scotia Judges, was created Minister of Justice and had a constituency secured for him in Antigonish by the liberal member for that county accepting a County Court Judgship and leaving his party in the lurch. The narrowness of Mr. Thompson's majority, in view of the means employed to secure his election, indicated that the government barely escaped a humilating defeat. Mr. Thompson brings experience and solid talent to the position assigned him, but the selection of such men as Messrs. McLellan and Foster as heads of Dominion Departments cannot be encouraging to those who are seeking evidence of the government's stability. If better men could be enticed into what is manifestly a crumbling ministry these gentlemen would not be invited to join it. Professional, but, withal, in experienced politicians have heretofore been kept in the traces by such sops to their vanity as committee chairmanships, the appointment of relatives and friends to office, or employment in the more seductive and profitable work of handling misdirected public expenditures. Now, however, when desertions and discontent threaten the existence of the party, and its doom is read by the wiser ones, it is only the vain and overanxious, who are ready to snap at the offices which must soon pass into other hands.

Montreal will have cause to remember this year in black. A prolonged and fatal visitation of small-pox made that city its natural headquarters, from whence it made radiating excursions to other places. Happily, they have been driven back successfully except at Charlottetown, P. E. I., where it obtained a firm hold for a time. The Board of Health of Montreal might judiciously erect a statue to Jenner with an inscription extolling the virtues of vaccination and a motto expressing the thought that cleanliness is better than most kinds of godliness. Many things blasphemously attributed to the act of God will, on examination, be found to be an alliance between ignorance and the devil, made holy by superstition. The death of Sir Francis Hincks will be recalled as being one of the first results of this scourge's visitation. This Province, so far, may be congratulated on having escaped the pestilence, but may not be flattered on its immunity till the vaccination of children shall be almost contemporarious wish baptism and is considered of as vital importance to the body as the other is to the soul.

Cholera, which returned with alarming strength to the French and Spanish Mediterranean coasts, is still confined to these regions. Sanitary reform and watchfulness have as yet prevented it spreading to our northern latitudes and shows that the laws of health are as tolerant of life when obeyed as they are destructive to it when violated. Miracles only were, when knowledge was not. We live in the light of Touchstone's philosophy, which teaches that by pouring water out of a full glass into an empty one you thereby empty one by filling the other and so on, *ad infinitum.*

Our Provincial record for the year is barren of great events. Sir Leonard Tilley having resigned the Department of Finance at Ottawa, returns once more to Fredericton as our Lieut-Governor. Whatever criticism might be free with him in one capacity is dumb in his eminent fitness for the other. It is our duty, as it is our pride, to respect the representative of the Crown, even twice removed, and to behold the presence of the majesty of the people in the shadow of the sovereign. It may be only the eye of political faith that does this, but it was that faith which has made the Empire what it is, for the king is the incarnation of the people, not in their vices, but in their virtues. An elective chief magistrate is only the incarnation of party.

Our provincial legislation can, in the main, be no more than of a municipal character and, therefore, uneventful and routine. It can be neither original nor brilliant, but it may be useful and frugal. Its record for the year suggests little for remark. The Crown Land regulations and the stumpage question are pressing for settlement and, no doubt, will claim the attention of the Government during the coming session. They should not be made political capital of, when they are the interests of our staple trade.

The past year has witnessed a further shrinkage in the trade of this port, which raises speculation as to what the future has in store.

In other things we have made some progress, notably in Railways. The Northern and Western is being pushed forward from both ends till now only a gap to be closed next season remains. Daily trains run out from Chatham and Fredericton to Blackville and Boiestown respectively.

As an accompaniment of this Railway we have telegraphic communication between Chatham and Blackville and it may be said that the Miramichi valley is entering upon a new and prosperous era shaped by well directed enterprise and capital. All well-wishers of the country will be glad of the bright outlook of this important locality.

The necessity of the Indiantown Branch may now be seen in its idleness, though completed, and its promoters cannot be congratulated on any increase of business or value of property following its construction. Mountains may be removed by faith, but business will not leave its natural channels to follow those created by spite and contention.

The Miramichi Steam Navigation Company is one of the facts of the year and promises further developements.

We also witnessed the establishing of direct steam service between this port and the United Kingdom which we trust the North Atlantic Steamship Company will continue, notwithstanding a sulky growl from the inevitable dog in the manger.

The death of General Grant terminated a long, painful illness, the stages of which were detailed to the morbid curiosity of the public in daily instalments, like weather reports or the progress of Dr. Tanner's forty days fast. Extraordinary efforts were made by the resources of skill and science to prolong a life in the agony of an incurable malady, which the mercy of nature would have ended in comparative ease. Grant's place in fame is not well determined, although his position in the history of the Union is strongly marked. Without possessing any striking qualities or attractive virtues he was present at the accomplishment of great events. Unlike Moltke, who is silent in seven languages, Grant was only mute in his own. His funeral, like the impeachment of Johnson, was overdone in the effort to make it an inspiring historic spectacle, rivalling that of Wellington, but it lacked the prime element of spontaneity and lost all solemnity in swagger.

Vice-President Hendricks and General George B. McLellan of the United States; King Alfonso, of Spain; Victor Hugo, the literary king of France; "Josh Billings" (Henry W. Shaw), the great American humorous philosopher; Cardinals McCabe, of Dublin, and McCloskey, of New York are among the best known of the year's dead. We should not omit Vanderbilt, the New York millionaire from the list, but his fame, like that of "Jumbo," attached to him only because he was the largest of his kind in the country.

With ourselves the obituary of the year recalls no loss of very great eminence though some of usefulness. The public service can hardly be said to have lost the experience and ability of Sir Francis Hincks, above referred to. He had been dead to it for some time past. The Hon. Isaac Burpee left scarcely a blank in St. John, as he had almost retired from public life to the engrossing occupations of private affairs. The late election in St. John revived his memory, insincerely, we think, in the canvass. It will now, probably, retire back into the privacy of personal affection and local worth. Mr. Cudlip's death removes an eccentric, but amiable land-mark of other days. Although the death of Senator Muirhead belongs to the previous year, this may claim him by his absence. He left a vacancy not to be filled, for the present generation cannot entirely assimilate with the ways of the past. With Mr. Henry Cunard passed away an esteemed representative of other days, whose death almost closes the page of a bygone era.

The year has seen continual advance in science and art in all their various departments. The spur of competition is still contriving to cheapen by mechanical skill the production of manufactured articles, as well as enlarge the supply. Hence the sudden blocks in the track of commerce when demand is full and can hold no more. Our desire to sell exceeds our need or power to buy. In our race with mind to win the charms of Atalanta, we lose the prize, being allured, through the passion of avarice, from the direction of the goal with the gold thrown across our path by the fair enchantress.

Literature has done much, but nothing notable. It may be claimed that quantity and cheapness have discounted quality and contributed to mere superficiality. Many books seem written to express no constraining thought, but perchance that out of a multitude of words arranged with precision, some fancy or ingenious cheat may be evolved which will please and pay—as worlds are made in the Lucretion theory, accidentally, in the play of atoms over whose gyrations no mind presides.

The year witnessed the Revision of the Bible completed, in the publication of the Old Testament scriptures. The event lost much of its interest by the previous issue of the New Testament, although the corrections in text and translation are more numerous and important in the former than in the latter. In both the revision is characterized by much reverence and great conservatism. The result of the revisors' labors is a noble compliment and monument to the piety, learning and literary ability of the men, who, in adubious age, produced in the reign of James our authorized version; at a time, however, when our English tongue had just been raised to its highest pitch, as if in anticipation, by the immortal creations of the mind of Shakespeare.

The "Colonies," including India, to be on exhibition in London during the coming year, will be a fit succession to that of "Inventions," which has just closed, and Health and Fisheries of former years, and will present to the world an object lesson on the vastness, variety and wealth of the Colonial part of the Empire.

And, now, to-day, we have reached the land's end of the year. We may stand on the outer cliff, with our back on the past and look out on the expanse of the future with whatever hope our faith justifies. No more, for faith is all. The transitory and fitful gleams of light which have struggled with the incomprehendable darkness of this year of grace go out to-night, to be revived to-morrow—let us pray with renewed flame and more illuminating intensity to make auspicious the birthday of 1886. And so

The old makes way for new,
In ceaseless change. The same in form,
But dressed in other fashion.
Immortal in variety, not different,
But diverse.

NEW BRUNSWICK CROWN LAND.—Since the last general sales lumbermen have been applying constantly for new timber leases, subject, of course, to the ordinary stumpage regulations of 1.25 dols. per thousand feet, and are readily paying large bonuses; one berth of three square miles brought 300 dols. per mile, and various others from 58 dols. downwards. On the 4th of the present month 46 square miles were sold, one berth bringing a bonus of 55 dols. per mile, another 33 dols. per mile, and another at 22 dols. per mile. There will be sold on the 11th of the month 45 square miles, and applications were received on the 4th at the Crown Land Offices for 49 square miles more, which will be disposed of at public auction in a fortnight from that date.—London *Timber Trades Journal.*

If the *Journal* aims at being an authority in such matters as the above it ought to be more thorough in the information it gives. The applications for lumber lands since the general Crown lands sales have not been out of the usual course. Such applications are made every year and the acreage applied for this year is we think no greater than after the previous general sales. At the general sales this year about five hundred square miles were dropped, so it would take a good many applications such as the *Journal* refers to to bring the acreage under lease up to what it was last year. As to the bonuses paid occasionally, that is no unusual thing. Extra good pieces of land, or lots wanted by obnoxious rivals are often bought in at fancy prices—in many cases far above their real value.

"THE TAIL OF THE DRIVE."—Nova Scotia Tories must feel much humiliated when they contrast Mr. McLelan, their present leader, which Hon. Joseph Howe. The Tories of New Brunswick have equa cause for despondency. From Sir Leonard Tilley to George E. Foster is drop enough to dislocate the neck of the party.—Toronto *Globe.*

Murder Will Out.

DUBLIN, Dec. 24.—Sheehan, who was convicted on the 19th inst. of having murdered his mother, his brother Thomas, and his sister Mary, at Castletown, near Cork, in October, 1877, has made a full confession of his crime. He exculpates his brother-in-law, David Brown, who is under arrest, from any participation in the triple murder. Sheehan says he was led to commit the murder by the persistency of his mother in demanding £300 dowry from farmer Brown before she would consent to her son (the prisoner) marrying Miss Brown. Farmer Brown was willing to give his daughter a dowry of £170, but Mrs. Sheehan refused the offer. William murdered his mother, brother and sister and threw their bodies into an old well. He told people he had given his mother £300 out of his marriage portion, and that the three missing ones had gone away to seek another place of residence. In a short time William married Miss Brown. He took possession of the farm and remained there about two years when he was evicted for non payment of rent. He then left for Australia. After his departure the three bodies were discovered and he was arrested and brought back to Ireland for trial.

What it Means.

The Toronto *Telegram* asks:—

"How many Reform members would care to stump Ontario on the ground that Riel was a martyr and Sir John Macdonald a murderer for hanging him? Not many, we imagine. They would argue, of course, that this was not the issue, and that with the quarrel between Sir John and the Bleus they had nothing to do. But we all know that Sir John will take precious good care to have a direct vote taken on the issue as to whether he was justified or not in allowing the law to take its course in Riel's case. How many Reform members from Ontario could conscientiously hold up their hands with the Bleus on such a vote? Could Mr. Blake?

And the London *Advertiser* replies:—

No Reform member intends to take the stump in Ontario for any such purpose as that set forth in the paragraph which we have here quoted. No Ontario member says that Riel was a martyr; no one proposes to accuse Sir John Macdonald of being a murderer because Riel was hanged.

It is not the liberal party of Canada which is making the trouble over the execution of Riel. It is the Conservative party, the friends of Sir John, the French Canadian supporters of Mr. Bowell, the men who have for years maintained a Conservative administration in Canada.—St. John *Globe.*

Entirely Bad.

According to information received by the Justice Department, the order of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the license case, declares the whole Dominion License Act unconstitutional. Even those clauses providing for the enforcement of the Scott Act are declared *ultra vires.* The Judicial Committee state that the parts of the Dominion License Act relating to the adulteration of liquors, may be within the legislative powers of the Federal Parliament, but that it is impossible to separate those from the other provisions of the Act, and they are unable to advise that any portion of the act is *intra vires.* So that Sir John Macdonald will not be able even to keep up his army of commissioners and inspectors under pretence of enforcing the Scott Act.