

net and family, and the assemblage separated. It is worthy of remark, as most creditable to the whole party, that, notwithstanding the abundance of refreshments provided, not one was found to exceed the bounds of strict sobriety.—*Inverness Advertiser*.

THE MEDITERRANEAN FLEET.—All sorts of incorrect reports are in circulation in the French, German and English papers, as to the whereabouts and destination of the squadron under the immediate personal command in chief of Vice-Admiral Sir W. Parker, Bart., G. C. B. One authority places it at Malta, another at Corfu, and a third announces the arrival of a squadron of observation in the Bosphorus, and counts the number of guns fired as a salute. We may state that the fleet, consisting of the Caledonia, 120; Howe, 120; Queen, 116; Prince Regent, 90; Powerful, 84; Vengeance, 84; Thetis, 36; Dragon, 6, Steam Frigate; Rosamond, 6, Steam Sloop, were at Corfu on the 4th instant, and were about to sail for Athens that day. The Odin, 12, Steam Frigate, was the only man of war sent to Constantinople, and she arrived there with despatches on the 3d. The Bellerophon, 78, Captain Baynes, C. B., off Leghorn, has been ordered to join Sir W. Parker's squadron at Athens. The gallant Admiral will then have seven sail of the line with him, mounting 692 guns, with nearly 6000 men.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY OF A CAVERN IN WALES.—We have been favoured by a correspondent with the following interesting announcement, dated from Conway, October 12:—"On Wednesday, the miners at Llandno broke, in the course of their labours, entered what appeared to be an extensive cavern, the roof of which, being one mass of stalactite, reflected back their lights with dazzling splendour. On examination the cavern turned out to be an old work, probably Roman, the benches, stone hammers, &c., used by that ancient people, having been found entire, together with many bones of mutton, which had been consumed by these primitive miners. The bones are, to all appearance, as fresh, though impregnated with copper, as they were when denuded of their fleshy covering, after remaining, as they must have done, nearly 2,000 years in the bowels of the earth. The cavern is about forty yards long, and must be a subject of great interest to those fond of investigating the remains of bygone ages."—*Liverpool Paper*.

THE BOLTON CLAIRVOYANTE.—The *Manchester Guardian* contains a long account of the second interview between Mr. Haddock, a friend of Sir John Franklin, and the Bolton clairvoyante. She professed to have had interviews with Sir John Franklin and Sir James Ross, described their position in the ice, with sundry other minutæ. She said she had had some refreshment with Sir John Franklin, who had his provisions in thick tin boxes. He had also some hard meat in a big tub. Sir John she said would be out of ice in less than nine months. That it was ten minutes past eleven by Sir John's time; and a quarter past ten a good while after by Sir James Ross's time. That she went a good way further than Sir James Ross, where it was very dark, and the stars went round and did not twinkle, but she was sure it was quite ridiculous to attempt to find a road for ship over there. That she found Sir John in a house made of large blocks of ice, about nine yards from the ship. That Sir John had been a great way over the country, but had returned to his ships. That Sir John Franklin had seen the natives, but not Sir James Ross; and that there were two ships on their way home, which would bring good news. The statements of this girl have excited great interest all over the country. It has excited attention at the Admiralty, and the matter is said to have been inquired after in high quarters.

FLAX COTTON.—It, perhaps, may not be generally known, even by those engaged in flax, that by completely robbing the fibre of all its gum, we get immediately a fine downy material like raw cotton, but somewhat stronger. The strength of the flax is a little diminished by this process, but still the fibre is superior to cotton, and it may be passed through all the present cotton machinery in the subsequent processes. This cannot fail to be highly interesting at this moment, when we are threatened with a scarce, and consequently, dear and inferior supply of cotton; and since much flax stalk, both at home and in India, is thrown away, the plant being cultivated for the seed, it follows we have here *prima facie*, a much less expensive raw material than cotton.

On Saturday the Prince of Wales hoisted his flag for the first time, on the occasion of his royal highness, with the other juvenile members of the royal family, embarking at Cowes, in the royal yacht Fairy, for Gosport, unaccompanied by Her Majesty or Prince Albert.

The exact velocity of electricity along a copper wire is 288,000 miles a second; it is calculated accordingly that we could telegraph to our antipodes in rather less than the 500th part of one second of time.

Mr. Weld, the Secretary to the Royal Society, shews, by an extract from the travels of Mr. Arthur Young, published in 1792, that the present system of telegraphing by electricity was practised by a Mr. Lomond in those days.

PRIVATE PATRIOTISM.—Mr. Crashaw, an English iron master, has subscribed \$25,000 towards a fund to be collected by the gentlemen of England, in aid of the Sultan, should war be declared against him by Russia, for refusing to betray the Hungarian refugees.

NEW LEGAL QUESTION—The Copyright of Sermons.—On Sunday last the Rev. Mr. Macnaughtan closed his ministerial labours in Paisley, by delivering a farewell Sermon to his congregation on the afternoon of that day. The discourse was read with great care to the audience, which was quite out of his usual habit with that reverend gentleman, and the object it was presumed for his doing so was that it might be published *verbatim*, as it had been delivered. To make certain, however, that the Sermon might not be lost to the world, and to "turn an honest penny," the editor of a contemporary journal, a most zealous Sabbatarian, opposed to the running of Sunday trains, and all sorts of Sunday labour, attended the service, and took down the discourse, with the view, as he states, "to run the hazard of issuing a pamphlet, containing not only the farewell Sermon, but also a narrative of the whole days proceedings," with a short biographical notice of Mr. Macnaughtan, and a sketch of his history while in Paisley. This production would most unquestionably have been an interesting one, if faithfully followed out; but the reverend gentleman seems not to have been ambitious to have his Sermon published by another, his biography drawn to assist its sale, nor a history written regarding him while in Paisley. The intention to publish had been duly placarded over the town on Monday, without authority asked or given, as we are informed, and then the reverend preacher was applied to for his MS., or for the correction of the notes of the reporter. In place of complying with this request, however, a demurrer was entered against the whole proceedings by a legal gentleman, as agent for Mr. Macnaughtan; and on the intended publisher refusing to desist from the undertaking, an interdict was applied for and obtained, to prevent the further progress of the work till it shall be decided whether Sermons, publicly delivered, are copyright property or not; or if it is fair for reporters to add a seventh day's duty to their other labours, by taking notes of Sermons on the Sabbath, and presenting them to the public in the columns of their papers or in pamphlets.

YORK AND CARLETON MINING COMPANY.—Mr. William Stevens, the Agent of this Association, has recently returned from England, which country he visited with a view of personally ascertaining the opinion of scientific men, of the quality and value of the Iron manufactured at Woodstock, and also of inducing extensive purchases in Great Britain. We are happy to say, that in the discharge of these offices he has met with the most gratifying encouragement.

We quote from the certificate of Mr. Mushet, in his line one of the most able men of the age, and whose writings are highly appreciated by the scientific world—the following sentence, whilst we would remark that the entire document possesses a very satisfactory character:—

"This pig iron is dense, white and convex upon its service, indicating great richness of quality. Remarkable for its fusibility and enters into a fluid state at a degree of heat far below the melting point of ordinary cast iron. It is admirably suited for mixing with less carbonated iron, to produce castings of great strength. For bar iron this sample is found to produce a fine variety of cold tough iron. It is well adapted for cable iron, for baths, and for wire drawing, and with careful puddling, would yield excellent tin-plate blooms. For steel, the iron is found to possess great strength and body. It hardens well at a low temperature, and carries a most penetrating edge. It is an article of high value as a steel producing iron."

We have seen specimens of penknives and files now in the possession of the York and Carleton Mining Company, very recently made from the produce of their works; and so far as we can judge, these articles are not excelled in beauty of finish by any imported; whilst we are well warranted in the supposition, that in point of utility they embrace all the qualities which are desirable.

Mr. Charles Sanderson, of Sheffield, an extensive manufacturer, and a gentleman who has spent several years amidst the iron works of Germany, in order to obtain a mastery of such pursuits, thus remarks in a letter to Mr. Stevens:—"Your ore is good, and free from selix, it carries within itself such a mixture as will supply its own flux, and thus you are enabled in a great measure to dispense with lime. This will prove of great advantage to you, because the addition of fluxes to facilitate the fusion of the earthy matter contained in the ore, reduces the per centage of the product and increases the consumption of fuel in like ratio."

"The business, although now small, has nevertheless within it the elements of a magnificent concern."

It is with pleasure we give publicity to the present brief notice. The product of a new branch of our Provincial industry is now fairly before the British people, who in the end will prove to be customers for it, to the full extent of supply. It is highly gratifying to be apprised, that the early prospects of the Company will be more than realised by a steady profitable conversion of the recently valueless ore of Woodstock into any form which it may be made to assume, by the application of the enterprise and industry of our persevering countrymen.—*Courier*.

The Telegraph Line is now completed between Saint John and Halifax. Communications were sent through yesterday for the first time. The news by the next English Steamer will be transmitted direct from Halifax. We understand that arrangements have been made to obtain the news for the Reading Room here.