The Herald.

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THE HERALD
Is Published
EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,
From the Office of Kane & Co.,
54 GERMAIN STREET,
AT ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE, Post-paid, or delivered in any part of the City or Town of Portland.

☞ The large circulation of this Journal makes it a first-class medium for Advertising.

NEW
Boot & Shoe Store,
NO. 212 UNION STREET,
(Next door to A. Sinclair's)
ST. JOHN, N. B.

A FIRST-CLASS assortment of BOOTS, SHOES, SLIPPERS, RUBBERS, &c., which will be sold at
Lowest Prices for Cash.
Boots and Shoes made to order in the latest style.
C. E. VAUGHAN.
P. S.—All goods purchased of me Repaired free of charge.

J. S. STANTON,
Coach Proprietor,
98 St. Patrick Street,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
Coaches furnished for Weddings, Funerals, &c., at the very shortest notice.
☞ All orders promptly attended to. mar24 1y

The Empire Dining Saloon,
GERMAIN ST., - Opposite City Market
R. J. PATTERSON, Proprietor.
MEALS AT ALL HOURS.
The very best of Oysters always on hand
☞ SOUPS OF ALL KINDS served every day. ☜

WM. DOHERTY & CO.
CUSTOM TAILORS,
Corner of Main St., Portland,
AND PARADISE ROW,
SAINT JOHN, N. B.
FIRST CLASS FIT
And workmanship guaranteed. A full stock of
GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.
☞ Ladies' Sacques A Specialty ☜

DOMINION
Dining Rooms and Exchange,
OLD ST. JOHN HOTEL LOT,
CHARLOTTE STREET.
ARE NOW OPEN.
Meals at all Hours. Dinner 35 cents, served from 12 to 2. Patronage solicited.
☞ Satisfaction guaranteed.
C. COURTENAY,
aug25 Proprietor.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE!
During the present month, and preparatory to Stock taking, the Goods in all departments will be sold at vastly Reduced Prices, in most cases less than the Wholesale quotations.
In a few days the range of prices in
BLACK SILKS, DRESS GOODS, COUNTERPANES, VELVETS, BLANKETS, COMFORTERS, Etc., Etc., will be published.
Irrespective of Purchasing, an Inspection of the Stock is solicited.
MACKENZIE BROS.,
47 King street.

LONDON-MADE TWEED OVERCOATS,
New and Fashionable.
In a splendid variety of mixtures; also REEFERS, will be cleared out at Cost, as they form no part of our regular line.
dec25 MACKENZIE BROS.

CORNELIUS GALLAGHER,
Painter, Glazier and Paper
HAGER
IMITATOR OF
WOOD and MARBLE.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
99 St. Patrick Street,
SAINT JOHN, N. B.

Greenville Extra Lime,
MANUFACTURED BY
D. A. HOLLAND & CO.
ALL Orders left at JOHN O'BRIEN'S, (Tobacconist) Mill street, or at the Adelaide House, McCorkery's Road, Portland, will be promptly attended to.
janyl2—1y

A QUANTITY OF
PAPER BAGS,
WILL BE SOLD CHEAP.
APPLY AT THIS OFFICE.

U. S. PIANO CO.
$290.
YOU ask WHY we can sell First-Class 7 1-3 Octave Rosewood Piano for $290. Our answer is, that it costs less than $300 to make any $600 Piano sold through Agents all of whom make 100 per cent. profit. We have no Agents, but sell DIRECT to Families at Factory price, and warrant five years. We Send our Pianos everywhere for trial, and require no payment unless they are found satisfactory. Send for Illustrated Circular, which gives full particulars, and contains the names of over 1500 Bankers, Merchants and Families that are using our Pianos in every State of the Union. Please state where you saw his notice.
ADDRESS:
U. S. PIANO COMPANY,
810 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

CHEAP DRY GOODS! CHEAP DRY GOODS!
SECOND WEEK
OF THE
CLEARANCE SALE
—AT—
McCAFFERTY & DALY'S,
Corner of King and Germain Sts.
IN addition to the general reduction made on all our Stock, we will offer this week SPECIAL BARGAINS in Dress Goods, Canadian Tweeds, Linen Handerchiefs, Hamburg Edgings and Insertions.
20 pieces MATLASSE DRESS GOODS, all new shades, regular price 25cts., reduced price 17 cts.;
20 pieces DIAGONAL SERGE, all new shades. Regular price, 30cts., reduced to 20cts.;
20 pieces Chappat & Co.'s BLACK CASHMERES. Regular prices 70, 80, 90 cts., $1.00, $1.10, $1.20. Reduced to 60, 70, 80, 90 cts., $1.00, $1.10;
12 pieces NEW COLORS FRENCH MERINOS. Regular price $1.00 per yard. Reduced to 80cts.;
Black Coburgs, Black Alpaccas, Black Henriettas, Black Persian Cord, proportionately reduced;
21 pieces HEAVY ALL WOOL CANADIAN TWEEDS. Regular price 70cts.; reduced to 60cts.;
36 pieces Extra Heavy All-Wool CANADIAN TWEEDS. Regular price 85 cts., reduced to 75 cts.;
50 dozen LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, Ladies' and Gentlemen's, 15 per cent below regular prices;
200 pieces HAMBURG EDGINGS and INSERTIONS, 20 per cent. below regular prices.
M. CAFFERTY & DALY,
mar2 COR. KING AND GERMAIN STREET.

Dry Goods. Dry Goods.
CLEARANCE SALE!
BARGAINS! BARGAINS!
M. WALSH, - - Portland Bridge.
In order to make room for Spring Importations I have
REDUCED
MY WHOLE STOCK,
which must be sold out previous to moving to my new premises, Market Square.

100 Pieces FANCY DRESS GOODS, from 8 to 30cts,
50 " BLACK LUSTRES, 12½ to 30 cents.
100 " DRESS TWEEDS, 7 to 15 cents.
50 " PRINTS 8 to 12 cents.
150 " GREY COTTONS, 5 to 10 cents.
100 " WHITE " 7½ to 12 cents.
20 " WHITE SHEETINGS, 25 to 40 cents.
20 " GREY " 20 to 25 cents.
30 Dozen LINEN TOWELS.
20 Pieces TABLE LINENS, 50 cents upwards.
50 " BRO. HOLLANDS, 12½ to 20 cents.
100 " CANADIAN TWEEDS, from 50 cts to $1.00, for Men and Boys wear, splendid value.
20 " SATINETS, Extra Good Value.
50 Pairs WHITE BLANKETS, $2.00 to $6.00.
30 Pieces FLANNEL SHIRTINGS, from 25 to 35 cts
30 Dozen MEN'S UNDER CLOTHING, Shirts and Drawers, low, 40 to 90 cents.
15 " WOOL SHIRTS, $1.00 to $1.50.
12 " TWEED do. 50 to 75 cents.
10 " WOOL SHAWS, from $1.00 to $6.00.
20 " BERLIN SQUARES AND SCARFS.

A full Line in Gents' Furnishing Goods.
☞ I would respectfully call special attention to the above, which will be found well worthy of inspection.
MICHAEL WALSH,
PORTLAND BRIDGE.
mar2

JEWELLERS' HALL,
No. 14 King Street,
PALACE BUILDING.
THIS new Store has opened with a full stock of
Fine Watches, Jewellery and
FANCY ARTICLES.
Also, a good assortment of TOYS, expressly imported for the Christmas Trade. Owing to the lateness of their arrival, the FANCY GOODS and TOYS will be sold at cost so that none will remain over.
dec 22 T. L. COUGHLAN.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
APPLICATIONS will be made by the Municipal Council of the City and County of Saint John to the Legislature of this Province at the next sitting thereof, for the enactment of a Bill, entitled, "An Act to authorize the Municipal Council of the City and County of Saint John to allow remuneration and travelling expenses to the Councillors representing the Parishes of Simonds, Saint Martins, Lancaster and Musquash."
The object of this Bill is set forth in the Title.
H. W. FIRTH,
feb2 County Secretary

P. KEENAN,
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,
(Successor to the late J. Crear.)
has removed from Germain street, to the Shanty on the
SOUTH SIDE OF THE FOUNTAIN,
centre of King Square, where he will be found prepared to give the best satisfaction to all who favor him with their petronage. sept15

JOHN McGOURTY,
City Contractor,
COR. OF ELLIOT ROW & PITT ST.,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
A slate will be kept at J. C. Ferguson's, King Square, and orders left will be promptly attended to.

HOLLANDS GENEVA
Just received:
50 GREEN Cases DeKuypers' GENEVA;
25 " " Key do.;
25 " " half-bottles do. 1 dozen each
5 " " pint-flasks do. 1 "
M. A. FINN,
nov17 Hazen Building.

WILLET & QUIGLEY,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS,
Notaries Public, &c.,
55 KING STREET, (up stairs.)
JOHN WILLET. RICHD. F. QUIGLEY, (B. C. L.) (L. L. B.)
feb20 Commissioner, &c., for Massachusetts.

TO LEASE,
FOR 3 OR 5 YEARS.
ON Sydney street, opposite Queen Square, two Respectable Dwellings with Bath rooms. Patent W. C., Gas, Register Grates and all the modern Improvements. Possession 1st May next. These premises are suitable for respectable families. Enquire of William Burns, at the Board of Health office or on the premises. feb9

GREAT BARGAINS
IN
BOOTS, SHOES, &c.
I RESPECTFULLY wish to announce to my friends and the Public generally that I have on hand a large and well assorted stock of MEN'S and BOYS' Coarse, Calf and Kip Boots.
Men's and Boys' Shoes,
BALMORAL and CONGRESS BOOTS; Ladies', Misses and Children's
BOOTS, SHOES AND SLIPPERS,
and Ladies' and Gentlemen's
Felt Overshoes and Rubbers,
PLAIN and FANCY.
The above mentioned goods will be sold at very low price for CASH.
Custom work and Repairing executed on the premises with despatch.
Thankful for the liberal patronage extended to my late husband while in business, I would solicit a continuance of the same.
MRS. J. DONOVAN,
Main street, Portland.
dec25 McKeever's Building)

STEAM BRICK & TILE WORKS,
Legrange Yards, Little River.
LEE BROTHERS have constantly on hand a large Supply of
PATENT MACHINE BRICKS,
Common and Pressed
DRAINING TILES From 2 to 6 Inches in the Bore, For land and other purposes.
Also, PAN TILES, for flooring purposes.
Orders filled by addressing L. B., P. O. Box 5, John N. B.

BETTER THAN THE RED RIBBON.

They were working for months to get "O Saws" to put on a red ribbon and let whisky alone. Nearly every man in his neighborhood on Larned street wore the insignia, an "Old Saws" had no trouble to see that they had more to eat and more clothes for their children as soon as they stopped pouring down whisky. He discovered, too, that these men were busy where he could hardly find a day's work, for any man wanting to hire prefers a sober laborer to one whose red eyes and thick tongue tell of a degraded nature.

"Old Saws" cursed the Red Ribbon business high and low. He said it was a tyrannical interference with the rights of a free citizen, and that it was an insult to him to have folks thinking that he didn't know what was good and bad for him. Men finally gave him up as a sot, and waited for some influence—they could not imagine what it would be—that should finally set him to thinking. "Old Saws" poured down whisky, had less to eat, grew more ragged in looks and vile in nature, and one day when his drunken carcass was pulled out of a snow-bank a woman who stood by exclaimed:

"That man has no more soul than the lowest brute of the earth!"

The crowd said she was right, and the last hope anyone had entertained of reforming the man was surrendered.

In the crazy old shanty called "home," a ragged, forlorn-looking wife and five children shivered around the stove, quarreled over the scanty meals, looked out of the ragged stuffed windows and waited—not for the bright sun—not for a storm to pass—not for good news—not for change for the better, but waited for that brute to come "home" and curse and pound them. Even the two year old baby wished itself dead. Temperate men pointed out the family as a warning to drinkers; children hurried by the house, and pedestalans wondered why smallpox did not take root there.

And yet, in that old hovel, and in that hunger-pinched and despairing family was that influence which men had hoped to see exert itself. It cropped out in a curious way, but it had all the power of a dozen orators. Men met "Old Saws" on the street one day and told him that his boy Ned was in the hospital, carried there from the street, where he had been run over.

"Curse——!" The old man checked himself. Little Ned's big blue eyes had always seemed to look into his soul, and the boy had complained the least of any. When the ugly-drunk father had glared around the room, seeking for some excuse to beat his wife and children, this boy had crept under his half-lifted arm and climbed upon his knee, fearing nothing. One day when the child found a nickel on the walk he saved it for his father, proudly saying:

"Ma wanted to buy a loaf of bread, but I wouldn't give it up! I knew you'd want it to buy whisky! Ain't I a good boy?"

The father took it, but the words burned his heart like fire, and he bought bread with it, though he hadn't tasted whisky the whole day.

So Ned was in hospital! "Old Saws" was two thirds drunk when told the news, and he staggered against pedestrians as he made his way to the hospital. As the doors were opened for him, and as people put "Mr." to his name and treated him as if he had been a gentleman, he felt ashamed of himself for the first time in ten years.

"I—I'll come in after a while," he stammered, as he backed out, and he retreated to the street and walked up and down until his brain and speech was clearer. He felt that he was ragged and uncouth, and he would have not returned to the hospital had not the memory of Little Ned's pale face and big blue eyes been stronger than his shame.

"Come right in," they said to him—"this way—here he is, suffering a good deal, but not fatally injured."

When "Old Saws" saw the clean beds, tidy rooms and well-dressed people, he would have been glad to hide his face from those who were looking at him. When he discovered that his injured boy had been robed in a long, white night-gown, clean as the purest snow-flake, a lump worked into the sot's throat, and he gasped:

"N-Ned, I-I'm awful s-sorry!"

"I knew you'd come, and I want to see ma, too," whispered the child.

"Old Saws" mind flew home in a second. He saw "ma" in rags, without cover for head or feet, and he felt that the people would hoot her if she appeared there.

"S she'll c-come, I guess," he choked, as he turned away his head, and he felt as if some one had stabbed him to the heart.

Yet, there was something else in store for him. A nurse sitting back towards him and unconscious of his presence, was saying to a patient:

"Poor child—how I pity him! His father is a drunken brute, who ought to freeze to death! The family are half-clothed, half-fed, and live worse than wolves—all that 'Old Saws,' as they call him, may pour whisky down his throat!"

Ned heard the words too. His blue eyes opened wide, showing pity for the father, and one of his little hands reached out and clasped the big fist which had so often beat mother and children.

"If the child dies," continued the nurse, the father cannot buy a coffin, hold a funeral, or let the other children see the body! He will have one less to pound and starve, and will go on pouring degradation down his throat! I wonder that God allows such human beasts to live!"

"I—I guess they don't mean you, father!" whispered Ned, tightening his clasp, but "Old Saws" knew they did, and he looked around as if he meant to rush for the door.

"They ought to put him in prison, and never let the poor childr n hear his name again!" said the nurse. "He has got so low and beastly that reform cannot touch him and if I were his wife I'd hope for his death every hour!"

"Ma likes you, and we all like you!" whispered Ned, and that finished "Old Saws." The good people in the hospital never saw a sight like that before—father and son crying sobbing, trying to speak, and the father having lost control of himself. All his degradation, all the rags and poverty of home, all his curses and brutality rose up before him and accused and cried out against the man till the people could not soothe him. Then they put hope and self-respect into his heart. Their words were not empty. They proved their sincerity and proved that they trusted him, by gifts of food, clothing and money, and within an hour "ma" was also at little Ned's bedside.

How long ago was this? Well, not over four weeks, but these weeks have been wonderful ones. The old rookery is empty, and "Old Saws" enters a carriage when he comes home. Wife and children can scarcely be recognized by those who saw them daily for years. There is fuel in the shed, food in the house, and little Ned sits bolstered in a rocking-chair by the street window. Seeing him there yesterday led to a train of inquiries, and inquiries led to this bit of writing. You would'nt know "Old Saws." The boy who found him in the snow-bank that day, and who had seen him daily for five years, saw a clean-shaven, decently dressed man leave that cottage the other morning with a dinner-pail in his hand, and heard three or four children calling: "Good-bye, pa!" and the boy looked after the man and exlcaimed:

"W-h-e-w! Well if that 'Old Saws' hasn't been filed, set, polished, put in a new frame and become one of the best in this hull burgh then I don't want a cent!"
—*Detroit Free Press.*

CANADIAN GIRLS AT THE BALL TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

[Montreal Cor. of New York World.]

Suffice it that better taste was never shown by fairer women than at this ball. One word, however, for the women of Montreal and Canada generally. It is a common and impolite saying that the average English girl is at once the freshest, the most innocent and the most stupid creature ever met in society. Be this as it may, I am sure that the Canadian women have all the innocent freshness and purity of their sisters in the Mother Country, while they talk quite as well as their cousins on the other side of the border, and in talking have that beautiful voice and accent which are the pride of the English woman in every part of the world. There is, too, about them a healthy robustness which comes from plenty of outdoor exercise and which excites the admiration of all men who have heard of nerves, sick-headaches and those other symptoms of "little health" which go along with house-wraps and easy-chairs. One other thing I noted in the ball-room which seemed a little odd to me, and that was that the Canadians have either not given up or have taken up again the old fashion of hopping in the waltz. After the smooth and gliding motion seen in an American ball-room, I can't say that this looked pretty, but it was done with no little agility, and the dancers appeared to be having a good time. I talked the other day with an American from the South, and he expressed his astonishment at the wonderful hospitality met with on all sides, and which, I am sure is the rule in Canada. He said that he had expected to find only "cold northern hearts and rude northern tongues," but instead found each one filled with good feeling and generosity, and living as though the latch-string of his door was always on the outside.

"IF IT WERE NOT FOR HOPE THE HEART WOULD BREAK."

Hope, whose birth in Eden was almost coeval with that of man himself, has truly been the anchor of the soul, from the day in which Satan, in serpent's guise, entered that blissful abode and lured man to his downfall. When driven from that Paradise which he had so short a time enjoyed, God promised that "the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head," then Hope, with her bright rainbow hues, arched the dark sky of gloom and despair, which hung like a pall over him and down through the ages which have followed, to the troublous "times we live in," she has proved his beacon star, beckoning him on through disaster, ruin, and sinking faith; ever pointing upward and onward to the goal, the coveted prize; his encouraging friend and supporter in life, and strength in death. With her bright presence to cheer him on, man will achieve almost miracles of success, level mountains of difficulties, and when prostrated, beaten down by misfortunes, her smile will raise him up to wage fierce war against all obstacles, until at last he comes off conqueror: but when she spreads her bright pinions and flies away from him, alas! his sun has set in darkness, despair settles upon him, his energies are benumbed, and he sinks in the struggle. We are all familiar with her, and at no time in our country's history have her powers been so sorely tried as now. The little cloud, of which I spoke a year ago, appearing on the horizon of our country's prosperity, has spread until the land, far and near, is enshrouded in its gloomy shade. From season to season, Hope has whispered of better times to come, and all were anxious and willing to believe; but she has told the flattering tale so oft that many are growing incredulous, while others can see nothing before them but ruin and failure of all their plans and schemes. Still, I would say, hold on to her as one of your best friends, for he who steers his bark with Hope at its helm, and stern determination in his heart will be far more apt to reach the desired haven; fortune may frown, friends desert and business fail, but as long as Hope is left all is not lost. 'Tis hard for the man of years, who has toiled early and late of season, denying himself every recreation, and straining every nerve to accumulate means on which he can rest comfortably, when health and strength fail, when age has weakened his powers of action and quenched the fire of his brain. 'Tis hard, I say, to see all that he has labored for through youth and manhood down to the decline of life, all swept away, nothing left; his dreams of wealth or competence all vanished and the burden of life to take up again; and at that time what would become of him if Hope deserted him? —*Exchange.*

WONDERS.

When a young man is in a store and dresses like a prince, smokes fine "foreign cigars," drinks "nice brandy," attends the theatres, dances, and the like, I wonder if he does all on the avails of his clerkship?

When a young lady sits in the parlor during the day, with her lily white fingers covered with rings, I wonder then if her mother does the wash the dishes, and do the work in the kitchen?

When the deacon of the church sells strong butter recommending it as a good article, I wonder what he relies upon for salvation?

When a lady laces her waist a third finer than nature made it, I wonder if her pretty figure will shorten life a dozen years or more, besides making her miserable while she does live?

When a young man is dependant upon his daily toil for his income, and marries a lady who does not know how to make a loaf of bread or mend a garment, I wonder if he is not lacking somewhere—say towards the top for instance?

When a man receives a periodical or a newspaper weekly, and takes great delight in reading it, and don't pay for it, I wonder if he has a soul or a gizzard?

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

Milne-Edwards, the great opponent of the Evolution theory has been elected President of the French Scientific Association.

A note is made in *Hardwicke's Science Gossip* of the discovery of a chimney-swallow brooding in the month of December. The bird was watched while building her nest in a cart-shed and the nest, with one egg, was taken while the mother was sitting.

Prof. Westwood describes at a recent meeting of the Entomological Society of London a remarkable Mantis (Gongylus gonegyloides) which mimics a flower,—the deception being supposed to attract the insects upon which the Mantis feeds to their destruction.

3,000 stars (only) are visible to the naked eye. Countless millions are revealed by the telescope, some so remote that their light, travelling at the rate of 20,000 miles a second, cannot arrive at our planet in less than 14,000 years. Others' light would require two millions of years for its transit from their distant orbs to our own.

Loewenhock has computed that 10,000 threads of the full-grown spider are no larger than a single hair of the beard. He calculates, further, that when young spiders first begin to spin, 400 of them are not larger than one of full growth—making it appear that 4,500,000 of a young spider's threads are not as large as the single hair of a man's beard.

One of the most important results obtained by Prof. E. S. Morse from his study of Lingula in Japan, during the past summer, is the discovery of auditory capsules in the class of Brachiopass. He determined these organs in a species of Lingula, and their position and general appearance recall the auditory capsules as figured by Claparede in certain tubiculous Annelids.

Prof. Owen has described at length, in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, the Solitaire (Pezoplaps solitaria), an extinct bird whose remains were brought from the Island of Rodriguez by the Transit-of-Venus Expedition. The favorable conditions of its life on an uninhabited island amid abandant food, enabled it to attain its great size.

GENERAL NEWS.

Of the 658 members of the Imperial Parliament, only 14 are abstainers.

A steamboat built by the Yarrow Company has attained the extrardinary speed of 52 miles per hour.

Eighteen thousand out of twenty-seven thousand voters in Montreal have been disqualified for non-payment of taxes.

The City Council of Hamilton have adopted a by-law placing saloon, shop, and tavern licences at a hundred and fifty dollars.

Ten thousand alligator hides are annually received at New York from the Lower Mississippi and Florida to be made into boots, &c.

President Hayes' nomination of Mr. John Smith for the Consul-Generalship at Montreal has been confirmed by the United States Senate.

Flags with the motto "Hunger Knows no Law," were carried through the streets of Boston lately by a procession of five thousand laborers out of work.

A little girl, named Stover, aged thirteen, daughter of Mr. A. Stover, of Ridgetown, was impaled on a chair a few days ago, meeting with a horrible and speedy death. She was standing on the chair, which was broken, reaching to a cupbord, when she fell, one of the rungs entering her body near the heart. She died in two minutes.

John McDonald, one of the seconders of the late John C. Heenan in his fight with Tom Sayers and Tom King, has published a statement in the *London Sportsman*, wherein he states that Heenan deliberately sold the fight with King, and that he received £4,000 for so doing. McDonald says that prior to the fight Heenan, with two sporting men, who accompanied him to England, and a prominent bookmaker, met at a solicitor's office, in the Strand, London, where a written agreement was drawn up, signed and witnessed by all parties, and Heenan agreed to let King win the fight for £4,000. The bookmaker, who is still living, deposited the amount with the lawyer, who is still in practice in London, and he paid the amount to Henan three days after the battle. McDonald was accused of drugging Heenan in the fight in question, but he did not deny it. He claims that he would not have yet published the swindle had Heenan been living, owing to obligations, which bound him not to do so.

M. McLEOD, 65 CHARLOTTE STREET, Keeps a fine assortment of Tobacconists' Fancy Goods, Virginia and Canadian Smoking and Chewing Tobacco, Havana Cigars, etc. His "Queen" Cigars, "three for a quarter," are the genuine article. Virginia Shag and Gold Leaf" Smoking Tobaccos a specialty.

PLAIN
AND
ORNAMENTAL PRINTING
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
At Low Rates and with Despatch
AT THE
"HERALD"
Book, Card and Job Rooms,
54 GERMAIN STREET,

WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From our Own Correspondent.]

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28

To take up and continue the thread of current events in and about Congress from week to week, involves a good deal of "harping" on the same subjects. The silver question, the returning board difficulties, and a few smaller affairs hold the boards pretty well. True they are very important subjects, and very prolific of interesting, not to say exciting episodes, yet, for all that, one gets tired of frequent reiteration when his pen is neither sufficiently facile nor his space sufficiently ample to convey all the varying aspects and pulsations. It is too much like getting lost in a forest and wondering about in a circle for a couple of years or so. Two or three weeks ago when it became evident that two-thirds of both houses of Congress would vote for silver, it was thought that matter would be soon disposed of, and that, with rapid evolutions of the panorama, we should have other scenes to gaze upon. But the grave and reverend seniors of the "fog bank" have held the fort to the music of their wind instruments amazingly. Talk about sudden death in all its forms, and then reflect how easy a thing it would be for a man to be "talked to death" in the United States Senate. And the "Cave of Winds," as Roberts dubs the popular branch of Congress, is little better as to the quantity of gab, but it is more on the high pressure order, and don't weigh quite so much to the ton. In this branch we have recently been treated, about every other day, to an airing of the Presidential struggle of a year ago, and a discussion of the virtues of old Madison Wells.

Two important conventions have just been in session here whose work may have some bearing upon legislation. The Exporters convention represents the business interests of the country affected by our export trade. It is the purpose of these gentlemen to demonstrate that our trade is languishing, and that something must be done to build up American commerce. It is probable that they will suggest to Congress the propriety of extending Government aid to steamships lines between our principle ports and those of South and Central America. They will be able to demonstrate that we do not send to all South America, Mexico included, more than $30,000,000 worth of goods per annum, while our imports thence are about $75,000,000. And yet, in 1874, England sold to Mexico and the South American States $105,900,695, and France $62,306,543. The same class of merchandise which England sends to South America we are prepared to furnish in abundance. The only thing that now stands in our way is the fact that English steamers are able to do the crrrying business cheaper than ours, because of the aid which Government extends in the way of mail contracts. The Agricultural Congress has also tackled important subjects, and spoken out rather freely on the transportation question, which bears such close relations to producing interests. About the first work the convention performed was the passage of a resolution recommending Congress to consider the advisability of government control of the great through line across the continent.

For many years Washington has not been so full of "speculators," and all manner of jobbers as at the present. There are hundreds of smart fellows here looking around for some way to turn an honest penny, in connection with every imaginable scheme. These are outside of the thousands who want clerkships and the like, though some of them are not averse to comfortable berth. Great "pressure" has been brought to bear to secure positions under the Paris Exposition Commission. Among the applicants is one man whose experience at the National Capital has been peculiarly unfortunate. About three months ago he came here from the west armed with a few hundred dollars, in search of a consulship. He failed to secure the office, and soon "boarded out" his money. Borrowing a few dollars, he commenced selling papers, and trying to scratch along while he kept an eye out for anything that might turn up. There is some chance for him now, as friends are urging his claims for clerkship, though his disappointment have taught him to cling to every customer for his papers, and not yield a sure thing for two in the bush. Governor McCormick, commissioner general to the Exposition, states that he has got the most laborious of his work in connection with the American exhibit well worked up. He has succeeded in disposing of the American space in the exhibition building to the four hundred applicants for room there, and has rejected about twenty-five per cent. of all the applications presented, using his best discretion as to the quality and style of the articles or industries to be exhibited and rejecting the least deserving. He has his engineer in Paris allotting the space to the lucky ones, and now feels assured that the American exhibit is not going to be a failure, while sensible that it will not be nearly up to the standard it would have reached, but the lateness in beginning preparations. Many of the most prominent representatives of American industries have declined to compete in the exhibition on account of not having time to make new designs and new work. However, the chances are at present that the United States will have a very respectable part in the great show. The first vessel load of exhibits will sail on Monday. It takes along a squad of "marines" to do guard duty. Of course the rumor that the Exposition had been postponed in consequence of the war complications was without foundation. Your correspondent will be there to give you some idea of what it all amounts to, with descriptions of the people and things to be seen.

PROMO.