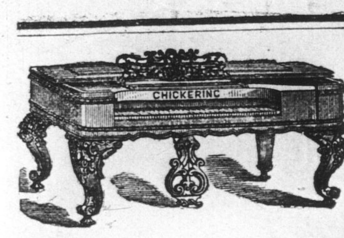

CHICKERING & SONS

Pianofortes.

OVER 65,000 NOW IN USE.

CHIEF CHARACTERISTICS:—Great power and brilliancy; exquisite sweetness and sympathetic quality of tone; easy and responsive action; thorough workmanship and durability.

The CHICKERING Pianos

are conceded by all Artists and Musicians to be the

Finest Pianos in the World.

A full assortment of CHICKERING & SONS' PIANO FORTES will always be found in our Warerooms, and will be sold at Lowest Possible Prices. Catalogues mailed free.

PIANOS OF OTHER MAKERS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE AT FAIR VALUATION.

We also keep a very large stock of Piano Fortes by various American makers, at prices from $250 upwards. None but well known and reliable Instruments will be sold by us, and purchasers can rely upon being served faithfully and to their entire satisfaction. Every instrument warranted for ten years.

The Celebrated Estey Organs,

OVER 125,000 NOW IN USE,

still remain at the head of all Reed Organs. In tone, power, beauty and durability, they are justly considered the best instruments of their class made. Catalogues mailed free.

We respectfully invite all lovers of Music, and particularly all those who can appreciate true merit in a Musical Instrument, to visit our Warerooms and examine the magnificent Pianos and Organs which we control in this Province. It is with legitimate pride that we can say

We have the Very Best Instruments that can be produced.

Landry & Co.,

52 King Street, St. John, N. B.

Notice of Sale.

To Mr. Robert Craswell, Ann Lord, his wife, and all others whom it may concern.

TAKE NOTICE:—That the following described two Half Lots of land and premises with the buildings thereon will be sold by Public Auction at Chubb's Corner, so called, in Prince William street, in the City of Saint John, on Thursday, the fifteenth day of March next, at Twelve o'clock, noon, viz: All those certain two Half Lots of land situate, lying and being in the Parish of Northfield, County of Sunbury, Province of New Brunswick, described and bounded as follows: Beginning at a stake placed on the Southern side of the road at the Northern Angle of the Grant to the Rev. Abraham Wood, thence running along the side of said road, North seventy-nine degrees, East twenty chains, thence South sixty-one degrees, East one hundred and ten chains along the the line dividing the Lot number eight (8), thence South twenty-nine degrees, West twenty chains and thence North sixty-one degrees, West one hundred and ten chains along North Eastern boundary line of said Grant to Rev. Abraham Wood to the place of beginning. The said land being known and distinguished as part of lots number seven and eight in the Grant to William Sypher and others, dated on or about the twenty-seventh day of January, A. D., 1831, and containing two hundred acres of land more or less. The above sale will be made under, by virtue and in pursuance of a Power of Sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the 18th day of June, A. D., 1874, made between the said Robert Craswell and wife, of the one part, and Francis Collins, late of said City, Merchant, since deceased, of the other part, registered in Book L, pages 316, 317 and 318 of Records, in and for the County of Sunbury, in said Province, in consequence of default made in payment of principal money and interest secured by such Mortgage.

Dated this 30th day of November, A. D., 1882.

T. W. ANGLIN, } Executors of the last Will of JAMES SMITH. } said Francis Collins, Mortgagee.

CHARLES DOHERTY,
Solicitor for Estate of said Mortgagee.

Equity Sale.

THERE will be sold at Public Auction, on Saturday, the Fourteenth day of April next, at 12 o'clock, noon, at Chubb's Corner (so called) in the City of Saint John, in the City and County of Saint John, pursuant to the directions of a Decretal Order of the Supreme Court in Equity, made on the ninth day of December, A. D. 1882, in a cause therein pending, wherein Rebeckah Reid, Rebecca S. Hutchinson, and Luke Stewart, Trustees of the estate of the late Peter Reid, are Plaintiffs, and Gorham D. Steeves and Susan A. Steeves, his wife, George F. Baird, Trustee of the estate and effects of the said Gorham D. Steeves, Miles B. Dixon, Assignee under the Insolvent Act of 1875, and Amending Acts, of the estate and effects of Alexander L. Kerr and Robert T. A. Scott, doing busines under the name, style and firm of Kerr and Scott, Insolvents, and George Nicholson, Trustee under liquidation by arrangement or composition with creditors under the Bankruptcy Act of 1869, in the County Court of Lancashire, holden at Liverpool, instituted by Gilbert Martin Steeves, Gorham D. Steeves, and James Thomas Steeves, are defendants, with the approbation of the undersigned Barrister, the mortgaged premises described in Plaintiffs' Bill and in said Decretal Order as

"All of that Lot or Parcel of Land situate and "being in the City of Saint John, fronting on the "west side of Prince William street, being number "one in the subdivision made for the Chubb estate "of City lots number thirty and thirty one, the said "lot number one being the most northerly, being "thirty-three feet ten inches on the said street, and "running back westwardly, preserving the same width, forty feet."

Also:—"All of that certain Lot of Land and premises, situate and being in the said City of Saint "John, on the west side of Prince William street, "being numbered two in the subdivision last mentioned, having a front of thirty three feet nine "inches on the said street, and running back westwardly, preserving the same width, fifty feet more "or less."

Also:—"All of that Lot or Parcel of Land, situate "and being in the City of Saint John, being lot number three in a subdivision of lots made for the "Chubb estate of City lots number thirty and thirty "one, the said number three having a front of thirty "three feet nine inches on the west side of Prince "William street, and running back westwardly, preserving the same width, fifty feet."

Also:—"All of that Lot of Land situate and being "in the City of Saint John, being lot number four "in the subdivision last mentioned, fronting thirty "three feet nine inches on the East side of "Saint John or Water street, being the most southerly lot, and running back eastwardly, preserving "the same width, forty three feet, more or less."

Also:—"All of that certain Lot of Land and premises situate and being in the City of Saint John, "on the east side of Saint John or Water street, "being numbered five in the subdivision last mentioned, having a front of thirty three feet nine "inches on the said street, and running back, preserving the same width, forty three feet, more or less."

Also:—"All of that certain Lot of Land and premises, situate and being in the City of Saint John, "fronting on the east side of Saint John or Water "street, being numbered six in the subdivision last "mentioned, being adjoining number five northerly, "having a frontage of thirty three feet ten inches on "Saint John street, and running back preserving "the same breadth, forty three feet, more or less," together with all houses, outhouses, barns, buildings, edifices and improvements, profits, privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging or in any manner appertaining.

For terms of sale and other particulars enquire of Plaintiffs' Solicitor.

Dated January fifth, A. D. 1883.

C. H. MASTERS, Barrister.

SILAS ALWARD, Plaintiffs' Solicitor. jan13 ts

Executor's Notice.

ALL persons having legal claims against the Estate of MARY ROBINSON, late of the City of Saint John, widow, deceased, are requested to present the same within three months' from date, duly attested, at the office of Mr. R. J. RITCHIE, Barrister, Ritchie's Building, and all indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

DENIS LAWLOR, Executor.

R. J. RITCHIE, Solicitor for Estate.
November 22nd, 1882. 3m dec2

WISE people are always on the lookout for chances to increase their earnings, and in time become wealthy; those who do not improve their opportunities remain in poverty. We offer a great chance to make money. We want many men, women, boys and girls to work for us right in their own localities. Any one can do the work properly from the first start. The business will pay more than ten times ordinary wages. Expensive outfit furnished free. No one who engages fails to make money rapidly. You can devote your whole time to the work, or only your spare moments. Full information and all that is needed sent free. Address STINSON & Co., Portland, Maine.

Spirits and Rye Whiskey.

Just arrived per rail from Toronto:

30 BBLS Gooderham & Wort's Finest Pure SPIRITS, 65 per cent. o. p.
15 bbls Gooderham & Wort's Old Rye Whiskey.

JOHN W. NICHOLSON, Victoria Wharf.

PRAYER BOOKS!

A Complete Assortment of PRAYER BOOKS just received. Great care having been taken in ordering, we can, therefore, recommend their durability and finish.

T. O'BRIEN & CO., 53 King Street.

$5 to $20 per day at home. Samples worth $5 free. Address STINSON & Co. Portland, Maine. mar12

THE FREEMAN

—FOR—

1883.

IN appealing once more to the friends of the FREEMAN throughout the Province to repeat the efforts so often made to maintain and increase its circulation, it is, perhaps, best to ask them to find in its past record the most conclusive evidence that it will in the future be deserving of their support.

It publishes all news of importance or interest, and, although for want of space the news is sometimes condensed, nothing is omitted that appears to be of the smallest value.

All public questions are, as usual, dealt with fully and frankly. The readers of the FREEMAN have ample opportunity of forming a correct opinion on all the subjects and matters which engage the attention of Parliament and of the country. Great care is taken to furnish accurate information and to present both sides of every important question fully and fairly.

It is probable that important changes in Canada are not very distant. It seems impossible that when the United States have discovered how unjust and injurious a high protective fiscal system is, and when the people of Canada have learned, by sad experience, how great a fraud its N. P. is, favoring and securing profit to a few monopolists only, and burdening grievously farmers, lumberers, fishermen, and mechanics, a state of things so fraught can continue very long. Already there are too many indications of another commercial crisis. The people of the North West have already discovered how injurious to them is the monopoly of their carrying trade, given for twenty years to the Canada Pacific Railway Syndicate, and, although they are yet but few in number, they show a determination to get rid, at all hazards, of the chains which already gall them; and in the ranks of the Tory party itself throughout the Dominion, altho' these are held together by the cohesive power of public plunder, there are symptoms of weakness and disintegration. Toryism is an exotic in Canada, and can not be acclimatised. Nurtured in corruption, it did grow vigorous, and its roots spread far and wide, but even now it shows signs of a decay which can not be arrested. He must be blind, indeed, to the signs of the times who supposes that this Tory Government, because it has secured so large a Parliamentary majority by means so disgraceful, is fastened on the country for five years more.

Much attention is devoted to foreign news and a weekly review of what goes on in the civilized world.

The agitation for an amendment of the Land Laws, and for the restoration of Home Rule, will continue in Ireland, What is done and said by the leaders of that agitation, is systematically misrepresented or misconstrued, and the Irish people are persistently misrepresented and calumniated, the crimes committed in the country exaggerated in number and character, and the whole people made responsible for the crimes of a few, as far as telegrams and newspaper articles can make them responsible. The FREEMAN constantly labors to correct all such misrepresentations, and to place the policy of the leaders, and the conduct of leaders and people in a proper light. To enable it to do this important work effectively, it claims the renewed and earnest support of those who have supported it so long.

The Board of Trade has had another meeting at which it was reported that over ninety merchants have signified their willingness to become subscribers under the proposed arrangement. Some of the members wished to have a distinct understanding as to the class of subjects which may properly be discussed. It was generally understood that while no motion should be made or subject introduced for party political reasons, all matters affecting the trade of the city will be proper subjects of consideration. Some said that no attempt ever was made in the past to use the Board for party purposes, but that is not the opinion which prevails amongst business men generally.

La Minerve and some other papers in the Upper Provinces are working to promote the early appointment of Hon. Mr. Landry to the Bench of New Brunswick. One paper says it is asserted on good authority that the next judgeship vacant will be conferred on a Catholic.

The Weekly Freeman.

Saturday, February 17, 1883

The Week.

The crisis continues in France. Jules Ferry has, after consideration, declined the task of forming a government. Freycinet has refused to take the reins again, and the present government, with its premier, Fallieres, confined to his bed by sickness, remains in office only until some others can be found to take their places. The Senate has rejected their measures respecting the Buonapartes and Bourbons, and on motion of Mr. Waddington, has passed a resolution by 165 to 127, to the effect that any Prince found guilty on trial before the Court of Assizes, or before the Senate setting as a high court of "furthering pretensions endangering the State" shall be banished. There is much uneasiness everywhere, and the price of Rentes has seriously declined. Prince Napoleon, who the court decided had committed no breach of the law, has been liberated, and with his son has gone to England, it is supposed to pay his respects to the Empress Eugenie.

Sagasta, when he reconstructed his Cabinet, took in one Romano Givon, an extreme Radical, who it began to be whispered would force his colleagues to introduce bills establishing trial by jury, civil marriages, lay (that is irreligious) education, an extention of the franchise, great freedom of the press, etc., and there is some uneasiness as to what may be the effect of Sagasta's adopting such a policy. A telegram says that a bill for the establishment of civil marriage has been thrown out by a large majority.

It is stated that Lord Dufferin has reported that it will require much time to train the Egyptians to a better system of Government and to enable them to acquire the strength to support such a system. English occupation will not cease very soon.

The Irish members of Parliament have resolved to move an amendment to the address in reply to the speech at the opening of the Imperial Parliament, in order to draw attention to the arbitrary and tyrannical manner in which the Crimes Act is used, destroying all semblance of liberty and constitutional right in Ireland.

The examination of the persons charged with complicity in the murder of Cavendish and Burke continues. The great rewards offered have attracted several informers, but, although the evidence of Farrel, and Lammie, and Fitzsimmons, and one or two others, if true, may be sufficient to prove that some of the prisoners were members of illegal societies, it scarcely went farther. The evidence of Kavanagh, who says that he drove the red jaunting car to Phœnix Park, if true, proves that Brady and Kelly, Carey and Mullett, and Delaney and Caffrey, and one or two others were accomplices in that dreadful murder, but that none of them were the actual murderers. His statement differs in some important particulars from the evidence given at the inquest. Then, if we remember correctly, it was stated that the murderers jumped off the car, stabbed Cavendish and Burke to death, and, jumping on the car, drove off again. Kavanagh's statement is that those he drove, and some whom they met in the Park, only signalled to the murderers, who came to the spot in a cab, and went away in the cab when their dreadful work was done. A boy recognises two of the prisoners as men he saw lying on the grass some time before the murder, a chairmaker named Hands and his wife recognized two of the prisoners as men they saw on the car, and a park ranger recognises one or two, but differs with Hands as to the driver, etc. The car, it is said, has been found with a pawnbroker who took it in pledge for a small sum of money, but if what Kavanagh says is true he drove the car in Dublin for several days after the murder. It is said that the actual murderers are known and will be arrested, and that the evidence of their guilt is in the hands of the police. It is said that Fitzharris, who is accused of having driven the cab, has been arrested six times, two or three times subjected to long examinations in the police rooms at the castle and once taken to Kilmainham and compelled to stand for a time in a yard under the eyes of informers and other witnesses, then to mount his cab and drive round the yard still watched and observed by the informers, etc. If he is guilty he has shown much daring in remaining in Dublin after all that.

The distress in Donegal and Galway is very great. The government does nothing for the relief of the sufferers.

The Nova Scotia Legislature was opened on Thursday the 8th inst. The Governor, in his speech, stated that ample opportunity was afforded the railway syndicate in whose favor the railway measure of last year was passed, to carry out the agreement made with them, and that they completely failed to do so. A vigorous railway policy is promised. To do all that the syndicate pretended to undertake the Digby and Yarmouth road must be connected with the Windsor and Annapolis; a railway must be built through Cape Breton; the Nictaux and Atlantic must be finished, and branches built to Dartmouth and Pictou. All this, even if the roads were cheaply built, would cost more than the Province can afford to spend. The Tory papers pretend that their pet syndicate would have done it all and paid the Province handsomely for the privilege if the Grits now in office had not strangled the great scheme. Perhaps there are people silly enough to believe even now what the Tory papers say on such subjects. The reports of Mr. Creelman and Mr. Vail will, perhaps, enlighten even those who imagine that railroads can be built without money or credit, and that every adventurer who boldly asserts his ability and his willingness to build the roads which the people want should have his offers accepted on any terms and conditions he may choose to dictate. There never was any substance in that Nova Scotia syndicate scheme.

It is to be hoped that the misfortune which befel the Grace E. Cann, which, bound to St. John, was driven by a severe storm into the Basin of Minas, and there drifted for days so beset with ice that it was generally impossible to approach her, and the steam tug Dirigo ran many serious risks before she succeeded in towing her out, will not confirm the widely prevalent idea that the Bay of Fundy is generally full of ice in winter and should be shunned by all prudent mariners.

The Nihilists in the United States say that the Czar will never be crowned.

The *Religious Intelligencer*, to prove how fair, and candid, and straightforward a controversialist it now is, alleges that the FREEMAN "has described the Irish as degraded and low," and pretends to defend them against those charges, telling us that Ireland has produced her full quota of eminent men whose names have been enrolled in the book of fame; that in every department of Church and State she has produced bright and shining lights who beckon posterity to follow their footsteps; that she has even produced the writer of those malignant calumnies in which the *Intelligencer* delights. This, perhaps, is more than honor enough for any one country, but it repeats that the police returns prove that the Irish of St. John are worse than the other inhabitants of that city, and it would have its readers think that the Catholic Church, which it alleges has had the sole and absolute control of the education of her children for ages, is responsible for their being so bad. Now we repeat that—for the reasons we have already given—the police reports do not furnish a sufficient means of judging of the moral condition of any denomination, or nationality, or class; that those who fall into the hands of the police during the year are but a small portion of those who commit offences against the laws of God and man; that those who figure in the police office belong, in St. John as everywhere else, to the laboring class, and the outcasts of that class; that the majority of that class in St. John are Irish for reasons which history furnishes to any one who chooses to read it fairly, but that any earnest enquirer can easily ascertain that the Irish of St. John are a virtuous, sober, honest, intelligent, industrious people, even more chaste, and honest, and sober, and religious than any other class or part of the population, and having amongst them a smaller proportion of the criminal and the vicious. If, instead of being what we and all who judge them fairly know them to be, they were what the *Intelligencer* pretends, it may be necessary to pursue the course which the *Intelligencer* asks us to take.

The *Intelligencer* pretends to think that the opposition of the Catholics of St. John to Godless free schools is one of the reasons why so many of them figure in the police reports; but the bitter experience of the world shows that such schools tend to cause a moral laxity which threatens to produce the most serious public evils, and to undermine Christian society. The Catholics of St. John had better schools than any others had before the school law went into operation; better than any that have been brought into existence by that law; but they did not, as a body, oppose the establishment of free schools. They only asked for themselves that they be allowed to have for their own children schools in which the education given should be religious. That they so love their religion that they have sacrificed everything for it, and are always ready to make sacrifices, is, perhaps, the chief reason why the *Intelligencer* calumniates them.

The *Intelligencer* denies that history furnishes any reason for the poverty of the Irish, for the illiteracy of many of them, for their want of knowledge of business and of the handicrafts, and for their consequently furnishing so large a proportion of those employed in what is usually called unskilled labor, and condemned to comparative poverty even in this country. It seems not to know, or knowing, to put out of sight, the fact that a very large number of the Irish in St. John came to this city within thirty or forty years; that very many of those now in the city were men or women when they left Ireland; that of the rest the greater number are the children of parents who left Ireland when they were grown to man's estate, and that the Catholic Church did not, so to speak, "overtake its work" of training and educating the children of those emigrants until within a few years. For what the Irish of St. John are, and especially for whatever is bad in their character, for their poverty and for their illiteracy, the English Government in Ireland is wholly responsible. That they are honest, sober, virtuous and intelligent, they owe entirely to their religion; that they are everywhere advancing and rising, they owe to their church and to the intelligence with which the Almighty so singularly endowed the Irish race.

Oh, but says the *Intelligencer*, "come squarely to the point and tell us how it happens that a class of people comprising less than one-third of the inhabitants gives more than one-half the reported criminals, as shown by the police record." If by criminals is meant those guilty of grave crimes such as murder, rape, burglary, robbery, larceny, adultery, etc., the statement of the *Intelligencer* is incorrect, even according to the police records, and the *Intelligencer* is wilfully stupid if it does not now know that so large a number of those arrested for the minor offences are Irish because the large number of that class from which such arrests are made all the world over are Irish in St. John, and that the Irish form so large a portion of that class in St. John because, owing to the misgovernment of Ireland, so many of them were poor and acquainted only with the rudest kind of work.

If the *Intelligencer* wishes to pursue this controversy it should try to make some show of honesty, candor, and an intelligent appreciation of facts. It should not try any longer to build a case upon the poor foundation of the police record.

There is much more than the usual excitement about the election of Mayor, although the time of election is nearly two months away. Mr. Jones, it is said, repeatedly and emphatically declared that he could not be induced to be a candidate for a third term. Ald. Allan, it is said, has been canvassing very actively and incessantly. A requisition to Ald. Grant has received numerous signatures. Other candidates, it was rumored, were prepared to take the field, or had already taken it, and some were talked of favorably who, it was said, would be willing to serve if elected without a contest. It is believed by many that as this is the Centennial and Exhibition year, it would be desirable to have a Mayor of good presence, pleasing address, affable and courteous, and willing to spend even more than his salary in doing the hospitalities of the city. A requisition to Mr. Jones, asking him to consent to become a candidate again, is now going round. It has received many signatures, we believe.

THE CITY DEBT.—The Chamberlain's annual statement represented as follows:

Total debt of city	$1,242,303 38
Reduction during the year	7,500 00
The means of redemption in the sinking fund	$ 185,196 40
Increase during the year	28,776 72

In the month of June, 1883, debentures in the amount of $53,588, fall due all of which can be met.

Another of the predictions of the Liberal leaders is verified. The sugar refining business is overdone in Canada. Probably a million dollars more than was necessary has been locked up in buildings and machinery, and the refiners begin to complain that they are not receiving as large a return on their capital as they expected. For the first two years after the N. P. went into operation the old refineries made enormous profits by charging prices just low enough to keep out British and American refined sugar. In those years they said nothing of their profits, but it was said that each year they made forty or fifty per cent. on their nominal capital. The Canada Sugar Refining Company in those years did not tell the public what their profits were, but the Montreal *Gazette* is this year permitted to state that at the annual meeting held some days ago:—

"A dividend of six per cent. for the year was declared. The report of the directors refers to the business of the year as extremely unsatisfactory, consequent on excessive production and resulting keen competition. They point out that the consumption in the Dominion for the average of the past five years is only 115,687,144 pounds, say 51,650 tons, and that this includes all classes of sugar for consumption, as well as syrups, etc., but not including molasses. This is equal to only 17 lbs. per head per annum, about one-third of the consumption in Great Britain, accounted for, we presume, by the large use of maple sugar in the rural districts, especially in this province. For this business there are now no less than five refineries competing, the Canada Sugar Refinery and St. Lawrence in this city, the Nova Scotia and Atlantic at Halifax, the Moncton Sugar Refinery, and a considerable importation of raw sugar for consumption is also included in above total."

We are also told that in the works of this Canada Company one half of all the sugar required in Canada can be refined. The *Gazette*, in another article, tells its readers that the consumer is now better off than he could possibly be under what it persists in calling the Cartwright tariff; that Canadian sugar is the purest in the market and is sold at a lower price than foreign sugar could be imported under the old tariff; that our direct trade with the West Indies has been increased and two thousand additional hands have been employed. It may be doubted whether two thousand hands altogether are really employed in the work of refining all the sugar used in Canada, or whether Canada derives any tangible advantage from any increase in the direct trade with the West Indies which the increase of refineries has caused. It may be doubted also whether refineries sufficient to do all our work would not have been erected in good time without the aid of the extraordinary stimulus which the N. P. gave to that and a few other industries. It is quite certain that if sugar refined in Canada can be sold at prices lower than that of sugars of the same quality imported under the old tariff, the N. P. was not necessary for the healthy growth of the refining business. It is also certain that a large amount of capital has been sunk in the erection of works of greater capacity than the country required, and that this capital must be unproductive if the people are not forced to pay more for their sugar than it is worth. It can easily be made to pay enormous dividends by combination amongst the proprietors of those five refineries, and it is natural, indeed almost inevitable, that those companies will combine as soon as competition has shown on what principles the combination can permanently rest. The law which makes such combination possible should not be tolerated merely because for a season competition has lowered prices.

The statement that the Canada Company made only six per cent. can not be accepted without reserve when we find the directors of the Halifax refinery state that, commencing operations anew under unfavorable circumstances, they made $25,575 in about nine months, or very nearly ten per cent. per annum on their capital of $350,000, besides charging for alterations and improvements to ordinary expenditure. Having obtained a new manager, and made alterations deemed necessary, they renewed operations on the 10th of April. In their report they say:—

"The past year has been far from a profitable one for refiners generally, especially for us, as owing to the difficulties surrounding our commencement, we missed the early purchases and were compelled to enter the raw market at advanced prices.

"Again, an unexpected downward tendency of the sugar market early in July, which continued during the remainder of the season, increased the difficulties which we had to surmount towards making the year a profitable one.

"But, notwithstanding all this, we are pleased to report that our business shows a profit of $27,575.47 for the portion of the year we have been working, which has been used to reduce the loss, to 31st March, from $48,101.59 to $22,526.12.

"We may also add that a large portion of the expenses of making the necessary alterations in the refinery has been included in the manufacturing charges for the year."

Perhaps the Canada Company charged the cost of alterations, or new machinery or something of that sort to current expenditure, and so reduced their apparent profit; or it may be that their stock was largely watered when the company was reorganised and the six per cent. is the dividend on a nominal stock two or three times as great as the actual value of the building, machinery, etc. If there is not something of that kind to account for the small dividend, the conclusion is inevitable that Montreal is not the place for a sugar refinery. The Halifax company labored under the disadvantage of having an establishment far too large for the business they do. The capacity of their refining is from 400 to 500 barrels a day, or from 120,000 to 150,000 barrels a year, and their sales last year were only 73,000 barrels. We presume that the 73,000 barrels could have been refined more cheaply in an establishment working to its fair average capacity. It is very obvious that much of the capital invested in building and machinery is at best idle, and that with larger sales, or with a smaller refinery, the profits would be larger.

Could the public be certain that the competition of which some of the companies complain would continue, the N. P., although no less objectionable in principle, would not be so intolerable in actual experience, but the companies will not continue the competition a single hour for the sake of the public.

The cotton companies will probably soon begin to complain of competition as the sugar refining companies now do. So far the supply has scarcely been equal to the demand. This year again some of the companies declare large dividends, partly in cash, partly in an increase of stock paid for out of the profits. One company has given its shareholders 25 per cent. in new stock. The Canada cotton company, it is stated, has resolved to increase its stock from $500,000 to $750,000, but we do not see it stated how this is to be done. Before the close of the present year several new mills will be in full operation, and as they are nearly all engaged in the production of the same classes of goods, there is some danger of over-production. The *Telegraph* says that the machinery will be all in the St. John mill by the end of next month.

The Dominion Parliament met on Thursday of last week, and after the usual formalities, described by Mr. Casgrain as obsolete and musty, elected a Speaker. On Friday the Speech was read. It promises only two measures of importance. The Civil Service Act and the Customs Act and the Internal Revenue Act are to be tinkered once more. A Factory Act is promised, but of the power of the Dominion Parliament to pass such an Act there is serious question. Can it properly be regarded as relating to trade and commerce, or does it not more properly belong to civil rights and property? Sir John A. Macdonald made some promises to the representatives of the tavern keepers of Ontario, whose influence he desires to employ in the approaching elections, and to satisfy them for the time a Bill to regulate the licensing of taverns, saloons, &c., is promised. As it is impossible to frame a Bill which would satisfy even in part the expectations which Sir John has cunningly excited, without giving mortal offence to all sincere teetotallers, and as the chances are many that any Bill he can frame would under the circumstances cause dissatisfaction in both parties, no Bill will be introduced until the elections are over, and it may be that the Bill, if introduced then, will not be carried beyond a stage or two. It will be interesting to observe what sort of a License Bill will be introduced with the approval of Sir S. L. Tilley and any other teetotaller in the Cabinet. We may learn in time how it is that the judgment of the Privy Council establishes the right of the Dominion Parliament to control to any extent or in any way the licensing of taverns, &c. As was expected, there was much boasting about the prosperity of the country, notwithstanding the alarming increase in the number of failures within the past few months, and about the surplus which is obtained by inordinate taxation. The mover and seconder of the address made speeches of the usual sort, and as usual are puffed extravagantly in the Tory papers. Mr. Blake criticised the conduct of the Government at length and severely, especially the disgraceful means taken to secure a majority at the late elections, and Sir John strove to defend the gerrymander and all the other ways that are dark in which he loves to walk. Some days elapsed before the customary explanations as to the changes in the Cabinet were made. Sir John stated that Mr. Smith is a member without office. Mr. Blake quoted against Sir John what Sir John said of appointing members of a Cabinet without office when Mr. Blake held such a position in the Mackenzie Government, but Sir John is not the man to be much ashamed of doing to-day what he fiercely denounced yesterday, if by doing it he hopes to strengthen his position.

Although it will probably give trouble and perhaps cause confusion to some extent, there is much to be said in favor of a uniform franchise for the Dominion. Nothing could be very much worse than the state of the franchise in this Province. It is to be hoped that Sir S. L. Tilley will take care that the Bill will not disfranchise hundreds of the most respectable citizens of St. John—those living in flats with a common hall door, and those owning properties which pay but small ground rents to the Corporation, &c.—as the Bill introduced by Sir John some years ago would have done. It is said that the Government intend also to readjust the electoral districts in this Province, where some inequalities of representation are very glaring. There will be room, however, to suspect that the Government, in making such sweeping changes in this Province as are said to be contemplated, are not actuated by an honest desire to carry out as fully as may be the principles of rep. by pop., if the glaring inequalities in the other Provinces are not removed. A telegram to the *Telegraph* says:—

It is proposed that the County of Restigouche shall be extended eastward, so as to include the Parish of Beresford and a portion of Gloucester county, west of the line of the Intercolonial Railway. This will increase the population of Restigouche from 7,058 to over 12,000. To the remaining portion of Gloucester will be added the Parish of Alnwick from Northumberland and Gloucester will then have a population of 20,000 and Northumberland 23,000. The parish of Hardwick will be taken from Northumberland and added to Kent, leaving the population of the first named county at 21,000. From Kent will be taken the parish of Dundas, which, added to Westmoreland, making the population of the latter county 43,000. The parishes of Elgin and Alma, now in Albert, will be added to St. John and the remaining portion of Albert incorporated with Westmoreland, which will then be divided into two constituencies, in one of which, the French speaking population will probably have a majority.

The parishes of Clarendon, Lepreaux and Pennfield from Charlotte, will be added to the east end of St. John County, which will then be shaped something like a bark canoe.

A portion of the parish of Westfield, from Kings, will also be added to St. John, and the City and County will then have a population of 60,000 or 20,000, to each member. The parish of Havelock, now in Kings, will be added to Queens, which will then have a population of 18,000, against 14,017 as at present. The Counties of York and Sunbury will be united and formed into two constituencies, with the St. John River as the dividing line. The parishes of Kent and Wicklow, now forming part of Carleton, will be added to Victoria, which will then have a population of about 19,000. It is claimed that these changes will not materially alter the political or national complexion of any of the counties, except that a French constituency will be formed out of a part of Westmoreland.

It seems scarcely credible that some of these changes will be made. St. John would by them be elongated to a ridiculous extent. Even if Carleton and the Parishes West of the River St. John named in the telegram were made a distinct electoral district, and the right of the city to elect a member of its own were extinguished, the readjustment would still be absurd.

His Grace the Archbishop of Halifax, on the invitation of the Bishop of Chatham visited Miramichi, this week, and was received with many manifestations of respect by people of all denominations. We are sorry that we are obliged to hold over until next week the account of his reception, his visits to the Catholic institutions of Chatham, and of the dinner which was attended by a large number of gentlemen, Protestant and Catholic. His Grace, attended by his secretary, the Rev. Mr. Murphy, left Chatham on Wednesday night and arrived in St. John on Thursday morning on a visit to his Lordship the Bishop of this Diocese. He visited the convents, etc., during the day; gave Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament after the Rosary on Thursday evening; and met a number of gentlemen at the Palace that evening. His visit to St. John was necessarily brief. He left for Halifax on Friday morning.

The contest in Ontario is very lively. The Liberals are confident of success, but their papers nevertheless urge them constantly to be not over confident and to work.

Mr. Wiggins has postponed his March storm indefinitely.

BRUTAL MURDER.

A colored man named Hughes murdered his wife in a very brutal, savage manner in the house of her mother, in the colored settlement, near Loch Lomond on Tuesday morning. The reporter of the *Telegraph* who proceeded to the scene of the murder soon after the news reached the city, says:—

Entering through the door the reporter found himself in a small room of a cabin, which appeared to serve as a parlor, kitchen and bedroom, at the right was a stove, around which sat a dozen or more colored men and women, mostly all smoking and discussing the event of the day. Close by them, lying prostrated on the floor, was the body of the murdered girl. She still lay as she had fallen, her body partially doubled up and the arms extended. A stream of congealed blood extended in each direction from the head. The blood-stained hatchet used by the murderer was lying on the floor close by the corpse, where it had been thrown by Hughes after he had dealt the fatal blows. The head was almost severed from the body, the neck bearing five distinct cuts, out of which the blood was still oozing. The sight was a most ghastly one, and made a deep impression on all who witnessed it. The room was almost destitute of furniture and utterly devoid of adornment. Seated in an obscure corner, close up to the stove, was the mother of the victim. She is a middle-aged colored woman, and in response to the inquiries of the reporter told the following story of the crime and her daughter's connexion with the man who had taken her life.

Mrs. Thompson, the murdered woman's mother said:—My daughter, Mrs. Cassie Hughes, came to my house on Thursday morning early. She had left her husband, with whom she had been residing in Carleton, the day previous, and had walked out to Mr. Mirey's house during the day, remaining there over night. She told us that she had left her husband because he ill-treated her. This was no new story to us, as we knew it had happened before. She remained with us until Monday afternoon, nothing particular occurring, until her husband came. She greeted him in a friendly manner and he answered her, appearing glad to see her again. After some conversation with his wife on different topics, he said, "Well, Cassie, I want you to go home with me to-morrow." She answered him very decidedly, saying, "No, William, I will not go; you have not treated me right." He then said to her, "Cassie, you must come home as I cannot go without you." She replied "I will go back and live with you if you will live any place but Carleton." Hughes then said to her "I cannot break up house keeping just now, but if you will go back I will move from Carleton after a while." He then attempted to play with her, but she pushed him away, saying that she did not wish to have any play with him. They talked some more about going home and then they went to bed. He told me that he wanted to get up early as he had to be back in town again before noon. I stayed up most of the night to wake him up in the morning, and called him about daybreak. We have no clock and I cannot tell exactly when he got up. After Hughes had dressed himself we all got up, Cassie with the others. Hughes again asked his wife to go home with him, but she refused, stating that she would not go that day, but would go next day with me. He told her she must go, and promised if she did he would use her well, to which she replied, "William, I cannot go; you have used me so badly. I have believed your promises too often already, and can place no more confidence in you." He appeared very angry at this remark, but said nothing. Cassie was washing dishes at the table, and after she had told him she would not go with him, she added, "I loved you once as I loved my life, but I love you no longer." It was this remark that cost the poor girl her life, for it had no sooner been spoken than Hughes got up from the chair on which he was sitting, while the conversation had been going on, and went to the wall, where the hatchet was hanging, and took it down. I saw that he meant to do something desperate and ran to catch him, but before I could reach him he had struck Cassie with the hatchet and knocked her down. I could not be sure that he did not first knock her down and then cut her, for when I turned around she was lying on the floor and he was cutting away at her neck with the hatchet, just like a butcher chops up meat. I was very much frightened, as I thought he would kill me next. My husband was away working at the time and I was alone with the children, three little ones. I ran out to the barn, where my eldest boy was milking, and told him what had happened and then ran to the neighbour's houses to alarm them. Cassie never uttered a word after she was hit the first time, but lay like a log on the floor while he hacked away at her. They have been married about six years and have only one child, which is living with Mrs. McKenzie in Carleton. Cassie was twenty-one years old her last birthday.

"After I had left the house Hughes came outdoors and walked up and down in front of the house. When the neighbors had collected I returned to the house with them, and shortly afterwards he went out and crossed the fields to Mrs. Corbitt's house, where he was arrested."

Alice Taylor's story: Alice Taylor, who saw Hughes at Mrs. Corbett's house, said he had told her that he had killed Cassie because she did not love him and was willing to suffer the consequences. A Mr. Storms, who was there at the time, was reading the Bible to him, and after Storms had gone he asked her to read a chapter to him, which she did.

He also said that he wanted Cassie to go home with him, and thought she would have gone if her mother had not interfered.

The Coroner's inquest on the body of the murdered woman was held on Wednesday. The verdict of the jury was that Mrs. Hughes came to her death from blows inflicted on her head by a hatchet in the hands of her husband. When the inquest was proceeding the prisoner smoked away at a pipe and took things very cool. In the afternoon he was brought into the city and placed in one of the stoutest cells of the jail. His trial will take place in March.

"In the Senate, Sir Alex. Campbell, in reply to Hon. Mr. Scott, said the Government had not commenced the construction of a branch railway from Sackville to Cape Tormentine, because the New Brunswick Government had undertaken the work. He also stated that work on the Prince Edward Island portion of the proposed route had been postponed, because that part of the road would not be required until the New Brunswick portion was completed. The Government, he said, were considering the best means of improving winter communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland."

Sir Alexander said probably what he was told to say, but the Government must think the people of Prince Edward Island very verdant if they imagine that they will be satisfied with any such statement. The two roads should be finished at the same time, and as soon as the roads were finished the piers and other works necessary to secure proper communication by steam should be ready, and the road to Cape Tormentine as well as the road on the Island should be built, owned and controlled by the Dominion Government. It is very wrong to allow any company to control so important a link in the chain of the Island's communication with the world.

PERSONAL.—Mr. H. A. McCullough, of Messrs. H. & H. A. McCullough, Mr. James Daly, of Messrs. McCafferty & Daly, and Mr. Chas. Kirkpatrick, for James Manson, have gone to England to purchase spring goods

—The net proceeds of the Roman Catholic bazaar at Dalhousie were $425.

The vigorous policy of Earl Spencer, which, we are told, is so much admired in England, is not calculated to restore peace of any kind to Ireland. The hanging of ever so many persons does not even deter those who are disposed to commit murder, if it is generally believed that in most cases the guilty escape and those who are hanged are innocent. Of the two men lately hanged in Kerry for the murder of a farmer we are told—

"Barrett rose at 6 o'clock and, having hastily dressed himself, was at once joined by the priest, with whom he devoutly prayed for some time. Poff did not awake until 6.45, and shortly afterwards was repeating with the clergyman his last prayers upon earth. Eight was the time fixed for the execution, and a few moments before that hour preparations were made for the mournful procession to the scaffold. Before the condemned men left their cells they handed the following dying declaration to Father O'Riordan

DYING DECLARATION OF JAMES BARRETT.

"I declare solemnly before my God and my Judge I did not murder Browne. I had no hand in the murder and don't know who did it. I'd never anything to do with murder or outrage. I never injured a hair in a man's head. God forgive those who swore away our lives. I forgive them and I hope God will forgive me my sins." JAMES BARRETT.

Jan. 22, 1883.

The following was the written declaration of Poff:

DECLARATION OF SYLVESTER POFF.

"I am now going to die. I am going to appear before my God and my Judge, and I declare most solemnly in His presence and before heaven and earth that I am innocent of the murder of Thomas Browne and of any other murder or outrage. I had nothing to do with it. I forgive all those who brought me to this. I hope God will forgive them and have mercy upon my soul and provide for my poor family. God help them."

Jan. 22, 1883. SYLVESTER POFF.

"The process of pinioning having been gone through by Marwood, the procession commenced to move a few minutes before 8. The governor and the sub-sheriff came first, followed by Poff, who was accompanied by the Rev. Mr. O'Riordan. Barrett came next, with the Rev. Mr. O'Callaghan by his side. Both men devoutly repeated the prayers for the dying. They exhibited no sign whatever of faltering or fear, and walked with erect head and a firm step. When they entered the hall which intervenes between the cells and the yard in which the scaffold was put up, the procession halted, and Poff, speaking in a clear voice, said:

"I am going before my God now, and all I have to say is that I never killed him. I forgive those who brought me here, and I hope God will forgive them and me."

"Barrett also made a statement of the same emphatic kind, adding that he was never concerned in any outrage whatever. Poff was the first to ascend; he climbed the steps quickly and steadily, repeating in a deep voice the responses to the priest. Barrett, so far from exhibiting any weakness when directed to mount the ladder, stepped up with perfect firmness, but there was in his demeanor nothing of levity, and when he got upon the scaffold, the deep and pathetic tones in which he resumed the prayers for the dying showed the strong religious feeling by which he was moved."

The dying declarations of these men will generally be regarded as of more value than the evidence of the witnesses who swore themselves guilty, and who were paid liberally for swearing as they did.

COMMON COUNCIL.

The Council met on Wednesday last.

The Finance Committee recommended that the City Engineer's salary be increased to $1080, and that the remuneration of the assessors be fixed as follows: the chairman $1800 per annum; the clerk, $680; the other two assessors $400 each. The report was adopted. Ald. Allan alone opposing the increase in the City Engineer's salary.

The joint committee to whom was referred Rev. Mr. Mathers' petition reported that under the law they have no power to permit coasting on the streets.

The West Side Police Committee to whom was referred a complaint regarding encumbrances on the streets by the rails and cars of the railway companies submitted the Recorder's opinion that the proper course is to apply for an injunction.

The Bill Committe recommended a Bill for the incorporation of seven persons to be appointed by the Council to manage the Free Public Library, and that every year after the present year the city pay $500 towards the maintenance of the Library. Alderman Glasgow objected to have any portion of this amount levied on the West side and he moved an amendment to this effect, which was voted down. The report was then adopted.

Bills vesting the appointment of the Chief of Police and the Recorder in the Council were agreed to.

Ald. Grant's Bill, extending the term of members of the Council from one to two years was thrown out by the Bill Committee and on bringing it before the Council it was similarly treated.

The Special Committee on Sewerage and Water Supply reported having had two meetings with a Committee of the Portland Council without being able to come to any equitable agreement regarding the questions now pending between the city and town. The city it is alleged, now pays over $8,000 more than its just share of the assessment for water and sewerage. The Committee recommend that if Portland persists in refusing to take action in the matter, the law officers of the city be consulted as to the proper course to pursue in the interest of the city. Ald. Reynolds explained the matter at considerable length, and the report was adopted.

The report of the Chamberlain was read, showing the state of the city accounts for the year. The total receipts of the year, both east and west side, were $722,916.51, including arrears paid, and the total expenditures $669.606.88, leaving a balance on 31st December, 1882, of $53,309.63. The total debt of the east side, funded and unfunded, is $1,091,303.38, and of the west side $151,300, or a total debt of $1,242,303.38, against $1,249,803.38 at the same period last year, a decrease of $7,500 for the year.

The report of the Auditors of the Water and Sewerage Commissioners' Accounts showed the receipts for the past year to have been $145,983.07, and the expenditures $111,813.13.

The report of the Chief of Police, already published was read.

A letter was read from Chief Engineer Kerr, asking for a machine for more expeditiously locating breaks in the telegraph wire. The chairman of the Committee stated that the machine was not required. Referred.

The annual reports of the City Engineer and Slaughter House Commissioners were read.

It was ordered that ward lists of voters be prepared for use at the April elections.

The Board then adjourned.

The markets for our lumber have not yet begun to improve materially. Farnworth & Jardine, in their circular dated Feb. 1st, say that the imports of St. John pine were small and that it went directly into consumption; that the imports of other ports pine declined about 20 per cent. and sales were satisfactory; that the imports of birch were large but so was the consumption, and prices steadily advanced. The importation of spruce was 18 per cent. larger than last year's, and 3½ per cent. more than the average of four years; the stock, although 7 per cent. smaller than the average, is 21 per cent. larger than that of the corresponding date last year. In October prices which had risen to £8 10s. fell to £7 2 6, owing to the large imports. The latest sales have been at £7 5s., the demand being somewhat better.