FURTHER PARTICULARS.

There have been seven deaths—Donald Bain, policeman; James Shotton, ostler at the White Swan Inn; Thomas Appleby, assistant with Mr. Hudson, provision dealer, Cloth-market; Samuel Wardly, 16; and John Stonehouse, about 16. A man named Burrell, who is stated to have left Newcastle a month ago for the East Indies, and who has some relatives in Chester-le-Street, became possessed of a quantity of nitro-glycerine, or Noble's patent blasting oil, in the spring of this year, he at that time being a sort of commission agent in the town. It seems, however, that it was intercepted by the police in being brought into the town; for the ostler at the Black Bull Inn has made the following curious deposition concerning it. He says. "My name is William Ratcliffe. A few months ago a wagon load was sent from the Manors by order of the police. The stuff was, I believe, in canisters, which were deposited in a shed near the Black Bull. I never thought that the stuff was anything dangerous. It remained in the shed for a couple of days, when, of my own accord, and without instruction, I took it down to the White Swan Inn, on a wagon. On arriving, the canisters were lifted off the conveyance by a man of the middle height and age, and of dark complexion, with whiskers and moustaches, assisted by the ostler." Its subsequent removal to the White Swan cellars, is strangely enough explained by another ostler. His name is James Turnbull. He says:—"William Burrell was an agent in this town, but about a month ago he left here to be an engineer in India, and is at the present time on his passage there. About half past six o'clock one morning, a wagon containing canisters came from the Black Bull Inn. Mr. Burrell accompanied it, and told me that it was dirty grease, and asked me to be allowed to place it in a cellar at the foot of the yard for safety for a day or two. The cellar was close to the back part of the Bank of England. Mr. Burrell told me there was no harm in it. I consented to allow it to be placed in an unused brick beer cellar. My employer was not aware of this. After Mr. Burrel left Newcastle he left it in my charge. A month afterward Mr. Sparks, auctioneer, became agent in the place of Mr. Burrell. He knew that I had these canisters—about nine or ten—in charge, and as soon as I became aware that there was danger in my keeping them, I told Mr. Sparks to get them removed. He took away two canisters. On Monday I informed my employer of the presence of this dangerous material, and he sent word down to the Manor police-station. Yesterday morning I removed the whole of the canisters, eight in number, from our cellar into Mr. Spark's office." Sub-Inspector Wallace went to Mr. Spark's office in the Town Hall, and finding the material there, he told his instructions to a clerk, and the two went together to the goods station for the purpose of seeing if they could get it removed to the owner, Mr. Barrass, of Wigan, Lancashire. The clerk declined to have anything to do with it. The contents of the cases were subsequently emptied into the earth at a part of the Moor where there is a subsidence in the ground caused by the working of the Spital Tongues Colliery. After this was done they found three of the canisters still felt weighty. Some of the contents had crystalized and were adhering to the tin. In removing this the calamity occurred. Sub-Inspector wallace felt the earth shake, and saw fragments of clothing and other articles flying high up in the air. Though near to the scene of the explosion, he was happily uninjured himself. He found a portion of the body of Police-Constable Bain, frightfully mutilated and shattered, the other portions of the body being blown away. On the south side of the hill was also a body frightfully mutilated; this was the body of the cartman, Thomas Appleby; and near at hand was the body of Shotton, the laborer. In a hole in the ground, immediately above, was a boy alive, but greatly injured—Samuel Wardley, son of a person of that name living in Villa-place. The boy has since died. The body of John Stonehouse, a lad who had been attracted to the spot by curiosity, was also found. It was nearly blown to pieces. Mr. Bryson, dreadfully injured, was lying on the side of the bank to the eastward, and immediately on the top of the bank, and close to where the explosion took place, was Mr. Mawson, who was also dreadfully injured. The earth in the immediate neighborhood of the explosion is very much torn up, and has the appearance as if a mine had been sprung. The condition of those killed is too ghastly to describe. They appear to have been literally blown to pieces.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, THURSDAY. — Mr. Mawson, the sheriff of Newcastle, and the town surveyor, Mr. Bryson, died early this morning within an hour of each other. This raises the number of the deaths from the explosion to seven.

It seems that the compound is sometimes used for blasting purposes in coal and iron mines. Each canister is of a square shape, about fifteen inches in length and six in width, consists of tin, is covered with wicker-work, and packed in a large hamper, the vacant space being filled up with straw. It is called Nobel's Patent Nitro-Glycerine. Each vessel is labelled "poison," and contains a series of instructions of which the following are the principal:—Do not taste it; do not heat it in stoves or in boilers, as it explodes at a temperature of 360 degrees; keep it in the original packing lest it should be drunk; in cold weather when the oil is frozen put the canisters in hot water till it liquifies; do not expose the oil canisters naked to strong concussions; and store the oil in fire-free place, or in want of such bury it under the ground. The instructions are signed "Alfred Nobel, Hamburgh." The address on the hampers was as follows:—"From Alfred Nobel and Co., Hamburg; safety solution nitro-glycerine in wood naptha. According to the Act of Parliament nitro-glycerine is to be marked 'specially dangerous.' Webb and Co. No. 1096. To be guarded against fire, Poisonous." The law does not allow such dangerous materials to be kept except under very stringent conditions. On Wednesday morning a human leg was found; it is supposed to have belonged to Police-constable Bain.

Nitro-Glycerine is a bright yellow oily fluid—a compound of glycerine and nitric acid. Mr. Nobel calculates that as compared with gunpowder it possesses about thirteen times its power when volume is considered, and eight times its power for equal weight, and that owing to its rapidity of explosion its advantages are still greater. It is made very extensively in Prussia.

FENIAN OUTRAGE IN GROSVENOR-SQUARE.

Shortly before one o'clock on Sunday morning the police-constable on duty in Grosvenor-square was startled by the sudden outburst of a flame which for a moment illumined the surrounding darkness, and was succeeded by a luminous vapour which was visible more than half way from the houses skirting the square to the garden enclosure. The constable rushed to the place from whence the glare proceeded, and which proved to be the house No. 4, the property of Mr. Freke, brother of Lord Carberry, late in the possession of Earl Fitzwilliam, and now in course of interior reconstruction. Here he found the window to the right of the hall door—that of the library—covered with a phosphoric substance, from which the vapor proceeded, and the room within alight. He instantly sprung his rattle, and was quickly joined by three other constables who were on duty in the neighborhood. Before their arrival the watchman in charge of the premises had made his way to the hall door, which he opened in a state of the utmost trepidation and alarm. The constables at once proceeded to the library, where they found that a bottle containing the substance known as "Greek fire," or "Fenian fire,"—by which title it will, perhaps, be better known hereafter—had been thrown at the window. A large portion of the lower pane of the window, which is of plate-glass, the pane in question being about 5ft. by 5ft., was broken in. Most fortunately the neck of the bottle only, and a comparatively small portion of its contents had entered the apartment. The body of the bottle lay on the window-sill, a portion of its contents having fallen into the area, which was all ablaze. On entering the library, which was a matter of some difficulty, owing to the all but overpowering effluvium that was emitted from the phosphoric substance in question, the constables found a considerable portion of the flooring in flame, and the recess for the shutters at one side of the window shining with a dazzling brilliancy. No time was lost in the effort to stay the apprehended mischief. Water was procured in buckets by the porter, but the use of water was strictly prohibited by the police. Earth and rubbish were strewn over the floor, and other measures resorted to, with which the constables seem to have been made acquainted in view of an emergency occurring, and within a short time from the discovery of the outrage all danger of disastrous consequences arising from it had been removed. The shutter recess is charred to about one-half its extent, and the flooring of the apartment also presented a blackened and burned appearance. After dusk the luminous appearance became again visible. It is a fortunate circumstance that the resistance of the glass was greater than the miscreant who threw the Greek fire, which was contained in a pint bottle, anticipated. The plate is nearly half an inch thick, and the blow which smashed it—without, however, effecting the entrance of the missile—must have been one of great force.

ATTEMPT TO FIRE CITY WAREHOUSES.

Another outrage was attempted on Saturday night, but, happily, without sucess, owing to its speedy discovery. About a quarter after eleven o'clock, Mrs. Cress, the proprietress of a coffee-house, and a portion of whose premises overlook Two-Swans-yard, a narrow thoroughfare, leading from Bishopgate-street-without to Liverpool-buildings, heard a loud report, and upon looking out of the window she discovered that the whole of the front of one of the doorways of the extensive range of buildings in which Messrs. Parnell and Co. carry on the business of wholesale clothiers, was in flames. Had the discovery not been so soon made, or the remedies not been so quickly at hand, it is utterly impossible to attempt to estimate the destruction which might have followed. The miscreants who were engaged in this diabolical attempt had evidently failed to carry out their intention in its entirety, as they had not thrown a bottle of liquid fire high enough to break through the glazed framework over the door. Fortunately it appears to have burst just beneath the glass, and its effects have been confined to severely scorching the door. The warehouse on which the attack was made present a frontage to Bishopgate-street of 45 feet in width, and extend 135 feet to the rear, forming one side of Two-Swans-yard; they are extremely lofty, comprising the basement and four floors and attics. The police have some of the remains of the bottle in their possession. It would appear to have been an ordinary soda-water bottle. One hundred pounds reward has been offered to any person who shall give such information as shall procure the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons who committed the outrage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A WAIL OF ANGUISH.

The Petersburg correspondent of the Richmond *Dispatch* writes as follows:—A wail of anguish is now coming up from the whole South, louder and deeper than at any time since the end of the war. The box of Pandora, no longer a *myth, has been opened on our land*, and every ill that flesh is heir to visited on the devoted heads of our people. And all this through the agency of a reckless party that political power may be retained in their hands. After several brave efforts to retrieve their fortunes, the farmers and planters of the Southern States have fallen deeper and deeper in embarrassment, until now a great number of them are ruined. With a soil of almost unexampled fertility, and in the middle of the temperate zone, not bread enough has been raised to feed the population of the country, while the valuable staples that have been grown for export have been subjected to burdensome taxation, and the net proceeds thereof not sufficient to pay the expenses of cultivation. And as if to plunge us in utter despair, the privileges of the intelligent classes have been taken from them and conferred on a race ignorant even of the alphabet, to say nothing of the science of government—and all this to sustain the absurd theory that one race is as liberally endowed by nature as another. A large portion of the trade of Petersburg comes from our sister State of North Carolina, which makes us almost as well acquainted with its affairs as we are with the counties lying immediately to the south of us. Every month some of our merchants go there on business, and the reports they bring back are *painful in the extreme. Broken merchants* in every town and village, fine plantations sold for less than a moiety of their value, planters hopelessly involved in debt—these are matters of every-day observation. In some towns every store is shut up by the sheriff, and the goods when sold bring up a mere song. In short, there is no money in circulation. If a planter has a few bales of cotton, and the claims upon it would swallow it up over and over, as is very often the case, he sends it to market under another name, that he may save something for the support of his family. This may not be morally right, but how few have the courage to take the bread out of the mouths of their children. This picture is far from being overdrawn, nor does it represent the condition of but a single State. It is almost everywhere the same. A northern gentleman passing through here only a day or two ago from a tour of observation in the South gives a frightful statement of the condition of things there. In Alabama, for instance, where the negroes *have absolute sway, he says the fine cotton lands* of that State are actually selling for thirty or forty cents per acre, which sold before the war for more than as many dollars.

FENIANISM IN THE IRISH ARMY.—The *Dublin Freeman* says:—"We have been given to understand that the military court of inquiry which is holding its settings, presided over by Colonel Hastings, R. A., at the Victoria Library, Royal Barracks, has a much more extensive field to go over than merely to inquire into the alleged fact that some soldiers walked in the funeral procession held in Dublin. It is stated that it sits by order of the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, to inquire generally into the political feeling prevailing amongst the Irish soldiers in that part of the British army serving in Ireland, and to report thereon. The court, which is a private one, is empowered to call before it and examine such witnesses as it deems necessary for the enquiry."

THE WORLD'S PROGRESS.

We often hear of the lost arts of ancient civilization. We are often called upon to admire the splendid temples, the magnificent theatres, the majestic monumental piles, the exquisite statues, and the splendidly-cut gems of antiquity. These external memorials have been left behind by the Greeks and Romans, those colossal nations of early times. Of their social condition, we know only what is gleaned from their literature. We are aware that they had physicians, but we are ignorant of their mode of treatment. The few medical writers whose work have come down to us, seem to have known nearly as much as the modern faculty; indeed, the latter appear to have relied upon Galen for the rudiments of their profession. We have often wondered whether they possessed at any time in their history, such medicines as have been given to our age by the celebrated Holloway. We conclude that they had not. Who doubts that even though our civilization should fail and the world should relapse into a state of barbarism like that of the middle ages, the name of Thomas Holloway *would not still live in the memory of the people?* Such benefactors to the human race are never forgotten, as by two inexpensive preparations the rich and poor find a panacea for their ailments; the sailor and the emigrant have a complete medicine chest at their command if they possess a pot of the Ointment and a box of the Pills, well knowing that the former will cure any old wound, sore, or ulcer, while the latter is the finest corrector of the blood to be met with, and is priceless in its efficacy, for in all disorders of the liver and stomach it is unparalleled. We have the best guarantee for what we now state if we may judge of the success of the inventor. It is a common saying that novelty is the order of the day, and that most things, however useful, soon wear themselves out; but has it been so with Holloway or his medicines? And why not? because we hear that nothing that has yet been offered to the public as a medicine which has been found to replace them. We have no desire whatever to puff off Holloway or his preparations; and we assure our friends that if ever we have reason to change our opinion about him or his medicine, we shall not fail to handle him or them accordingly.—*Pensylvanie Times.*

A FUNNY INCIDENT.—The other day a man running at a break neck speed through the streets was mistaken for a thief, and arrested by the police. Explanation followed, and it appeared that he was after a box of Grace's Salve, to use on a burnt child. Moral: always keep Grace's Salve in the family, that it may be at hand for immediate use.

FACTS WORTH KNOWING.—Johnson's Anodyne Liniment is superior to any other Liniment or Pain Killer in the world. It is equally efficacious, whether taken internally or applied externally. It will cure cough or hoarseness, influenza, whooping cough or croup, and is excellent for all lung complaints.

By taking Parsons' Purgative Pills, the body is invigorated with new life, health and regularity, the liver and heart will be assisted and strengthened to discharge their functions, and the bowels regulated.

CANADA.

FIRST MEETING OF ONTARIO PARLIAMENT.

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—The first Parliament of the Province of Ontario was opened yesterday afternoon, with appropriate ceremonies, by his Excellency Lieut. Gov. Stisted. Mr John Stevenson, the member elect from Lenox, was chosen speaker by an unanimous vote.

The Legislative Assembly Chamber to-day presented a brilliant appearance. Large numbers of prominent citizens and many ladies, in full dress, were present. The military display was very imposing.

After the usual preliminaries his Excellency delivered his speech. It commenced with reference to the Union and the new political career upon which the Province was entering.—The hope was expressed that the resources at the disposal of the Legislature would be sufficient for all necessary purposes. The best means of husbanding and increasing these resources was adverted to. The expediency of encouraging emigration and occupation of public lands of the Province; the enactment of a liberal homestead law, and the adoption of a system of free grants for land to bona fide settlers, were recommended. The Legislature was informed that arrangements are being made to settle the partnership affairs of the late Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. The estimates for the ensuing year were also promised. Reference was made to private bill legislation, and confinence expressed that the House will look to the protection of the general interest while duly encouraging individual enterprize. In conclusion the hope was expressed that the New Dominion would soon extend across the continent, from ocean to ocean.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC—SPEECH OF GOV. BELLEAU.

QUEBEC, Dec. 28.—This afternoon his Excellency, N. T. Belleau, proceeded to the Parliament House and delivered his speech from the throne. His Excellency expressed the hope that the sentiments of fidelity to British institutions and devotion to the interests of the confederation will characterise the first session of the Quebec Legislature. Measures which will come up for legislation were enumerated, comprising laws for the administration of justice, public education, public charities, encouraging science, letters and arts, the improvement of the public domain, including forests and mineral wealth, the development of resources, of immigrant colonization, &c.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The R. M. S. *Merlin* from Newfounland, arrived at Halifax on Sunday last. The St. John's *Times* says:—The Government have contracted with Mr. Cunard for the transmission of our mails by the usual steamer from Halifax, for six months, from the arrival of the mail next week—making three monthly and four fortnightly trips. The cost will be £4500—half of which is to be defrayed by the Imperial Government and half by the colony. From a private letter we learn that the Newfoundland Government will have to spend from $25,000 to $28,000 this winter in pauper relief.

THE LATE DISASTERS IN THE WEST INDIES.

Nearly every island from which accounts have been received has suffered, either by the hurricane *or the earthquake, in some places from both.* We have already published an account of the earthquake at St. Thomas. In St. Croix the sea retreated some 300 yards, leaving the bottom perfectly dry, and the shipping stranded. It then rose to the height of fourteen feet, and rushing in with irresistible force, swept everything before it, planting a sloop in the fort, a brigantine in a lagoon, and the American ship of war *Monongahela* in the middle of the town, where they all remained upright as if in dock. Fortunately but one life was lost, but there were a great many narrow escapes, and the loss of property was immense. Eighteen houses, besides a number of stores, wharves, &c., were totally destroyed; while every building, including the Churches, was cracked and injured to a considerable extent. A gentleman, writing on the 1st inst., from St. Croix to a friend in Barbadoes, says:—

"From the first or 18th there were shocks every ten minutes—at 7 a violent one, at 10 more so, and we abandoned the house and slept on the grass—shocks all night—violent at 10 a. m. 19th built small shed: 20th—added to it; laborers all abandoned their houses and slept with us. Violent shocks on the 20th; at 8 a. m, people ran over each other out of church when service was *going on. Slight shocks in interims for a week,* gradually lessening. On 20th began to increase. This morning, at halfpast seven, an alarming double shock 30 or 40 seconds; a second three minutes after, at halfpast 12, noon, more alarming, 60 to 90 seconds, also double; then, three minutes after, slight shocks."

In Grenada the shocks were not so violent, and the damage caused was not so great. The water, as in St. Croix and St. Thomas, first fell some five feet, and then it seemed as if a volcanic crater had opened under water, forming a regular lake of boiling water in the harbor, while a strong sulphurous odor pervaded the air. This shortly after subsided, when the sea rose to the height of about ten feet and rushed in on the land, overturning houses in all directions and swamping a number of small craft which were at the wharves. No lives were lost, the people having had time to get out of danger.

In Montserrat at 5 o'clock in the evening the sea was without a ripple, when suddenly it began to ebb and flow with astounding rapidity, and at each successive vibration to increase in power, finally reaching in its rise to about 20 feet, and in incursions and recess to about 150 feet, carrying in its retreat boats and building material, walls and pailings, rocks and stones, trees, stumps, and tufts, and assailing human dwellings and their inmates. Several buildings were entirely swept away, and the people, despairing of safety, nearly all left the town for the hills. Many poor creatures have been rendered houseless and penniless—some having had barely time to rush from their places of abode.

One woman with an infant was washed into the sea, seated on the flooring of her own house, but was rescued from a watery grave by some seamen who saw their danger. As an instance of the force of the water, an iron truckwheel weighing a hundred weight was swept from a jetty on which it was lying about twenty yards and into a house, where it was afterwards found on the floor.

In Antigua and St. Kitts it was not felt nearly as much as at other islands, in the former place the water only rising some three feet, and doing scarcely any damage. In St. Kitts the rise and fall were about six feet eight inches, and the singular phenomenon was observed of a reef rising out of the sea, and sinking again. One house was carried away, and two vessels were thrown on their beam-ends, but righted again without sustaining any damage. The stores had all about two feet of water in them, and the stock on the ground tiers was all more or less damaged.

Accounts have not reached us from Martinique, Guadaloupe and some other French and Spanish Islands, but it was thought improbable that they had escaped the general devastation. The earthquake was felt in Cuba, several severe shocks having been experienced and damage done at St. Jago. A few slight shocks were felt in Jamaica, but no damage was done. At about the same time the earthquake occurred in the other Islands, a singular appearance was observed in St. Vincent. The whole sky appeared to be filled with luminous meteors, darting here and there in every direction, the phenomenon lasting some three hours.

At Porto Rico the earthquake was also severely felt, and the hurricane did an immense amount of damage. The single buildings all over the open country were hurled to the ground, some uprooted and broken, and also all kinds of trees to the very largest size. The towns of Fajardo, Naguabo, and Yumacoa sustained great loss in buildings, particularly the last named, and not one house was left uninjured: unfortunately the falling of buildings, and materials lying about, caused a great number of casualties in dead and maimed persons. The sugar crop on the Island stood before the hurricane better than ever before known, now it will be a poor one, even if the planters are all able to erect again the buildings wanted to save the crop.

The coffee crop will also be very small, most of the coffee trees having been shaken so much that they lost nearly all their ripe beans. As to plantain trees, corn and rice, it would be difficult to find at present any standing in the whole island, and the misery with the poorer country people will be great indeed for many months to come. It is supposed the damage will amount to several millions of dollars.

Demerara seems to have escaped both the hurricane and the earthquake, but had a share of disaster in a terrible boiler explosion, which took place on the 3rd ult., at Helena plantation, and which proved fatal to several persons. The most singular part of the affair was, that the boiler was comparatively new, and at the time of the explosion contained plenty of water.

LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM EUROPE.

LONDON, Dec. 31, noon.—Later advices have been received from the expedition now marching into the heart of Abyssinia. It is reported that King Theodore, on ascertaining the extent and power of the measures taken by the British Government, to effect the liberation of the English captives, voluntarily released them himself.

PARIS, Jan. 1.—Baron Von Goltz was received to-day by the Emperor Napoleon as the Ambassador from Prussia and of the Confederation of the North German States. The Baron assured the Emperor of the earnest desise of his Majesty the King of Prussia for peace and for close friendship with France. Napoleon in his reply expressed in warm terms his approval of the unity of Northern Germany and hoped that Baron Von Goltz would continue to promote the peaceful relations between Prussia and France.

FLORENCE, Jan. 1.—King Victor Emmanuel, in reply to an address of both Houses of the National Parliament, says that Italy is now *passing through a crisis surrounded by her foes,* but he hopes for a good result and advises the Parliament and people to be calm.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—Last night, near Cork, a party of Fenians attacked the house of Mr. Charles Mathew, brother of the late Father Mathew. The family of Mr. Mathew was apprised of their danger in time to successfully repel the attack. Quite a large force was quickly gathered, and concealed in the mansion and on the premises, and when the marauders came up they were met by a galling fire, and fled. Several were wounded, but were carried off by their comrades. The motive for the assault, whether for murder or plunder, was unknown....On New Year's Day all the Ambassadors of Foreign Powers now in Paris, were received in a body by the Emperor, at the Palace of the Tuilleries. The Papal Nuncio, speaking for the diplomatic corps, assured the Emperor of their good wishes for himself and the Imperial family. The Emperor, in reply, said he was happy to begin New Year as heretofore, surrounded by the Representatives of all the Great Powers, and to once more represent by this interchange of assurances, the friendly relations which now existed between Erance and their respective Governments. The Archbishop of Paris, who was present, hoped that God would preserve the Emperor's health as a guarantee of peace, and said the promotion of religious and moral ideas in France, was the only safe basis of the Throne. To this the Emperor responded in these words:—"The wish deeply touches me; believe me, the interests of a religion of a country, and civilization, are inseperable."...... Dr. Livingston is alive and well. Positive advices just received from Africa leave no longer doubt of his safety.....In a public speech, yesterday, Victor Emmanuel declared that it was the unanimous desire of Italy that Rome should be the Capital of Italy, but the subject demanded patience on the part of the people.....Consols 62 for money.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—San Francisco and a Shanghai despatch of Nov. 27, states that the international Regatta was held there on the 28th and 29th October. The English boat best, the American beaten by about a length. In the men-of-war boat race the American boat beat the French and English.....A destructive fire broke out in the Chinese suburbs on the night of the 17th. It was extinguished by the fire brigade. The estimated loss of property runs up close on one hundred thousand dollars.....A fearful explosion of a powder magazine took place at Hynchung, a Chinese city opposite Hankow, and was attended by great loss of life and property. The Viceroy's palace was blown into the air.....Gen. Legrande, United States Consul at Amoy, has made a treaty with the pirate savages on the south coast of Formossa, under which shipwrecked seamen are to be protected.....The body of Mrs. Hunt, who was killed by the savages, has been removed to Hong Kong, and will be sent Home to America.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—Consols 92; 5-20's 72⅝. Corn advanced to 46s 9d. Other articles unchanged.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 3.—The *Nord* newspaper has received intelligence from Paris that the Head Quarters of the *Fenian Brotherhood on* the continent has been discovered in the Faubourg du Temple in Paris, and had been seized by the French police. A large quantity of letters and other documents revealing the plans of the organization and a list of the Head Centres of the Brotherhood were found on the pemises, and were forwarded by the French authorities to London. The *Nord* also states that among the documents brought to light was one containing the details of a plot for destroying a portion of the British Channel fleet by fire. Other papers of a similar character have been placed in the hands of the British Government.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The examination of Desmond, Allen, and others, alleged to be implicated in the Clerkenwell jail explosion, has resulted so far in producing no satisfactory evidence as to their criminality, and leaves the affair almost as much a mystery as it was before the investigation commenced. The magistrate has adjourned the examination one week.....It is thought that the Conference on the Eastern question recently held in St. Petersburg by the leading diplonatists of Russia has a warlike significance.

FROM CANADA.

OTTAWA, Jan. 4.—The Hon. Mr. Howland continues sick at Toronto.....No important business will be transacted till the twentieth, when a full meeting of the Privy Council will be held. Vacancies in the Cabinet, Lieut.-Governorships, etc., will then be considered. .....It is thought probable no appointments will be made for some time.....The Ontario Government has assumed full control of the appointments in the Legislature.....The *Times* says that the Dominion Government will adopt some course to check extravagance in salaries and appointments. Sir John A. MacDonald, Hon. Messrs. Tilley and Rose are here. The other Ministers are still absent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,

In the *Islander* of the 20th inst. appears a long article over the signature of "H. S. S.," which, very liberally translated, might read as the "*Heart Strung*" story of a disappointed office-seeker. Throughout that article there is nothing more apparent than an envious desire to gratify spleen and ill-will against the member for this district who holds a seat at the Executive Board; and again to make the public believe that all the Magistrates, Road and Small Debt Commissioners, and in fact all the appointments in the Western end of the Island, are composed of "boobies" and "objects of contempt and ridicule."

I am aware that envy and jealousy always attend on success; and I am also aware that there are some people that think there never should be a change in office; that the good old times of Toryism and family ascendancy should always prevail. But when a change of Government took place the Liberals of this district clamored for a change, acting on the motto "that to the victors belong the spoils." Now one would suppose that from the Liberal ranks, and not from those of their enemies, the offices would be filled. Tories turned out and Liberals put in. For this we fought, won and have.

There are, however, a few discontented spirits that never hold on to a party, but desert them in adversity, and when the "turn in the tide" comes they are distrusted alike by both friends and foes, and consequently "always out in the cold." Such an one is Mr. *Heart Strung* Story. I am somewhat acquained with the several new officials in this district, and taking them as a whole I am prepared to state they are not inferior to their predecessors in point of general standing, education or general fitness for the offices which they hold, and so far have given general satisfaction to the public at large, save and except the few jealous, envious and discontented spirits as above described.

It is amusing, however, to read the allusion from this "knight of the tannery" to a "*low plebian origin,*" the want of "*ennobling virtues and mental acquirements,*" in one breath, and then of the "*contented and happy time when*" the Hon. James Yeo had a seat at the Executive Board. The joke is too good to be lost; the Hon. James Yeo possessed of "*ennobling virtues and mental acquirements,*" and no! not be, of *low plebian origin!* The italics are mine. That is what, in vulgar parlance, one might term laying it on thick. Now, Sir, I am not aware that the Hon. Mr. Howlan "is to the manor born;" but this I do know, that in mental or intellectual acquirements, as well as in his public and private life, he need not fear comparison with either of the Messrs. Yeo.

He does not, however, despise those of a "*low plebian origin,*" but looks on the honest, sober, industrious and intelligent farmers "as a country's pride," and much superior to some of those crack-brained schoolmasters, and jack of-all-trades, who *vegetate somewhere* in the good village of Campbelton. No, Sir,

"Whoe'er amidst the sons
Of reason, valour, liberty and virtue,
Displays distinguished merit, is noble,
Of nature's own creating—such have risen,
Sprung from the dust, or where has been our honor?"

The allusion to the Orange speech shows the mind from which it emanated. I was at several meetings, held last winter, and neither then, since or before, have I ever heard the most remote allusion to his speech on the Orange Bill. And if Mr. "*Heart Strung* Story" will publish that speech, it will shew to the public, that the mind from which it emanated was not tinctured with narrow or sectarian views, but that, under the circumstances, it does him credit.

No better proof of his standing in the community could be given than was given last winter, whilst he lay on a sick-bed—he was opposed by every Tory in the District, as well as by the ledger and personal influence of Mr. Isaac C. Hall, of Charlottetown, and yet for all this he went in at the head of the poll.

The people of the Western section are happy and contented, and very thankful that they are under Liberal rule, as witness the handsome sums which they have paid into the Commissioner of Public Lands; and the more so now that the espionage of the Messrs. Yeo is broken. Why, sir, before the Liberal Government came into power they had the sole control of every stick of timber from the North Cape to Grand River, and one must have had a permit if he wanted to cut a fence pole. Now it is different, and the Government last year pocketed a large amount for stumpage by sending John Clark, Esq., to survey the timber cut by the Messrs. Yeo—some with permit, and others without. Now any farmer living on the Government land can get a permit to cut sawlogs, fence poles, timber, &c., and can sell to whom he pleases, and not compelled as heretofore to take a nominal price for it or have it seizedas the case might be. Again from Summerside to the North Cape you found some connection of the Messrs. Yeo in office—Road Commissioners, Light House Keepers, Controller of Customs, Postmasters, down to Constables and Bailiffs. And up to a recent period Mr. "Heart Strung" Story, could retail *those grievances a great deal better than he can* "tan leather." But now he thinks he can serve his envy and malice on the one hand, as well as cultivate the friendship of the Messrs. Yeo on the other—for the probable purpose of being relieved out of some temporary difficulty—but if I am not mistaken "it won't do whatever."

In conclusion, I would say to this "knight of the tannery" if he will only wait long enough until his new friends get in power, I have no doubt but his 'high-toned morality' and religious professions will obtain for him the much coveted J. P. Wishing you the compliments of the season, Mr. Editor,

I remain, yours,

FAIR PLAY.

Kildare, Jan'y 5th, 1868.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, January 13, 1868.

OUR COMMON OR DISTRICT-SCHOOL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION.

CONSIDERING no apology necessary for our resuming the important subject of our last—our system of State Education—particularly as we are altogether unaware of any other topic of general interest, which, at the present time, demands especial notice on the part of the press, and as the happy absence of all political excitement, now leaves the public mind at perfect liberty to discuss the great question of its improvement, which is so soon to become the subject of legislative enquiry and action,—without further preface, we at once return to it.

We have observed that, according to the published Report of the proceedings of the Teachers' Meeting, held in the Normal School, Charlottetown, on the 15th March last, the main object appears to have been—and very properly, we think—the inducing of the Legislature to increase the salaries of the District Teachers. We say "very properly," for the teachers salary, the *pecuniary* question, is at the root of the matter. The success of our system depends upon *the status* of teachers; and until by a liberal *pecuniary* acknowledgment of the worth of their services,—until by such acknowledgment, clothing them, as it were, with a patent of respectability, — no District Teacher will ever become what he ought to be—that is, if not the very first man, yet certainly the second, in the Settlement in which it is his province to be, not only the faithful dispenser of mental aliment to its youth, but, both as respects private affairs and public matters, "the guide, philosopher, and friend" of the whole.

In the establishment of the Parochial Schools of Scotland, the *pecuniary* element—so necessary to the respectability and usefulness of schoolmasters—was, at the very first, wisely considered and duly provided for; and if our people really desire the upholding, the improvement, and the perpetuation of our District System, which has already wrought so much good throughout the length and breadth of the Island, they will, at once, instruct and empower their representatives in the Legislature to make such liberal and substantial provision for the support of our District-School Teachers as will render them permanent in their locations, and satisfied with their social position; which the generality of them could scarcely fail to be, did *that provision* afford them, as it certainly ought to do, all those personal and domestic comforts, joined to that consideration and influence, which, as we have shewn in our preliminary article, are enjoyed by the parish schoolmasters of Scotland.

Independently of the liberal provision which has been made for them, the parish schoolmasters of Scotland would never have been the fully educated, talented, patriotic, and highly respected class of men they are, and have been for nearly three hundred years; never, otherwise, from the humble and unpretending edifices assigned to them as the limited theatres of their labours, would have issued a series of men illustrious for their worth—a succession of men, often of obscure parentage and stinted means, whose honourable success in life has justified the wisdom of the founders of the parochial school system of Scotland in providing education for all her children, and thus securing to the State the services of her best men; and never, otherwise, would that system have drawn forth from one of Great Britain's most talented, learned, and discerning statesmen such an eulogium as the following, bestowed upon it by the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his celebrated Edinburgh Speech, on the 29th October, last:

"I have done," said the right-honorable gentleman, "every thing I possibly could to promote the cause of the education of the people. I have done it because I always felt, with the limited population of the United Kingdom, compared with the imperial position it occupies with reference to the question, it is not only our duty, but it is an absolute necessity of the State, that we should make every man the most effective being that education can constitute him. It was said, in the old times, that one Englishman could beat three members of some other nation; but I think, if we want to maintain the power of England, we ought to make her equal, in the business of life, to three other men that any other nation can furnish. Therefore, as far as I am concerned, whether it be after a more greatly advanced system of education—whether it be that system of competing which I have ever supported, though I am not unconscious of the pedantry with which it has been accompanied—if I ever wanted an instance at any time to convince me of the advantage of national education, I should always have referred to the country of which I am now the guest. It has been my lot, as it has probably been the lot of the vast majority of those present, to have found in any one without finding a Scotchman who myself in many distant lands—I have never been was at the head of the poll. He was prosperous; he was thriving; often the confidential adviser of persons of the highest position, even of rulers of states; and although I myself am inclined to attribute much to the organization and to race, I am bound to say, I never met a Scotchman yet, even if he was the confidential adviser of a Pacha, who did not tell me he owed his rise to his parish school."

The principles upon which our District School System has been established, are unquestionably excellent; but to render it all that it ought to be—all that it might be—there must be infused into it more of the generous and enlightened views recognisable in the system which has been thus highly eulogized by Mr. Disraeli. The great defect of our system lies in the scantiness of the provision made for the support of teachers. Let that first be remedied, and all other defects will be found very easy of amendment. Let us hold out suitable inducements, and we shall always have a full supply of unexceptionable teachers; and the quality and amount of the instruction afforded by them will be equally so. The fitness and sufficiency of the latter will be the certain consequence of the fitness and sufficiency of the other. That in our present staff of district teachers, there are many exceedingly well-educated, very talented, and highly deserving men, is an indisputable fact; but that it should be so, is something which, in view of the pittance which is afforded them for their important services, is well calculated to excite surprise.

THE LATE HON. EDWARD WHELAN.

In accordance as they are with our own estimation of the deceased Hon. Edward Whelan, both as respects the superiority of his talents and the nobility of his nature, and believing them also to be in perfect unison with the sentiments entertained by our Island public at large, concerning his public virtues and the loss which they have sustained in his death, we have very great pleasure in laying before our readers the following literary memorials to his worth.

The first, copied from the Montreal *Gazette*, of the 30th ult., is, we infer from the appended initials, from the ever effective pen of the Hon. T. D'Arcy McGee. It is a production, worthy at once of the living and the dead. For deep pathos, sublimity of thought, and rhythmical cadence, it is, perhaps, equalled, but certainly not surpassed, by a much admired similar effusion of Tennyson's. And its force, beauty and propriety, made so evident even by its succinctness, render it a most appropriate memorial of the departed excellence which it records.

The second is from the St. John *Globe*, of the 31st of the same month. It is a comprehensive, though brief, review of the public life of the late Mr. Whelan. The writer appears to have been intimately acquainted with the deceased, and, from close observation, to have formed a most correct estimate of his merits and talents. It is a terse and discriminating delineation of his character, and so far as it may be perused by those who knew him, it will be read with regretful but approbative feelings. We feel ourselves, however, constrained to admit that, could the production have been submitted for judgment to the generous spirit of the deceased, the averment, we feel certain, would have been that reflections, disparaging in however slight a degree to his old political adversaries or foemen whom he had found worthy of his steel, would be a sullying of the eulogiums bestowed upon himself.

EDWARD WHELAN.

DIED DECEMBER 10TH, 1867: AGED 43.

I.

By this dread line of light
Rises upon my sight
Borne up the churchyard white
The dead!—mid the bearers;
Sharply the cold clods rung;
Silent for aye that tongue
On which delighted hung
Myriads of hearers!

II.

Still, still, oh hopeful heart,
Cold as the clod, thou art,
All save the Saviour's part,
All that was mortal!
Rest for the teeming brain,
Rest besought not in vain,
When into God's domain
Opened life's portal!

III.

Well for thee in this hour,
That in thy mood of power,
Truth was still nearest;
Better than babbling Fame
That clear unspotted name,
Honor's perennial claim,
Left to thy dearest!

IV.

Long may thy Island home
Look for thy like to come—
Few may she ever
Find more deserving trust,
Freer from thoughts unjust,
Than this heart—in the dust
At rest—and forever!

Montreal, December, 1867 T. D. M.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GLOBE.

"—— to each fine feeling true,
Thy virtues many and thy foibles few;
Those formed to charm e'en vicious minds, and *these*
With harmless myrth the social soul to please;
Another's woe thy heart could always melt,
None gave more free—for none more deeply felt."

Sir,—Nearly a century ago these lines were penned on the death of a gifted son of Erin, whose literary performances and benevolent disposition procured the encomiums of the great, no less than the warm regards of the more lowly classes. If the author of the "Deserted Village" excited a *sentiment of personal interest in his career and of* admiration for his talents, and if his premature demise produced feelings of profound regret, not less sincerely and deservedly have the life, services and death of one of our ablest public men secured similar tributes and awakened kindred emotion throughout this little Island.

This man was Edward Whelan—in intellectual worth the peer of any Colonial Statesman or political writer; and oh, it is hard to realize the fact that we have just laid him in his sepulchre out there in the Cemetry, and that those eyes which reflected such intelligence, and the tongue that so often captivated the illiterate and the refined, are dimmed and silent evermore. Yet such is the case. None here can supply the place which his removal has rendered vacant. His loss will be long felt in this Island where a quarter of a century's *residence and active labors*, have made his name as "familiar as household words," and where his career has been more brilliant than ever fell to the lot of a single individual in this Colony. He who was our friend, our guide, and councillor, whose services were ever identified with the cause of humanity and liberty, now rests beneath the frozen sod. Deep is the sorrow which this melancholy event has occasioned in P. E. Island.

While yet a youth, Mr. Whelan emigrated from Ireland, his native country, to Nova Scotia, and there served an apprenticeship to the printing [illegible] Shortly afterwards he arrived in this Island for the purpose of making it the place of his abode, and of entering into public life. Coming here, as he did, at a period when the advocacy of what has been called, in political phraseology, "Liberal Measures," was deemed, in high quarters, only a degree less criminal than treason, Mr. Whelan assumed the responsible position of Editor and publisher of the first independent newspaper of which the Colony could boast. He was then in personal appearance, and in point of fact, quite a boy, with no friend but his pen, and no fortune but his intellect. What impressions he subsequently made with these, almost everybody knows. Though the enterprise—that of starting a free press—was regarded by the proprietary clique who were so long suffered to control public affairs, as beneath their serious notice, yet young Whelan's talents, as exemplified in the columns of the *Palladium* and more subsequently in those of the *Examiner*, were a host in themselves and rapidly converted the feeling of indifference into those of fear and respect. He rose upon the haughty faction in the energy of his genuis, and despite their sneers and opposition he quickly ascended to political eminence, and became, as it were, a Tribune of the people. Unfurling to the popular breeze the banner of liberty and reform, he taught gallantly and successfully beneath it, or rather led on and commanded the thousands of good men and true who demanded through him enfranchisement from the dominion of a Charlottetown oligarchy. The motto of this journal—"This is true Liberty, when freeborn men, having to advise the public, may speak free"—he illustrated in his writing and speeches. The fearless and consistent manner in which he advocated his opinions, and the prominent part he played in the contest for the introduction of the system of Responsible Government, brought him into immediate notice, even beyond the limits of this Island, and, as a matter of course, into collision with the leading politicians of the Conservative element.

This was perhaps some fifteen years ago, and the Editor of the *Examiner* was then full of enthusiasm—with a reputation maturing in its splendor—possessing the faculty of inspiring others with his own spirit of confidence, ready and able to enter the lists against any opponents, veteran or amateur. Nothing seemed to gratify him more than to be thrown into intellectual combat with a "foeman worthy of his steel." In such encounters, however prolonged, victory was sure to perch on his standard. This, none will dispute. To flagellate, in almost matchless style, a conceited opponent, was but amusement for the pen of Edward Whelan, or an agreeable exercise for his tongue.

The boldness of his views—though never revolutionary—and the persistency with which he propagated them, set the vigilence of his adversaries on the alert to capture him, if possible on forbidden ground. In his younger days he was less reticent and more impassioned in the expression of his opinions than in later years; and on several occasions it was thought that the long wished for opportunity to crush him had arrived; that Whelan's pen had exceeded its legitimate province, and had sent forth libel and slander against the privileged classes. Horrible proposition, but true nevertheless! Those were lively times in the little community of P. E. I. Everything in our circle of politics was attended with gayer aspects then than now. Mass meetings, reform associations in which the sins of the "Tories" were denounced in unmeasured terms, triumphal processions, headed by Coles, Whelan, Lord, and others, libel suits, political banquets, Belfast riots, and similar demonstrations filled up the programme of those days. But such exhibitions and many of the busy actors in them have ceased and passed away, yet how vividly can I *recognize them at this distance of time.* "When I remember all, the friends so linked together, &c."

I recollect years ago to have been in the Supreme Court, in Charlottetown, and to witness in that tribunal the trial of an interesting cause—and an exciting one at that. On the Bench sat the venerable Chief Justice, *sans peur et sans reproche*, with his brother Judge, the Master of the Rolls. Most of the leading gentlemen of the long robe were also present, and a few of them *discussing learnedly upon the issue undergoing* examination. The room was crowded with an audience decidedly promiscuous, both in political and social complexion, and it was evident that a case of more than ordinary importance was believed to be under investigation. This impression was confirmed on hearing counsel "open" the case—as best he could—on behalf of his client, announcing that the Plaintiff was Duncan McLean, Editor of the "Islander," and the Defendant, the Honorable Edward Whelan, Editor of the "Examiner," and intimating that the damage "laid" in the "declaration" was one thousands pounds.

Mr. Whelan conducted the defence in person, and handled the opposing counsel with the skill of a special pleader. He made an eloquent and lengthy address to the jury, during the delivery of which he sank exhausted through the fatigue induced by the labor and excitement of the occasion. His effort in this instance was marked by his usual eloquence and richness of language. He sought to justify the publication charged against him as calumnious, and assuming the whole responsibility, as well as the imputed libel as the conduct of the defence, he astonished court, bar and jury, with his masterly answer. It must have been anything but agreeable to the feelings of the Plaintiff to have been compelled to sit there and endure, uncomplainingly, the ample laceration which the Defendant inflicted upon him. In scenes like this did Mr. Whelan delight to mingle, and to take a conspicuous part. His apostrophe to the liberty of the press was worthy of himself. The jury, however, declared the Defendant guilty, and assessed the damages at one farthing.

Whether the measure of damages awarded against the Defendant in this case, failed to correct his temerity, or whether a desire to show how easily he could win laurels from the lawyers, induced Mr. Whelan to solicit subsequent invitations to appear at the Bar of the Country; the fact is certain, however, that he figured in the Forum several times afterwards in the capacity of Defendant in several suits. Mr. Ex-Secretary Pope shared with Mr W. the fortunes of a suit of this kind, some years ago. The form of proceedings were somewhat different from those usually observed in like cases. But here, also, the alleged wrong-doer defeated the cunning Secretary, who was recommended by the presiding Judge to "come into court with clean hands." No further attempt was made against Mr. Whelan in actions for slander.

On his entrance into the Legislature, Mr. Whelan took a place at once high and unquestionable. He was here, as in his newspaper, no servile imitator or mere echo of his party; but original and commanding, he held a position above every other member as a Parliamentary speaker. This is conceded on all hands. For the twenty years during which he filled a seat in the House of Assembly, he continued without wavering or divergence, to assist the party of which he was the acknowledged ornament, in the struggle with the Conservative element, and to place on the Statute Book measures designed for the improvement of the great body of the people. Here was the theatre which witnessed the finest specimens of his oratory—now flowing as gracefully and unruffled as the surface of the placid stream, and anon dashing impetuously, like the cataract, over obstacles utterly unable to resist its assaults. None in the halls of our Legislature could cope with him as a ready and accomplished debater; and as an orator, he was there unapproachable. How his political antagonists would wince under his finished retorts and dignified castigation; and how rich to the crowded gallaries was the entertainment which they anticipated on seeing Edward Whelan rise to address the House. Conscious of his own superiority, the duty of replying to an opponent—of defending his own party—or *even of assailing the policy of his adversaries*, was but mere amusement for this gifted and versatile mind.

Upon subjects calculated to elicit the expression of patriotic sentiments, or on those who address themselves to the more humane impulses of our nature, Mr. Whelan peculiarly excelled, both as a speaker and writer. Indeed every philanthropic movement—every undertaking proposing the amelioration of his fellow-man—found in him a willing and generous advocate. And what pleasant, off hand discourses he was wont to deliver at concerts, lectures and charitable societies. With what manifest gratification his presence at these places was always hailed, and how invariably was the entertainment to which he gave a lending hand pronounced a "complete success." To have connected Edward Whelan with any *project in which the exercise of a mind or speech* was essential, was almost sufficient to insure its popularity. Who that heard him can forget his magnificent appeal in the House of Assembly, during the Crimean War, when the "patriotic fund" for the soldiers, widows and orphans, was the order of the day? In that superb oration—delivered in a noble cause—he electrified his audience and received applause from all quarters.

In behalf of virtue and freedom all—all his labors were exerted. And those labors—the emanation of a great and benevolent mind—will be his best monument—a monument more enduring than sculptor or statuary could design—one that will survive

"While drops the bust and boastful tombs decay."

But all those brilliant endowments and acquirements are now extinguished in Death. That human form, after having filled no inconsiderable place in Provincial history, is gone from our midst to its last resting place, at the early age of forty-three. In common with thousands of his admirers, we chronicle our grief at the premature termination of an honorable career, and the loss of a valued friend. N. P.

Charlottetown, Dec. 14th, 1867.