

ority in the legislature of Lower Canada as the French Canadians will be in the Federal Parliament. French Canadians could not ask for consideration for their rights by the Federal Government, if in the local legislature they did not consider the claims of the English minority of Lower Canada.

Mr. Dorion accused the Atty.-General of quibbling about the difference between an agreement and written promise, and urged that the sale of lands to municipalities was intended to keep up French Canadian settlers, and to keep up English constituencies.

Mr. Webb said the only Crown lands in his country were in the townships having French Canadian majorities.

Mr. Rose called attention to the fact that he, at least, was voted publicly in the face of Parliament to vote for the scheme, on the strength of pledges of the Attorney-General on the 25th of February, the letter being dated on the 7th of March.

Mr. Somerville said he thought the member for Hochelaga ought, in justice to himself and the members implicated, to give his authority. The document had been obtained in a manner not very reputable to either party. He was prepared to vote for the scheme on the strength of assurances given by the Atty.-General.

Mr. O'Halloran said there was an educational grievance calling for redress. Why not redress it now?

Mr. M.C. Cameron thought no private pledges ought to have been given to the English inhabitants of Lower Canada; that they ought to ask nothing unjust, but that they ought to urge their just claims openly.

Mr. Dunkin knew nothing of the transactions, and should have been a party to no agreement not to be made public.

After some further discussion the third reading of the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Haultain said he had heard so much from the members for Chateaugay and Hochelaga about the pledges made by the Government to justice to the Protestants of Lower Canada respecting education, he wished to understand from them if they were opposed to, and would refuse to support, such a measure. The Protestants of Lower Canada, many of whom had supported them, had an interest in knowing.

Mr. Dorion—When the measure would be laid before the House for a second reading, and he knew exactly what it was, he would answer. He would grant all to the Protestants of Lower Canada that the hon. member would grant to the Catholics in Upper Canada. Would he grant the same privileges to the Protestants in Upper Canada as Ministers had promised to the Protestants in Lower Canada?

Mr. Haultain—When the hon. member could show that the Catholics in Upper Canada had suffered under similar grievances as the Protestants in Lower Canada, he would grant them precisely the same measures of redress.

THURSDAY.

Hon. Mr. Dorion moved the second reading of the act respecting the elections of members of the Legislature. He proposed that voting should take place in one day instead of two as at present, then all elections to take place on the same day and no show of hands at nomination, but if there were more than one candidate a poll should be declared. At the close of the election no declaration to be made, but within a certain time after the election the returning officer shall return who is elected and at the same time inform each of the candidates of the result. Other provisions were to carry out these main features and for the purpose of amending the present law, in some small particulars. In order to fix one day, he proposed to give power of naming nomination and voting days to the Speaker. It was of great importance that there should only be one day. All corruption took place between the first and second day. He proposed to extend the hours during which voting should take place, and to give municipalities power to divide towns and parishes into wards of 300 voters each, qualification according to taxed real or taxed annual value of property.

Mr. Brown said the Ministry were in favour of the principle of Mr. Dorion's Bill, but in view of Confederation he asked him to postpone it.

Mr. Holton thought it was a good bill it ought to be passed and could be incorporated with any general law.

Mr. Dunkin said their might be a general election before Confederation took place, therefore it was necessary to have the Bill made law.

Mr. Dorion declining to withdraw the Bill, Hon. Mr. Brown moved, "that as a measure for Confederation was under consideration, it is inexpedient this bill be now read a second time, and it be now read a second time on the first day of March next."

Mr. Perrault protested against the arguments used for postponement. In fact, however, the bill would be defeated to enable the Government to use the methods of corruption the present law put at their disposal, in order to carry Confederation.

Mr. Huntington urged that the argument that pending Confederation, this bill should be postponed, was worthless. What harm could an improved election law do on entering Confederation?

After further discussion, relative to the merits of the Bill, Mr. Brown's motion of giving it the six months' hoist was carried by a majority of 27.

FRIDAY.

Mr. O'Halloran complained of a paragraph in the Montreal Gazette purporting to give an account of a private conversation, in which he was said to have spoken in favour of annexation. The said paragraph was altogether false, and he did think it strange that members of the press should follow M. P.'s for the purpose of overhearing what they said to one another.

Mr. Galt said the House would take into consideration the budget on Tuesday.

Mr. Holton asked how Mr. Galt intended to make up the deficiency of revenue; it was impossible to raise a loan.

Mr. Galt said he would inform the House in due time.

Hon. Mr. Dorion brought forward his Bill regarding members of both Houses. The object of the Bill was to prevent persons getting into the House who had interested motives, such as having claims against it or holding any kind of place under it.

Mr. Brown said he would require to make a motion to give the Bill the six months' hoist. In view of Confederation there was no use passing the Bill.

Mr. Holton said Mr. Brown had been one of those who induced Mr. Dorion to introduce the Bill at first, but now he opposed it. It was more painful than amusing to see such conduct.

Mr. Haultain still felt that there was no reason for postponing matters generally which were for the interest of the country.

Mr. Dunkin also thought the Bill should pass. He could not see what connection it had with Confederation.

Mr. Huntington having also spoken, a vote was taken when the Bill was thrown out by a vote of 59 to 25.

Mr. Bourassa then moved the second reading of his Bill relative to the rate of interest. The

rate it provided was 7 for Banks and 6 for private individuals.

Mr. Sandfield McDonald in the course of some remarks said that the extravagant rate at which money was lent had more than anything else contributed to the demoralization of the country. A farmer borrowed at a usurious rate, farms changed hands and the people were driven out of the country.

After a long discussion, a vote was taken, when the Bill was read a second time by 28 for to 52 against it.

MONDAY, 21ST.

On a motion that the time for finishing the Brockville and Ottawa railroad be extended, an animated debate arose. It would appear that the Company were to get a grant of 190,000 acres of land if they finished the road by a certain time, this they have not been able to do, and therefore the present Bill for more time. The Bill was read a second time.

Mr. Cauchon introduced a Bill to do away with the present Municipal Council of Quebec, and place the affairs of that city under the management of Commissioners. The reckless extravagance of the Council was the cause of this motion. The Bill was referred to a special committee.

Mr. Somerville moved that the House, on Wednesday next, consider certain resolutions amending the Act to regulate the inspecting of raw hides and leather.—Carried.

Mr. Amos Wright moved that the House, on Wednesday next, consider the propriety of imposing a tax on dogs of one dollar per head.

Mr. Dunkin—For tall. (Laughter.) The motion was agreed to.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to twelve.

TUESDAY.

Quite a number of private Bills were read a second time; among them an act to incorporate a munnery. Afterwards the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, when the first item was passed.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock p.m.

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THE CANADIAN GLEANER.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1865.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The trial of Jeff Davis will take place very soon. It is understood that he will be tried at Fortress Monroe, and by the civil authorities. He is allowed to have counsel, and also to write now to his friends.

The trial of Capt. Wirtz, the Andersonville jailer, is going on at Washington. He pleads "not guilty." As every soldier who lived a day in the horrid pen can give sufficient evidence to condemn him, the result of the trial is not doubtful.

The inhabitants of Richmond are making preparations for the President's visit. The President is now in good health and daily attends to business.

The Herald's special says the President is somewhat annoyed at the fact that certain persons have been accepting money for their influence in obtaining pardons. He stated to-day that he wished the fact to be known, that he investigated each particular case himself, and only granted such petitions as recommended themselves to his clemency. Up to present date, 500 pardons have been granted.

The reduction of the army and navy go on apace. The navy is to be reduced to 10,000 men. No less than 200 navy paymasters were discharged the other day.

The failures in New York among Brokers and Bankers continue to excite public curiosity. The cause of it all has been the speculating in gold. The defalcations of one banker are said to amount to \$4,000,000. Gross immorality of life has been proved against those gold gamblers.

Gold, after falling as low as 141, has risen again, closing on Tuesday night at 143 3/4.

In England, we learn by the last mail, great anxiety continued to be felt with regard to the Atlantic Cable. A meeting had been held of the Shareholders of the Company, when with true British pluck it was agreed to raise enough money to finish the present line and lay a new one.

Her Majesty and family were at Antwerp, on their way to visit the Belgian King.

The weather was most unfavourable for the crops, and flour was going up in price.

It was rumoured that reinforcements to the number of 6000 were to be sent to Mexico from France.

Cholera still prevailed at Constantinople. It is reported that the Sultan, who has become almost idiotic, will resign and let a relation take his place.

THOSE GUARANTEES.

On Wednesday week, for the second time this session, the letter of guarantees which Mr. Somerville and other English-speaking L. C. members procured from the Ministry, came up in discussion. What was said during the two debates does not tend to increase our estimation of the value of those guarantees. The way Mr. Galt and his colleagues tried to conceal all the circumstances connected with the document, does not speak much for their sincerity. If Cartier & Co. honestly intended to carry out the pledges of their letter, they would not try to keep it out of sight on the plea that it is "confidential." But they did not give the letter with the intention of fulfilling its conditions. They have no intention of doing justice to the Protestants of Lower Canada. The object they wanted to attain by giving the letter was to get the votes of the members for the Eastern Townships and to make the Protestants of Lower Canada believe that their rights were to be respected under Confederation. They have gained their point so far as the votes are concerned, but there are very few people indeed in the Townships who are willing to accept a "confidential" letter as sufficient guarantee for their rights.

The guarantees in the letter are not very ample nor very explicit, yet such as they are they

have aroused the hostility of the French. The guarantees are as follows:—1st. No change in the constituencies of English-speaking members unless on a vote of two-thirds of the latter.—2nd. The limits of the several municipalities within said counties will be changed by executive interference, but only according to law.—3rd. These municipalities will be permitted to acquire the crown lands within their limits at a nominal price, provided they resell them without distinction to every purchaser.—4th. The school system of Lower Canada will be remodelled, so as to give Protestants the control of their own schools, and system of education. Nobody would think Cartier and his friends if they really intended to give those guarantees, for they could not have offered less. Still, unsatisfied as they are to us, the whole French press protests against granting them. The Montreal Witness says:—

"The French Canadians of all parties are unanimous in protesting against these guarantees, and pledging themselves not to observe a single one of them. Mr. Cauchon has indignantly committed himself to vote against every one of these concessions. Le Canadien looks at them as only a successful trick played on some Protestants members in order to secure their co-operation, and, without which, the scheme, not commanding a majority from Lower Canada, would have fallen through. The Courier and other French papers protest more vigorously still. The Mueuse alone keeps silent, because that organ of Mr. Cartier regrets to see the trick prematurely exploded, and deems it imprudent to awake the Protestant spirit of Lower Canada by saying that none of the secret guarantees will ever be allowed to pass in the constitution. As to the French opposition press, they are more violent still in denouncing every one of these concessions to Protestants. They do not see in it only a trick of the Ministry, but a treason. They clamour that their nationality and their religion are ruined if any of these pledges are granted, and they agree to vote down every one of them. Even the provision of Mr. Galt that the lands would be sold indiscriminately to all comers fails to satisfy the Pays, because if the settlers are a Protestant corporation they can adhere to the letter of the law, but evade the spirit by selling all sorts of lies to turn off Catholic applicants for a lot of land."

Such is the reception of these paltry concessions by the French; they will take everything but give nothing. The old intolerant spirit, which before the Conquest would not allow a native to become a Protestant, is still active. Can the English-speaking people of Lower Canada entrust themselves to a Government of such men? Men who will not now give even the guarantees defined in this "confidential" letter. From the moment the Upper Canada members withdraw from the House, will our desires be listened to or our wants consulted? Let our present Constitution be done away with, and let that of the Confederation scheme take its place, and the Protestants of Lower Canada need no longer say that they live under a representative government. We will be placed exactly in the same position that the Protestants of Ireland were under James the Second. The only measure that will do justice to us and the French alike, is a thorough union with Upper Canada on the basis of Representation by Population. No guarantees whatever can compare with the presence of Upper Canada members in the House and no Union with New Brunswick and Nova Scotia can ever be of as much advantage to the whole of Lower Canada as a thorough Union with the Western Province.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

Mr. Dorion the other night thought he put a poser to Col. Haultain when he asked that gentleman whether he would give the same privileges to the Catholics of Upper Canada in school matters that he wished to give the Protestants of Lower Canada. It says very little for Mr. Dorion's intelligence that he should have ever asked such a question. What the Protestants of Lower Canada complain of with regard to the present school system is very soon told. In Lower Canada the Common Schools are only so in name; they are purely sectarian. In them the Catholic Catechism is taught, Catholic books of devotion are used, and the teachers are very generally members of some monastic order—Christian Brothers and nuns. To keep up these schools, Protestants, wherever they are not strong enough to have a separate school, are compelled by law to pay taxes. Now, Protestants have no objection whatever to pay for the secular education of the children of their poorer neighbours, but they do consider it very hard to have to pay to instruct them in the tenets of the R. C. faith and to maintain schools they would never dream of sending their own children to. If Mr. Dorion can point out a single township in Upper Canada where Catholics are taxed to keep up schools where Protestant catechisms are as regularly taught as grammar or arithmetic, and books used praising up Protestants and running down Catholics, he can then place the grievances of the Catholics of Upper Canada and of the Protestants of Lower Canada on a par.

USURERS AND USURY.

On Friday night last Mr. Bourassa's Bill, fixing the rate of interest on money at 7 per cent. for banks and 6 for private individuals, was read a second time after considerable opposition. That there is much necessity for a law against usury, is very palpable, but we do not think Mr. Bourassa's Bill is likely to correct the evil. It would be very convenient, doubtless, for borrowers to get money at 6 per cent., but then, if money is worth more, as it is, they won't get it at all. Men who have money to lend, instead of investing it in Canada at 6 per cent., will send it elsewhere for investment. The result will be

that less money will be offered for investment in Canada. What Mr. Bourassa should have done, if he wished to prevent usury and at the same time to keep money in the country, was to introduce a Bill declaring all interest over 10 per cent. illegal.

There are two classes of borrowers. The first class, composed of merchants and well-to-do farmers, who have plenty of property and who will pay interest regularly, can always borrow money at what it is worth, and for them, therefore, no law is needed. The second class, poor men who have only their labour to depend on to pay what they borrow, such as habitants and settlers on new land, who cannot give first-class security and who may not pay interest regularly, do require some law to protect them from the note-shavers who extort 15 and even 25 per cent. All the laws our Parliament can ever pass will never induce lenders to give money to persons of the second class on the same terms that they would to the first. Still, if, as we have said, Parliament would pass a law that no rate of interest over 10 per cent. would be recoverable at law, the poor man would be in a measure protected. We have said 10 per cent., because we consider no man can ever borrow money at a higher rate and hope to repay it by honest means or without ruining himself.

The thief, the dishonest dealer, are regarded by society in their proper light and shunned by all men, but the usurer, the plunderer of the poor man, the widow and orphan, is allowed to keep his place in society. This, it seems to us, does not indicate a very high grade of social morality. Between the thief and the lender at 15 per cent., the difference is in favour of the former. Honest John Wesley made it one of the rules of his Discipline for the Methodist Church that no member of it should give out money at usury. We really think there is much need in Canada for a revival of this excellent condition of church-membership in more denominations than that of the Methodist.

THE DEFENCE QUESTION.

The Trade Review says:— "What of fortifications? We say emphatically they are not one of the necessities of our position. The people of Canada are utterly opposed to the semi-barbaric policy, which even Europe is beginning to discard, of one state arraying against another in time of peace. Evolving battlements, bristling cannon, and an ill-soldierly who regard Europe as a chess-board and the subjects as pawns. But for the people of Canada they have no attractions. If the fortifications proposed to be built at Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, and Hamilton, would prevent war, or in case that were impossible, prevent our soil from invasion and consequent desolation, their construction might be wise and prudent. But would they attain either of these desirable objects? Even Col. Jervis, in his report to the British Government, anticipates no such result. The mere proposal to erect these military works has largely stimulated the opposition to the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty in the United States; and there can be little doubt that their erection would do far more to engender bad feelings and precipitate hostilities, than to prevent them. As a means to prevent invasion they would be almost valueless. Common sense must teach any one that a few forts could not, in the very nature of things, do much to assist us in guarding a frontier of a thousand miles against an enemy outnumbering us ten to one. And why should we arm, for such a result, against the United States at the present time? For the past half century we have lived as their neighbours in peace and quietness. We were never better prepared to defend ourselves, or the United States less able or likely to attack us, than at the present moment. During the past four years, the Republic has bled an ever pure, it is encumbered with an enormous debt, and the fires of the great revolution slumber but are not extinguished—what statesmen retaining their senses, American or otherwise, could think of foreign aggression at such a time? Everything points to peace for many years to come. Then why should Canada, in the face of heavy financial burdens, and to the endangerment of her commercial relations with her best customer, throw away \$7,000,000 upon useless preparation for an imaginary danger? Better far to husband our resources and improve our financial position, so that if the dire calamity of war does overtake us, we may have the means and the credit necessary to enable us to pass through the conflict successfully."

MR. HOLTON'S VIEWS.

On Friday night last Mr. Brown charged Mr. Holton with having deserted his principles, that some time ago he (Mr. Holton) was in favour of the principle of Confederation. Mr. Holton, in reply, after saying that he was never in favour of a union with the Lower Provinces, said:— "He admitted that in 1859 he was in Council with his friends in relation to a document which had been quoted in the debates on Confederation, and in which the President of the Council had then stated he (Mr. Holton) had a hand in the authorship. He had then and ever since been of opinion that a solution of the difficulties which had been experienced in conducting the affairs of the country might be found in the application of the federal principle to the constitution of the two Canadas. That he freely admitted; but beyond that neither himself nor any of his friends with whom he usually acted had ever expressed an opinion favourable to Confederation of the Provinces as a present practical measure."

That is, Mr. Holton is in favour of abolishing the present union, of giving Upper Canada and Lower Canada each a local parliament of their own, and then a joint Parliament to consider measures which affect both Provinces. This scheme of Mr. Holton's only differs from Confederation in this—that it would save the country from the cost of building the Intercolonial Railway and maintaining the Lower Provinces. The objection that Confederation would leave the English minority of Lower Canada helpless, applies with equal force, if not more, to Mr. Holton's scheme. We have all along thought that Mr. Holton opposed Confederation on higher grounds than he has now admitted. We can no longer regard him as an exponent of the views and advocate of the rights of the Protestant minority. We are sure the old-country portion of Mr. Holton's supporters will share in our disappointment at this declaration of his views.

THE HOUSE.

As will be seen, very little business of importance has been done so far. The dim probability of Confederation being carried, is made the pretence of throwing out all Bills of a general nature, such as Mr. Dorion's excellent Election and Independence of Members' Bills. The report on the Intercolonial Railroad was laid on the table the other night; the estimated expense is \$20,635,000, or \$46,000 a mile. It is rumoured that Mr. Galt is going to make up the deficiency of revenue by an issue of Canadian greenbacks. The rumour is too absurd to be credited. He will probably try a loan.

There will be public worship in the Canada Presbyterian Church, on Sabbath first, at 1/2 past 6 p.m.

The Beauharnois Volunteer Company are to have a Pic Nic to Verreux, on Monday next. The Empress was to be chartered for that purpose.

They have organized in Beauharnois a Regatta and Yacht Club and are to have their first regatta on the 2nd Sept. Large prizes will be offered. The lake at Beauharnois is well adapted for displays of this kind.

On Thursday, 17th, James Tacey, while working round a thrashing machine at Mr. R. Dunsmore's had his right arm caught in the teeth and torn off by the elbow. He is progressing favourably.

On Wednesday night, 17th, the store of Mr. Wm. Cantwell, Franklin, was destroyed by fire with all its contents. There is no doubt whatever but that it was the work of an incendiary, and strong suspicions are entertained that the store was first robbed. The loss to Mr. Cantwell is very heavy; the insurance being small.

Finer harvest weather than this section of country has enjoyed for the last fortnight could not be desired. The result has been that a considerable breadth of grain has been safely harvested, tho' there still remains much to do. Oats, in spite of rust and grasshoppers, will be a much better crop than last year, while the yield of wheat and barley will be superior both in quantity and quality. Owing to the long continued drought, the root-crops are suffering severely, also the pastures.

Extensive fires have prevailed in the bush for some time back. Along the New Ireland road a very large fire has swept, doing considerable damage. In Hinchinbrooke, a mile or two back from the Chateaugay, and above this Village, a dangerous fire promises to continue its ravages until the first rain. Mr. Robt McCracken has lost a small field of barley by it, while others only succeeded in saving their grain by great exertions. Losses of cordwood are quite common. The practice of putting fire in the bush at this season of the year is most reprehensible, and those who do it richly deserve to be made examples of.

MONTREAL CORRESPONDENCE.

August 21, 1865.

THE SANDERS' KIDNAPPERS. Have been committed to take their trial for conspiracy, kidnaping and shooting, but the depositions made before the Police Magistrate have been kept secret—rather an unusual practice. An application to bail them out is to be made.

Another plot has been discovered—viz, to kidnap Mr. Beverly Tucker, but the police got information of it and spoiled it. He, like Mr. Sanders, keeps armed men in his house at night.

"FRENCH DOMINATION." The Mayor knowing that two English members of the Police Committee were absent, called a meeting of it. They put Mr. Devlin in the chair, so Mr. McGibbon was left alone to contend with the French members, who, of course, re-instated the constables suspended, and ordered back pay to be given them. They declared the charges made against them to result from a "malicious spirit." Mr. McGibbon protested against the action of the Committee as illegal, as the matter was now in the hands of the Council. The conduct of the Mayor and his three confederates who are on the Committee, is disgraceful, and the Council, I think, will not tolerate it.

Notwithstanding the re-instating of the Constables the Chief of Police has dismissed Detective Conlier for rebelling against himself and dereliction of duty. Of course the Chief, not being a Frenchman, will be called to account for this.

AN IMPOSTOR.

A military looking man called upon Alderman Stevenson, and represented himself as a Colonel of the 7th Dragoons, who had been in the far west where he was robbed of \$1,000. He had sold his watch and chain, he said, at Chicago, and he now solicited money to take him home. The Alderman thought it queer that he should come to him, instead of applying to the military here, so put him off and desired him to call back. Meantime Gen. Lindsay was seen, and he desired Mr. Stevenson to bring the "Colonel" with him, who went rather reluctantly. The General put him through his feelings and caught him fibbing. The "Colonel" was glad to get out of his hands, and disappeared for "parts unknown." The hotel-keeper with whom the rascal lived, said that he had a hatful of gold, the fruit, no doubt, of a series of swindles on Brother Jonathan. The fellow went to Phillipsburg and attempted to impose upon Mr. Moore, who read to the scamp an account of his doings as reported in the Herald, when he decamped.

ANOTHER SCOUNDREL.

An elderly man called at a broker's to get a draft for \$2,047 cashed. \$400 were advanced on it, and the broker telegraphed to the bank that granted the draft, when he learned that the draft was only for \$1,700, and must have been altered. The swindler was hunted up and made to disgorge the \$400.

CRIME.

A Canadian from the States with \$400 got on the spree with two of his countrymen, who eased him of his all, but the police caught the thieves with nearly all the money.

A constable, whilst taking a prisoner in Griffintown was assailed by a crowd, knocked down, and the prisoner taken from him.

An attempt was made by burglars to enter a nursery, but the nuns were too wide-awake for them, and gave the alarm, but they escaped.

One of Mr. McGibbon's salesmen stole the cash box with \$50 in silver. He was caught at St. Lambert's.

The Express Company has offered a reward of \$3000 for the detection of the robber who stole over \$11,000 on the train to Quebec.

A respectable woman went into a cab, when the driver seized her watch and threw her out on the street.

A French Canadian is under arrest for nearly beating his wife to death.

A soldier of the 30th stole \$6 out of a Canadian's pocket on the street. He was arrested.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

A man, aged 77, a carpenter, while working on the new Mercantile Literary Association building, fell from the second story, and was killed.

A sailor fell from his ship into the canal and was drowned. The same night the body of a French Canadian was found in the river.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Two sons and a daughter of Mr. Jefferson Davis have arrived here with his wife's mother Mrs. Davis is to be here soon. It is stated that the family were hissed by women at Albany Square on their way!

The Caledonian Gathering in the Victoria grounds last Thursday was attended by thousands. There was music in abundance. The band of the 60th, the pipers of the 25th K. O. B. and a quadrille band were there. All Scott's sons were in their glory. A number of Jack Tars from the "Styx" competed in the games, and one of them carried off the first prize for the sword dance. The Bag and Barrel were created great fun. Major Fletcher was one of the Judges.

On the last two days on which a discount of five per cent was allowed on water rates, over \$54,900 were paid.

The number of funerals last week were 103. Tremendous torrents of rain last night and this forenoon.

Owing to the bad harvest weather in England, flour is going up rapidly here.

I am informed that "John A.," who is a widower, is about to be married to a pretty young damsel from Kingston. This may have something to do with his long absence from the House.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

THE CABLE BROKEN.

HEART'S CONTENT, Aug. 16, via ASPY BAY, August 17.—The British war steamers Terrible and Galatea, from Heart's Content on the 2nd, arrived at St. John's, Newfoundland, at nine o'clock on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst.

The steamship Great Eastern returned to Sheerness on the 11th inst. Captain Napier reports as follows: The cable parted on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., at noon, in nineteen hundred and fifty fathoms of water. It was then grappled for three different times, and raised twelve hundred, nine hundred, and six hundred fathoms respectively. Each time the grapple broke, but the cable remained unbroken. The Great Eastern returned to England for stronger and better grappling gear.

Mr. Varley, one of the electricians, writes most encouragingly in regard to the cable. He says:— "We found no difficulty whatever in grappling the cable, even in the greatest depth of water. As soon as proper tackle is prepared we will probably commence grappling for the cable again one hundred miles east of the break, where the water is only 1,500 fathoms deep.

The buoy rides the gales well, being fastened by pieces of condemned cable.

Mr. Cyrus W. Field is in good health and spirits: the following is from his diary:— Steamship Great Eastern, Atlantic Ocean, north lat. 51 25; west lon. 39; 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11.

The Great Eastern sailed from the Nore off Sheerness, on Saturday, July 15th, at 12:30. At half-past 2 on Monday, the 17th, she overhauled the Caroline, which left London on the 5th with the shore end on board. She had been detained by bad weather. We took her in tow, and arrived off Valentia at 6:45 on Wednesday. As the weather was unfavourable the Caroline went into Haven Harbour and the Great Eastern to Bear Haven, Bantry Bay, followed by her after by her Majesty's steamers Terrible and Sphinx.

The 27 miles of the heavy shore end were successfully laid from the Caroline to Wedby by the Hawk on Saturday the 22nd, a quarter past 4. The next afternoon the splice between the main cable and the shore end was completed, and the Great Eastern, Terrible and Sphinx steamed towards Newfoundland, while the Caroline and Hawk returned to Valentia. All went on in a most satisfactory manner until 2 o'clock on Monday, the 24th, when a partial loss of insulation suddenly showed itself. Shortly after this the speed of the ship was reduced and the cable paid out more slowly while tests were applied to locate the fault—which was found to be in the water some miles astray of the Great Eastern. At 8.50 a.m., the cable