European Intelligence.

CHINA.

Lord Elgin writes that he considered the destruction of the palace, where the prisoners were tortured, and the exaction of compensation, the best combination he could devise as retribution, and he explains at considerable length his reasons for that decision. It is calculated that it will be necessary to take forty per cent. of the customs revenue of China for four years to pay the indemnities claimed by him and Baron Gros. Had Lord Elgin demanded the surrender of the persons guilty of cruelty some miserable subordinates would probably have been given up. In a despatch detailing the terms of peace Lord Elgin threatens to destroy the Imperial Palace if those terms be not accepted.

The remains of Dr. Norman, Anderson, and Bowlby were recognized. Brabazon is believed to have been beheaded by an exasperated wounded Chinese general. Lord Elgin speaks highly of Mr. Parkes' conduct, and recommends Mr. Loch to Lord J. Russel's favorable notice. The publication of the despatches is not yet completed.

A private letter from China says that Bowlby died from starvation, his hands being also tied so tightly together as to prevent circulation and to cause mortification.

AUSTRIA.

The Vienna journals generally condemn rather than praise the circular of the new Minister. The posts of Minister of Commerce and Minister of Public Instruction in the Cabinet of Vienna remain vacant. Dispassionate politicians clearly see that Count Rechberg and M. von Schmerling cannot possibly pull well together.

FRANCE.

The correspondent of the *Herald* says that the warlike preparations of France are on a far larger scale than at the same period in 1859. The *Patrie* says that Piedmont is purchasing steamers in France, to convert them into men-of-war and transports. A Berlin letter states that for some weeks past large purchases of horses have been made in Eastern Prussia for the French and Austrian Governments.

PRUSSIA.

According to private letters from Berlin, 120 rifled guns are being made for the Austrian Government, and they are ordered to be completed by the 1st of March.

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADIAN.

INTERESTING NEWS.

PORTLAND, January 17.

The Canadian left Liverpool on the afternoon of the 3rd, and Londonderry on the 4th, and arrived here at 3 30 this afternoon, bringing 54 passengers and £13,000 in specie.

The Edinburgh, which left Liverpool on the 2d for New York, took £106,000 sterling, in specie.

The steamer Queen Victoria, having on board the Rangoon Telegraph Cable, went ashore at Plymouth Sound on the 2nd, and at last advices had not been got off.

FRANCE.

The Bank of France, on the 2nd, raised its rate of discount from 4½ to 5½ per cent which has caused further depression on the Bourse; rentes closing at 67.25.

Negotiations for a new treaty of commerce between France and Belgium were satisfactorily terminated, and important reductions were made in favour of Belgium coal and iron.

It is rumored that France may ask further indemnity from China.

The *Moniteur* says that financial events in foreign countries have influenced the French money market in a manner to be regretted, but declares the report that France is under the necessity of having recourse to a new loan to be without foundation.

Detachments of French troops, which were under orders for China, have been sent to reinforce the regiments in Syria.

ITALY

Poerio had been elected President of the Electoral Committee at Naples.

It is reported that the Sardinian loan of 300 million francs is about to be negotiated at Paris.

An insignificant attempt at reaction was made in Naples on the 30th, which was easily surpressed.

Naples and its provinces are tranquil.

It is confirmed that the published version of the Pope's recent allocution is a forgery. The real document is mild and inoffensive, principally dwelling on the trials to which the church is subjected.

The *Times* city article of Thursday evening says: Funds opened steadily this morning at a slight improvement on yesterday, and subsequently experienced further recovery.

An announcement by the French Government that no new loan is intended produced good effect at Paris which was felt on this side. The demand at the Bank and in the discount market in preparation for the 4th of the month was very moderate.

PRUSSIA.

The Official 'Gazette' announces that the Prince Regent assumes the reins of government as King William V.

A Berlin letter says the excitement in all the States of the Germanic Confederation greatly resembles the agitation which preceded the events of 1848.

A Frankfort journal asserts that at an early sitting of the Germanic Diet a proposition will be made calling on the Cabinet of Turin for a categorical explanation relative to the decree of the Governor General of Ancona, in which Trieste is described as an Italian town.

MARKETS.

The weather continued frosty but the snow has partly disappeared. Flour had a moderately good sale; Western Canal 30s 6d per 196lbs; Philadelphia and Baltimore 31s a 32s. Wheat with fair consumptive sale; white and mixed 13s to 14s 3d per 100lbs red 11s 6d to Breadstuffs closed steady. Provisions closed dull.

LONDON Saturday evening.

Consols closed at 92¼ to 92¾ for account.

The latest sales of American stocks were Erie 35 to 35¼ New York Central 76 to 80; Illinois Central 27¼ to 28 for discount.

It is stated that the English Government has sent a strong note to the Emperor of France protesting against the extension of the occupation of Syria by the French forces. No reply had yet been received.

The Cork "Examiner" gives the rumor that the Prince of Wales is to be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Not much credited.

Sydney Herbert retires from the house of Commons, and is to receive a Peerage. He retains the sec'taryship of war.

Napoleon's Newyear remarks to diplomatists had no effect.

FRANCE.

Bourse dull.

Reported correspondence between France and England relative to the French fleet before Gaeta, was most unsatisfactory.

Affairs at Gaeta unchanged.

Reported negotiations pending for extended armistice.

The nomination of Prince Carignan as King Lieutenant of Naples, is confirmed.

Count Wapsin is said to be tending the reactionary movement in Abruzzi.

Prince Regent of Russia commenced to reign as William the V. safely.

Two Sardinian vessels, with war material, were seized by Russia at Galitz.

The Bombay mail, December 5th, reached Marseilles.

Income tax troubles continued.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS THIS WEEK.

4 Sheriff's Sales.
Teacher Wanted.
50 Ship Carpenters Wanted—Vanevery & Rumball.
Fish!—Fish!!—Vanevery & Rumball.
Desirable Investment.
To Contractors.
Return of Convictions.

HURON SIGNAL

GODERICH C. W.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1861.

☞ Copies of this week's paper can be had at the office of publication. Price 2d.

WHAT IS TO BE THE POLICY?

AFTER much pondering, and reviewing, and surveying, of the condition of things, we really begin to fear that the government and legislature of this country have nearly got to the end of their work, and that they will soon be obliged to suspend business, simply for want of something to do! This is surely a sad condition of things, in so far at least, as the five thousand dollars a year, and thirty dollars a day are concerned, and yet it is, by no means, astonishing, when all things are considered. The Law Factory has, up till now, been kept on full time, and the regular quantity of a hundred and fifty, or two hundred new Acts of Parliament have been thrown off every year, besides the usual amount of mending and consolidating, and repealing. It is no wonder then that the material is getting to be exhausted, and that the business is drawing to a close. Indeed, we doubt very much, if a dozen of the longest heads in the Province, with their best scheming and cogitations, could now invent or imagine two hundred, or even one hundred, new subjects for legislation during the next session of Parliament. It would really be a hard task, and we question if ten out of the hundred and thirty members, will enter the House of Assembly this time, with more than one or two measures in their minds, and these will chiefly belong to the class of Aprons for mill-dams, or Charters of Incorporation for Companies that will never come into existence. It is true, our three or four average Statesmen have two or three important questions which they sometimes hint at, but never attempt to introduce for discussion, and which are so far away and so far beyond the grasp of the legislative capacity, in general, that it would be almost useless to bring them forward. We, of course allude to Representation based on population, — a federal union of the British North American Provinces—the total severance of the duties of Administration from those of legislation, or in other words, the entire expulsion of the Executive from the Legislature.—These are important questions yet to be dealt with, but is doubtful if they could could be effectively dealt with, by the present House of Assembly, or indeed, if they will be ready for effective discussion till another and a bolder Government shall occupy the Benches. There are, however, a few questions of a simpler and more practical character—questions that are nearer home, and probably within the reach of the present house of Assembly, and which, in our opinion, demand immediate legislation The subjects do not number one hundred and fifty, and would not, of course, suffice for the usual yearly volume of Statutes, but they are of much importance to the county, and many or few they should be attended to before the Law Factory closes for lack of business.—For instance, the Municipal Incorporations Act, notwithstanding its numerous and Voluminous Supplements and Amendments, is still very misty and cumbersome. The Assessment Act, also supplemented and voluminous, is very defective, abstruse, unworkable and inherently iniquitous and oppressive; and the existing Jury Act, as amended by the present Postmaster General is nothing but a complicated process of robbing the country, and under pretence of preventing an *imaginary* evil called 'packing of Juries,' it winds and works its way along a very intricate and circuitous course of extravagant expense, saddling the country with three hundred per cent of unnecessary costs, and, at last, actually invests a wholly irresponsible official, the Clerk of the Court, with the power of 'packing,' without let or hindrance.

These are Acts of importance—they are the most valuable laws of the Province in so far as principle and import are concerned, but in the working details they are the most mischievous and oppressive. The oppression is felt by the whole people, and though they are too much bewildered in amazement at the startling conduct of their rulers, to complain *ormally*, the complaint is loud and general, nevertheless. In fact, the conduct of the Government on the last few years, has been so utterly outrageous, and so grossly in defiance of all precedent and public opinion that the people seem to have either forgotten the usual mode of seeking redress, or deem it useless to have recourse to it, and thus the Assessment and Jury Laws, in particular, with all their crudities and enormities, are suffered to grind the substance from the industry of the country, year after year. Who would condescend to petition such Rulers for relief from burthens? Their whole visible policy is to increase the public burthens and though the people feel and wince, they refuse to groan, and disdain to recognise the authority of their oppressors. Besides, the people pay for Representatives, and they naturally think that their representatives should attend to their interests without putting them to the trouble of petitioning, and we hold the same opinion. No man in Upper Canada who can have the slightest claim to a seat in the House of Assembly, can possibly be ignorant of the fact that the Assessment and Jury laws are both very defective and very oppressive. And though many of them have not sufficient ability to draw up the necessary Amendments, surely they are not so ignorant as to be unable to point out the defects, and it would be no difficulty to find assistance to put the Amendments into ship shape for legislation. Indeed, the simple fact, that these two Laws are allowed to remain on the Statute Book, year after year, as a disgrace to honest, upright legislation, and as an unwarrantable and oppressive burthen on the country, is ample evidence that the people receive nothing of Representation *save the name and the costs.* Every intelligent man who has given a few minutes consideration to the subject must feel satisfied, that notwithstanding the voluminous bungling and blundering of the Hon. Sydney Smith, any two or three clever Municipal Councillors of Upper Canada could sit down, and on one-tenth the number of pages, draw up a Jury Bill that would answer the purpose much better than the present law, and which could be efficiently and satisfactorily worked for less than one-fourth of the present expense. The changes required in the Assessment law, might not effect the saving to the country, of the same number of thousands of pounds as would be effected by a new Jury law, but the Assessment might at least be rendered something like equitable—the gross injustice and oppression might be prevented, and even the working of it might be made less burthensome.

Now, let us see if some of our Upper Canada Representatives, who profess to be *practical* men, will have the courage and the honesty to seek the assistance of two, or three *tried and experienced County* Councillors, to draft new Assessment and Jury Bills, on fair commonsense principles, and then, endeavor to get them made Law during the approaching Session. If the raw material for legislation is as nearly exhausted as we think it should be, there will be room enough for making the attempt, and it certainly would be very desirable to have these important and most valuable laws amended before the factory shuts up entirely. It is very possible that the proposed Bills, especially the Juror's Bill would meet with strenuous opposition from the Ministry, as the present Jury law is the hapless abortion of the Post master General. But their opposition to such practical commonsense measures would be just in keeping with their whole past policy, and might suit excellently as a climax to their unhallowed career. There is, by the bye, a goodly number of ex-County Wardens, now in the two Houses of Parliament, and they are the very men who should be the movers in this matter, and if they would only unite and be harmonious they might gain a wreath of honor to themselves and do more service to their country than has been done by the whole legislation of the last six years.

They can never have a better opportunity of earning a reputation as practical legislators, and as the country is eagerly anxious for the improvements we propose, they may depend that the eye of public expectation will be on their movements during the approaching Session.

Taking the Census.

WE know not how it may be in other parts of the Province, but we think, it will be some considerable time before there are any returns from this County, or at least, from this section of it; and what is of still greater importance, we doubt if the Returns can be as accurate as they should be. Indeed, the process itself appears to be very different from what we had supposed, and if our view is not the right one, we are convinced it should be so. For instance, we never supposed that the Legislature meant the accuracy of the Census to depend on the accuracy or the fidelity of paid Commissioners, or their subordinate Enumerators, but intended it to be, simply, *the deliberate and honest statements of the population.* We supposed that a copy of the Schedule of Questions was to be left at every inhabited house *previous* to the day, or night, on which the enumeration is to be made, in order that a part of the statements should be filled in at the proper time, by the householder; and if this is not the case, there will be some room to doubt the accuracy of the enumeration. A few days, or a month or two, of difference in the time of making the Returns, will, we presume, be a matter of small consequence, but it will not be a matter of small consequence—it will be a mere mockery, to have in Returns that are not correct. Now, there has been no schedules left or distributed in this part of the country—no enumerator has called—*no notice of any kind has been given, and we question if there are three men in the settlement, who know on what day the enumeration should have been made, or who even know that a Census is being taken!* The day is past, and it may yet be a considerable time before the enumerator comes round, and how, then, are these householders to remember who slept in their houses on a particular night, some weeks ago, and of which night they had no intimation, and kept no record? How are they now to know the names, ages, birthplace, &c., &c., of the strangers who may have sojourned with them on that particular night? Truly, if this is the way in which the Census of the population is to be taken throughout the Province, we would give little for its accuracy. We know not whose is the fault, but surely, there is a fault somewhere!

☞ We regret that previous engagements [illegible] of the kind invitations received from the admirers of Burns both in Goderich and Clinton. It is the first attempt of the kind that has been proposed in Goderich, and on that account we would have felt it to be our duty to prefer that invitation and to have "taken the chair on the occasion." But, unfortunately, before receiving either invitation, we had made arrangements to deliver a number of Lectures on that week, and on the evening of the "Birthday," one in the township of McGillivray. As the appointments are all in that section of the country, we could not properly postpone one without postponing the whole of them, and thus, causing disappointment to a great number of our friends. The "Burns' Clubs" of Clinton and Goderich, must therefore excuse us on the present occasion, and we will give in hope of having an opportunity of participating in their festivities on a future time.

We have often wondered why no celebration of Burns' birthday was held in Goderich, and it would have given us much pleasure to have assisted in the first attempt. The projectors, however, have our warmest wishes for their success, and as we have full faith in both their ability and their enthusiasm, we have no fears of the result.

The present is not the first attempt in Clinton, and according to report the former celebrations were decidedly successful, but only introductory to the coming one, which is contemplated on an extra scale. The Dinner is to be in the Orange Hall, and is to be followed by a Ball, for which the arrangements and preparations are said to be *remarkably Grand.* And to enlighten the proceedings and add to the attraction of the Demonstration, there is to be a splendid torchlight procession, headed by a band of pipers in their native garb. The whole affair will, undoubtedly, be interesting and highly satisfactory, and we will be happy to chronicle the fact of its entire success.

☞ We really feel some reluctance in allowing a public official to be held up to public derision in our columns, by an anonymous correspondent, who merely complains of the *manner* in which the man discharges the duties of his office. If the Inspector of Weights and Measures is guilty of any dereliction of duty, or if he even rides on the top of his commission, by using "insolence and saucy language" to those under his inspection, we presume the County Council will listen to a direct and reasonable accusation. But we really do not think the accusation should be made anonymously through a public newspaper.

☞ Intercourse with persons of decided virtue and excellence is of great importance to the formation of a good character. The force of example is powerful. We are creatures of imitation, and by a necessary influence our habits and tempers are very much formed on the model of those with whom we associate.

Men may give good advice, but they cannot give the sense to profit by it.

☞ The Minutes of the Board of School Trustees will appear in our next.

☞ Messrs. Van Every & Rumball the enterprising proprietors of the *Kalodah* are building a fore and aft schooner with a carrying capacity of 20,000 bushels. They have now forty ship carpenters at work and advertise for 50 more. They are determined to have her ready as soon as navigation opens.—She is by far the largest vessel ever attempted on Goderich. Who says we are not progressing?

Municipal.

PROEEDINGS OF THE GODERICH TOWN COUNCIL.

(*Reported for the Huron Signal*)

The New Council met on Monday at noon in pursuance of the Statute. The Mayor elect, M. C. Cameron Esq., presiding.

The Clerk read the Recorded Minute of the declaration of the Mayor on the 24th Dec. ult., and also read the certified returns from the different returning officers, exhibiting the election of the following gentlemen as councillors:—

St. George's Ward—Messrs. McKay, Seymour and Vanevery.

St. Patrick's Ward—Horton, Deacr. and Runciman.

St. David's Ward—Gibbons, Wallace and Owen.

St. Andrew's Ward—Rumball, Watson and Nicholls.

The Council then proceeded to elect the Reeve and Deputy Reeve, as follows:

On motion of Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr Nicholls, Robert Gibbons was unanimously reelected as Reeve.

On motion of Mr. Runciman, seconded by the Reeve William Wallace Esq. was unanimously elected Deputy Reeve.

The Council then proceeded to appoint standing Committees for the year.

They then adjourned to meet again on Friday week at half-past 7 o'clock.

County of Huron Agricultural Society.

The Annual Meeting of this Society took place at the Colborne Hotel, Goderich on Saturday last, the 19th inst.

The following Gentlemen were elected office bearers for the current year:—

ROBERT GIBBONS, Esq., Warden United Counties Huron & Bruce—*President.*

WM. PIPER, Esq., and JUDGE COURT, *1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents.*

G. M. TRUEMAN, *Secretary.*

ANDREW DONOGH, *Treasurer.*

Directors—Messrs W. Young, P. Crol, J. W. Elliott, J. Hunter, I. Salkeld, R. Kinahan and R. Johnson.

The following Branch Societies' reports were handed in and read:

Wawanosh & Ashfield, Exeter, Biddulph, McGillivray, Hay, Stanley, and Howick.

Some discussion took place with a view of holding a general County Show this year at a central point; the Secretary was desired to communicate with the different Branch Societies of the County for the purpose of having a meeting of Delegates at Clinton about the 15th of February on the subject.

Correspondence.

MR. EDITOR,

Sir,—I observe in your paper of the 9th inst. a scurrilous article, over a fictitious signature, which I most certainly would have treated with contempt, were not that his misrepresentations about a praiseworthy public undertaking (namely the gravelling of the Thames Road,) might mislead friends at a distance, who are not better informed, think that the design is abandoned.

The facts of the case are simply these:—The Thames Road leads in a direct line from Lake Huron to Mitchell, and there is such an amount of travel along it, not only from the concessions along the north and south of it, but from Stephen, Hay and other townships to the west of it, and from a great many townships on the north and east of it, that it is impossible for the residenters on the road to keep it up by Statute labour, and the consequence is, that in the Spring and Fall it is impossible to travel on it at all. In the expectation of getting assistance from the Council and from other parties interested, they have formed a Joint Stock Company to gravel 8½ miles of it, being half way from Francistown to Mitchell, and the Mitchell folks are willing to meet them there. The Thames Road folks have failed thus far in getting the Council to assist; still they have hopes of being able to accomplish the work; they have subscriptions now to the amount of nearly $4000, by persons living on the road, or in the neighborhood of it, and are still making exertions for more. They may not be able to get subscriptions enough to carry thro' the work, but surely we will not be ridiculed for making the attempt, by any one who has a particle of common sense. Your correspondent's description of a meeting at the Stone Church, is a tissue of misrepresentation, falsehood and balderdash; but the intention is evidently to give a stab in the dark—why don't he come out in his true colours, and not assume a name to which he has not the smallest claim? The only one who acted irreverently at the meeting, was a creature; a sort of mongrel between a rogue and fool, and whom I strongly suspect to be the writer of the description of the meeting, with the exception of one person who used an improper expression only once, and for which he afterwards made an apology. So much for his assertions about cursing. The person he alludes to, had he put his mitts on the red hot stove, instead of the cold one, would have proven himself to be, what the creature insinuated him to have been, intoxicated. The creature's style, and the expression "great nation," "Loaves and Fishes," "Brown and the big Globe," &c., &c., are plagiarisms from a letter which he got hold of two or three weeks ago, and with which he was greatly titculed, said to be written by a witty Scotchman to his friends in the old country, giving a burlesque account of the politicians of Canada, and which the creature has used in his letter in disregard of rhyme, reason, or truth. I may mention that it was only the subscribers and those friendly to gravelling the Thames road who were notified to attend the said meeting; and I leave you, Mr. Editor, and your readers to say whether the writer of that article is a friend to that, and if not, what part did he act in regard to that meeting. He says he is no Grammarian—the admission is superfluous; but, perhaps, Mr. Editor, you could enlighten me as to what tongue his letter is written in: it is not English, and I am sure it is not Lowland Scotch; I have shewn it to a Highlander, who denies it is Gaelic, and Dutchmen say it is neither high nor low Dutch.

Hoping, Mr. Editor, you will give this a place in your Journal,

I am, Sir,
Your obed't serv't,
JAMES MACKENZIE.

Thames Road, 11th Jan., 1861.

UNITED COUNTIES OF HURON AND BRUCE, 28th Dec., 1860.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

DEAR SIR,

We beg leave to ask, through the columns of the *Huron Signal*, how it is that the public, and particularly the mercantile community, of these United Counties has to submit to insult and overbearing tyranny from a public servant. We refer to the Inspector of Weights and Measures, who by the way is a good deal like the d——l's apothecary "double diligent in his duties," and goes about in the garb of office seeking whom he may annoy and "*wheedle*" out of a few sixpences. Now, Mr. Editor, we have no objection to a quarterly, monthly, weekly, or even daily inspection of our weights and measures, providing we are not troubled with drunken, low bred insolence and authority with the never ending gabble, "I'm sworn, I'm sworn, I'm sworn to do myduty, I'm, I'm sworn," &c., "will take you up before a Magistrate if I find any thing wrong." This is the invariable answer to any question you may ask him. Now, Mr. Editor, just picture to yourself a person of uncouth, rude and uncivil manners, coming in contact with, I may say, the more enlightened of his fellow men, showing his domineering power, and insulting them on their own premises, and you will have a pretty correct likeness of our present Inspector.

We don't make these statements without good knowledge of the facts, with a firm conviction that a person performing the duties of Inspector with *civility*, no matter how *correcting* or *scrupulous* he may be, will do more to establish just weights and measures, in the United Counties, than nine hundred such men as the present Inspector.

Yours, &c., &c.,
CIVILITY.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS
FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES.

KINCARDINE.

Ward No. 1.....Wm. Millar
" 2.....J. McKinney
" 3.....Geo. Daniel
" 4.....Wm. Reekie
" 5.....John McRae.

GREY.

Joseph Welsh, Peter McDonald, Robert Leckie, John McIntyre, John Mitchell.

BIDDULPH.

Ward No. 1.....John Hodgins
" 2.....John McFalls
" 3.....H. B. Hodgins
" 4.....M. Moylan
" 5.....J. McLaughlin.

MAYORS ELECT.

Goderich—M. C. Cameron.
Quebec— —— Pope.
Toronto—J. G. Bowes.
Hamilton—H. McKinstry.
Kingston—O. S. Gildersleeve.
Ottawa— —— Workman.
London—F. E. Cornish.
Coburg—Asa Burnham.
Galt—Wm. Robinson.
Paris—C. Whitlaw.
Sarnia—T. W. Johnson.
Cornwall—S. Y. Chesley.
P'eton—W. Ross.
Dundas—T. H. McKenzie.
Stratford—W. F. McCulloch.
Collingwood—J. McWatt.
Guelph—Dr. Parker.

THE CANADA COMPANY.

(From the Times' Money article, Dec. 28.)

At a meeting of the Canada Company this afternoon (Mr. C. Franks in the chair), a dividend was declared at the proposed rate of £2 10s per share free of income-tax. It was stated that the business of the company is making satisfactory progress, the large quantity of land converted into freehold by the lessee settlers, and the favorable prices obtained for the new leases, showing the good results of the abundant harvests during the last two seasons. The wheat crop this year is believed to have been the largest ever known, exceeding even that of 1859, which was 16 per cent above the average of the 20 years preceding. Only about a third has as yet been brought to market, and the realization of the remainder is expected to give an important impulse to trade, and has already tended to relieve the previous pressure for money. The railway and harbor works at Goderich are proceeding satisfactorily, and have increased the demand for property in the district. The comparative statement of the operations of the company, from the 1st of January to the 30th of November, 1860, shows that the lands sold during that period were 1,392 acres, and leased, 30,709 acres, being an increase respectively of 330 and 7,333 acres. The average price was 53s 1d—in advance of 5s 9d. The land converted into freeholds, exclusive of town and park lots, was 56,217 acres, against 36,839 in 1859. The total receipts were £79,082 currency, being an augmentation of £27,594.—The balance in hand in London is £26,014.

The Grand Trunk Bondholders.

(From the Times' Money article, Dec. 28.)

With regard to the first preference bonds of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada a statement has been issued by Messrs. Ashurst & Co., solicitors for one of the large holders, as to the course intended to be pursued to protect the rights of their clients. The object is to obtain in the first instance a clear and concurrent specification of those rights, and then as far as possible to avoid every thing that would lead to litigation or confusion calculated to create difficulties in keeping the line in operation. Messrs. Baring and Glyn, the judgment creditors on this side, have, it is stated, sent out instructions to their agents in Canada to act in concert with the agents of Messrs. Ashurst, and to take steps to protect the property in case of attack by judgment creditors in Canada.

The Coming Spring in Europe.

The New York *Herald* prognosticates a stirring time in Europe early in the present year. It professes to have just received from one of its correspondents in Paris, who, it is said, has access to the highest and most reliable sources of information, a letter in which it is stated that the following is a programme decided on between the Governments of France, England, Russia and Prussia, in view of the events which are preparing for the spring:—

1. France to continue indefinitely her military occupation of Rome and of Syria, but is to withdraw her fleet from Gaeta. Orders to that effect have been sent to Admiral Tinan.

2. Bavaria, Saxony and several of the smaller German States having pledged to support Austria in the event of Garibaldi commencing his threatened campaign against her by assisting the Hungarian revolutionists, it is understood that no opposition will be offered to France's extension of her frontiers to the Rhine. Prussia is to be indemnified by slices of Austrian territory and the supreme authority of the Confederation, the smaller sovereigns acting merely as viceroys. This will give to the German people the constitutional guarantees and the unity which they so much admire.

3. Russia undertakes not to aid Austria, even though Poland should be included in the renewed nationalities. This, at first sight would appear improbable, but for the fact that she is to get a compensation to which she attaches an infinitely higher value. The possession of Constantinople and the undisputed control of the Black Sea are objects to her of such traditional pride and importance that she will gladly yield the Poles their independence to secure them.

4. England is to have for her concurrence Egypt, which, with Malta, will secure to her the shortest and most direct route to her Indian empire.

NEWS FROM MEXICO.

Intelligence of the defeat of Miramon and Marquez has been received at Havana by the English steamer from Vera Cruz. We take the following details from the *Diario de la Merina*:—

The battle took place on the hills of San Miguel Calculalpan, on the 22nd ult., and lasted two hours, from 8 till 10 a.m. It was very bloody, and ended in the complete rout of Miramon and his army, leaving the greater part of the latter, with all the artillery, &c. in the hands of General Gonzalez Ortega.

It is said that Miramon and the Generals who were able to follow him sought refuge in the capital, and being unable to collect any forces upon which they could depend for a defence of the place, contemplated a capitulation, whereupon the Spanish Ambassador and French Minister went out to meet Gen. Ortega, accompanied by Berriozabel and Agustiran, for the purpose of obtaining guarantees for Miramon, and other chiefs in the reaction would be considered as prisoners of war. Miramon and his friends left the capital on the night of the 23d or 24th with about 1200 men and some light artillery, a part of which force, it is said, left him on the road. With him were Marquez, Cobos, Negrete, Diaz, Casanova, the two Velez, Perez Gomez, and some others equally comprised. The latest accounts state the he had formed a junction with Mejia, [illegible] at the sierra of Queretaro.

Ortega entered Mexico city on the 24th, without firing a shot. The day previously the corporation had entrusted the command of the city to Berriozabel, who had been set at liberty, to gether with Degollado and the others. It is said there was not the slightest disturbance. A decree had been published condemning robbers to death. Ortega sent an urgent message to President Juarez, confining his appointments simply to such offices in the Custom House, &c., as were absolutely necessary. One of the General's first acts was the dismissal of such troops as were under Miramon's orders and the substitution of some of his own. Parole had surrendered, and the forces of Cobos in Oajaca had been dispersed.

In Vera Cruz there had been great rejoicing, and employees had already set out for the capital. The President was to leave, it was said, on the 2nd with Messrs. Emparan and Fuente. He had published a decree with the object of establishing the exercise of Catholic and other modes of worship in the country.

The *Trait d'Union*, of the 2nd, publishes a decree, of Ortega, announcing his peaceful sentiments and his resolution not to seek to satisfy any feeling of revenge.

.....An English engineer has adapted the screw and lever to the production of a railway brake, which is said to be so immense in power that a child, by turning the brake handle, can at once stop a train of cars.

The Snowstorm in England and Scotland.

PORTLAND, December 27.

A heavy fall of snow, accompanied by a high S. E. wind, set in here shortly after dark last evening, the wind increasing in force as night came on, until at midnight it blew a stiff gale. The crews of the vessels anchored off Ryde, Isle of Wight, state that their vessels pitched bows under, a tremendous roll of of sea setting in over the banks. Two schooners; coal laden, which were moored on the sands to the windward of Ryde-pier, broke loose from their moorings, and drove right through the pier, leaving chasms of 50 yards in length. The passengers from Ryde by the steamboats crossing to Portsmouth had to be taken below the scene of accident in carts, and from them transferred by boats to the outer end of the pier to enable them to embark in the steamboats. About 10 p. m. some female servants in a gentleman's house in Pelham's Shrubs, a short distance outside the town, arrived in Ryde, and stated that they could hear men's voices calling out for help at a distance from the shore. Some watermen proceeded in the direction that had been named, and found two men clinging to the masthead of a sunken barge, and nearly exhausted by their exertions to make themselves heard and from the violence of the weather. A barge was also sunk to the windward of the pier, and several other vessels severely injured. To-day both wind and sea have gone down considerably, but snow has fallen almost continuously. And present appearances indicate a still greater fall. The air is now much softer than it has been for some days past.

EDINBURGH, Dec. 27.

The town and surrounding country have now been wrapped for eight days in a thick sheet of snow, and frost has set in with a severity that has not been paralelled for many years. In the town the thermometer has fallen 8 deg. Fahrenheit, and in some exposed situations in the country has fallen several degrees below zero. For several days the frost has been accompanied by a fog so dense as to require gaslight at mid-day, and on Monday a serious collision took place between two of the steamers plying on the Burntisland and Granton ferry, the fog being so thick that one could scarcely see three or four yards off. The trains have in many cases been coming in very late, owing to the slippery state of the rails, and some of them have been suspended during the continuance of the storm. The snow arrested while falling from the housetops, hangs in crusted masses and crystals from the eaves, and the windows, even of warm rooms, are frosted in exquisite patterns, resembling the flora of fossils. Carts are busy removing the snow from the thoroughfares—a labour almost equal to the cleaning of the Augean stable; several sleighs and sledges have appeared on the streets, and the furs and overclothes now worn would serve for almost a Lapland winter. To the poor the present visitation is excessively severe, causing not only infinite hardships, but attended with the suspension of nearly every kind of outdoor labour.—The sickness and mortality have also been greatly increased by the present trying weather. The bursting of waterpipes and stoppage of gas meters are among the domestic inconveniences from which we at present suffer.

On Thursday the Tyne had a singular appearance of Newcastle-quay and Gateshead It was entirely frozen over from the Tyne bridge to the bottom of the quay, forming a very fine sheet of ice. Hundreds of persons were upon the ice, skating and sliding, and in the afternoon it appeared as if all the quay side brokers and merchants had taken to the ice, and were disporting themselves as if they were boys again. A tent was erected in the middle of the river, from which refreshments were dispensed. It is 35 years since the Tyne was frozen over. The river is entirely blocked up down to the low end of the Long Reach. At Bill Point, St. Lawrence, and some other parts of the river, an immense mass of ice is accumulated. Above Tyne-bridge the river is entirely covered with ice. A fleet of light collier vessels has arrived in the Tyne. Fortunately, the entrance to the Tyne and Northumberland Docks are open, so that there will be no impediment to their loading, as all the colliery railways are working. On Thursday there was a considerable elevation of temperature. Sunday and Monday were the coldest days ever remembered in the county of Northumberland.

The weather at Leeds continues very severe. There is not the slightest appearance of the frost and snow breaking up. The atmosphere was tolerably bright and clear up to about noon yesterday, after which a dense fog set in, and continued up to the time at which this paragraph was sent to our correspondent.—[London Times, Dec. 29.

Lord Brougham's Letter to the Queen.

Lord Brougham, in reproducing his volume, entitled, "The British Constitution, its History, Structure, and Functions," has heralded the work by the following dedication to her majesty:

TO THE QUEEN—Madam: I presume to lay at your Majesty's feet a work, the result of many [illegible] I propose to express facts, institute comparisons, draw comparisons, and expound principles, often too little considered in this country by those who enjoy the inestimable blessings of our political system, and little understood in other countries by those who are endeavoring to naturalize it among themselves, and for whose success the wishes of all must be more hearty than their hopes can be sanguine.

☞ In America, perhaps, more than in Europe, the inventors are likely to rsap a fortune, as the rapid development of the sources of wealth and the scarcity and comparatively high price of manual labor, necessitate the almost immediate introduction of any really useful labor saving machine. This is especially true of agricultural implements, and often large fortunes are realised on simple articles of this description. A gentleman by the name of Mr. Peeler, who is said to have realized $400,000 from the sale of a patent plow, has lately proved the profitableness of his invention and the goodness of his heart by giving $200,000 of this sum to the Methodist Church of the United States.

Birth.

On Saturday the 19th inst., the wife of Ira Lewis, Esq., County Crown Attorney, of a Daughter.

Died,

At 16 Columbia Street, Detroit, on Saturday morning, January 12th, Charles Albert, second son of Lafayette and Ann Holmes, aged four years and four months.

GODERICH MARKETS.

☞ *Corrected every Week—the quotations given being the Prices producers may expect to realize. The rates stated may be depended upon as correct at the date of our report.*

SIGNAL OFFICE,
Goderich, Tuesday, Jan. 22nd, 1861.

Fall Wheat,	$1.03	a 1.05
Spring do	0.87	a 0.95
Oats,	0.22	a 0.20
Peas	0.40	a 0.00
Barley	0.40	0.42
Potatoes,	0.00	a 0.25
Flour, per bbl	4.75	a 4.50
Beef, per lb	0.05	a 0.06
Mutton, per lb	0.05	a 0.06
Pork, per 100 lbs	5.00	a 4.50
Butter	0.00	a 0.20
Eggs, per doz	0.00	a 0.20
Hay, per ton	9.50	a 9.00
Cordwood (dry)	2.00	a 2.25
do green	1.50	a 1.75
Hides	0.00	a 0.50
Turkeys	0.37½	a 4.50
Geese	0.50	a 0 37½
Beef, by quarter, per 100 lbs.	4.00	a 5.00
Fowls, per pair	0.20	a 0.25
Turnips (Swede) per bsh	0.12½	a 0.00
Straw per load	2.00	a 2.50

Montreal Commercial Report.

PRODUCE.

There has been considerable activity in our Market during the past week in breadstuffs, at an advance on our previous quotations; but in Pork and Beef, transactions have been limited and rates declining. Foreign advices continue to favour the shippers of Flour and Wheat, and from the severity of the winter in England, the harvest there this year will be gathered in late. This insures a good demand for Canadian produce, during the busiest period of the Montreal shipping season; and even if the yield prove a plentiful one, the late season at which it will be available, will allow of a large and remunerative trade being done on this side.

Flour—Superfine $5.45 and $5.50; $5.90 to $6.00 has been accepted. Bag flour $2.75 to $2,80.

Wheat—Good samples of Upper Canada Spring have been sold at $1.15 to $1.17; demand brisk. Fall Wheat; no transactions.

Pease 72½ to 75 cts. for 66lbs.

Oats 37½ to 40c for 40 lbs.

Dressed Hogs—$6½ for a lot averaging 300 lbs.

Pork— dull; Mess $18½ to $19; Prime Mess $12 to $14; Prime $10 to $11.

Ashes— no change. Pots $5.40. Pearls $5.80.

GROCERIES.

Sugars—Hhd Cuba $6.85 to $7.10.

Teas—30 Hf. Chests Hy. Twankay, 40c to 45c; 25 Hf. Chests Y. Hyson, 55c to 57c.; 5 Catties Gunpowder, 58c.; Black Teas, 36c to 40c.

Rice—30 Sacks Arracan, at 17s 6d.

Soda—$3.50.

Refinery Sugars—Lorf, 10¼c.; Dry Crushed 9¾c; Crushed A., 9¾; Yellow 8c.

Fish.—Green Cod in full supply at $3 to $3.50.

W. & T. LEEMING.

Montreal, Jan. 19th, 1860.

[*From the Free Press.*]

LONDON, Jan. 19, 1861.

A good busy market and prices steady.

Dressed Hogs—The number brought in yesterday amounted to 60,000 lbs; to-day we had nearly 39,000 lbs.

GRAIN—Fall Wheat; per bush, $1 to 1.10. Spring 90c a 93c. Barley, per bush, 40c a 45c. Oats, 19c a 20c. Peas, 45c a 47c. Corn, 42c a 45c. Rye, 50c. Buck Wheat, 25c.

FLOUR—Flour per 100 lbs, $2.50 a 3.00. Rye Flour $1.50 per 100 lbs. Corn Meal, $1.50. Oat Meal: $2.25. Pot Barley, $3. Bran per ton, $9.50 per 100 lbs. Sh