The Mechanics' Register.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1851.

The Kings of the Soil.

Black sin may nestle below a crest,
And crime below a crown;
As good hearts beat 'neath a fustian vest
As under a silken gown.

Shall tales be told of the chiefs, who sold
Their sinews to crush and kill,
And never a word be sung or heard
Of the men who reap and till?

I bow in thanks to the sturdy throng,
Who greet the young morn in toil;
And the burthen I give my earnest song
Shall be this—the Kings of the Soil!

Then sing for the Kings that have no crown
But the blue sky over their head:
Never Sultan or Dey had such powers as they
To withhold or to offer bread.

Proud ships may hold both silver and gold,
The wealth of a distant strand;
But ships would not, and be valued not,
Were there none to till the land.

The widest heath and the wildest brake
Are rich as the richest fleet:
For they gladden the wild birds when they wake,
And give them food to eat.

I value him whose foot can tread
By the corn his hand has sown:
When he hears the stir of the yellow read,
It is more than music's tone.

There are prophet sounds that stir the grain,
When its golden stocks shoot up:
Voices that tell how a world of men
Shall daily dine and sup.

Then shame! oh, shame! on the miser's creed,
Which holds back its praise or pay
From the man whose hands make rich the lands:
For who earn it more than they?

The poet hath gladdened with song the past,
And still sweetly he striketh the string;
But a brighter light on him is cast
Who can plough as well as sing.

Then sing for the Kings who have no crown
But the blue sky over their head:
No Sultan or Dey had such power as they
To withhold or offer bread.

Mistaken Notions respecting Labour.—It there be one subject more than another upon which the opinions of the public require to be set right, it appears to us to be the great one of labour. We do not pretend to assign any causes other than such as exist every where: the natural tendency of mankind is to separate into castes, in which freedom from labour is considered the great good, and then the necessity of submitting to it is associated with the ideas of degradation and dependence. In European Countries, where the ancient forms of society tolerate such artificial distinctions, they may be expected to prevail; where one man is born with a golden spoon in his mouth, and another with an iron chain about his neck, freedom from which is impossible, we should not be surprised to find erroneous ideas of labour; but in a place and a country where every man in a great degree makes or mars his own fortune, and is the architect of his own destiny, to dream of any other distinctions than such as merit confers is preposterous; or to talk of labour being disgraceful or degrading, is a gross perversion of terms. Still, with such facts staring them in the face, there are multitudes who have yet to learn that any condition of life is honourable which shall permit them to be independent and preserve them from dishonour.

If the opinion that labour is degrading—personal labour with the hands we mean—were a harmless error, if any error can be called harmless; if it did not have a blighting and pestiferous influence on the prospects of thousands, it might be allowed to pass without notice; but such is not the case; for its influence is shewn and felt in a vast number of cases, and it is particularly discovered in the anxiety which many parents display in crowding and pushing their sons into what are called the learned professions, in preference to giving them a sound practical education, and fitting them for usefulness, as farmers and mechanics. The acquisition of wealth is not more general, if indeed so much, among professional men, than it is among farmers and mechanics. But the boy, and even the man, is flattered with the idea that he is going to escape the primeval curse, and that, when mixing with his fellow men, he shall not be classed among the common herd that toil and sweat for their daily bread. Poor fool! If such be his reasons for spending so many years of his life, and so much money, in obtaining what is too frequently misnamed an education, he had better been a slave at the oar; for of the latter, it may be said, he is useful in one way at least, while the other is not only useless to the world, but his example serves to perpetuate error. The young should be educated as much as possible, but they should not be prepared for situations in which they are not wanted, nor in such a way as to make them useless members of the community, *incapable of getting a direct living in any honourable way, if a change of circumstances or unavoidable necessity throw them on their own resources.* This is not, properly speaking, education, at least not such as we require in a country in which utility and physical training is more indispensably necessary than abstract knowledge.

A poor boy commences his life in the country where he gains vigour of constitution and energy of mind. He goes to the city and amasses a large fortune. His wife was selected for the qualities he admired, thrift and good housewifery. His sons and daughters are educated with all the fashionable additions of the age, but entirely ignorant of any useful occupation or mechanical work, and consequently they entertain a cordial dislike to labour in any form. Well, misfortune overtakes the family, and from the height of gentility, they are plunged into the abyss of destitution. How few of these sons and daughters will have energy and decision of character enough to accommodate themselves to their new condition; to set about in earnest the *learning* of the art of being useful—of being able, by honest industry, to provide for themselves! We wish we could say, there was any probability that a single one of them would do so. On the contrary, it is almost certain, that they will cling to what they formerly called good society, despise or reject honest labour, and thus gradually sink down into a kind of shabby gentility, the principal ingredients of which are self-inflicted poverty and mean pride; and not unfrequently, to keep up appearances, recourse is had to practices which debase the mind, and lead gradually, but securely, to crime, degradation, and infamy, if not to public punishment. Let it then be fully impressed on the mind of every one, that labour, personal labour in itself, is never disgraceful, but, on the contrary, that honest and well directed labour, is most honourable to all, and that the ability to provide for themselves, is a duty enjoined by God himself, on every human being.

To Correspondents.

A correspondent asks us the difference between the word *Jacobin* and *Jacobite*. *Jacobin* is a word derived from French history. The Jacobins were a political club, which bore a conspicuous part in the first revolution, and were formed by some members of the first Assembly from Brittany. They at first named themselves the friends of the revolution; but as, at the end of 1789, they held their meetings in the Hall of the suppressed Jacobin Monastery in the Rue St. Honore, the name of Jacobins, then familiarly given them, was finally assumed by themselves. The ecclesiastical term Jacobin signifies the religion of the order of St. Dominic in France, because the situation of their principal convent in Paris was near the Rue St. Jacques. After the downfall of Robespierre, the Jacobin Club became unpopular, and having attempted an insurrection in favour of the Terrorists in 1794, it was dispersed by force, and finally suppressed.

Jacobite in English history—that party who, after the revolution of 1688, adhered to James II., and afterwards to his descendants. In Scotland and Ireland, the Jacobite party formed one of the two great divisions of each nation. In England, the Jacobites were at first silent, but arose gradually into consideration during the reign of William, until, on the arrival of George I. in 1715, they broke out into an unsuccessful rebellion in Scotland, the failure of which gave a check to the English Jacobites. In Scotland, the strength and influence of the party remained unabated until the battle of Culloden, in 1746, when an end was put to its political existence.

"*Nemo.*"—The kit-kat size of a picture derives its name from a celebrated Association in London, called the Kitcat Club, which was originated for convival purposes about the year 1688, and as its most distinguishing members were Whigs in politics, it gradually assumed a political character, until, in the reign of Queen Anne, it became exclusively so. It was originally formed in Shire Lane, and derived its name from one Christopher (Kit) Kat, who supplied the members with mutton pies. The fame of this Club has been transmitted chiefly by the collection of portraits of the members painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, himself a member, who was obliged to invent a new-sized canvas to suit the height of the Club-room walls, which were low: whence has originated the application of the epithet kit-kat to any portrait about three-quarters in length. It was dissolved in the year 1720.

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☞ VOLUNTARY CORRESPONDENCE solicited from all parts of the Continent of America. If made use of, the person transmitting the information will be liberally remunerated.

THE COURIER.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1851.

It appears that the Austrian Government has taken great offence at the kind manner in which Kossuth was received in England, and blames Lord Palmerston bitterly for not interfering to prevent those popular demonstrations. His Lordship was also some time ago soundly rated by the Austrian Minister at the Court of London, because he would not hang up all Barclay & Perkins' brewers for mobbing one of their butchers. These detestable despots ought to know by this time, says the correspondent of the *British Colonist*, that Englishmen are not accustomed to restrain the expression of their feelings at the command of any Minister, and that Lord Palmerston, were he inclined—which he certainly is not—to make the attempt, would not only fail to secure obedience to his mandate, but would get most consumedly laughed at for his pains. *Punch* would breakfast and dine and sup upon such a proceeding for a whole month. It is also reported that the humbug passport-granting and withholding Cabinet of Vienna, ever strong in wrong and weak in right, has written in energetic terms to Washington on the subject, and has gone down on its knees to beg that no ovation will be permitted to the great Hungarian while he remains in America. But it is greatly to be feared that Brother Jonathan will care as little for so despotic a suggestion as honest John Bull himself, and will laugh all such nonsense to scorn. The Austrian seems as ignorant of what real freedom is, and how it is preserved and constituted in England and America, as if he had been living in the very heart of Africa, cutting off the heads of a few fellows every morning to give him a whet for his breakfast. The time is fast approaching when all such disgraceful despotisms shall be swept away from the fair face of Europe, and men and governments, trusting to the good sense and majesty of the people, will relinquish that surveillence by which they hold every individual in bondage to such a degree that he cannot cross the border of his own state without asking leave, or go into a foreign country without being interfered with, and his motions watched and restrained by the miserable agents of despotism.

The *Colonist* says that, though Mr. Boulton has been elected for Toronto, the probability is that, in his peculiar situation, he will not be allowed to take his seat, and that he will be rejected as disqualified by the House. This will not affect the interests of the Conservatives, as Mr. Henry Sherwood, the next on the list, will be declared duly elected as the colleague of Mr. Ridout. It is also said that the election may probably be contested on other grounds, as several votes were refused by the Deputy Returning Officers, which, in the opinion of others, should have been accepted. This, however, will not affect the return of Mr. Ridout, who stands at the head of the poll.

Accounts from Dalmatia inform us that a very destructive earthquake occurred there on the 19th October. Violent detonations, like the discharge of artillery, preceded the shock, which lasted about a quarter of an hour. It is said that the waters of the River Volussa rose two feet above the ordinary level six miles from the Town of Vallona, and in the Town itself many houses were tumbled to the ground. The Town of Beratti, 30 miles from Vellona, is entirely destroyed. Many villages have altogether disappeared, leaving not even a wreck behind, and many of the inhabitants have been swallowed up or buried under the ruins of their houses. The shocks continued to be felt up to nearly the end of the month.

A London correspondent of one of the papers, who had been despatched to Egypt to write letters home, says her products consist of wheat, flies, and sore-eyed children. So much for her crops. In remarking on her commerce, he observes that her imports are made of under-done Englishmen in pursuit of the pyramids—while her exports consist of the same Englishmen "done brown," and fleeing from beggars and beg-bugs.

We beg to call attention to a Sale of Wines at the store of Messrs. Torry, Clarke & Co. on Friday next—Sale to commence at half-past two o'clock, P.M. These Wines have been carefully selected by Mr. Torry, whose knowledge of the vintages is well known. It is seldom that so good a chance of obtaining the genuine article presents itself.

Messrs. Chalmers & Co.'s sale of Books, Stationery, Articles of *Vertu*, and Specimens of the Fine Arts, is proceeding every evening. We recommend this Stock of Goods to public consideration, and so far as we have seen, every thing is going off at a very low rate.

LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY.—A Meeting of the Members of this Society will take place this evening, (Wednesday,) at seven o'clock, in the Committee-Room of the Mechanics' Institute, Great St. James' Street.

Press of matter compels us to omit some remarks we intended to make in reference to Alderman Homier's Resolution at the last meeting of the City Council.

The London *Times* commences a notice of the death of the King of Hanover (late Duke of Cumberland) in the following strain:—

If we measured our observation by the charitable canon of the proverb, the remarks we could now offer would be scant indeed, for the good to be said of the Royal dead is little or none. Though born of a father who styled himself a Berkshire gentleman, and was as truly an English Sovereign as had ever worn a crown, Prince Ernest partook neither in disposition nor sympathies of that character by which our countrymen are distinguished, nor could we convey a better idea of the portrait before us than by describing it as that of a bad German prince of the last century. He was wholly German; German in features, German in tastes, German in principles, and German in manners. His ideas were never assimilated to the constitutional temperature of English opinions.

He regarded the people as they might have been regarded by a Landgrave of Hesse, and contemplated his own position as it might have been contemplated by a Prince of Hohenzollern. In our own days we have not to look for to discover that Germany can produce princely scions as virtuous and as accomplished as those of any age or country, but in former times it was otherwise, and at those Courts which were so rudely swept by the revolutionary hurricane, the prevailing type was that which found but too faithful a reproduction in the Duke of Cumberland. Of all the sons of King George III. he was the one of whom least good could be said or hoped by a people most loyally anxious to hope and say all

ST. JOHN, N. B.—The recent census of St. John makes the population of that city to be 22,934, showing the increase since 1840 to have been only 2,218. Of this number 11,062 are males and 11,872 females. The houses inhabited in the city number 2,055. There are 97 unoccupied, and 56 in process of erection. In the city and county of St. John, there are 38,616 inhabitants, which is an increase of only 5,658 since 1840.

Lord Cathcart is to be appointed Commander-in-Chief in Ireland, in place of Sir Edward Blakeney.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the members of this Association, held on the evening of the 9th inst., the following were elected as the Officers and Committee: President—Mr. J. H. Wunn; Vice Presidents—Messrs. T. Lyman, G. Childs, C. Calliot, and John Holland. Secretary—Mr. E. T. Taylor. Treasurer—Mr. W. G. Milne. Committee—Messrs. J. Mills, W. C. Evans, J. Knox, J. Barry, E. Moore, Neil McIntosh, jr., R. Morris, C. Mills, C. F. Smithers, R. S. Oliver, F. E. Gratton, and D. A. Poe. It was moved and carried, that Messrs. John Dougall, James Court, Joseph Wenham, D. Davidson, and the Evangelical Protestant ministers of the city be Honorary Members of the Association. An Introductory Lecture will be delivered by the Revd. D. Fraser on Thursday evening next, the 18th instant, at eight o'clock, in the Odd Fellows' Hall, to which the Public are invited. Admission free.

MALCOLM CAMERON AGAIN.—The *Huron Loyalist* says it received the following scrap of intelligence from a gentleman of the highest respectability:—

"The people here (viz., in Chatham) have had a specimen of the capering of Malcolm Cameron. He won the Catholics by going to Mass and by giving them a stove, &c.—It is no secret now that he went to the Catholic Chapel with a certain lady of this place; and, as she said, did as she did, crossed himself, knelt on the cold floor in a cold winter's night, and in short, went through all the forms just the same as if he had been a zealous Roman Catholic, labouring under an uneasy conscience."

We should answer the accusation even of the most contemptible of the yelping curs whose heels is a pitiful brute, but he may cause an overthrow.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Nov. 28th, 1851.

Whilst the body of the late King of Hanover has, at his own request, been lying in state, that his subjects might look upon the frail tenement which had resisted popular odium for so many years, a portion of the Press here has been reviving reports, the falsity of which has long been an ascertained fact. I allude to the case of Sellis, the suicide, which was one of the strongest proofs of how much prejudice will weigh with mankind. For many years, in any "liberal" circle, you would have been scoffed at, had you expressed a doubt whether the Duke of Cumberland murdered Sellis. Time, however, has rendered justice to the Duke, belied as he was, and no rational being now gives credit to the story. In the absence of more important matters, I may state the occurrence for the benefit of your readers. The case was this:—In the dead of the night, the Duke, then living in St. James' Palace, was assaulted in his bed by a man with a drawn sword, who attempted to assassinate him. The Duke resisted, and had his fingers cut with the weapon, but otherwise made such a resistance as to induce the man to quit his chamber. This man was the Italian valet, Sellis. He ran along a gallery, at the end of which was a door leading to his bedroom: he locked this door, shut himself in, and cut his throat with a razor. The alarm was of course given, and an enquiry ensued. Now it so happened that the clerk of the Coroner was one Dick Hayward, a man of somewhat revolutionary principles, who had been implicated in the treason business of 1794. Hayward, who was very desirous "to hang a royal Duke," went to the noted Francis Place, a Radical tailor then in business at Charing Cross. "What shall we do?" says Hayward. "Summon twelve of my neighbors on each side," rejoined Mr. Place; "make me foreman of the jury, and, by God, we will see justice done!" This plot was carried into effect, and sure enough Francis Place was chairman of the jury on the Coroner's inquest. After the jury was sworn, the Coroner discovered the position of the business, and there was an attempt made to exclude the Press. "Oh," says Place, "I will take notes, and the Press shall have every syllable." The Court was left open, and the enquiry went on. It turned out, however, that there was not the slightest evidence to support the vulgar notion, that the Duke had slain his valet; on the other hand, the proof was conclusive that Sellis had tried to murder him. The wounds on the Duke's fingers, as the struggle took place, could only have arisen from the fact of the aggressor having been left-handed. It was proved that Sellis was left-handed. The verdict was *felo de se* against Sellis, and he was buried in a cross-road. With the facts as I have briefly stated them, the public continued in error many years, and it was only at a later period, when the Duke appeared in Court, and told his own story, that the truth prevailed. The Duke was intensely unpopular, and held popular opinion in such utter scorn, that, if in the course of events he had ascended the Throne of these Realms, I do not think that his reign would have been of long duration. The Duchess of Gloucester is now the only surviving child of George III., and of a family of fifteen. Her Royal Highness is in receipt of a pension of £16,000 per annum. The pension of the late King of Hanover was £18,000 per annum.

I see by the papers that Mr. Tyndall, of Birmingham—who, I suppose, is the same person that behaved so scandalously in the affair of the Baroness de Beck—has presented Kossuth with £750, to be applied by him in any way he pleases in the cause of Hungary. Mr. Geash, M. P., has subscribed £100 to this fund. Fools and their money—the proverb is somewhat musty.

The Arctic Committee, of which Rear-Admiral Bowles, C. B., is Chairman, concluded the examination of the Officers of the recent Expedition last week, and the report of the result of the labours of the Committee will soon be ready. There is no doubt of another Expedition being fitted out, so as to take its departure for the Polar regions early in the Spring. It is also the general impression that the instructions to the Expedition of 1852 will be to devote its energies to the passage of Wellington Channel, and in the direction in which the open waters of Victoria Channel were observed by Capt. Penny in the early part of this year. I have always held the opinion that Sir John Franklin took the course up Wellington Channel, and if in existence would be found in that quarter. The new adventure of Lieut. Pim is based upon the presumption that Sir John has got inextricably encompassed with ice somewhere to the North of Behrings Straits, and Lieut. Pim has just started for Siberia, and bearing to the point in question, will commence such explorations as may at least satisfy the public mind that no step has been left untried to discover the fate of the Expedition. There is no doubt that the Emperor of Russia will issue such commands at St. Petersburgh as will secure Lieut. Pim a safe passage through the deserts which he must pass through before he can reach the Polar Ocean. All parties seem to concur in promoting Lieut. Pim's project, and all we, who live at home at ease, can do, is to cordially wish him every success in his glorious, although somewhat perilous, undertaking. The conduct of Sir Roderick Murchison, the President of the Royal Geographical Society, reflects great credit on him.

The Earl of Shaftesbury—better known as Lord Ashley—has been attending a series of Meetings in Lancashire and Yorkshire, the Factory operatives there being desirous to present him with some acknowledgement of his past services, and to renew their alliance with him as a member of the Upper House of the Legislature.

Lieutenant General Sir W. Napier and Friend Samuel Gurney and Mr. Chamerozzow, the very original aborigines' champions, have been joining issue regarding the policy we ought to pursue at the Cape. In my opinion, the General has the best of it. The Napiers are a restless family. There is first and foremost Sir Charles Napier, who is always writing down the Navy—then Sir W. Napier, who is never at rest except with a pen in his hand; then Sir Charles, the General, with his eccentricities, and Sir George, the pattern of Colonial Governors—all very good pen-men.

The Earl of Carlisle, after a full consideration of the circumstances connected with the recent inquiry into the conduct of Mr. Ramshay, the Judge of the County Court, at Liverpool, has given his decision, removing that gentleman from office.

The Lords of the Treasury have authorized the admission, duty free, of pieces of sawn firewood, not exceeding 2 feet long, 7 inches wide, and 3 parts of an inch thick, upon a declaration that the wood is intended solely for making herring barrels.

The conduct of the pilot, Percival, who had charge of the *Deacrura* Steamer, when she ran ashore in the Avon, has been investigated by a Committee of the Society of Merchant Venturers, and, being found guilty of an error of judgment in having so much way on the vessel, he was on Saturday suspended from the exercise of his calling for six calendar months.

Letters from Liverpool mention the suspension of two firms, both connected with the American trade—namely, Messrs. Pryde & Jones, and Messrs. Harnden & Co. The liabilities of the former are not mentioned, but they are supposed to be rather large. Those of Messrs. Harnden & Co. are understood to amount to about £60,000 or £80,000.

I have to record the loss, at an early hour on Friday morning last, of the fine bark *Emma*, Capt. Steers, from Newfoundland for Liverpool, together with the Captain, second officer, and all the crew (eleven in number), and a Liverpool pilot, who was conducting the ship into port. The only person saved was the chief officer, and his safety is to be attributed to his having lashed himself to the rigging, from which perilous situation he was rescued about daylight. It appears that the *Emma* got ashore on the spit of Burbo Bank, about eight miles from Liverpool, shortly before twelve o'clock on Thursday night, and after she had been ashore a short time a violent squall from the northward sprang up, which caused a very heavy sea to break over the bark. In a few minutes afterwards, she heeled over on her side, and all on board, with the exception of the mate, were washed overboard.

The Railway from St. Petersburg to Warsaw has been, by command of the Emperor, already marked out, and the earthworks are commenced. As the contemplated line is nearly double the length of the Moscow and St. Petersburg, it is not expected that it will be completed in less than ten years. The works of the last named line occupied in all eight years.

At at this moment politicians, who only look upon the successful party of the moment in order to trim their opinions, seem to regard Louis Napoleon as the rising sun, the "true master of the situation in France." I am by no means so sure of this. Certain it is, as I detailed last week, the Legislative Chamber passed a self-denying resolution by which it abrogated its own authority over the army, which the Constitution had conferred upon it; but it must be borne in mind that this vote was carried by the Mountain, who were evidently more actuated by detestation of the Conservative party, then they were filled with any confidence in Louis Napoleon. This would-be usurper, with a large body of general officers at his back, is, as I have told your readers all along, only waiting for an opportunity to declare himself Military Chief of France, in which contingency our neighbors may bid a long farewell to Representative Government. The slender interest which the Municipal Electoral Bill creates, proves that the people of France either do not care for the right of suffrage, or that they have no reliance in the permanency of any Parliamentary Electoral Law which may be engrafted in the Bill now under discussion. The Bill has been modified so as to make a six months residence the qualification of an established voter, and two years instead of three years will suffice for those voters who acquire the franchise by settlement; but the difficulties which are thrown in the way of getting on the register, will neutralise all the advantages of the modifications proposed. No wonder people do not care a rush what law is passed, inasmuch as it is not very likely to endure very long. No, the struggle is between the Assembly and Executive, and already the Mountain party have discovered that they made a mistake by throwing their numbers in the scale of the Bonapartists and rejecting the Questors' Bill. Accordingly, a revision of that vote is under discussion. There is a Bill in progress of the Council of State defining the responsibility of the President, and it is proposed to add a clause or an additional article to the Bill, confirming and regulating the Assembly's right of direct requisition of the troops in case of the President's impeachment. This renews the struggle in another form, and in the state of parties in the Chamber we must be prepared for votes of self-mutilation, just as the extreme parties, to mortify each other, are induced to coalesce with their direct opponents. The Municipal Electoral Bill has gone to the third reading by a majority of 441 to 229, and the Bill will probably be carried rapidly through the remaining stages. The Parisians have put the question to themselves, whether there shall be a Red or a White Convention. I fear a dictatorship of some sort is not far distant. M. Casabianca, the Minister of Commerce, is to be the Minister of Finance, in the room of M. Blondel, who has refused office; and M. Letevie Durefle is to take the vacant place of the first-named Minister.

From the other countries of Europe there is little news; pending the issue of the struggle in France, almost all political intrigue is in abeyance elsewhere. But the progress of events is eagerly watched.—In Austria matters appear to be going on from bad to worse. The expulsion of all suspected persons from Vienna is rigorously carried on, and the correspondent of the *Daily News* is the last personage who has been excluded.

UNITED STATES.

INTERESTING PROJECT.—Last evening, the Board of Aldermen received a petition, signed by hotel-keepers and others, asking that "Madison Square," in the Eighteenth Ward, be granted to Edward Riddle and his associates, who propose to erect upon said square a building commensurate with the size of the ground, constructed of iron and glass, for the purpose of an Industrial Exhibition of all Nations, and to cause the same to be open to the public on the 15th of April next.—"The building to be at least 600 feet in length, with a width of 200 feet, and the whole surmounted with a semi-cylindrical roof or dome made of glass, and of a sufficient height to make it one of the most imposing edifices ever erected in this or any other country, and involving an expenditure of at least $ 50,000." The memorial was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Aldermen Stutevant, Britton, Cook, Conklin, Dodge, and the President, Morgan Morgains.—*N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.*

AN ELOPEMENT CASE.—A WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN ABANDONED.—The *Manchester Mirror* contains an account of a sad elopement case which occurred in that city last week. The parties are one Edward Wilson, an overseer in the mills of the Stark Corporation, and a girl who worked in his rooms named Hannah J. Tilton. Wilson left a wife (who is sick) and three children, the youngest four or five weeks old. He took with him everything valuable from the house, even to the presents and trinkets which he had given to his children, and their school books. The unfeeling husband also took the money that his wife had earned by sewing, leaving her entirely destitute, and $40 behind to his washerwoman, with which she had entrusted him. Last Saturday night Wife n's wife received a letter from him, post-marked New York, written in the most cold and heartless style, telling her to forget him, and to teach his children to forget him. This heartless wretch is from 28 to 30 years of age. The girl is about 20.

THE END OF A SINGER.—The *New York Mirror* states that Guibeli, the well known Bass Singer of the Italian Opera House, died on Saturday evening of consumption. Not a single Italian connected with the Opera House attended his funeral. The coffin was lowered into the grave by three Americans, who raised a subscription to defray the expenses of the funeral. So thin and unsubstantial is the popularity of an actor.

IRON PAVEMENTS.—The *North British Mail* states that a successful experiment has been made with iron for paving. The bars of iron of which the pavement is composed are about three inches broad, and nearly the same depth. They are laid parallel to, and about one inch apart from each other—the object of the last-named provision being, we presume, to afford more secure footing to the horses as they pass along the street. The new invention seems a decided improvement. There is comparatively little noise and the horses appear to find a firm and secure footing.

PROVINCIAL.

Proceedings of the Corporation.

Wednesday, Dec. 11.

Present:—His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen Febre, Grenier, Homier, Lynch, McFarlane, Benjamin: Councillors Whitlaw, Atwater, Lamarche, McDonald, Frechette, McCambridge, Bronsdon, Montreuil, Thompson, and Larkin.

Councillor McCambridge moved, seconded by Councillor Montreuil:—The repeal of the 27th Section of the By-law which prohibits butchers from selling Pork, which was negatived on a division—Ayes 3, Nays 12.

It was then moved by Alderman Homier, seconded by Councillor McDonald:—

"That His Worship the Mayor be authorised and requested to make arrangements with the President and Directors of the St. Lawrence and Atantic Railroad and all others interested, for the purchase and delivery in this city of any quantity of Firewood on the line of the Railroad that may be required for the use of the poor and indigent inhabitants of this city; and that all Benevolent Societies in this city be invited to communicate to His Worship, the quantities of wood they may severally require, that he may procure the same for them at cost and charges."

AYES.—Aldermen Febre, Grenier, Homier, Lynch; Councillors Whitlaw, Atwater, Lamarche, Macdonald, Frechette, McCambridge, Bronsdon, Moutreuil and Thompson.

NAYS.—Alderman Macfarlane and Benjamin, and Councillor Larkin.

Adjourned.—*Herald.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—John Thomas Holmes, a lad about 13 years of age, son of Mr. John Holmes, of the Ordnance Department, Isle Aux Noix, was returning from the Fort on the 4th instant, when he was met by a young girl, who begged of him to come and try to save from drowning her two little brothers who had just fallen through the ice, young Holmes proceeded at once to the spot, and with great presence of mind, threw himself on his belly, and told the drowning lads to hold on to him till other assistance could be had, two men were soon on the spot, and the two lads were saved, but melancholy to say, young Holmes, the first to assist, was drowned.—*St. Johns News.*

The weather is intensely cold. Yesterday morning the thermometer marked 7° below zero in sheltered, and 10° below in exposed situations. This morning, at 8 o'clock, the mercury stood at 8° below zero in a sheltered situation in the Lower Town, and in the Upper Town at 13° below at the same hour.—*Quebec Chronicle of Friday.*

The schr. *Nelson*, laden with a mixed cargo, and for Port Credit, was seized at that port on Saturday night last, by Mr. Dunn, for a fraction of the Queen's Laws. She was brought down to Toronto on Sunday morning.—*Toronto Patriot.*

The contest in Oxford is over, and the honourable Francis Hincks has been returned as the representative of the county, by a majority, according to the returning officer's declaration, of 80 votes. This result is to be regretted by all who have the good of their country at heart, and Mr. Hincks has no reason to be proud of the honour conferred upon him, under the circumstances. He looked upon Oxford as his strong hold—he believed that he stood there as a feudal baron, on the battlements of an impregnable castle, and that his political opponents could not muster strength sufficient to dislodge him: but recent events have proved that his calculations in that respect were erroneous, and that Oxford had determined to rally round that standard which proclaimed the greatest good for the greatest number. The Ministerial party have lost nothing—for all the clerical and lay assistance he could muster—ready to promise anything and everything in the event of being returned. Offices, with him were as plentiful as blackberries in autumn, and government patronage was freely and fully made use of to accomplish the desired object. Officials were tampered with, and threatened with loss of office if they did not use their influence for the hon. Inspector General, and every species of chicanery and electioneering fraud was resorted to for the purpose of securing his election.

The opponent which Mr. Hincks had to contend with, and which he wished more especially to crush, was John George Vansittart, Esq. He had made his peace with Mr. Scatcherd, and that gentleman retired on the day of nomination; consequently, Mr. Vansittart had only one week to remedy the injury his position had sustained from the active canvass of Mr. Scatcherd's friends, which, of course, had been made, at the time, entirely hostile to his success.

It will be seen that Mr. Hincks' majority is exceedingly small, compared with that of former elections; and we can assure our readers that, had bribery and corruption not been practised, on the part of the Government, he would not now be the member for this county. Of this, however, we will say nothing at present, as his return was protested against to-day, by Mr. Vansittart's friends. His election will, therefore, be made a matter of scrutiny—which, we are perfectly satisfied, from circumstances that have come to our knowledge, must result in Mr. Vansittart taking his seat in the House of Assembly as the member for Oxford.

Mr. Vansittart has, at present, been defeated; but he has good reason to be proud of his position before the country. No Conservative candidate ever before polled so many votes,—no, not by 400!! He conducted his canvass with honor to himself, and credit to the cause he came forward to sustain; and although the opposite party maligned his character, and did everything in their power to damage or destroy his reputation, his friends—the supporters of justice and of truth—rallied round him nobly; and but for their self-security on the second day of the election, he would certainly have been returned. At the close of the polls on the evening of the first day, he had a majority of *one hundred and thirty-seven* in the county over Mr. Hincks. In ten townships he was for a-head of his opponent, while he was only behind in two, namely, Oakland and Norwich. A knowledge of this fact made his friends too self-confident, and the consequence is, that Mr. Hincks—the man who has ruined the Province, and is heartily despised in the county—has again become our representative.—*Woodstock British American.*

COMMERCIAL.

Review of the Ashes Market.

MONDAY EVENING, 15th Dec., 1851.

POTS.—Since 21st November, have ruled at 24s 3d @ 24s 6d for Firsts: 24s 7½d has been paid for a few heavy bills; Seconds and Thirds are worth 24s, with the 8th and 4th off; receipts light.

PEARLS.—During same period, have been sold at 25s 3d @ 25s 6d; buyers not over anxious to purchase at over 25s; receipts very light.

REMARKS.—A proposition of the fall ships having arrived at Glasgow and Liverpool, a decline has taken place. Retail parcels have been placed in Glasgow at 26s. One holder in Liverpool sold a small shipment of Pots at 25s. "No *improvement expected till towards end of January*" in the Glasgow Market, and the state of the Continent renders that even very doubtful.

Prices Current of North American Produce.

LIVERPOOL, 28th November, 1851.

Ashes, United States Pot, per cwt.,		24s.
Do. Pearl,	do.	26s.
Do. Montreal Pot,	do.	25s
Do. Pearl,	do.	28s.
Lard, good to fine in kegs,	do.	44s.
Do. fair to good in barrels,	do.	43s.
Do. Chandlery,	do.	30s. @ 34s.
Do. Inferior and Grease,	do.	26s. @ 30s.
Grease Butter,	do.	28s. @ 31s.
Cloverseed,	do.	35s. @ 45s.
Flaxseed, per tierce, nominal.		
Timothy Seed, do.	do.	
Linseed Cake, thick, per ton,	£7 0s. @ £7 5s.	
Do. Thin Oblong, do.	£7 10s. @ £7 15s.	
Hemp,	do.	£19 0s. @ £22 0s.

GENTLEMEN.—The demand for Pot Ashes continues exceedingly dull, and to effect sales a reduction of 1s. per cwt has been submitted to; Pearls move off slowly at last week's rates. Lard continues in fair request, but as the arrivals are again large, and holders disposed to meet the market, it has further receded 6d. @ 1s.;—the sales reach about 60 tons. No change in Grease Butter. Sperm and Lard Oil continue dull of sale, and prices remain nominally the same as last quoted. Linseed Oil Cakes are more sought after, and several parcels have been cleared at an improvement of 2s. @ 10s. per ton.

J. W. RAGNER & Co.

MARRIED.

In this city, on the 9th instant, at St. Thomas' Church, by the Rev. John Irwin, Mr. William Kerfut, to Miss Caroline C. Schultz, both of this city.

At Trinity, Edinburgh, on the 12th ult., by the Rev. John C. Fairbairn, Minister of the Free Church, Allanton, the Rev. William Lochhead, late Minister of the Scotch Church, St. Catherine Street, to Margaret Cross, eldest daughter of Mr. William Gibb, North Belleville, New Jersey, and niece of Dr. W. P. Smith, of this city.

At Three Rivers, on the 20th ultimo, by the Rev. James Thom, Mr. John MacDougall, to Janet, only daughter of the late Mr. Henry Lochmerlanet, Whitburn, Scotland.

At Quebec, on the 9th instant, by the Rev. Dr. Cook, Mr. George Mackay Cornwall, Printer, to Miss Laetitia Gray, eldest daughter of Mr. William Penney, of Quebec.

At Toronto, in the Church of the Holy Trinity, on the 1st instant, by the Rev. Henry Scadding, M. M., Mr. Ithew Crooks Cameron, Esq., Barrister, of Toronto, to Charlotte Ross, second daughter of the late Wm. Weddell, Esq., of Broughton, Mouth of the Sea, County of Kent, England.

At Kingston, on the 25th ultimo, by the Rev. Wm. M. Herchmer, A. M., George Baker, Esq., to Mary Sarah, youngest daughter of the late Chamberlein William Walker, LL.D., of the Irish Bar.

At Port Hope, on the 2d instant, by the Rev. John Smith, Mr. J. B. Fairbairn, third son of Dr. Fairbairn, Esq., P. M., Bowmanville, to Sarah, second daughter of Mr. Wm. Lee.

At the Wesleyan Parsonage, Hamilton, by the Rev. John Carroll, Mr. William Cooper, late of Quebec, C. E.

At Cornwall, C. W., on the 7th instant, by the Rev. H. Urquhart, John Neil McLean, Esq., Barrister, &c., Galt, to Isabella Harriet, second daughter of John McLean, Esq., Registrar of the County of Stormont.

At Cornwall, C. W., on the 7th instant, by the Rev. H. Urquhart, Edwin Henry Kertland, Esq., Civil Engineer, Elora, to Mary Washburn, eldest daughter of John McLean, Esq., Registrar of the County of Stormont.

At Fort Erie, in St. Paul's Church, on the 2nd instant, by the Rev. Elliott Grassett, J. W. Graham, Esq., eldest surviving son of the late Hon. Henry Graham, of Montreal, C. E., to Charlotte, fourth daughter of the late Colonel Warren.

At London, in St. Pancras Church, by special license, on the 9th October last, by the Rev. F. J. Sainforth, John Joseph Whitney, Esq., Surgeon, eldest son of Joseph Bridgwell Whitney, Esq., Surgeon, J. P., King's Lynn, Norfolk, to Mary Jane, only daughter of the late Joseph Farnden, Esq., Staff Surgeon, First Class.

DIED.

In this city, on the 8th instant, Fanny Watts, wife of James Bowden, aged 38 years, a native of Devizes, Wiltshire, England.

In this city, on the 10th instant, Charlotte Octavia, infant daughter of Dr. Hall, aged 10 months 18 days.

In this city, on the 7th instant, Helen, infant daughter of Mr. D. McIntyre, aged 3 months.

In this city, on the 7th instant, Margaret, infant daughter of Mr. Thomas O'Neill, of the Emigrant Department, aged 16 months.

In this city, on the 11th instant, Margaret Begee, only daughter of John Auld, aged 2 years and 9 months.

At Quebec, on the 8th instant, Mrs. Amelia Fowler, widow of the late Henry Prendley.

At Quebec, on the 6th instant, Mr. Pierre Couture, Watch-maker, aged 66 years.

At Quebec, on the 6th instant, Mrs. Julia Green, aged 46, relict of William Green, late of the Grenadier Guards.

At Kingston, the 2nd instant, Mr