

The Weekly British Colonist, Wednesday February 1st 1871.

Imports—Protection.

It has been said that figures never lie. On the other hand, some one has asserted that there is nothing so fallacious as facts except figures. Paradoxical as it may appear, both of these assertions may be true. Our attention has just been called to a notable instance in which figures have been made to tell lies. The Import Returns for 1868 and for 1870 have been compared in order to show that home production has increased enormously, and the public are invited to attribute that increase to the protection enjoyed under our present Customs Tariff. That home production has increased during the period referred to we are quite prepared to believe. It would, indeed, be strange if such were not the case. But that the increase is to any considerable extent, attributable to protection we cannot bring ourselves to think. Sixteen articles of agricultural production are selected, \$588,127 worth of which was imported in 1868 and fourteen of the article are selected for which only \$324,278, worth were imported in 1870, and the difference is presented as the gauge of the progress of home production, the calculation being based upon the assumption that 'everybody knows that our population is to-day about the same as in 1868.' Now 'everybody' does not know 'that our population is to-day the same as in 1868.' Nay, we hesitate not to assert that it has undergone material diminution since that date, and the ground for this assertion will appear in due course of our remarks. Taking the figures as they have been served up, although incorrect in some instances, the public are invited to infer an increase in home production in the ratio in which these figures differ. For instance, taking the item of Bacon, which is put very prominently forward, we are told that the importation of that article fell off from \$20,605, in 1868 to \$9,506, in 1870; ergo, we produced \$11,100 worth more bacon in the latter year than we did in the former. But the weight of this agreement is very much lessened, by another item in the Returns. In 1868 we imported hogs to the value of \$8,422. In 1870 we imported hogs to the value of \$14,432. This would appear that if we produced more bacon in the latter year, we imported the hogs out of which it was made. This is scarcely 'home production,' in the true and most important sense. It has been seen that there has been a great falling off in the importation of the sixteen articles of agricultural production; but has the falling off in importations been confined to that class of articles? Let us see. In 1868 the importation of clothing amounted to \$324,097.45. In 1870 it amounted to \$162,349.81. Here we have a falling off in the article of clothing of one-half! Is this the result of protection? Surely the protectionists will not claim it. What does it mean? Clearly, a falling off in population. It demonstrates the danger of assuming that the falling off in the importation of the sixteen articles of agricultural production necessarily implies a proportionate, or any, increase in home production. And, yet, such are the arguments which are constantly being put forward for the purpose of bolstering up the heresy that the present Customs Tariff is building up large industrial interests and that we should be studying the true interests of British Columbia by retaining it in preference to accepting the Canadian one. It occurs to us to ask those who think, or pretend to think, that agriculture prospers in this Colony because it is protected, how it comes that oats are higher in the neighboring Territory than they are in British Columbia. Our farmers enjoy a protection of thirty cents per hundred pounds, as against foreign oats, and yet they get a less price than their neighbors against whom they are so heavily protected. And what is true of oats is more or less true of other things. Thus it would appear that our farmers are protected against something that is not real. A large consumption, plenty of money and good markets would appear to be the conditions most needed by our producers. Let the farmer calmly consider what protection is doing him on the one hand, and how unequal and delusive it is, on the other, let him set off a tax of \$1.50 on flour and \$2.50 on grog against the hypothetical gains which protection promises to him and we shall hear less about the beauties of our tariff as contrasted with that of Canada.

PERSONAL.—On Friday we ventured to suggest that as the Hon J W Trutch was about to leave the colony some public recognition of his distinguished services should mark the occasion. We are glad to learn that the suggestion has been taken up by a number of gentlemen in whose hands the movement is quite certain of success. The demonstration is, it is understood, to take the form of a complimentary banquet. Few if any of our public men have better earned such a mark of public approbation. Prominently identified with the history and the greatest enterprises of British Columbia, the important part which Mr Trutch has acted in recent and impending political changes will ever cause his name to rank amongst its ablest men. We have not always been able to fully agree with the policy of the Chief Commissioner; but we have ever been conscious of his ability and honesty of purpose as a public officer; and if his official connection with this colony is to be severed by Confederation that circumstance will at least constitute one feature of the change which cannot be regarded with complacency. In honouring Mr Trutch by a public banquet the people will only be doing justice to themselves; and we feel assured that the occasion will be one upon which all little party or personal differences, if indeed such do exist, may be merged and that all will be united for the purpose of doing simple justice to a most able and deserving public officer.

THE COAST ROUTE.—The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works invites tenders for the construction of a trail from a point on the left bank of the Skeena River, near the junction with it of the Westquab River, to the West bank of Tatlah Lake, opposite the point known as Tatlah Landing, crossing Rabine River at the head of Babine Lake. The proposed trail is to be divided into two sections, and the Government propose as remuneration for the work a charter granting the privileges of levying certain tolls for a stated period. The competition will, therefore, be on the rates of toll and the duration of charter. The Government will reserve power to resume the charter-right after payment of actual cost of the work executed with 25 per cent, added thereto as a profit on the undertaking. Tenders must be sent in by the 6th proximo.

COUNTRY ROADS.—There is bitter, and we are disposed to think just, complaint about the roads leading into the country settlements on this Island. The road leading to North Saanich, in particular, is described as being in a most deplorable condition, all but absolutely impassable for vehicles. We are assured that when the expenditure is made upon these roads in autumn it is scarcely better than thrown away. To be of much use, the work should be done in the spring, or early summer, and thus the roadway would become firmly packed before the wet season. This is a point deserving the consideration of the Lands and Works Department.

A REQUISITE SUPPLIED.—To avoid the necessity which has heretofore existed of sending to San Francisco to have finished Bookbinding, Robert Williams has by study, application and practice in the largest establishments in California, perfected himself in the art of Bookbinding, and is supplied with plain and ornamental, and is supplied with all the necessary material and machinery. Always to be found at T. N. LEBSEN & Co's.

HIGHWAYS ESTABLISHED.—In compliance with applications to that effect, two highways have been created in the District of New Westminster—the one commencing from the corner of sections 7, 8, 17 and 18, range 6 west, block Y north and extending to the North Arm of the Fraser river; the other commencing from the corner of sections 24 and 25, range 6 west, and sections 19 and 30, range 5 west, block 5 north, and extending to the North Arm of Fraser river.

EDUCATIONAL FUNDS.—We understand that the local Board of Education will petition the Legislative Council for a sufficient sum of money to pay off the arrears of teachers' salaries. It is quite time some steps were taken and we trust that the Legislature will not think of withholding relief under the circumstances. The middle into which educational matters have fallen in this city is lamentable to think of; but the treatment the teachers have received is disgraceful.

EMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY.—It has already been intimated that the Hon Mr Trutch will shortly proceed to Ottawa for the purpose of adjusting certain details connected with union. We believe he will also be the bearer of the joint addresses to the Parliament of Canada and of the Legislature of this colony to the Queen, and it is quite probable that he will return to the Federal capital of the Dominion with 'O.B.' attached to his name.

NEW SCHOOL DISTRICT.—Notice is given in the Government Gazette, in pursuance of the provisions of the 'Common School Ordinance 1869' William Creek, Cariboo, has been created a school district, extending within a circle having a radius of three miles from the Court House at Richfield.

DANCING ACADEMY.—We direct attention to the card of the dancing academy which will be opened at Gymnasium Hall, View street, on Tuesday evening next.

THE LINE, about 12 o'clock yesterday, went down south of Olympia, and we are without advice confirmatory or contradictory of the reported surrender of Paris.

THE ROYAL OAK, at the junction of the East and West roads—Stanich, for many years a well-known hostelry, has been closed.

THE NANAIMO PACKET OF VICTORIA.—This schooner has been lost off one of the Islands in the Haro Strait—all hands saved. She was laden with furs and the captain was wanted on a charge of selling whisky to British Columbia Indians; in attempting to make his escape the vessel would seem to have been lost.

ANOTHER SCHOOL.—It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns that Mr Meachen will open a school in the old 'Bull's Head,' Yates street, to-morrow. Mr Meachen holds the most flattering credentials, and we have no doubt will be a proficient and successful teacher.

FROM THE COAST.—The sloop Thornton, Capt Brown, arrived last evening from the Northwest Coast with a cargo of furs and oil for Messrs Boschwitz. The weather was mild and the Indian tribes peaceable.

ON DUTY.—That to the three Delegates (Hons Trutch, Helmcken and Carrall) have been offered the three British Columbian Senatorships.

FRENCH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—This Society will hold a general meeting at the Colonial Hotel, from 2 to 4 o'clock this afternoon for the election of a committee.

Education.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—It is disagreeable at all times to hear persons finding fault and complaining, but many persons will not deny that the rising generation in this city is sadly neglected in the matter of a common school education. The training of the youth in this colony is in anything but a liberal and 'classical' sense. Beyond the existing Grammar and primary schools, there seems to be nothing but a mutual concert of action, or even purpose, in this weighty matter. It is evident that parents of children and all those who have the future progress and prosperity of the Colony at heart, must not wait for public aid in educating the youth of this city. It is foolish to expect much at present from a Government whose motto is 'we are opposed to free education.' Credit must be given to those men for open avowal of their views, if for nothing else. It is difficult to believe that they are not sincere, yet one is tempted to believe that it is from false motives of economy that these men are opposed to free education. Do they honestly believe that free education makes less enterprising citizens and more lawless subjects? It matters nothing what their belief is; their practice is what the public must take into consideration. Things have come to such a pass now that there is nothing to wait for, but at once send their children to these private schools where the best facilities are held out for progress in the common branches of a sound English education. Delay in this matter may be associated with untold mischief for too many of the boys and girls of this community. Three things comprise the most of the requirements for constituting a good citizen, a sound body, a sound mind and a sound heart. It is over the last of these that education has the greatest influence; and in proportion as it is exerted in youth, so will it manifest in maturer years. The youth of this colony have not too much to be thankful for to the officers of the Crown Government. The approach of that system is close at hand; and better times and better schools are reasonable anticipated under Responsible Government. But, in the meantime, let parents not delay in giving their offspring the best education within their reach. A. COLONIST, Victoria, Jan 27th 1871.

Premature Decay of Apple and Cherry Trees.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Notwithstanding your correspondent's long list of vague generalities and reference to other people's quackeries, his positive and presumptuous letter fails to point out a single remedy, or direct or sound advice, to such a pest as the premature decay of the apple and cherry trees on this Island. It has been said it is a case with minds trained to mere mechanical details, and that it is a mere matter of time before the fruit will be a mere husk, and the tree a mere skeleton. This is evidently true of your correspondent of the 22nd instance, H Mitchell, or he would otherwise have perceived from experience the cause of the decay of the apple here. Precocity and high productiveness are the characteristics of the apple on this Island, and whatever the obtain as a rule, early death follows, both in plan and in fact. The apple here comes to bear fruit the third or fourth year after grafting. In Western Europe it takes, unless special means are used to force it into fruit earlier, from seven to ten years, and the relative longevity is that Island trees commence declining a little over the time it takes in Western Europe to arrive at 'puberty,' and on a proper stock in 200 years. No doubt there are many practices here that tend to aggravate the evil complained of. Root pruning at the right season is highly beneficial to some fruit trees, when properly done, but the practice of rough digging round the trees at any season, which some people think wholesome for the plants, tends to destroy them to depend for food on their lower roots, and as this practice is often repeated year after year the roots are driven ultimately into the subsoil and perish. You ask 'Is there no remedy against this premature decay of the apple?' I say 'yes.' The remedy will be found, firstly, in using a more fibrous rooted stock than the one in common use here, and secondly, in sending a long and 'hungry' roots down into the soil, and thirdly, by abstaining from propagating from without varieties, as numbers of our trees have been grafted from diseased plants; and it is well known from the laws of inheritance that all such plants are liable to disease and early death. With respect to the cherry, in no instance have I seen the plant decline under ordinary good treatment more than in other parts of the world. It is liable to fall when overladen with putrescent measure or left to struggle for food in a hard soil with a strong undergrowth. Want of time prevents me from going further into the subject to-day, but at an early date I will be glad to furnish particulars as to the proper management of fruit trees on this Island. J. CLAYTON, Moss Street Nursery.

A Letter from Arras.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL WAR CORRESPONDENT)

ARRAS, December 10th 1870. I can now very well understand how Parisians must feel under their incarceration, from having been 'invested' for ten days by the Germans in Arras. Not a newspaper nor a letter arrived, and it was not a means of despatching any communications, not even by balloon. There was the German post which by means of making application would be allowed to take your correspondence on any subject except the war and politics, as if one could write from France without alluding to both. Some few strangers felt the isolation so intolerable that they resolved to run the blockade, to which I subscribed. I can also well understand Parisians being willing to join a Trochu sortie to escape from the great city prison. En fin, with nothing but our ordinary passports we set out in theory resolved to maintain, like the European powers, neutral attitude, but determined to make a 'struggle for life' should such become necessary. Among the franc-tireurs we had many right good fellows, and trusted that having met with so many German officers at the hotels, and being under the impression that they were being hunted or shot, for treading on delicate ground without permission, a Prussian officer would affront our French friends, the want of it annoy the Germans.

Why I was not got well clear of the city of Arras, when a cannonade was heard, and in the distance I saw the smoke of the batteries, which was a relief and unnecessary, as we had not the slightest intention to become an eye-witness of any skirmishing. After a time the franc-tireurs were met with; and matters with old acquaintances were soon fixed up. Here we met with a practical illustration of the 'struggle for life.' An officer insisted on sending an escort of his franc-tireurs, to protect us from any Uhlans, which was the most efficacious method of ensuring us in the face reserved for all members of the free-shooting corps—immediate execution. There was no time to remonstrate against so dangerous a civility, so we bowed to fate, each consoling his companion that whoever survived was to write a glowing account of the last day's events cut down to the last man. Two regiments of the line held head against the Prussian infantry gallantly, both sides suffering severely. A battalion of Mobs fought excellently but were unable to withstand the National Guards did nothing, their artillery had it been well-officered and brought into action at the right moment, would have compelled the Prussians to retire as they themselves were doing. The enemy took their French positions on all points but the day being hazy the field of battle, extending over seven miles, was interspersed with hills and he did not know the extent of his successes, or his proximity to the city. The Prussians, however, at one of the most of their danger, so the general impression was that France was successful and that the next day Arras would be free. Bourbaki's successor, soon ascertained the state of the case, and in a few hours after midnight ordered a retreat of the 'army of the north.' Many blame him for this, but he could gain nothing by continuing the fight, which would have meant the destruction of the city, and the making prisoners of the bulk of his army the moment day-light showed the Prussians their advantage.

The retreat of the army was like all other retreats, wild and disorderly, but nothing approaching a panic, as the soldiers had five hours' clear start. Men threw away rifles, knapsacks, &c., but they were picked up by the Prussians, and sent after them. At break of day the Germans—Saxons principally, some Prussian regiments and a few Bavarians—formed to drive the enemy from his supposed position behind the field-works but they did not find them. They had, therefore, a walk over the course direct into the town, which they quickly occupied. There was no occasion to call on the people to lay down their arms, which had been already done, when they saw the proclamation of the Prefect announcing the retreat, and that of the Mayor, stating that the city had been abandoned by its defenders. The Prussians had not more than 18,000 troops engaged, but they had reserves under Mantouff within a day's march. The French forces were about 28,000 but not the one-half were engaged. Their losses were three days' fighting were 2,000 prisoners. The Prussians had 75 officers placed hors de combat and 1200 men. Although the city was taken the citadel held out. It was surrounded by rifle men who picked up the cannonade from the citadel, which could only, from its low position injure the town. The next morning the Germans had three batteries in position and a soldier on either side being killed or wounded, the captain expected; whose body was laid out in a chapel and subsequently buried on the ramparts, with all military honors by the conquerors. The fine level on Arras by that celebrated town-sacker Mantouff, was 3,180,000, but has since been increased to 8,000,000 of francs. The difficulties were very great at first, as the position they found themselves most becomingly, a few petty thefts being the only reprehensible acts committed. The soldiers having plenty of money, pay for what they want in the way of extras. At first the shop-keepers declined to take German coin, but soon got over such scruples, as the victors announced French money would be given if desired in exchange. The difficulties themselves in, and were for a moment in a mood to sign any peace; but strange, when the enemy marched in, their wonderful discipline, knowing the inhabitants made them more war-like. A sort of understanding spread that every one should keep within doors, and the city generally more lively up to eleven at night, was as still as a church. The Prussians went about in their business all the same; marched, reviewed, played their music, and scoured the country, and finally leaving 3,000 men started off to Rouen, where they remained.

The working classes, who were marked danger, conducted themselves well. They threw up a few barricades to keep their hands in, and relieved the tobacco shops of all their stock of cigars, not to be left without a pipe-full when 'extras' came to require. As honest confession is good for the soul, I avow I was a reformer of good, 'convey the wife is called,' and fortunately, as before twenty-five years of age, I was not a man who would only attempt such a last extremity. But saddest in the history of the battle was the indifference extended to the French wounded by the 'peppering' which had been made by the Prussians, and which almost no one was willing to attend to, and which almost no one was willing to attend to, and which almost no one was willing to attend to. Arras is a very rich, luxurious town, wants for nothing, has all to even excess. Yet not a hand was extended to the 1200 French heroes, who remained for two sad three days in the field, till carried off by the few peasantry who

remained, by strangers and German soldiers, and then no comfortable home was opened to receive men whose wounds made it impossible to look at, and whose cries of pain can never cease to ring in my ear. A few 'hospitable' people placed stables, cow-houses, &c., at the disposal of the wounded, places without windows or doors, moist and wet, not a bundle of straw, not a bed, not the shadow of bedding, there lay the dead, till faded, clothed and cured by the English Ambulance, till medically treated by their two doctors, assisted by two French physicians who nobly stood by their companions in arms, while the others fled. But the Amienois never gave a thought to the indescribable sufferings of their soldiers, they might groan, mortally and die. They themselves had warm homes and groaning tables. I don't think history could find a parallel for such hideous culpable unkindness. One met daily the Prussian officers at the table of honor, I was struck with their great simplicity and earnestness. They never allude to their successes, and are not at all desirous to return to Vaterland, till France be crushed. They do mean to cripple this unhappy country for half a century if possible, and ridicle the idea of surrendering to Ajaccio and Lorraine. They admit the magnitude of the task they have in hand, that of subjugating a nation. They acknowledge the French never fought more bravely than before Amiens, and they recognize the daily increase of resistance among the people. But they will pursue their task to the bitter end—and will march to the furthest part of the country till France demands peace, and what they think more important, in a position to secure the execution of the peace, and utter detestation of the franc-tireurs and vow to give them no quarter, which may be readily believed, since they have kept their word whenever they had an opportunity. They are full of stories about French cruelty to their men, when taken prisoners or wounded, but I have not been able to trace anything in the way of a crime committed in cold blood. In the worst cases, a Prussian passion blinds both sides alike to mercy, thinking it would be done, probably are, which in calmer moments, would be shunned.

I have also met with excellent opportunities of ascertaining the state of French feeling. It is continuous to increase in hatred as the struggle becomes prolonged, against the invaders. There is no difference of opinion that the Germans intend to exterminate the French nation; to plunder them to the utmost forthing, to throw them to the sword, the Tucois had 'raison d'être', but that subsequently their aggressions had no palliation. There are no thoughts of peace, no political differences, but every individual is ready to die for the sake of the French nation. There is one man who is regarded as a common benefactor at what first sneered at and ridiculed, that is Gambetta.

The Fisheries Question.

OFFICIAL EXPLANATION OF THE CAUSES WHICH LED TO THE SEIZURES OF AMERICAN FISHING VESSELS.

OTTAWA, Ontario, December 30th.—The Minister of Marine gives the following explanation regarding American vessels seized during 1870, for illegal fish-ing:—

The Womiatuck was seized June 17th in Aspy Bay, Nova Scotia, actually fishing close in shore. The Captain of the vessel admitted having caught fish within the prohibited limit during the day, and that he was aware that he was fishing illegally. The J. H. Nickerson was seized June 10th at Inouish Island, Nova Scotia, actually fishing inside the island, within a mile of the shore. She had been previously warned three times, on the 25th, 6th and 27th of June with notice that the vessel would be seized. The Captain was personally informed that he had already violated the law by remaining in shore without leave. He was supplied with a copy of Mr Boutwell's circular to American fishermen.

The G Marshall was seized July 31st at Sandy Beach, inside of Gaspe Bay, Quebec, fishing and crawling a seine ashore. She had been previously warned. The Albert was seized August 20th at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, violating the Merchant Shipping act. The owner, master, and crew, by their own plea acknowledged the offence. The Clara F Friend was seized at Broad Cove, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, actually fishing within three miles of the shore, having been previously warned. She was rescued by the crew, but recaptured. The three seizures last above named were made by H.M. Cruisers.

The Lotie was seized Aug 18th, inside of Gaspe Bay actually fishing having fished for seven days within the prohibited limit. She had been previously warned. The Lizzie A Parr was seized Aug 27th at Seven Islands, Quebec, about 100 miles inside of the River St Lawrence, actually fishing one-fourth of a mile from shore. The master was aware that the vessel was transgressing. The owner subsequently pleaded for release on the ground that he had especially directed the master not to fish at that place. The master and crew were fishing on shares with the owner.

The A N Monson was seized Sept 3d, east Broad Cove, Sea Wall Island, Cape Breton, N.S. actually fishing between one mile and the mainland, distant about one mile and a fourth from either shore. She had been previously warned. The F Franklin was seized Oct 10th at Broad Cove, Cape Breton, N.S. having fished within the prohibited limits after warning on the 7th of that month. The Captain having strongly denied that he fished, and although the boarding officer felt satisfied that trespass had been committed, he decided for the time being from making the seizure, but afterward he obtained proof that the vessel had fished extensively on the 10th and the 11th within the prohibited limits, and the seizure was effected Oct 15th.

The Canada was seized Oct 25th at Port Hood, New Brunswick for smuggling. The Romp was seized Nov 5th at Back Bay, New Brunswick, having fished at Grand Menas Island, N.B. within the prohibited limits. The master admitted he was aware of the illegality of such fishing. The White Egan was seized Nov 25th at Head Harbor, Campo Bello, New Brunswick, preparing to fish. New Goods, Jovin's Gloves, &c., just received by Express at Victoria House.

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

Europe. LONDON, Jan 20.—The French made sortie from Mont Valerien yesterday. Fighting lasted till dark. The German losses considerable. Gen Von Werder's command on the pursuit of Bourbaki yesterday, whom he had a successful engagement. In the north the advance division Faidherbe's army have been driven to Bourbaki to St Quentin with the loss 8000 killed and prisoners. Gen Von G attacked Faidherbe, and after an obstinate fight drove him out of position and into Quinten. The Germans have occupied Tours meantime without resistance. VERSAILLES, Jan 20.—Last night the garrison sent forward a patrol into the tree communicating between Forts D'Issy and Vaniers without meeting resistance. D'Issy was found deserted and the finding nothing but mines and torp returned. Large fires were seen last night near Pantelon. LONDON, Jan 20.—The journals of Geny that stores are being removed Arras. Prince George of Saxony telegraphed Dresden that the Saxons while reconnoitering on the 19th, surprised a force from an entrenched position and killed 150 men. The remainder of the Prussian force was offered in London and Berlin next. The Emperor telegraphs to the King of Prussia Versailles 19th, that a message was made from Valerien to-day and the north was beaten to-day before St. Quentin and 4000 prisoners and 2 guns were captured. Sigoud. Another dispatch from the Emperor Versailles 20th, says Faidherbe will be used to-day. The sortie from Valerien today was made in great force. The Prussians are still outside of Paris and a French force certain today. Sigoud. Berlin journals confirm the report Count Bernstorff has been instructed to withdraw from the Conference if the question is introduced. It is reported from Belgium that the Prussians in flames, but a heavy fog prevents verification of the report. Numbers of refugees have arrived at British Island of Jersey from the coast in consequence of rumors that the Duke Mecklenburg was advancing on Bismark. In a letter of the 17th, refuted to the Americans, says other foreigners in Paris deny the Prussians and demands and their complicity in the flight to quit the city as neutral says they had abundant notice before and that the only outlet now is violation. Facilities for intercourse with their respective Governments, though they are inconvenience. The firing on buildings containing children and invalids is unintentional, avoidable. The North German Gazette states that according to the treaty of 1779 between the United States, Prussian men cannot capture American vessels on contrabands of war, but may stop them until the end of the war, or may detain the contraband portion of the cargo at the same time giving bonds for the payment of the same. It is probable that the Prussians will be in accordance with the treaty. VERSAILLES, Jan 20.—Yesterday the garrison made a sortie under cover of the gun-crien. The cannonade was fearful, sides and the German loss heavy. LONDON, Jan 21.—St. Quentin railway was stormed by the Prussians and afterwards occupied. 2000 wounded men and six guns were captured. The French shells destroyed a train and burned forty Prussians. It is said of the garrison silenced the batteries new from Paris. Damages from the bombardment slight and few killed. A drove of oxen for Paris passed Rheims ready for the advance of the Prussians. The establishment of a camp at Longwy. The bombardment of Longwy is continued and the town is in fire. VERSAILLES, Jan 20.—The French near Fort Valerien, but attempted Fort Menouville was captured yesterday. Both French and Prussian troops of the same position. The Prussians sortie 400 men. The French loss heavy that they asked an armistice eight hours. LONDON, Jan 20.—It is said that had resigned his seat for Greenwich and retired from Westminster. A cable dispatch from Paris says that the Ministry is going to pieces. Prince Leopold of Luxembourg, notices made on the part of Prussia not to station on irresponsible acts. He investigated the alleged breach of this notice was to the signers of the New York Jan 22.—A cable dispatch from London of the 20th says that much difficulties in the Cabinet. A statement that Childers has resigned question of time, on account of. There is no truth in the report that the conference have signed a resolution that the single Power be secured a treaty made jointly by the conference is regarded as a step designed to blind people to the Prussian humiliation before Russia. A Paris correspondent reports the bombardment has so far effected the destruction of some old houses and wood yards the firing from the Prussian batteries quieted. It is said that Gen Franksen, Prussian corps has left Versailles confront Bourbaki. ATOZ, Jan 22.—The bombardment continues, the garrison still in London, Jan 22.—Advices from that a council of Ministers has been called, but it is hoped for assistance should be disappointed it would be