

## News Department.

It is generally believed that a General Election is about to be held immediately.

**GORE DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held in the Court House, Hamilton, on the 14th instant. A show of seeds, cattle, implements, &c. will take place on the same day.

**NEW CANAL.**—A survey of the proposed canal between Carleton Place and St. John, uniting the waters of the river St. Lawrence with those of Lake Champlain, has been ordered by the government. A number of merchants in Montreal have intimated their willingness to construct this canal, subject to the condition that it may be at any time assumed by the government upon payment of the cost, interest, and a bonus of ten per cent. upon the stock.—*Ad. res.*

It is said that Government intends to assume the management of all the Electric Telegraphs in the C. M. A. S.—*Quebec Gazette.*

**ST. JOHN, (N. B.) Nov. 16th.**—The admissions into the L'Amiral Hospital last week, was 73, discharged 34, died 21—remaining in hospital on the 16th inst. 435.

New Brunswick papers of the 20th inst. are received. Several vessels, too late for Quebec, have arrived at St. John. Fourteen 17th July rioters, have been condemned to from 4 to 12 months imprisonment at hard labour.

Several Nuns from France have lately arrived at Montreal, to join those of the Hotel-Dieu there and at Kingston.

The *Canada Gazette* (Nov. 20th), contains a proclamation proroguing Parliament to the fourth day of January.

THE LACHINE RAILROAD is now open for the convenience of the public.

Fifty-seven Emigrants died last week in the Hospital on Point St. Charles; 556 sick still remain.

The Corporation of St. John, New Brunswick, has issued a notice offering a free passage back to Ireland, to any immigrant who may desire it.

The weather continues mild, the water dropping from the eves of the houses. There are small pieces of floating ice in the river; but nothing to impede navigation. Several vessels sailed this morning with westerly wind, and those remaining have still a prospect of getting off. The country continues covered with snow, and winter carriages in general use. Saturday's papers from Montreal say, that there was only a sprinkling of snow on the ground there.—*Quebec Gazette, 22nd November.*

**SMALL POX.**—This loathsome disease has made its appearance at Woodstock, N. B. and we learn from the Reporter, that one of the diseased persons arrived at Fredericton on Wednesday.

**MANUFACTURING COMPANY.**—Application will be made to the Legislature at its session, for an Act to incorporate a Company under the style and title of the *Dunfries Union Milling and Woolen Manufacturing Company*, with a capital of £5000 for each branch of business, with leave to increase each to £10,000.

**ANOTHER RAILROAD PROJECT.**—Application will be made to the Provincial Parliament, at its next Session, for an Act to incorporate a Company to construct a Railroad from the town of Brantford to the shore of the Niagara River, opposite Buffalo, under the name and style of the *Buffalo and Brantford Railroad Company*.

It is with sincere regret we announce the destruction by fire, on Sunday morning last, of the flourishing mill belonging to Dr. John Gilchrist, at Keene. At the time of the fire there was upwards of 200 bushels of wheat in the mill. Loss estimated at £2000. No insurance.

**CHEAP POSTAGE.**—The deficit of the year after the act, was £800,000; the deficit of the last year was £645,000; while the deficit this year is only \$40,000. It is said that the Postmaster-General is so gratified with the result, that he will propose in his next annual report the introduction of a uniform system of cheap postage, similar to the Penny postage in England.—*Buffalo Express.*

**CONSPIRACY TO RAISE WAGES.**—At the London (C. W.) Quarter Sessions, last week, seven journeyman shoemakers were fined 10s. each for conspiracy to raise wages; they stand committed till the fine is paid; each individual to enter into recognizances himself in £20, and two sureties in £10 each not to enter into any illegal combination in future. A similar combination exists in Toronto, if it has not ceased within the last few days.

A man named David Bain was found dead, in a state of nudity, near the Lake-shore, Port Hope, on the 18th ult. The cause of his death appears somewhat mysterious, though probably owing to an unsound state of mind.

The inhabitants of Port Hope have determined to memorialize the Government to "assume the harbour and wharf" at that place, provided the stockholders be willing to dispose of their interest therein.

**ESCAPE OF CONVICTS.**—A Halifax paper says, "fourteen convicts arrived here a few days ago from Canada, under an escort of the 93rd Highlander. They were confined in the strong room at the north-east corner of the Citadel, and were to be transported to Bermuda. On Tuesday evening they wrenched a bar of iron from the window, and six of the thinnest made their escape by means of their blankets."

**CONTINUOUS NAVIGATION IMPOSSIBLE.**—A correspondent of the Kingston Argus, writes:—"Nothing can show more plainly than the late accident to the *Magnet* steamer, that it will be utterly impossible to continue Lake and River Navigation from the upper Lakes to Montreal and Quebec; there must be transshipment somewhere, and that will evidently be where the greatest saving of time, labor and expense takes place."

An Irish labourer, named Hugh Connelly, met his death last week while excavating a bank, near Brantford, by the falling of a quantity of earth.

Captain Bell, of the Lord Ashburton, Immigrant vessel, died of typhus, at Quebec, on the 17th instant.

On the 22nd ult., the Custom-House officers in Newry made a seizure of 22 barrels of American flour, in which was found concealed a large quantity of Canadian tobacco.

Mr. Colbden has recently been able to purchase the paternal property of his family at Sussex which is considerable, and which had passed into other hands.

In the year 1870, the French mercantile navy numbered 15,000 ships, but they are now reduced to 13,679; and of these 5200 measure less than 30 tons.

The *Fairy Queen*, which has arrived at London from Antwerp, has brought 6000 gun stocks and 250 pistol stocks, consigned to the British Government.

James Stephen, Esq., upon his retirement from the duties of Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been raised to the dignity of a Privy Councillor.

Mr. Fonblanque, for many years connected with the weekly press, has been appointed to the office in the statistical department of the Board of Trade, vacant by the promotion of Mr. Porter, to the place formerly filled by Mr. Lefevre.

## OPENING OF THE LACHINE RAILROAD.

The opening of the Lachine Railroad took place on Friday last. The Governor General was present on the occasion. The following is His Excellency's reply to a toast, "The Governor General," at the luncheon which followed the opening ceremony:—

"His Excellency then rose and said, 'Gentlemen, I feel very much indebted to you for the cordiality with which you have responded to the toast given by my hon. friend, and I feel particularly grateful to him for the kind terms in which he has introduced it. He does me no more than justice in saying, that I shall exert my utmost powers in support of every undertaking which promises to contribute to the prosperity of this noble Province. And on this occasion I take an interest which, I may almost say, is hereditary, for it does so happen that the first Railroad which was ever laid in Scotland was laid over my paternal estate. (Cheers.) That Railroad has gone through all the phases attendant on the improvements in the mode of communication. Its first step was to lay boards on a road imperfectly graded, much better than the roads of the day; but not better than modern Macadamized roads. And then the next process was to displace these by cast iron rails—then the horse was displaced by the locomotive—and then people mounted on the 'Rocket,' and it required some courage to start at the rate of 30 miles an hour; and the first non-professional persons who did so were the Earl and Countess of Elgin, my father and mother, and I think I have now established my title to a 'hereditary' interest in Railways. (Great cheering.) And I remember their introduction into the British West India Islands, and the vast sensation they created, and how the black old ladies, having first seen a locomotive, and they were ready to go home and die, (laughter;) that they wanted nothing more. Now his pleasure was crowned with that of meeting with the promoters of the first Railroad laid down to the North of the St. Lawrence. It was merely a Railroad for the district in which it was situated, but it was one of the links of a chain of road extending throughout the Province, and if not to connect two oceans, at least to unite the various dependencies of the British Empire. His Excellency concluded by saying that he had never travelled over a smoother Railway, and the only wonder was that it had been completed in so short a time, as he believed it had been commenced in Mr. last. He proposed the health of the President and Directors of the Montreal and Lachine Railroad Company, which was drunk with great enthusiasm. His Excellency saying, 'fill your glasses, Gentlemen, and I will give you the toast.'"

**NIAGARA AND DETROIT RIVERS RAILROAD.**—A meeting of persons friendly to this undertaking was recently held at Simcoe, at which resolutions were passed condemning the illiberality of the Legislature in refusing to renew the charter, when considerable sums have been spent by the stockholders, and charging Messrs. Prince and Merritt with deserting the stockholders, who refuse to be held responsible for the acts of the former.—They also resolved to petition the Legislature to renew the charter at its next session.

**EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO.**—An earthquake has taken place in the city of Mexico, in which a part of the American army is stationed. It is thus described by a correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune:—

"The domes and steeples of the innumerable churches and convents reeled like drunken men—the lakes hard by rolled their sluggish waters, as though moved by an elemental strife from above; instead of the earth in which they are nestled in her sore travail.—An officer in the street, about to mount his horse at the commencement of the communion, suddenly found the animal reeling from him. Astonished, he inquired of a soldier close by the cause; but the man was as ignorant as himself. The paddles in the streets—for there had been a severe shower the night before—spread themselves and disappeared upon the pavement, so great was the motion, while the trees in the alameda seemed to lash their huge tops as if swayed by yet all powerful hands. The shock lasted for two minutes—perhaps I should say successive shocks, for the oscillatory motion of the earth at short intervals became calm—while the whole was impressed every one anew with the might, the mystery, and the manifold power of the Most High."

But if the sea and open ways presented a spectacle most impressive, doubly awful was the effect produced among the wounded men in the different hospitals. Unconscious of the cause of the strange commotion, filled with apprehensions which every attempt to soothe the disabled and the infirm, increasing results from a phenomenon they have deemed akin to the supernatural, the patients were huddled from their cots—trembling and sickened by deep awe, yet not knowing what to fly. The armless hurried hither and thither, the legless huddled about in all directions while the bed-ridden, the prostrate, and the helplessly, panic-stricken and deploring, evenly prayed and petitioned not to be left unprotected—not to be deserted in an extremity which ignorance made painfully terrifying. But by the earth became relieved of her mighty woes, the staggering steeples resumed their quiet, the affrighted inhabitants rose thankful from their knees, the sentinels recommenced their round—the fury of the dreadful tremor was spent."

**TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.**  
*Destruction of the Propeller Phoenix—Two Hundred Lost.*  
(From the Sandwich Standard Extra.)  
The Propeller *Delaware*, Capt. Tuttle, arrived at Detroit from Lake Michigan, on Thursday afternoon bringing the distressing intelligence of the total destruction by fire of the Propeller *Phoenix*, Captain Sweet, on Lake Michigan, by which it is supposed at least 200 persons lost their lives.

The *Phoenix* was about 15 miles north of Sheboygan several miles from the shore, about four o'clock on Sunday morning, when the fireman on duty discovered that the underside of the deck above the boiler was in flames. Mr. House, who was then on duty as Engineer, discovered it about the same moment, when to all appearances the fire covered but a very small space. It spread, however, along the underside of the deck with the rapidity of a powder train, and notwithstanding the pumps and several lines of water buckets were in operation immediately, it was found impossible to check the flames. A scene of the most terrible confusion ensued. The Propeller was crowded with Holland emigrants; some of whom jumped overboard without support. Others clung to the shrouds clinging in masses to the railings up to the very crossbeams, from which the fire reached the combustible materials, they were soon precipitated into the burning mass beneath.

It is supposed that there were at least 250 souls (passengers and crew) on board, of which 25 were Canadian passengers, 5 American steerage passengers, and 169 Hollanders. The Propeller *Delaware* arrived at the scene of the disaster about two hours after the fire was discovered, and rendered all the assistance in her power to rescue those in the water. Captain Sweet had been confined to his berth for several days. He was saved in the boat with several others of the crew, and one or two passengers. The burning hull of the *Phoenix* was towed to the shore near Sheboygan. Mr. House saved himself on one of the fences and several floating pieces picked up in the water.

**HEAT OF THE PLANETS.**—Professor Henry, of Princeton, communicated to the American Association of Geologists, some interesting experiments, showing the analogy between light and heat. The experiments were made with a thermo-electrical apparatus, a very delicate instrument, which will indicate 1/100th of a degree of a Fahrenheit thermometer. It has been long known that two rays of light may be so thrown upon each other as to produce darkness. Professor H. showed that two rays of heat might be so combined as to produce cold. Light and heat differ with respect to the length of the waves—those of the latter are longer than those of the former. Experiments were made upon flames. Some flames give little light but intense heat, as for instance, the flame of hydrogen gas. If a solid body is plunged into such a flame, the radiant heat will be increased as well as the radiant light.

Experiments made upon the spots of the sun showed that they were colder than the surrounding part; also, that the surface of that body is variously heated.

The apparatus was applied to form a thermal telescope—when turned to the heavens, the coldest part was found to be directly over head. Thunder clouds, sending forth flashes of lightning, were found to be colder than the surrounding clouds. When turned to the moon there were some slight traces of heat, but those were proved to be from the reflected heat of the sun. He showed this to be the case by an experiment which he performed on ice. In this experiment the ice reflected heat. It has long been known that a burning lens could be made of ice. The thermo-electrical telescope is capable of an infinite improvement. When in a state of perfection, it may reveal many new and interesting facts in astronomy, which thus far have only been opened to sight.—*Scientific American.*

We have heard a rumour that a murder was committed near Hog's Hollow, about six miles north of this city, some two weeks ago. It is said that the murdered man, Mr. Harris, was found buried near his own house. We refrain to notice the rumour further at present.—[Examiner.]

There are nearly 12,000 factory hands in the borough of Manchester without the means of employment. In Ashton-under-Lyne 8367 hands have struck work; whilst the unemployed in that town, Lancaster, Preston, and Bolton, amount to 1679. Besides the above, in nine towns in the district, there are no fewer than 14,500 hands unemployed, besides those which have struck, which amount to 212.

An encounter has taken place between the British ship of war *Hound*, and the French brig of war *Abeille*, on the coast of Africa. Commanded by Wood, of the *Hound*, fired at the *Abeille*, in consequence of the French ship not showing her colours properly; a second shot was then exchanged, after which, the vessel being ascertained to be French, an officer went on board with an apology, and the matter terminated in the most courteous and amicable manner.

We learn that several timber laden vessels are at present lying in the river, owing to the circumstance that many of the consignees of such vessels now in the docks, refuse to pay freight, or to incur the expenses to receive the cargoes consigned to them from abroad. The rule is, that freights shall be paid in cash, which cannot be found at present.

## MARKETS.

[From the Globe.]

MONTREAL, Dec. 1.—9 P. M.

Our market for breadstuffs is dull. The demand for shipment having ceased, the sales not worth reporting. The quotations to-day are as follows: Flour, fine, 25s 6d a 26s per barrel; Middling, 24s a 25s. Wheat, U. C., best, per 60 lbs., 5s 3d a 5s 6d. Peas, per minot, 3s 6d. Provisions quiet. Pork, Mess, per barrel, 11s; Prime Mess, 70s a 75s. Butter, per lb., 5d a 6d. Ashes—no demand; the rates are 22s 6d a 23s for Pots, and 26s a 26s 3d for Pearls. In other articles of produce no alteration to note. Nothing doing in exchange. The steamer *Quebec* left last evening, at 5 o'clock, for Quebec, on her last trip for the season, with a limited quantity of freight, and a large number of passengers. There are no vessels remaining in port. The frost is beginning to set in severely, so that in a few days our harbour, and the canals westward, will be so blocked up as to put a stop to navigation.

## NEW YORK MARKETS.

By Telegraph to the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, and Buffalo Express.

New York, Nov. 30. 7 P. M.

**ASHES.**—Downward tendency with moderate sales; pearl \$7 50c, pots \$5 62½ a \$5 75c. Sales about 150 bbls.

**FLOUR.**—Market rather active in the morning, and prices were firm. There was afterwards less enquiry, and quotations became heavy. Transactions of the day are about 2000 bbls., at \$6 12c, a \$6 25c for common brands Western; \$6 25c a \$6 31c for Genesee. There were, however, some mixed brands Oswego, at \$6 12½c and some parcels better than common at \$6 37½c a \$6 50c. Some parcels unsold at \$5 62½c a \$5 87½c, and some at \$5 37½c a \$5 50c. Some enquiry for shipment but at rates below the market. A lot of 1000 bbls Genesee to arrive was offered at the close at \$6 25c. Good enquiry for the East and home use. Supplies large. Meat in good demand with upward tendency. Sales about 1000 bbls. Western and Jersey at \$3 37c a \$3 50c. Sides 500 bbls. Rye flour at \$4 62½c and 300 bbls. buck wheat at \$3 25c per barrel.

**GRAIN.**—Wheat in fair demand and prices steady. We notice sales of 5200 bush. Chicago at 120c; 8200 Wisconsin and Ohio at 124c a 125; 1200 ditto, good at 137½c. Genesee was offered at 137½c. Corn in moderate demand and heavy; sales about 15000 bush—73c a 74c for mixed; 74-76 for yellow—closing at the lower prices, including round; a small lot inferior white was sold at 70c. Rye was in large demand and steady; sales 20,000 bush. at 87½c a 90c—the latter on time.

OATS steady at 50c.

**BARLEY** dull; 3500 bushels at 65 a 66c for inferior, and 78c a 80c for good.

**WHITE BEANS.**—Sales of 300 bushels at \$1 25c a \$1 37c.

## Toronto Market Prices.

Dec. 4.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Flour, per barrel, 196 lbs....	20	0	a	22 6
Oatmeal, per barrel, 196 lbs....	20	0	a	21 3
Wheat, per bushel, 60 lbs....	3	9	a	4 4
Rye, per bushel, 56 lbs....	3	0	a	3 4
Barley, per bushel, 48 lbs....	2	3	a	2 8
Oats, per bushel, 34 lbs....	1	4	a	1 6
Peas, per bushel, 60 lbs....	2	0	a	2 6
Potatoes, per bushel....	3	9	a	4 6
Onions, per bushel....	3	9	a	5 0
Tub Butter, per lb....	0	6	a	0 7
Fresh Butter, per lb....	0	9	a	0 11
Eggs, per dozen....	0	7½	a	0 9
Beef, per cwt....	12	6	a	20 0
Beef, per lb....	0	2½	a	0 3½
Pork, per 100 lbs....	15	0	a	22 0
Hay, per ton....	40	0	a	45 0
Straw, per ton....	25	0	a	30 0
Timothy, per bushel, 60 lbs....	4	0	a	6 0
Mutton, per lb., by the qr....	0	2½	a	0 3
Veal, per lb., by the qr....	0	2½	a	0 3
Turkeys, each....	1	0	a	3 1½
Geese, each....	1	6	a	2 0
Ducks, per couple....	1	0	a	2 4
Fowls, per couple....	1	3	a	2 8
Chickens, per couple....	0	10	a	1 3
Bacon, per lb....	0	5	a	0 6
Ham, per cwt....	40	0	a	45 0
Lard, per lb....	8	6	a	0 6