

ALL PRICES CURRENT.

December 16, 1836.

Table of market prices for various commodities including flour, sugar, and other goods, with columns for item names, prices, and units.

Table titled 'EXCHANGES AND STOCKS' showing financial data and exchange rates.

Halfpenny Current, and of Crown Duties in British Sterling—the latter payable before, or by the Mint, an old Measure about 5 per cent. larger than the Imperial Bushel.

Vol. II. Morning Courier.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY, DEC. 30, 1836

The Morning Courier is published daily throughout the year, Sunday, Christmas and New Year's days, except for the small sum of six dollars delivered in town, or eight dollars if sent by mail—a small fraction more per annum in town, and not three half pence per number in the country, payable in advance.

The value we attach to the question of a union of the Provinces, induces us to notice objections to the measure, of so frivolous a nature, that on a subject less important and better understood, might have been safely passed over in silence. In four successive numbers of the Herald have appeared the most dialogues between "Oswego" and "Praxas," on the question of the Union. Had the dramatic personae been dubbed VALENTIN and OSMON, the childish character of the conversations would have been complete. The substance of the first two was "words, words, words, and nothing but words;" the third has some higher pretensions, and we shall, in consequence, bestow a little attention upon it.

But, "to begin at the beginning," it will be recollected that the Select General Committee of Delegates gave all unanimously its "collective sanction" to the union. This subject, nevertheless, is very feebly urged in any of the documents that emanated from that body. It is indeed barely noticed, and appears to have been thrown out as a "sub for the wits," and to show some coincidence more between the sentiments of the Delegates and those of their constituents. Had it not been for some such intention as hinted at, the question of the union would probably have suffered the same fate as the mass of valuable information respecting feudal rights, the representation, &c. which it is said has been collected, and would have with it been locked up from public view. The cause would perhaps have suffered less, had it been so treated by the Committee, than it is in danger of doing from the very equitable support it now receives from its published proceedings. In one part the union is said to have been all unanimously assented to, and that burlesque production, the "homely and familiar address," a strong opponent of a union, the Ami de Peuple newspaper, is recommended to the Canadians. The Ami glories in opposing the union, upon the grounds of national—of French interests, language and laws. As far, therefore, as a large portion of the Gallo-Canadian population is concerned, of that class in fact who are most inveterately hostile to a union, the Committee's feeble sanction of the project and cordial enjoinment of the principles of a Canadian paper inimical to it, completely nullify each other. If this be not giving the union the go-by, we know not what it is. That the Committee was cognisant of the inconsistency, when it sanctioned the contents of the report and address, we will not take upon ourselves to affirm, but that the funny author of the address intended to play that off against the report, is not at all unlikely. However this may be, the published proceedings of the Committee blow hot and cold in regard to the paramount question of a union of the Provinces.

Our contemporary, L'Ami du Peuple, will, we hope, not misunderstand the remarks, with which it has been coupled. We cannot charge it with inconsistency or with disputing its sentiments as to a union. The Editor will recollect better than we do, whether it was immediately before or after the meeting of the Committee of Delegates, or even during its sittings, that there appeared in the columns of the Ami an article of some length, deprecating in the strongest terms all idea of a union. So violent, indeed, was the protest, and so very unphilosophical the grounds, that we were tempted, at the time, to read our contemporary a lecture on the impropriety of both, but were prevented by other duties. Having said so much respecting the share of the Select General Committee of Delegates has taken in the question of union, in so far as sanctioning and also discouraging the project, the transition is the easiest possible to the dialogue of VALENTIN and OSMON. The proceedings of the Committee are the real foundation of the dialogue, the germ of the idea of saying something on this side and something on that.

We must resume this subject to-morrow. A small unlooked for circumstance has just occurred at Toronto, which promises to mar the even tenour with which political affairs were progressing in that capital. The Hon. Mr. ELSLIE, a member of the Executive as well as Legislative Council, has, in his place in the latter body, formally protested against the passing of the Supply Bill, as sent up by the Assembly. We shall give his reasons for this proceeding, as stated in the reported debates.

The Hon. Mr. ELSLIE in presenting the report of the Select Committee to whom was referred the Supply Bill, requested that a duty which he felt he owed to the country should be to bring under the notice of the House the circumstances of the Bill of Supply now before them, being for a much larger sum than was asked for or required, and that large and extravagant salaries were voted to the Clerks in the public office, even raising those salaries beyond what they ever possessed, and also that large sums were voted as stipendials for public offices, and that he had a great deal to say in favour of the House of Assembly, and that their salaries should have been reduced in place of being increased, and that the Legislative Council should prevent the House of Assembly from granting an unnecessary supply, and thereby proving a wasteful expender of the public money.

At a subsequent part of the debate, Mr. ELSLIE said it was disgraceful in any Executive to send down an estimate to the House of Assembly containing items which had already been refused, and he had hoped that under a Governor sent out as Sir P. Head had been, the House of Assembly's first act would not be in granting large salaries, but in redressing grievances, and he should therefore not give his consent to the Bill, but should enter his formal protest upon the journals.

The Hon. Mr. MARLEND denied that the Supply Bill exceeded the estimate submitted by the Executive to the Assembly, and stated that the excess in the estimate over that of former years was caused by the equalization of the salaries of the senior clerks in the different government offices, and with respect to the charge of a wasteful expenditure by the public officers, in the shape of contingencies, it was altogether erroneous, inasmuch as, although a particular sum was estimated for, yet no portion of that sum but the amount actually disbursed was ever paid, and that too after an inspection and approval of the amount by the Inspector General and the Board of Audit, composed of the members of the Executive Council, of which body the Hon. Gentleman was a member.

The debate of which the above is the most important portion, was closed by Mr. ELSLIE moving that a conference should be asked with the Assembly upon the Bill. The Hon. Mr. MARLEND, who was in the affirmative, then intends embodying his objections in the shape of a protest.

It would be useless to apply ordinary rules of conduct in speculating upon the cause of the Hon. Mr. ELSLIE's proceeding above adverted to; for it is generally known that Mr. E. does almost nothing in the ordinary way. He is rather an eccentric personage, and his protest in the circumstances of the case may have originated with him on very fanciful grounds. We shall see. The Toronto Courier offers two conjectural reasons for his singular conduct, but neither seems probable. The one is that Mr. E. made the stand he did to create a patent excuse for his retiring from the Executive Council, and not wanting to be dismissed upon other grounds. The second is, that he intends henceforth to head an opposition to Government. The Courier speaks decidedly that Mr. E. will be dismissed from the Executive Council.

The annexed notice of the Common School Assistant, published at Albany, is from the New York Express. We regret that we do not see this publication regularly.

The result of the public meeting at Quebec, to consider of the expediency of establishing a Marine Insurance Company, is highly gratifying. A full account of the proceedings will be found in another column, and will be perused with interest, especially by the mercantile class.

Mr. JOSEPH GIBBARD, an old and respectable inhabitant of Val-de-Rueil, was drowned on the 8th instant, while skating there. The same day, a young man named REXI CONSTANT, met a similar fate, opposite the house of Mr. BERTHELET, at Lacheny.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER. Hydrophobia. Sir,—Having lately been in the neighbourhood of St. Anne Road & Lake, I was informed of an occurrence of much importance to humanity, that I deem it my duty to let you know of it. One evening last autumn a mad dog bit a number of individuals, consisting of three men, two women, and a young girl aged about seven years. Dr. McNamee, the proprietor of the village, being called in, resolved to persevere in a treatment, which so far as I know, has never been tried in Canada, or even in America. His mode of treatment was to give a poor specimen of the Russian Ukraïne, and was published to the medical world, in a pamphlet, written by Dr. McNamee, and had his patients carefully attended, and on the fifth day he began to examine the under part of the neck, and to feel the glands, and the extremities of the salivary glands, and which is again absorbed by them if it is not removed by surgical means. On the sixth day after he had received their wounds, Dr. M. observed these glands, and as they made their appearance, he cut them with a sharp lancet, had the matter discharged, and the wound carefully cauterized after this he gave the patient some of the decoction of the Gallican doctor, a species of bromine, and in forty days all the patients had recovered, and are now as well as they ever were. These people may be considered as free exempt from hydrophobia, if we are to judge by hundreds of Russians, who have never been re-attacked, since they were cured by this treatment. I should not have troubled you, Sir, with this, had I not seen an account in a Hartford paper, a few weeks ago, of a young man dying of hydrophobia whose life, I am morally certain, would have been saved, had he been treated in the manner above described. As some may have doubts of the dog who bit these individuals being hydrophobic, I will state a story which has been told me, and which I have having suffered paroxysms of torture during 8 hours. Let me be known to all that the careful execution of these pastilles under the tongue, the removal of the matter from the glands, and the use of the bromine, may be done with a heated iron, and then washing out the mouth with the decoction of Gallican doctor—the latter will prove an infallible cure in the most horrid cases of this disease—Hydrophobia. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, A FARMER TO VISIT SOMERSET CANTON, Dec. 10, 1836.

The Superintendent of the House of Industry has to acknowledge the receipt of parcels of cloth from the following gentlemen: J. Dick, J. St. Francis, Thomas Watts, John Douglas, and F. J. Lacroix, Esqrs., also from Mrs. Arnold; and 1 piece cloth, 3 pieces grey cottons and some rags, from J. G. Mackenzie, Esq. 10 bushels potatoes from Mrs. Aird. 32 six lb loaves from P. Pagan. 20s. from Special Jury, by Mr. Deuchastel. Is. in a letter signed "a friend to the cause." Dec. 20, 1836.

ten and eleven o'clock, A. M., which is supposed to have originated from the stove pipe, passing through the chimneys in the third story. Mr. Cheney had gone to a great expense in putting the Mill in complete operation but a short time before the accident happened. The Mill was the property of Mr. Abraham Stoddard. There was a large quantity of grain in the mill, but nothing saved, the mill not insured, Mr. Cheney's loss is estimated at \$200.—Toronto Courier.

LOWER CANADA. From the Quebec Mercury, December 17. MEETING FOR ESTABLISHING A MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY. A meeting of merchants and other connected persons in this city, took place at the Exchange, yesterday, at 2 P. M., for the purpose of adopting resolutions preparatory to the formation of a Marine Insurance Company in Quebec. A Marine Insurance Company. J. B. Forsyth, Esq. was called to the Chair; W. Staveley, Esq. acted as Secretary. The Chairman opened the business of the meeting by alluding to the Prospectus, published for ten or twelve days past in the newspapers, (the Prospectus was then read by the Secretary.) The Prospectus having been read, the Chairman observed that there had been long waiting in Quebec, and he was happy to see by the numerous and respectable meeting which he was surrounded, that this want would in all probability not be felt for the future. A Company for covering losses at sea could not be highly useful at Quebec, and he (Mr. F.) had not the slightest doubt of its being very profitable if we were to judge by the immense profits made by Marine Insurance Companies in the United States and elsewhere. It seemed, indeed, somewhat extraordinary, that up to the present time Quebec, which he believed he was safe to say was among the largest shipping ports in the world—should not have been able to cover a single risk. But one objection he believed had occurred to his mind, and that was, that the amount authorized as a step to the formation of a Company, the greater majority of the vessels entering the port being insured in Great Britain. The objection, however, he (Mr. F.) thought, could be shown to be without weight. Several gentlemen were present who could testify to the great amount annually insured at New York by merchants engaged in the West India trade, and also in the insurance with the Lower Ports. In addition to this, a large number of vessels are annually built in Quebec, and a considerable number of vessels are in existence—Cargoes of vessels leaving Quebec would, so to speak, be secured against loss, and the agency of the proposed Company and another consideration would be the insurance of orders for produce from the West Indies. The Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. then proposed that the Company be formed in conformity with the prospectus which had been distributed, and that the expenses of such a Company would be very trifling, not like the First Insurance Company, which required a number of clerks. The Manager of one of the other Companies would be a person of good judgment, and would be placed in the hands of the Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. who would be responsible for his opinions. When the immense extent of trade carried on in this port was considered, the amount of losses incurred would not be found so great as is generally considered; and it ought also to be noticed, that those losses which are paid by the Company, are paid by the shareholders, and not by the insured. The Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. then proposed that the Company be formed in conformity with the prospectus which had been distributed, and that the expenses of such a Company would be very trifling, not like the First Insurance Company, which required a number of clerks. The Manager of one of the other Companies would be a person of good judgment, and would be placed in the hands of the Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. who would be responsible for his opinions. When the immense extent of trade carried on in this port was considered, the amount of losses incurred would not be found so great as is generally considered; and it ought also to be noticed, that those losses which are paid by the Company, are paid by the shareholders, and not by the insured.

Mr. BOSTON then moved, seconded by Mr. Forsyth, Esq. That as soon as \$25,000 is subscribed, the Chairman of the present meeting do call a general meeting of the Stockholders, to elect a President and four Directors, to superintend the management of the affairs of the Company until the 1st of April, 1837, to frame rules and regulations, to appoint a Manager, and generally to do what in their opinion is necessary for the welfare of the Company. Moved by H. Debord, Esq. seconded by B. Tremain, Esq. 4th. That the President and Directors who shall have framed Rules and Regulations, they be requested to give Books of subscription for one-half the Stock, in the city of Montreal. Moved by M. B. Farin, Esq. seconded by H. Pemberton, Esq. 5th. That until such Rules and Regulations are framed, each share shall be entitled to one vote. Moved by J. Dean, Esq. seconded by J. J. Van, Esq. 6th. That J. Leycraft, H. Lameroy, David Burnett, F. Batain, James Dean, H. Debord and James B. Forsyth, Esquires, be a Committee to carry the objects of this meeting into effect. The whole of the above resolutions passed unanimously, after which observations from the Chairman, Mr. B. Farin, Esq. were made, and before the meeting separated, 340 Shares, equal to \$24,000, had been taken.

The Canadian of last night contains some "Awful Disclosures," respecting that infamous and unchristianlike Editor of the Quebec Mercury, who has so grossly abused his paper as to place in the Assembly, the Editor of the Montreal Star, as a witness in a case, in which he is the plaintiff. The Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. has been obliged to withdraw from the case, on account of his being a party to it. The Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. has been obliged to withdraw from the case, on account of his being a party to it. The Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. has been obliged to withdraw from the case, on account of his being a party to it.

Mr. LE MEUR then moved, seconded by J. C. Lo, Esq. That it is expedient to form a Company for the purpose of insuring against damage by fire, under the name and style of "The Canadian Marine Insurance Company." Moved by F. Batain, Esq. seconded by J. C. Lo, Esq. That the Capital Stock of the said Company be divided into 1000 Shares, of the value of \$100 each. F. Batain, Esq. previous to proposing the third Resolution, had been asked by the Hon. Mr. Forsyth, Esq. whether he had any objection to knowing the amount of guarantee.

popular branch of the united Legislature; so that before such a change, as we all desire, could be carried into effect, it would be, in a great measure, unnecessary, or at least become a question not so much between race and race as between country and country. If, after the accomplishment of the essential union, the English were still in the minority, any change in the Representation would be then, as now, for the worse; and if, on the contrary, they were in the majority, the subject would lose much of the interest now so justly, perhaps, attached to it. On this head, therefore, general legislation would be rather postponed than hastened. Then as to general legislation on Internal Improvements, I suspect, that you deceive yourself with words—Such legislation must be more purely local than any other kind of legislation. The Canada requires no such gigantic work as the Erie Canal of 300 miles, or the New York and Erie Railroad of 500 miles. All the points on these great thoroughfares, the waters of the St. Lawrence, that need improvement, are so nothing to the distance of Sault Ste. Marie from the Ocean, as any railroads or canals, constructed across the continent, could be a local improvement, comparatively but a local interest. Keeping these preliminaries in view, I may safely assert, that the difficulties, which now embarrass the inter-provincial improvements, would be exceeded, by the nominal union to almost all internal improvements. In the event of an internal union, the two difficulties, which respectively arise from the division of import-duties and the improvement of the St. Lawrence, would be rolled into one great difficulty involving at once internal improvement and division of revenue—the Upper Canadians and the Lower Canadians, in two bodies, struggling to get as much as possible of the common revenue for internal improvements in their respective provinces. The present conflict would be rather postponed than hastened. Then as to general legislation, in a much less satisfactory and equitable way than at present. Instead of being left to the whimsical decision of Commissioners and an empiric, it would be decided by the counting of skulls very much to the annoyance of the smaller number of those palaces of the soil. With regard to your second point, namely, that something more than a bare majority of each Legislature should be necessary to alter the municipal law of either province, I must now speak. To this scheme there would be two serious objections, apparently contrary to each other. It would go too far for one purpose and not far enough for the other. It would go too far for one purpose, inasmuch as it might prevent necessary modifications of the law, and it would go far enough for justice, inasmuch as a majority of the three fifths or the two thirds or the three fourths might still represent the two provinces while cutting and carving the municipal law of the other. If you once concede the principle, you cannot stop short of requiring a majority of the representatives of each province to sanction any change in its municipal law. In such a case, there would be a majority of the whole, you would be rendering perpetually more perplexing and confusion more unbounded.

We have selected the above long winded speech of PRAXAS, as affording the fullest view of the anti-unionist's opinions, the dialogue furnish. His opposition, for that is all we have at present to do with, hinges, it will be perceived, upon three points, namely, the representation, internal improvements, and changes in the municipal law of either Province. With regard to the representation, which OSMON has good naturedly allowed PRAXAS to use as an additional crutch to his opinions, no rational unbiased contemplator that it will be left an open question to the united Legislature; for were it so, no doubt, more than all the evil consequences PRAXAS mentions, might follow. But, the basis of an equitable system of representation, adapted to the progressive character of the population and wealth of a young country, could with perfect justice and propriety be fixed in the spirit of union; the combined principles of territory and population must form the basis, and the country could be so parcelled out, that whenever a town, township or county numbered so many inhabitants, it might then claim, as a right, the power of sending a representative to Parliament. The practice of the neighbouring States is instructive on this point; and even in Upper Canada, the system of representation, provided for the claims of new settlements and increased population. In this Province the subject has been completely botched, like almost every thing else, by the contentions of party spirit.

PRAXAS' anticipations concerning the fate of internal improvements in a united Legislature, have little foundation in probability. He takes for granted that the improvements of a gigantic and truly national kind, that would enlist the sympathies on their side of residents in the east and west, north and south of the united Provinces are very few, and can easily be accomplished without a union. To draw water upon imagination, or fortuity, in reply to a supposition that borrows a vast deal from both the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa, may be pointed to as requiring the most gigantic efforts, and the expenditure of great treasure, before they can be improved as they might, and ought to be, for the good of the country. So long indeed as the Provinces continue divided, the improvements cannot be effected, upon a worthy scale, and, still more, imperiously demanded, will not be undertaken at all. Witness, for instance, the River Ottawa, that forms the boundary between the Provinces—to which is the improvement of its navigation to be extended, or which will voluntarily undertake it. Looked upon as

Quebec Mercury. And so we were. MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31, 1836. New York papers of Thursday, contain late news from Buenos Ayres, and from Chili. There has been some fighting in the former country, in which the Constitutional army were the victors. There is the usual quantity of instructions from Chili. The Port of Valparaiso is declared again, open by the Government, all internal disturbances having been quelled.

PRAXAS.—To begin, as in order bound, with your first point, I must now speak of the representation, which OSMON has good naturedly allowed PRAXAS to use as an additional crutch to his opinions, no rational unbiased contemplator that it will be left an open question to the united Legislature; for were it so, no doubt, more than all the evil consequences PRAXAS mentions, might follow. But, the basis of an equitable system of representation, adapted to the progressive character of the population and wealth of a young country, could with perfect justice and propriety be fixed in the spirit of union; the combined principles of territory and population must form the basis, and the country could be so parcelled out, that whenever a town, township or county numbered so many inhabitants, it might then claim, as a right, the power of sending a representative to Parliament. The practice of the neighbouring States is instructive on this point; and even in Upper Canada, the system of representation, provided for the claims of new settlements and increased population. In this Province the subject has been completely botched, like almost every thing else, by the contentions of party spirit.