

COLONIAL.

New Brunswick.

MINERAL WEALTH OF THE PROVINCE.—About three months ago we alluded to some rich seams of Bituminous or Pitch Coal which had been discovered in Albert County, and we have now the satisfaction to state that Mr. Duffy, the party who discovered and has been working the coal mine at Shepody, has sold his lease or mining privilege to Messrs. Allison and Spurr, of this City, for \$25,000, which does not, of course, include the right of soil. One shilling per chaldron is also payable to the Provincial Government on the coals excavated. There is little doubt that this speculation will turn out very profitable to the parties interested, as the first five hundred chaldrons that can be got out, have been already contracted for in New York at ten dollars per chaldron. The seam of coal is twelve feet wide and sixty-two feet deep.

This Province appears destined by nature to rise into a prominent position yet, as it contains within itself so many resources, which require only to be known and developed in order to their becoming sources of wealth to their possessors, and beneficial to the people at large.—*St. John, N. B. Courier, 14th.*

SOUTH STREAM SETTLEMENT, PARISH OF UPRAM, K. C.—It must afford pleasure to a benevolent mind to witness the improvements made year after year in many parts of this highly favoured Province. In 1819, two or three individuals commenced to clear the wilderness at South Stream, about two miles in an easterly direction from the highest lake at Loch Lomond. At that time the settlers had no road to St. John but by Beatty's Ferry, in the Parish of Hampton. The farms in South Stream are now nearly all occupied. A good road runs through the settlement from St. John towards Shepody, on which a mail is carried weekly. Efficient Mills have been erected by Mr. S. Henderson; and a good House of Entertainment is kept by Mr. J. Barnes. A Blacksmith and a Waggon-maker have established their respective trades near the Stream. A flourishing School is in the neighbourhood; while the Presbyterians are favoured with a Meeting House and a Minister of their own denomination—here is "the Church that tops the neighbouring hill," and now the Wesleyans have just completed a comfortable House for their Sabbath Services. A Reading Society has been organized, and Lectures are delivered monthly on literary and scientific subjects.

The Wesleyan Chapel will be opened on Sunday the 23d inst. by the Rev. R. Knight.—*ib.*

MONEY DIGGING.—For some time back there have been several parties in our community so infatuated as to believe that the gold diggings were not confined either to California or Turks Island, but were to be found in our own City, and under the impression that money was buried in certain parts of it, have been industriously digging for the hidden treasure, but, as far as we can learn, with very little success, notwithstanding the use of a mineral rod to point them to the localities. It is much to be regretted that there are to be found persons among us, credulous enough to believe such stories as those relating to money buried in this neighbourhood, as they are only wasting their time in digging the earth in a very unprofitable way, and which might be turned to much better account, if they would follow up their digging by planting.—*ib.*

SHIPBUILDING.—On conversing a few days ago with an intelligent Shipbuilder, we find it his opinion that the alteration in the Navigation Laws of Great Britain, allowing Foreign vessels to obtain British Registers, will not affect the interest of our Shipbuilders to any extent. During the last twenty-five years he has built forty vessels, principally of a large class, and he states that the average prices this year have been fully as favourable as any year during that period.—*This is the opinion of a practical man.—ib.*

We have much pleasure in announcing that the number of paupers at present in the Almshouse, is less by 109 than it was at the same time last year, and there is of course a corresponding reduction in the expenses of the establishment. This looks as if the Province was gradually becoming more prosperous, and that poor persons could more readily obtain employment this year than last.—*ib.*

An order has been issued by the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury to the several public departments, requiring them to return the estimate of their expenses for the ensuing year, twenty five per cent. less than usual. This shows that there is a determination on the part of Her Majesty's Government to carry out retrenchment as far as possible.—*ib.*

AWFUL CALAMITY!—A telegraphic despatch from Fredericton, was received at the News Room on Thursday last, announcing that the house of Mr. John Coulthard, in Queensbury, was consumed by fire that morning, about two o'clock, with all his family! consisting of Mr. Coulthard, wife and child.—Cause of the fire unknown.—*ib.*

We notice by the last 'Temperance Telegraph,' that the Sons of Temperance, the 'Total Abstinence Societies,' and others, of Sheffield, have agreed to Petition the Legislature "To enact a Law forthwith repealing all import duties on intoxicating liquors, prohibiting the licensing, by Courts of County Sessions, of houses for their sale—making every vender, wholesale or retail, of such liquors, equally accountable with the consumer for every crime committed under their influence, and providing that no such vender

shall be permitted to sit on any Grand Jury, or hold the office of a Magistrate, or occupy any position of trust, honour, or emolument, under the Provincial Government."

(From the N. B. Royal Gazette.)

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Dr. Stafford Benson and Mr. Robert Wason, to be Coroners in the County of Northumberland.

Henry P. Sturdee, Esquire, to be a Commissioner of Wrecks and Shipwrecked Goods for the County of St. John, in the room of Thomas Leavitt, Esq., deceased.

Robert F. Hazen, John Duncan, and Peter Bernard, Esquires, to be Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum in the room of William Jack, and Alexander Campbell, Esquires, resigned, and of James W. Chandler, Esq., who declines to act.

Adam Jack, Esq., to be Commissioner of the Marine Hospital at St. John, in the room of Thomas Leavitt, Esq., deceased.

Moses H. Perley, Esquire, to be Commissioner for receiving and transmitting to England any specimens of Natural Productions or Manufactures placed in his hands for that purpose by persons in this Province.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. R. PARTELOW.

THE SEASON.—Winter has at length set in.—The ice is rapidly making in our river, and we may therefore expect to see it completely frozen across in a day or two. Such an open, mild, and pleasant fall we never experienced in the country, and we question if that respectable gentleman the "oldest settler" ever witnessed the like.—*Miramichi Gleaner, 9th.*

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—The amount of Stock taken for this object amounts to \$270.—The remaining portion it is expected will be taken by parties residing in Newcastle.—*ib.*

We understand that Messrs. Hatheway and Small, the enterprising owners of the steamers *Forest Queen* and *Anna Augusta*, have purchased at New York the steamer *Crocod*, for about \$11,000, to run between this place and Boston next season. The *Crocod* was built in New York in 1841. She is 306 tons burthen, 165 feet on deck, 22 feet beam, 8½ feet hold, 10 feet stroke, and 34 inch cylinders. She is registered A 1½ and is said to be a superior sea boat; can accommodate 120 passengers with berths.—*New-Brunswick.*

Canada.

TRADE OF QUEBEC.—1078 vessels arrived at Quebec from sea, during the season just closing, the aggregate tonnage of which amounts to 426,379 tons; of these arrivals, 96 were Foreign, namely—45 Norwegian, 24 from the United States, 19 Prussian, 3 Russian, 2 Portuguese, 1 Hanoverian, and 1 Dutch; their aggregate tonnage amounts to 37,970 tons.

The total arrivals from sea, last year, were 1064 vessels, total tonnage, 431,953 tons, leaving a difference in favour of this year, of 14 vessels, and 4,466 tons.

There has been a very considerable increase in the trade to the Lower Provinces this year. The amount of tonnage employed in this trade, has more than doubled within six years past.

THE EXPORT OF LUMBER from the Port of Quebec from the opening to the close of the navigation for the year 1850, has been—White Pine Timber, 13,048,620 feet; Red Pine Timber 3,797,980 feet; Elm 2,007,400 feet; Tamarac, 43,400 feet; Birch and Ash 219,240 feet; Oak, 1,069,644 feet; Deals 2,363,088 feet; Lathwood 4,300 cords, Standard Staves 14,170, 2 21; W. O. W. 1 Staves M. 2457, 3 0 14. Tamarac Sleepers 22, 179 Pieces.

It is estimated that ten thousand sheep have been sold in Sherbrooke and Stanstead Counties this fall, for exportation to the United States. They brought ten shillings a head.

West Indies.

The Empire City brings dates from Kingston, Jamaica, to Dec. 1st. The cholera is making the most fearful ravages throughout the West Indies. It has been very fatal at Kingston, but is now more severe in other parts of the Island. Kingston is reported to have lost 5000 by the disease, and a proportionate number at Port Royal. It had entirely disappeared from the latter place.

Most melancholy accounts are received from the interior and agricultural districts. The Journal says, that in the Plantain Garden River district one thousand persons have been swept away by the fell destroyer. From St. David, frightful accounts have been received. The whole police force, corporals, &c., had been carried away, chiefly for want of sustenance. Real estate had greatly depreciated.

UNITED STATES.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.—The U. S. Mail Steamship Georgia, arrived at New York on Saturday, from Chagres via Havana, with the Pacific Mails and 330 passengers. 250 passengers were left at Havana, to go to New Orleans by the Ohio.

The Georgia brought about a million of gold in the hands of passengers, and one hundred thousand on freight.

The Steamer Empire City, from Chagres via Jamaica, arrived at New York on Sunday morning, with over three hundred passengers, and upwards of two millions of dollars on freight, and in the hands of the passengers.

Business at San Francisco is reported as having fallen off considerably during the latter part of the month of October—the weight of the fall trade being over. The rainy season had not set in, but appearances indicated that it soon would.

In the price of building materials there was no improvement. Breadstuffs were active and firm. Ship Bread had advanced in consequence of the demand for Ships' Stores—Provisions extremely active, and prices well sustained.

The amount of Bullion entered at the Port of San Francisco from Nov 12th, 1849, to Sept 30th 1850, was \$2,134,000, and the amount cleared during the same period, \$17,822,877.

The amount of California gold received at the Philadelphia mint has averaged, for the last eleven months, two and a half millions per month!

The cholera was committing serious ravages at San Francisco. The disease was also prevalent at Sacramento. It broke out on board of the schooner G. H. Montague, from that port, the day after sailing, and six passengers and the second mate died. The captain and four passengers were sick on her arrival at San Francisco.

A San Francisco paper, of the evening of the 1st November says, there can be no doubt that this terrific disease is gradually increasing and in the great proportion of cases a fatal termination ensues.

At Sacramento City, from the 21st to the 27th October, there were fifty-eight deaths by cholera. Among the number we notice the names of Edward Ray of Nova Scotia, aged 23, and Jesse Haycock, of Boston—Mr. H. was formerly a resident in St. John, N. B.

Steamboat explosions have already commenced in California. On the 29th ult., as the steamer Sagamore was casting off from Central Wharf, San Francisco, with a large number of passengers bound for Stockton, her boiler burst with a terrible explosion, scattering human bodies and pieces of the boat in every direction, reducing the steamer to a complete wreck. The number of persons on board was 75 to 100—half of whom were missing. Many bodies had been recovered so mutilated as not to be recognized, and limbs and fragments were gathered up in baskets.

THE MINES.—Large amounts of gold are being taken out of some of the mines, and although sudden fortunes are not being realized, there is generally a return for persevering labour.

THE KLAMATH MINES.—The explorations of the past season have led to no discovery promising to equal in importance that of the gold deposits on the Klamath and its tributaries. Salmon river, the principal affluent of the Klamath, was first occupied in the month of June. There are now nearly one thousand people at the diggings within 20 miles of its mouth, and these have averaged fully one ounce per day, a better general yield than has been realized at any point elsewhere as far as we have been informed.

THE OVERLAND IMMIGRATION.—The Editor of the Placer Times had conversed with a gentleman who had lately arrived at Sacramento City by the Carson route. He gave a most appalling account of the sufferings endured by those who were last upon the route. From the Head of the Humboldt, where their sufferings first commenced, hundreds had actually died from starvation. He thought, however, that the immigration was now over for the season. Having occasion, after having crossed the Sierra Nevada, to return for one hundred miles or more, during the entire distance, he did not see one single person. He thought the last wagon to cross the mountains was that containing his family.

INDIAN DISTURBANCES.—The Sacramento Transcript gives an account of several collisions between the whites, miners along the Trinity and Klamath Rivers, and the North-western Indians, who are said to be very hostile. Six Indians were killed at the place where the Shasta empties into the Klamath.

It is estimated that there has been grown in the Oregon Territory the past season 200,000 bushels of wheat. The potato crop is also very abundant.

TERRIBLE DISASTER.—Destruction of the Hospital for the Insane at Augusta by Fire!—The fire originated in the air chamber, near the furnace, and when discovered, about three o'clock in the morning, the galleries were so filled with smoke and gas as to render the rescue of the patients perilous in all cases, and in some instances wholly impossible. The number of those who perished is supposed to be twenty-three—all males, the female galleries having been cleared. The whole number of inmates was 124. The number of the dead and missing is 28. Henry Jones, attendant, was the only sane person who perished. With few exceptions, all those lost were incurable. It is believed that most of those lost died from suffocation. It is estimated the damage done to the Hospital can be repaired for \$50,000. Much difficulty was experienced in removing the insane, some of whom had to be forced out of the building. Others, after being put out, would rush back. One poor fellow, after being twice taken away, ran back to his gallery and perished.

The Maryland Convention have adopted a resolution to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting more than one lawyer from each county from being in the Legislature.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.—PROMOTES OF DISUNION.—The Legislature of South Carolina met at Columbia on the 25th ult. The Governor in his message advocates secession. He thinks that the appeal of the fugitive slave law will lead to disunion, and that unless the south is protected, secession will be hastened. He proposes the establishment of depots for military stores and instruments of war at Anderson, Spartanburg and

Marion court houses. He suggests the expediency of furnishing the Charleston Artillery companies with two additional batteries, and the removal of the magazine from its present site to Citadel Hill. Also that he be authorized to purchase six 12 pound brass field pieces; six 6 pounders, and six 4 pounders. Also the necessity of establishing within the state limits factories for small arms and munitions, and foundries for iron ordnance, and bronze field pieces.

The Legislature subsequently have had resolutions under discussion, declaring their determination not to elect Senators to fill vacancies, and instructing Senator Butler and the Representatives not to take their seats in Congress. Also, a resolution instructing a committee to report a bill of non-intercourse with all States that throw obstacles in the way of the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law, with a long preamble of grievances. It is also resolved, that in the proper remedy; also that South Carolina sooner than submit to the aggressions of the Federal Congress will interpose her sovereignty to shield her citizens from further outrages and wrongs at every hazard.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GLASGOW AND PORTLAND.—The Portland Advertiser, in speaking of the project to establish a line of steamers between Montreal and Glasgow, says that Mr. Isaac Buchanan, who originated the enterprise, has visited Portland within a few days past, to ascertain the fitness of its harbour as a terminus for a line of steamships, and also to learn the exact condition of the railroad enterprises in which Portland capital is embarked and especially the prospect of the Montreal road. He went over the Atlantic road as far as Bacon Falls, in Greenwood, and examined all the wharves and other localities in Portland and vicinity.

He sailed on Wednesday in the Africa, from New York. The plan is to construct three iron steamers of 1600 tons measurement capable each of carrying 6000 barrels of flour, or an equivalent amount of freight, with accommodations for 75 first class and 75 second class passengers. The steamers are to cost about £30,000 each.—*Montreal Herald.*

CENTRAL AMERICA.—The Panama Star of the 15th ult., speaking of the Panama Rail Road says:—We are happy to inform our contemporary of the California Courier, that the railroad is being built—and it is the confident expectation of those who have its management, that by the 4th of next July, it will be ready for the transportation of passengers and merchandise, from Limon Bay on the Atlantic, to a point on the Congress river, between Palanquilla and Gorgona—say about ten hours travel from this place. Some two miles of the road is already laid with rails, and we see no reason why the expectations of the engineers should not be fully realized. As to the plank road, that project has been entirely abandoned, and the whole energies of the railroad company are now directed towards the early completion of their more permanent and useful object. We learn, that between 300 and 400 men are now engaged on the work, and that within a few days, several hundred more labourers will be put on it. The distance from Limon Bay to the point where the road will strike the Chagres river, is between 27 and thirty miles only.

INTERESTING FROM OREGON.—The mail route between Oregon city and Umpqua, semi monthly, has gone into operation. The winter has commenced, and the emigrants, particularly those remaining in the mountains were suffering severely. A large steamer, in course of construction at Milwaukee, is soon to be placed upon the river. It is estimated that 200,000 bushels of wheat have been grown in the territory during the present season, and the potato crop has been abundant.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Friday, the 29th ult., about 12 o'clock, two young lads, sons of Mr. Alex. McDonald, of St. Peter's attempted to cross the Lake on the ice, which gave way beneath them, and they were both drowned in sight of their mother, who, hearing their cries, ran to their assistance, and was herself with great difficulty saved.—*Islander, P. E. I.*

A Southern orator, lauding the Fugitive Slave Law, warned up to such a pitch as to set his whiskers on fire.

Eight young ladies have been awarded diplomas at the Oberlin College, Ohio. One of the ladies was a "colored young lady."

Australia is 2,000 miles from north to south, and 2,500 from east to west. It contains 3,000,000 square miles, 1,920,000,000 square acres, and a sea-board of 8,000 miles.

COUNTERFEITS.—The Western part of New York is now inundated with counterfeit notes. The plan of the counterfeiters is this. They look at the detector, and find some bank on which no counterfeiters of a certain denomination are reported. They then send some man round to distribute them, calling at each store and buying some small article, and offering a \$10 bill. The clerk looks at the detector, and finding no counterfeiters reported on that bank, takes it without hesitation. In this way \$80 were distributed on the Commercial Bank of Whitehall some two months ago, and about two months afterwards they were to be found in the detectors. Now a new batch comes out, and I were passed here on Friday last, purporting to be of the Commercial Bank of Friendship.—*Eastern Paper.*