

But in all cases where a one-man drift would serve the purpose, the saving by using Giant Powder would be nearly if not quite 50 per cent.

A new and valuable process of chlorination for silver ores containing base metals has been patented by Kustel and Hoffman, of this city. The ore is crushed to pass through a number three screen, and is then roasted for two hours with not more than two per cent of salt, after which it is subjected to the ordinary gold chlorination process, and then leached with a solution of hypo-sulphate of soda to dissolve and carry away the silver, which is precipitated by sulphide of sodium. Those familiar with the customary methods of reducing argentiferous ores containing large proportions of base metals will perceive that this a simple and cheap mode of reduction. It will not cost more than \$12 per ton.

In the beginning of the year the Supreme Court rendered a decision that the exemption of mines from taxation was unconstitutional, and it was supposed that there would be an addition of \$10,000,000 or more to the tax of the State in consequence; but so far we have not heard that any assessments on mines have been made save in Sierra County, where the Butte Mine was valued at \$300,000 on the tax roll! It may be that the assessments have been made in the other counties, but that they are not considered of sufficient interest for publication. It is scarcely probable that the assessors would undertake to reverse the judgment of the Supreme Court.—*Exchange.*

### Insurance.

**FIRE RECORD.**—Port Rowan, April 16.—John Wineh, merchant, near Laughton, 12th concession, Walsingham, was burned out yesterday—store and dwelling house. Loss about three thousand dollars.

St. John, N.B., April.—Frost's drug store sustained considerable damage; insured for \$1,500; cause unknown.

Mitchell, April 19.—A large and destructive fire on Sunday morning about 3 o'clock broke out in McQuade's grocery, rapidly spreading east and west, destroying George Barnet's grocery and liquor store; George Ritz's furniture and stove warehouse, Stephen's building; Porter's dry goods store and Town Clerk's office; Sinclair's hardware store and part of the large brick building owned by E. Millar, of Hilbert, and occupied by Peterson & Huston. All parties were partially insured, excepting Mr. Millar, his policy having expired a few days previous. Mr. Barnet's loss is estimated at about \$2,000; Porter's, \$2,000; McQuaid's, \$600; the others not heard from yet. All the Corporation property was saved. Property covered by policies—\$13,642. Nothing saved.

Port Colborne, April 20.—Lightning struck the barns and sheds of Samuel Springer, third concession, Humberstone township, burning them, and their contents of grain and hay. Loss about \$1,200. Insured for \$600 in the Agricultural Mutual, of London. The cheese house of Josse Steele was also struck, and the end of the building knocked out. The barn of Owen Kinsey was struck, but no damage done.

Mitchell, April 19.—The barn owned by Mr. Frank Oliver, of Hibert, was struck by lightning last night and totally destroyed, together with all the farming implements and two horses. Loss—\$1,000. No insurance.

Belleville, April 16.—A frame building occupied by three families, adjoining Wallace's grist-mill, was consumed; no insurance on building; furniture mostly saved.

St. Louis Suburbs, Quebec, April 13.—The stables and dwelling of M. Leady, carter and D. Fitzpatrick; Leady's insurance was \$200; Fitzpatrick's, \$100.

Quebec, April 13.—A house belonging to E. Michon, of Quebec, was destroyed by fire in Charlesbourg; insurance \$250.

North Merrickville, Ont., April 10.—An occupied frame house, owned by Charles Holden, was totally destroyed; no particulars.

Dawn Mills, Ont., April 13.—Store of W. A. Ward; no insurance; the goods were mostly removed.

Wellington Square, April 15.—A fire took place near Wellington Square Station, on the farm of John Waldie, merchant, this afternoon, at half-past one. The barns and sheds adjoining were destroyed. There were four sheep and four lambs, a fanning mill and other farming utensils, besides some eight or ten bushels of corn and a small quantity of hay and straw consumed by the fire. There was some difficulty in saving the stable and driving shed. It is not known how the fire originated. His man states that there was no one in the barn since morning. Mr. Waldie being in Montreal; I cannot ascertain whether his loss is covered by insurance or not. Loss about \$800.

### Financial.

#### TORONTO STOCK MARKET.

(Reported by Pellatt & Osler, Brokers.)

The business of the week has been unimportant, and with the exception of Building Society stocks and County debentures, the supply has in nearly all cases exceeded the demand.

**Bank Stock.**—Limited sales of Montreal were made at 144½ and 144¾, there are buyers at the latter rate. Small sales of British American were made at 105½, at which rate there are buyers. Ontario sold at par, sellers generally ask 100½. There are buyers of Toronto at 120 and sellers at 121. Small sales of Royal Canadian were made during the week at 78, 78½ and 79, very little offering under 80. Several sales of Commerce took place at 102½, at which rate it is still procurable. There are sellers of Gore at 39 and no buyers. Merchants sold at 107½ and 107¾, there are buyers and sellers at these rates. Sales of Quebec were made at 101½, buyers would now give 102. Molson's closed dull at 107½ to 108. Considerable sales of City were at 101½; there are buyers now at 101½, and sellers at 102. Buyers offer 108½ for Du Peuple, none in Market. For Nationale 108 would be paid, none offering. There are buyers of Jacques Cartier at 109½, and sellers at 110. Buyers offer 105½ for Union, with sellers at 106.

**Debentures.**—Dominion stock is wanted; little doing in Canada bonds. Toronto would be readily taken at rates to pay 6½ per cent interest; none in market for weeks past. Large sales of first class county have been made at high rates.

**Sundries.**—Small sales of City Gas were made at 197 to 107½; limited amounts are still procurable at the latter rate. Very little doing in Building Society stock; Canada Permanent is offered at 126 with buyers at 125½. Small lots Western Canada are obtainable at 121. Freehold is in demand at 112. Montreal Telegraph is wanted at 133½, sellers ask 134. For Canada Landed Credit 79 would be paid, none in market. Money is scarce and in active demand.

**FINANCES OF NIAGARA.**—The Auditors' Report of the town of Niagara has been published. During last year, the revenue from all sources, including a balance of \$884.11 on hand from 1867, amounted to \$7,038.11, and the expenditure to \$5,993.70, leaving on hand on 1st January, 1869, \$1,044.31. The expenditure for common school purposes amounted to \$1,784.00. Only \$1,797.08 was collected in 1868 as taxes. The liabilities of the town are stated to be \$59,018.55, and the assets \$95,079.40 as follows:—Taxes in arrear, \$2,896.09; rents due, \$639; stock in and due from plank road, \$4,240; mortgage on Erie and Niagara Railroad, \$45,000; interest due on said mortgage, \$7,500; court house and other buildings and four acres of land, \$25,000; brick school house, \$4,000;

fire engines, hooks and ladders, and hay scales, \$1,000; R. N. Hotel stock \$3,000; cash on hand, \$1,044. total, \$95,079.40.—*St. Catharines Journal.*

### BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended, April 3.—The Bank return presents some important changes this week, the stock of bullion having diminished to the extent of £462,202, whilst the reserve has decreased as much as £1,137,302.

The following are the particulars as compared with the preceding week:

Rest .....	£3,689,535
Decrease .....	5,873
Public Deposits.....	7,891,042
Increase .....	384,033
Other Deposits.....	17,479,293
Increase.....	445,842
On the other side of the account:—	
Government Securities.....	£14,999,053
Increase.....	1,000,000
Other Securities.....	20,130,810
Increase.....	1,006,326
Notes unemployed.....	7,862,205
Decrease.....	1,119,880
The amount of notes in circulation is £23,611,525, being an increase of £675,100,	

### Railway News.

**GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.**—Traffic for week ending April 2, 1869.

Passengers .....	\$26,555 83
Freight .....	57,367 96
Mails and Sundries.....	1,877 75

Total Receipts for week.....	\$85,801 54
Corresponding week, 1868...	90,539 49

Decrease .....

\$4,735 95

**NORTHERN RAILWAY.**—Traffic receipts for week ending April 10th, 1869.

Passengers .....	\$3,303 87
Freight and live stock.....	5,456 06
Mails and sundries.....	192 01

Corresponding Week of '68.	\$8,951 88
	11,549 39

Increase.....

\$2,597 51

**THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY.**—At a late railway meeting in Detroit, Mr. W. A. Thompson was present, and set forth the present prospects, necessities and conditions of this line, which is to be, he thought, the great thoroughfare through Canada in the route to and from the seaboard. It was a line with no curvatures to speak of; the grades were very light, and the material for grading and preparing the road bed of the best kind; the road could be cheaply built, and could be run at a much less cost than the heavy gradients of the Great Western Road, reducing the freight very materially between the East and the West. He asked that Detroit would show herself favorable to this project, if only to the extent of expressing the desire to see the road built, for he thought this would induce the Michigan Central Road to lend its favor and assistance to the project. It was a road which the Central would certainly require if the proposed roads South and West of here were built, to carry away the produce brought here. He gave a history of the organization, and assured the committee that the road would certainly be constructed sooner or later.

**HUDSON BAY COMPANY.**—It is announced that the £300,000 for the purchase of this territory from the Hudson Bay Company is to be raised under Imperial guarantee. We presume it was pretty well understood that the amount named would be accepted.