

Miscellaneous.

At Gateshead, England, a case has come to light of a female Fagin, wife of a clerk, who compelled her children, by dreadful threats, to pick pockets.

Notwithstanding the competition of American companies, 400,000 sewing machines were made in Germany last year, and probably many more have been made this year.

To add realistic effect to "Uncle Tom's Cabin," at Logansport, Ind., a live bloodhound was introduced, and the brute heightened the realism by breaking his chain and biting an actress seriously.

A bird dealer at Des Moines sold a parrot for \$40, with the assurance that it did not know any bad language; but the purchaser soon found that it swore like a trooper, and has sued to recover the money.

Sporting guns are now made in England with the hammers concealed in the lock mechanism internally, so that persons who prefer to handle their weapons from the muzzle in going through brush need not find death in the gun.

Mr. Crawford, who has been successful in carrying off the ribbons of the turf, is staying at Cannes, and has with him his jockey, Fordham, who is in failing health. Lord Rosebery, with similar consideration, has sent his jockey, Constable, to winter in Madeira.

Saunders's News Letter, the oldest paper in Ireland, died a few weeks since. It was lately edited by Dr. Shaw, a fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, a very genial, brilliant, and witty writer. On his retirement it sank slowly into a well-earned grave. It used once to be called in Dublin "Saunders's Daily Abuse."

A little more than forty years ago all the table cutlery used in the United States came from England. At present, out of an annual consumption of nearly \$2,000,000 worth, England supplies but 8 per cent., and this country not only manufactures nearly all that is needed at home, but ships large quantities to South America, Australia and Europe.

A society of cotton pickers (colored) of Williston, S. C. are governed by their own laws in relation to theft. The sum of five dollars was recently stolen, and the culprit was immediately tried by a jury of six and found guilty. He was sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his back, and be expelled from the society. The sentence was executed to the letter.

The late Earl of Durham's two eldest sons were twins, and so marvellously alike that the elder, now Lord Durham, had to be marked for identification. He determined, however, that the second twin, who only came into the world half an hour after his elder brother, should be well provided for, and he built and laid out a charming residence called Fenton and attached an estate to it for him.

Some sensation has been created in London by the officiating clergyman, the rector of St. Peter's, Kensington, having at the Millis wedding, instead of reading the last portion of the marriage service, substituted a new and improved version, in which it was explained, or rather stated, for no one could explain what was meant, that a husband should be as indulgent to a wife as heaven is to the Church.

Mr. Blennerhasset, M. P., for Kerry, Ireland, is to introduce next session a bill to abolish the arbitrary marriage regulations which compel marriages to be solemnized before noon. This has been a great inconvenience, especially to the working classes, and was introduced to prevent bigamous bachelors from presenting themselves at the altar in an intoxicated state, a danger which has passed away.

Jessel, the English Master of the Rolls, who is a Jew, is regarded as the greatest equity lawyer who has sat in that court in this generation. He sees every point before it is stated by counsel, and whenever any of these gentlemen attempt a paradox he demolishes it and its authors by a word. Neither of his predecessors, Lord Langdale and Lord Romilly, was regarded as an eminent lawyer, though just and painstaking.

It is thought a pretty good joke in Paris that both M. Gambetta and his secretary should have forgotten, when they moved into the Palais Bourbon, to make the declaration of their change of residence required by the law. If the law is enforced they must pay double taxes on their twelve horses and five carriages, by way of a reminder to be more thoughtful next time.

The Berlin National Museum has just been enriched by what is declared to be the largest modern group of sculpture extant. The artist is Prof. Gustav Muller of Coburg, a sculptor long resident at Rome, and he has been engaged upon this work for eleven years. It is a Prometheus group, representing the bound Titan at the moment when the eagle first pierces his body with his claws, while two Oceanides, beautiful nude female figures, endeavor to loosen his chains. The one tries to ward off the bird, the other sinks down overcome with horror. The conception and execution are said to be very fine, and the figures, especially the female ones, are highly praised. The whole group is modelled out of one block of the finest and purest Carrara marble, weighing three hundred-weight, and its owner regarded it as such a unique mass that it was with difficulty that he was persuaded to part with it. With the exception of the very roughest outline, the execution of the group is entirely from Prof. Muller's own hand.

Why allow a cough to lacerate your throat and lungs? Why incur the imminent danger of consumption, when in an incredibly short space of time, and for an insignificant sum, you may cure yourself? Thomas' Emulsion Oil does the business thoroughly. A single bottle often suffices to relieve the difficulty. This peerless remedy overcomes with equal certainty, swelling of the neck, inflammation of the muscles and stiffness of the joints, lameness and crick in the back, tumors, piles, dysentery and a variety of other painful and harassing disorders. It may be taken inwardly with as much safety as it is applied outwardly. Colic, whether of man or beast, is cured by it in fifteen or twenty minutes. Sore, excoriations and abrasions of the skin are healed by it with gratifying rapidity. All medicine dealers sell it. Price, 25 cents.

Prepared only by NORTHROP & LYMAN, Toronto, Ont.

FINANCE & COMMERCE.

Business in the local money market continues dull, at 5 to 6 per cent. interest for loans on time. Rates for commercial paper... True Witness Office, Tuesday, December 30.

The Sun Mutual Insurance Company of this city declares a dividend for the half-year for the year of 8 per cent per annum, payable January 2nd.

The Accident Insurance Company of Canada has declared a dividend of four per cent for the half-year ending 31st December, payable after 6th January.

The Canada Guarantee Company has declared a dividend of four per cent for the half-year ending December 31st, payable after January 1st.

The traffic receipts of the Great Western Railway for the week ending December 19th were \$102,532.20, against \$79,391.18 in the corresponding period last year, an increase this year of \$23,141.02.

The traffic receipts of the Grand Trunk Railway for the week ending December 20th, and the corresponding week last year, were: 1879. 1878.

Passengers, mails and express \$15,184 \$16,533 Freight and live stock 155,904 121,805 Total \$200,188 \$138,338 Increase \$61,850 \$61,850 Increase for 25 weeks from 30th June... \$371,557

Business Troubles.

Isidore Leclair has made a demand upon George Jolicoeur, dry goods merchant, this city, for \$839.

Wm. A. Charlebois, trader, Montreal, has been attached for \$500 by Jas. G. Boyce. L. J. Lajoie, assignee.

The writ of attachment issued against John McClellan has been withdrawn, the matter having been settled.

A writ of attachment has been issued against Samuel Beaufoy at the instance of Hamilton Wilson, for \$203. H. A. Bain, assignee.

George Smyth has issued a writ against John B. and B. Smyth & Co, merchants and traders, for \$300. J. M. M. Duff, assignee.

Ferdinand Coquerue has issued a writ of attachment against John McCaughan, shoemaker, for \$219. A. Bourbonniere, assignee.

Thomas Robinson has issued a writ of attachment against Fra. X. Poin, baker, Pointe aux Trembles, for \$215. A. Bourbonniere, assignee.

A writ of attachment has been taken out through the office of A. Bourbonniere, official assignee, against H. L. Gittleton, of Morin's Flat, P. Q.

A writ of attachment has been issued against Francois X. Poin, for \$215, at the instance of Thomas Robinson. A Bourbonniere, assignee.

A writ of attachment was issued this afternoon against John McClellan for \$215, at the instance of Arthur M. Perkins. Arthur H. Pimlico, assignee.

Messrs. McGarran, Tucker & McDonnell lumber merchants, have offered their creditors 50 cents on the dollar, payable one-third in cash, one-third in six months and one-third in twelve months, unsecured.

At a meeting of creditors of M. A. Finn, of St. John, N.B., held yesterday, Mr. William Pugsley was appointed assignee. The total amount of the liabilities is \$22,336.25, a portion of which are due in Montreal, and the estimated assets \$9,325. An offer of twenty cents cash was made on behalf of the insolvent, but no action was taken by the meeting.

THE CITY WHOLESALE TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, Dec. 29.

The last week of the year 1879 has been truly a holiday period, judging from the aspect of affairs in Montreal wholesale markets. Trade in nearly all lines of wholesale business has been of a dull, holiday character, with prices remaining almost uniformly unchanged; the scarcity of hides in this market, and the rise in values in foreign grocery markets, have caused a very few exceptions. Nearly all our wholesale merchants, who have been reviewing, express themselves satisfied with the amount of business done during the past six months, and are looking forward with general confidence to the result of the coming spring trade. But while wholesale business has been generally quiet, the city retail trade during the past week has been decidedly active, and some of our leading retail houses report the volume of business done considerably in excess of that of corresponding periods for some years past, while others state that as yet they have not noticed any material improvement over their sales during the holidays last year.

On the whole, we believe the holiday season among our business men, between importers and retailers, bankers and customers, employers and employees, will have been a time of generous good-will, feasting and merry-making; and all ought, therefore to enter upon a happy, glad New Year, with renewed vigor and determination.

There has been very little business doing in produce or provisions during the week, and values for all descriptions remain nominally unchanged, though generally firm. Asparagus, perhaps, be termed an exception, prices being quoted a little lower to-day, at \$2.65 per 100 lbs.

A fair sorting-up demand exists for boots and shoes, and business is reported quiet but steady. A few spring orders have been received, and the prospects for the spring trade regarded to be good. No change in prices as yet.

In drugs and chemicals business is reported very light, and partakes of the holiday dullness; no large orders are being received, and prices remain in statu quo.

In dry goods trade remains quiet, as is usual between seasons. Dealers, as a rule, still engaged at stock-taking, and reports of the season's trade are satisfactory, as well as the prospects for spring business. Prices for cottons and woollens are stiffening up, as the season advances. Manufactures on both sides of the lines as well as in Europe are advancing in values for all kinds of goods, and notably for cottons and woollens. Remittances this week show an improvement over those of last, and travellers will start out with spring samples about the middle of January. Those now on the road are forwarding fair-sized orders for spring woollens.

Raw furs are quiet and remain unchanged. There is very little coming forward, and sales are few and only of small lots. There is a very fair demand, however, for manufactured furs.

The sorting-up trade in groceries during the past week has been fairly good, and shows an improvement as compared with the corresponding period of last year. White sugars have advanced 1/2c per lb., in sympathy with a rise in foreign markets. In fruit, an advance of 1/2c per lb. is reported for Valencia, while Malaga are quiet, with prices unchanged. There have been no transactions of importance in teas during the week, and prices for all kinds remain unaltered. For coffee, spices, and tobaccos also, values are unaltered. Remittances continue good.

The wholesale hardware and iron trade continues quiet, and prices are firm, with the tendency upward, but there are as yet no quotable changes to note since our last report. Remittances coming forward satisfactorily. Prices in the English market are very firm, but no changes are expected to be made until the next quarterly meeting of the iron-masters in January, when another advance for iron will likely take place. We

have seen a private letter to a wholesale firm here, which states that during the week previous to that in which it was written, no less than 37,000 to 38,000 tons of iron, tin-plate, sheet iron, chains, etc., were shipped to the United States.

Hides are very scarce here, and prices have again advanced, being now quoted at \$1.00 for No. 1, \$0.95 for No. 2, and \$0.90 for No. 3, from butchers. The demand from tanners and others is reported brisk, but the last advance seems to have curtailed business somewhat. The advance, however, was due to competition and the high prices in the West, the ruling price in Toronto now being \$1.00. Sheepskins are steady, at \$1.25 to \$1.50 each. Catskins nominal, at 10c per lb.

In leather the market continues quiet, and will remain so until about the 10th January, it is expected. This remark applies more particularly to the local trade, as large sales of sole leather for shipment to England have been made here this week. Prices are rather firmer since the advance of 50c per 100 lbs for hides, which took place the latter part of last week. We have no changes as yet to note in our price list, but for some lines higher figures are expected to rule after the holidays. Remittances fair.

In oils, a few broken lots of refined petroleum have sold during the week at 17c, and single barrels are quoted at 17 1/2c. Car lots are held at 16 1/2c in store. A Petrolia despatch says: The Crude Oil market is firm and steady, but prices, for the first time in many weeks, have remained stationary. There is not much business doing. Christmas and the holiday season always make matters quiet. The drain on stocks still continues. We look for no marked change in the market until after the New Year. The quotation may be said to be \$1.45 to \$1.60 on board. Refined is steady. The price 32c in London is still quoted, and refiners do not care about selling much at that figure. It is probable that the new year will see another advance. Drilling is remarkably active, but new territory is wanted before crude values can be much affected. Coal oil here is firm and quoted higher, at 52c to 53c. Lined oil is also reported dearer.

The wool market remains quiet, mainly because of the smallness of stocks held here. Unwashed pulled is quoted at 25c to 30c, but there is no super in the market. Foreign wools are firm but unchanged; pound lot of Cape sold here during the week at 32c. The ruling price in Toronto for fleece is 30c.

THE FARMERS' MARKETS.

Bonsecours and St. Ann's—Prices at Farmers' Wagons, etc.

FRIDAY, December 26.

The attendance of farmers at Bonsecours Market this morning was very fair, and the offerings of grain on Jacques Carlier Square, also of poultry and meats were fairly large, more than sufficient to meet the demand, for there were not many buyers out. There are really no quotable changes to note in prices: oats sold at 70c to 75c, buckwheat at \$1 per bushel of 2 bushels; corn at 70c to 75c per bushel, and a little barley was offered at 65c per bushel. Poultry was not in active demand at present, and prices were quiet. Eggs were offered at 8c to 10c per lb. for fore-quarters, and at 5c for hind do. There was nothing doing scarcely in apples—of any kind, or in vegetables. One deer in Bonsecours market received this morning a bushel of watercress, which he sold at \$2; this is, of course, a rarity in any market. The season of the American lettuce has somewhat improved, at \$1.20 per dozen heads. Butter and eggs are exceedingly scarce, at very firm prices.

The following are the prices, corrected up to date: VEGETABLES—Potatoes, 50c to 60c per bag; carrots, 25c to 40c per bushel; choice onions \$1.75 to 2.00 per barrel, or 60c to 70c per bushel; parsley, 50c per bushel; beets, 25c to 40c per bushel; turnips, 50c per bag and 20c to 40c per bushel; celery, 25c to 30c per dozen; cabbage, 15c to 20c per dozen; cauliflower, 25c to 30c per dozen; lettuce, \$1.20 per dozen heads; artichokes, 75c per bushel.

FRUIT—Apples, \$2.00 to 3.50 per barrel; lemons, 50c to 75c per case; Valencia oranges, \$7 per case or 50c per doz; cranberries, 50c per barrel, or 40c per gallon; California winter pears at \$1.00 per box; grapes, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per bushel.

GRAIN, etc.—Oats, 70c to 75c per bushel; buckwheat, 45c to 50c per bushel; peas, 80c to 85c per bushel; soy beans, 90c to \$1 per bushel; barley, 50c to 55c per bushel; rye, 40c per bushel; meal, \$1.20 to 1.25 per bag; Corn, 70c to 80c per bushel; Canadian corn, \$1.20; moultrie, \$1.00 to 1.20 per bag; buckwheat, 45c to 50c per bushel; oatmeal, \$2.50 to 2.60 per bag.

FARM PRODUCE—Butter—Prints, 25c to 30c per lb.; lumps, 10c to 15c per lb.; Eastern Townships, 20c to 25c per lb.; cream, 10c to 15c per lb.; packed do., 18c to 20c. Blue cheese, 12c to 15c per lb.; ordinary, 10c to 12c. Maple sugar, 8c to 9c per lb. Lard, 8c to 10c per lb.

POULTRY, etc.—Turkeys, \$1.25 to \$2.00 per pair; geese, \$1.00 to \$1.75 per pair; ducks, tame, 50c to 80c per brace; pigeons, \$1.00 to 1.50 per dozen, or 20c to 25c per pair; chickens 50c to 75c per dozen; snipe, \$2.50 per dozen; plovers, \$2.00 per dozen; partridges, 50c to 60c per pair; black birds, 60c to 75c per brace; quail, 18c to 20c per pair; black ducks, 60c to 75c per brace.

MEAT—Beef—Roast beef (trimmed), 12c to 12c; sliced steak, 10c to 12c; corned beef, 8c to 10c; pork, 8c to 10c; ham, 10c to 13c; bacon, 12c to 12c; fresh sausages, 10c to 12c; Bologna sausages, 12c to 15c; dressed hogs, \$3.50 to 6.75 per 100 lbs; corned beef, \$3.00 per 100 lbs; hind-quarters, \$3.50 to 6; venison, 8c to 15c per lb.

FISH—Haddock, 6c; codfish, 6c; mackerel, 12c; bass and dory, 40c to 50c per dozen; oysters, 12c per lb.; lobsters, 10c to 12c per lb.; perch, 10c to 80c per bunch; rock bass, 15c per bunch; smoked eels, 25c to 40c per couple.

THE APPLE AND POTATO TRADE.

There is scarcely any demand here at present for Canadian apples or potatoes, so dealers say. Holders, however, are waiting for a better market. Great Britain consignments of apples almost entirely stopped, to be held on commission. Mail advices received here yesterday report sales in Liverpool on the 8th inst. of Canadian apples, in good condition, at from 13c to 23c, and those in a wet and damaged condition at from 7c to 12c 3/4 per lb. On the same date Canadian potatoes sold in Liverpool at from 5c 3/4 to 5c 8/4 per cwt in barrels, and at 4c to 4c 8/4 in bags. Prices here are quoted at \$2.50 to 3 per lb for good winter apples, and potatoes are worth 50c to 60c per bag, as to quality. A consignment of California pears, which are worth \$4 per box here, were shipped to Liverpool for the SS Winnipeg, on her last trip, by a dealer in Bonsecours market, and advices were received to-day of their having been sold at 18c to 20c.

A Liverpool paper of the 6th inst., says: "For some weeks past Canadian potatoes, in large numbers, have been arriving in Liverpool, finding a ready market, and are in course of a week or so, will be supplemented by heavy consignments of turkeys, prairie hens, and quantities of game for the Christmas season. Last year, the trade in Canadian poultry was engaged to a considerable extent, and was a success, which will result in the area of operations this year being extended. The first steamer will probably reach the Mersey in the course of a week or two with some 10,000 turkeys, besides other descriptions of poultry. It is expected that many of the turkeys will be despatched to the Parisian markets."

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

St. Gabriel.

MONDAY, Dec. 29.

The total receipts of live stock at Point St. Charles during the week ending yesterday comprised only 2 carloads cattle, 5 cars sheep and 1 car hogs.

At St. Gabriel Market this morning the offerings of live stock were very light, com-

prising only two car loads of heavy cattle belonging to Mr. Robert Craig, of Bonfleur. One lot of small cattle, from St. John's, was driven to Viger Market. Mr. Craig sold his cattle, about 40 head altogether, to different butchers at \$52 each. E. B. Morgan bought 12 head of cattle from William Head at 44c per lb., live weight, being part of Mr. Morgan's first offerings, referred to above. E. B. Morgan, of Oshawa, will ship his 160 head cattle on the SS. Prussian in a day or two. They were nearly all purchased at the Don and at Mitchell. During the past week one leading exporter has shipped 210 head cattle to Europe via Halifax, and Mr A. McEchrahe has shipped via the same port 594 sheep from Glencoe.

AT VIGER MARKET

to-day business was rather dull. There were very few cattle in the yards, the receipts comprising only about 50 head of cattle, and about the same number of sheep and lambs. Only about 10 head of cattle were driven down from the St. Gabriel market by Mr. R. J. Hopper. The attendance of local butchers was rather small, but although the majority of them have been pretty well supplied with beef for the holiday trade, the demand to-day seemed fully equal to the supply, and for good qualities of beef and mutton good prices were generally realized; for the best cattle offering prices paid would range from 4c to 5c per lb. live weight, and for common about 2 1/2c to 3c. Sheep, or lambs rather, sold at \$3.50 to \$4 each. Mr. R. J. Hopper sold to-day at about markets—30 head of cattle for \$1,405, or at from \$34 to \$52 each, an average of about \$46.50 each. Mr. Girard, from Grenville, had 18 head of good cattle and 17 lambs under offer; he had sold, up to noon, some half-dozen head of cattle at from \$18 to \$28 each, and all the lambs at \$3.50 each. Mr. A. Comptel, of St. Julie, sold 44 lambs at \$3.75, and another small lot was reported sold at \$4 each. Mr. Couvry, of this city, bought 5 head of cattle at \$26 each.

Montreal Horse Market.

SATURDAY, Dec. 27.

There was a fair business done in horses in this city during the past week, but the official report of shipments to the United States shows a decrease of 10 horses and of \$2,845.50 as compared with those for the week previous. The total number of horses shipped this week was 23, or 50 per cent. less than for the week of the week ending last Saturday. American buyers stopping at the American House still complain of the scarcity of first class horses, and the high prices asked by farmers for common workers. Six car loads were shipped from the American House yards during the week, chiefly by buyers from the Corporation horse market yesterday. The American consul here—December 22—12 horses at \$17; 7 do at \$22; 20 do at \$18. December 21—14 horses at \$11.57; 21 do at \$18. December 20—21 horses at \$1,661.50.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

LONDON, Monday, 8th December, 1879.

Cattle at market, 4,820; sheep at market, 11,000. Best beef, 7 1/2d to 8 1/2d per lb; inferior and secondary, 6 1/2d to 7d per lb. Best mutton, 9d to 9 1/2d per lb; inferior and secondary, 7d to 8d per lb. The trade all round was slow this morning, but without much change in prices. The sheep trade is quite without improvement.

LIVERPOOL, Monday, 8th December.—Best beef, 6 1/2d to 7 1/2d per lb; inferior and secondary, 5d to 6 1/2d per lb. Mutton, 6d to 9 1/2d per lb. Of beasts, this week, there was about an average supply. The supply of inferior stock was very large and trade was slow. Prime descriptions were easily disposed of.

GLASGOW, Thursday, 11th December.—Cattle at market, 1,550; sheep at market, 5,501. Best beef, 8 1/2d per lb; inferior and secondary, 6 1/2d to 7 1/2d per lb; best mutton, 7 1/2d to 8 1/2d per lb; inferior and secondary, 6 1/2d to 7d per lb. There was an ordinary number of cattle at market this day, and the market was quiet. Demand good for top sorts, which, however, were scarce. No alteration can be quoted from last week's. Fair supply of sheep, generally of good quality, and in demand. Demand dullish, and prices like last week's.

Montreal Fuel Market.

SATURDAY, December 27.

The coal trade in this city, for the most part, quiet, at unchanged prices. We hear of one or two dealers, who are kept busy filling small-sized orders for hard coal, and hearing from the order-book of one dealer, shown us to-day, the "spell" of cold frosty weather, which we have been experiencing during the week now closing, and which has caused dry holes to be drilled in a good many coal cellars throughout the city; within a day and a half he had written down over 100 orders for coal, and he has filled all of them. The majority of our city dealers, however, report trade quiet. We understand that a few carloads of the coal, for so long lacking from Picton during the season, in New York, there is not much business doing now in Anthracite coal, and prices for actual sales are said to be about 75c per ton under circulars. This is the colder weather and the higher price place now, and there does not seem to be any question that a still greater one will take place later. At the present time, it is so imperceptible as to leave no influence over buyers; but when the greater curtailment takes place, its effect must be felt soon. The shipments of coal from Philadelphia during November were 2,885,665 tons, as compared with 2,176,708 tons for November, 1878. The stock of coal on hand at tide-water shipping points, November 30th, 1879, was 6,750,000 tons, as compared with 5,990,000 tons, decrease 760,000 tons.

The demand for fire wood in this market has somewhat increased during the past week, and it is expected that the balance of the largest stocks still on the barges will be brought into the city by rail without further delay.

Over 200,000 tons of coal have been shipped from Picton during the season. In New York, there is not much business doing now in Anthracite coal, and prices for actual sales are said to be about 75c per ton under circulars. This is the colder weather and the higher price place now, and there does not seem to be any question that a still greater one will take place later. At the present time, it is so imperceptible as to leave no influence over buyers; but when the greater curtailment takes place, its effect must be felt soon. The shipments of coal from Philadelphia during November were 2,885,665 tons, as compared with 2,176,708 tons for November, 1878. The stock of coal on hand at tide-water shipping points, November 30th, 1879, was 6,750,000 tons, as compared with 5,990,000 tons, decrease 760,000 tons.

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