

and even more; and the effect has been to prevent its use as a daily beverage by the poorer class, who too often resort to the gin shop instead. Experience has proved that a reduction in the duty tends to cause an increase of consumption, while an increased duty has the contrary effect. A larger consumption of tea would give an impetus to the trade with China, while a reduction of the price, by bringing it within the means of the humbler classes, would lessen the temptation to indulge in drinks of an intoxicating nature. It is therefore argued that the commercial interests of the country, no less than a regard for the well-being of the people at large, demand this concession to the principles of free trade; and if the friends of the measure exert themselves with as much zeal as the Corn-law opponents manifested, it will be difficult to resist them long.

IRELAND.—The accounts from this country are very gloomy: in some parts actual famine exists; and many deaths have occurred from utter destitution, still, in spite of the misery and distress, great numbers of fire-arms have been purchased by the peasantry, and are represented as without the means of procuring food! Government are exerting their powers to alleviate distress; the number of persons employed on the public works considerably exceeds 750,000. The chief Secretary has issued instructions from the Castle, that no persons should be employed whose tenements are valued under the Poor-law at £5 and upwards, unless in cases of undoubted destitution. It has also been forbidden, under pain of dismissal, that any persons employed by the Board of Works should be engaged in the "truck system" in the sale of spirits or food in the neighbourhood of works. Loans to railway companies are to be granted on certain conditions; the amount so advanced to be repaid by the baronies, through which the railways pass, upon their presentments. The Irish landlords generally have behaved with liberality; and have shown promptness in seconding the measures of Government. There has been an unfortunate dissension in the Irish Agricultural Society, on account of the introduction (contrary to the rules) of political subjects for discussion, which caused the withdrawal of the Duke of Leinster, the Marquis of Downshire, and other leading members. Much good was expected from this body at the present juncture; and it is hoped that a more strict adherence to its regulations for the future may induce the renewed co-operation of the influential noblemen who have for the time seceded. The Rental Rent has declined to £51 and £15 per week.

OPENING OF THE PORTS.—No less than four deputations, from different parts of the metropolis, waited on Lord John Russell at his office, in Downing street, London, on the 21st ult., for the purpose of presenting memorials to the Lords of the Treasury, calling on Government to open the ports for the admission of foreign corn, duty free. His lordship did not give the deputations much hope of their wishes being realised. Inoswood.—The revenue authorities have permitted ironwood, a species of cedar or mahogany, the produce of America, to be admitted duty free, on importation into this country from the place mentioned, being of opinion that the wood in question comes under the description of furniture wood, and is admissible to entry free of duty under the order of the Lords of the Treasury of the 22d ult.

NEW POLAR EXPEDITION.—At the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, it was announced by Sir J. H. Pelly, that the Hudson's Bay Company had fitted out a well-equipped expedition, for the purpose of surveying the unexplored portion of the coast on the north-east angle of the American continent. The expedition, consisting of eleven persons and two Esquimaux guides, started in two boats, on the 5th July, under favourable circumstances, the ice having cleared away from the shores of the bay at an earlier period of the season than usual.

CAPTAIN JUDKINS.—We have been highly gratified to find that, at the first examination held by the Liverpool Board of Examiners of masters and mates of merchant vessels, Captain Judkins, of the Steam Ship "Cambria," passed as duly qualified for a first-class certificate; and in consideration of his being so well versed in nautical astronomy and great circle-sailing, was entitled to be rated extra. This is a high compliment to Captain Judkins, and will, no doubt, add still more celebrity to his name as an excellent seaman and to that of the noble ship which he commands. We have the additional pleasure of stating that, at a subsequent meeting of the board, held on the 25th ult., Captain Alex. Ryrie, Steam Ship Ibernia, and Mr. Wm. Orr Campbell, chief officer of the Cambria, belonging to the same company, were both found so well acquainted with all the higher branches of their profession, combined with an intimate knowledge of nautical astronomy, as justly to entitle them to take first-class extra certificates.

PROPOSED EXPEDITION UNDER GEN. FLORES.—On the 19th ult., Mr. Forsyth, the principal searcher of the customs, accompanied by other officers, boarded the ship Glencly lying off Gravesend, and, after inspection, seized her for a contemplated breach of the foreign enlistment and equipment act; and next morning he, also upon the same grounds, seized the Monarch and Neptune steam vessels, lying in the East India Docks, Blackwall. It is understood that all the three vessels form part of an expedition which is being secretly fitted out in this country with the intention, by hostile means, to effect a revolution of government in a state of South America, with which we are on terms of peace and friendship. When the Glencly was seized, there had just been received on board 250 men, under pretence of their being emigrants, but who, it is understood, are intended to serve as soldiers or marines. The Glencly is a fine ship of 1200 tons, and was heretofore employed in the East India trade, and the Monarch and Neptune are steamers of a large class. It is said that Mr. Forsyth is in possession of information concerning them that leaves no doubt of all three vessels being ultimately condemned as forfeited to the crown.

At the election of the mayor of Nottingham, a question was raised whether a citizen of the United States can hold that office. Mr. Cripps was objected to on the ground that he had, when in America, become a citizen of the United States. The town-clerk was of opinion that that circumstance would not be a legal objection, and as Mr. Cripps avowed himself to be a loyal subject of the Queen, he was unanimously elected. Memorials from several places in England have been presented to Lord Palmerston, calling upon Government to use its good offices with the French Ministry in behalf of the people of Tahiti. A ship, which has arrived at Liverpool from Shanghai, has brought 200 bags of Chinese alum. A considerable quantity of potatoes has been imported into London from St. Petersburg.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT GRAVESSEND.—On the night of the 19th ult. Gravesend was visited by an extensive conflagration, far exceeding in its ravages any previous calamity of the kind experienced by that town. The wind was blowing a gale when the fire broke out; and as it was some time before the engines were actively employed, owing to a scarcity of water, the flames made great progress among the wooden buildings of the quarter where the fire originated, and burnt for seven hours before they were finally extinguished. Forty houses, principally occupied by poor fishermen, hawkers, and labourers, besides a number of other buildings, were destroyed; and it is feared that some lives have been lost, as two or three persons were missing. The value of the property consumed is not mentioned.

WRECK AND BURNER OF A VESSEL IN IRELAND.—The schooner Sea Lark, belonging to Mr. Russell, an Irish merchant, and laden with flour, meal &c. for Tralee, where there is much distress for want of food, was cast ashore, during a gale, at Ballyhullion near Listowel, when the Captain, mate and four of the crew perished. The country people, having assembled more than a thousand in number, commenced to plunder the vessel and carry off the cargo; and though a Magistrate and a few policemen were present and endeavoured to prevent the outrage, more than twenty holes were cut in the schooner's hull, and every particle of the meal and flour carried away during the day and night following.

CAPTAIN WARNER, whose experiments in naval gunnery at a "long range" have made his name familiar to the public, has had another trial lately, before some commissioners appointed by the Admiralty, to test the value of his invention; and the thing is pronounced a total failure. Mr. ROWLAND HILL, the projector of that exceedingly successful and beneficial measure, the Penny Postage, has been appointed Secretary to the Post Master General. It is a situation calculated to afford him opportunity for introducing other improvements in that important department.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR GENERAL OF RAILWAYS.—Captain Joshua Coddington, of the Royal Engineers, hitherto Deputy Inspector, has been appointed to the above situation, in the room of Major General Pasley, resigned. THE CONTINENT.—Much annoyance has been felt in France on account of the annexation of the Republic of Cracow to the Austrian Empire. The treaty of Vienna secured the independence of this territory; but the Governments of Austria and Russia, on the plea of the late insurrectionary movements in Poland, have determined to extinguish the Republic of Cracow. Much indignation is expressed generally; and the French Cabinet have protested against the measure. England has also protested against the violation of the treaty.

IN PORTUGAL there is no improvement. In fact, the Royal cause was at one time considered in so critical a state that rumours were circulated of the Queen's intention to take refuge in England: since that, the accounts have been a little more favourable. SPAIN, it is said, is threatened with another insurrection by the remains of the Catalists: the present government is very unpopular. DON CARLOS, the former claimant of the throne of Spain, is in London.

ITALY.—The expected ordinance of the Pope, authorizing the formation of four lines of railway, has at length appeared, to the great satisfaction of the people. The citizens have also been authorized to form their own local guard—an important concession. The Pope is understood to be designing other measures of liberal reform. His popularity is immense. THE DUKES OF LUCCA, having had experience of the ruin which gambling tables have entailed on many visitors to the Baths of Lucca, has, by a royal ordinance, dated the 6th Nov. suppressed all games of hazard in his dukedom; and has directed that the casino erected at the Baths of Lucca for the convenience of strangers be converted into a reading-room, &c., as well as that at Viareggio.

By Mr. Keefer, the Engineer, in repairing the late breaches in the canal, have produced a very favourable impression on all parties interested in the navigation of this communication, as but for such exertions near 100 vessels, with large cargoes would have been prevented from reaching their destination this season.

MONTREAL.—At a meeting of the City Council on the 14th inst., John E. Mills, Esq., was elected Mayor of the City for the current year, and Messrs. Bourrel, Ferrier, Jodoin, Beaubien, and Stuart appointed aldermen. The latter gentleman having expressed his wish to decline the honour, Mr. Giennon was substituted. The Stalls in St. Paul's Market were ordered to be sold, at eleven o'clock, A. M., on Monday, the 25th inst., and that the market be opened to the public, on the 14th proximo. It was also ordered that the materials of the long wooden building known as the "New Market" be sold, on the premises, by public auction, at twelve o'clock (noon) on Tuesday, the 5th January next. The Superintendent of Police has again made a large seizure of light bread: 400 loaves, all deficient from 1 to 5 oz. in weight, being confiscated and distributed among the different charitable institutions of the city.

The Echo des Campagnes says, that loaded vehicles passed over the ice opposite the village of Berthier, on the 10th inst. A lad, aged 15, named Henri Blais, son of a farmer at Berthier, was drowned while skating, near the Ile du Foie, on the 9th inst.

CHAMBLAY.—The opening of the bridge over the Chamblay River, erected by John Yrie, Esq., took place with great rejoicing on the 1st of this month. The Montreal Herald describes the work thus:—"The principle of its construction is that known as Howe's patent suspension Truss, with a double roadway eighteen feet wide. It is supported by six piers, of rock faced masonry, of which the end facing the current terminates in an acute angle, sloping away from the stream upwards so as to offer no direct resistance to the floating masses of ice."

SHERBROOKE, Dec. 17th.—FIRE.—The large building at Derby Lower Village, occupied by Mr. Harvey Chase as a Woollen Factory, was totally destroyed by fire, with most of its contents, last Tuesday evening. The fire is supposed to have originated in the attic story. Loss unknown. FIRE.—A new cabinet and chair shop belonging to Mr. B. Burpee, of this town, was consumed by fire on the evening of the 2d instant, with its contents, including 40 bushels of corn. Loss estimated at £150.—Standard Journal, Dec. 10.

A letter from Trois-Pistoles, of the 14th instant, states that the dwelling house of Mr. NAZARET TERC at the river of Trois-Pistoles, was burned down in the night of the 11th instant. The family escaped in their night clothes, and only a few articles in the house were saved. Nothing insured.

THE ARMY.—Promotion.—Brevet Major W. H. BERT, R. A., to be Lieut. Colonel, vice Hornby, deceased; Second Captain R. E. DUNNORR, to be Captain, vice Gasset, prom.; First Lieut. H. St. G. ORR, R. E., to be Second Captain, vice Williams, prom.

MARITIME EXTRACTS. Bristol, Nov. 26.—The Nottingham, Ball, of Beaumaris, from Quebec to Liverpool, was abandoned 18th inst., waterlogged and dismantled: crew saved by the Ocean Queen, Day, arrived at this port. Dunmore East, (Waterford), Nov. 30.—The Margaretta, Hodge, of and from Quebec for Liverpool, in 21 days, was up as far as Tuskar, and had to bear up with strong N.E. gales. Exeter, Nov. 22.—The brig Agenora, of this port, sailed from Quebec, for Terquay, 25th August last, and has not since been heard of. Gloucester, Nov. 23.—The Ann Kenny, arrived from Quebec, with loss of maintop, bulwarks, &c., and with decks swept, in a gale 20th inst. Kilkewan House (near Clonakilty), Nov. 29.—The Jessie Torrance, Skane, from Quebec for Liverpool, is totally wrecked near this place; it is supposed that nine or ten only, out of twenty-one, are saved. Kingstown, Nov. 23.—The Wave, Smallman, from Quebec to Dublin, struck on the Arklow Bank last evening, but came off waterlogged and with loss of rudder, and is now at anchor off Bray Head. Plymouth, Nov. 23.—The Bilton arrived from Montreal, with loss of main and mizen masts, decks swept, &c., having been thrown on her beamends in a hurricane, lat 50 N, lon 11 W. The Queen Victoria, from Quebec, arrived at this port yesterday, has lost bulwarks, and is very leaky. The Emma arrived from Quebec, experienced a hurricane 19th inst.: lost five men, had decks swept, and bulwarks carried away. St. Michael's, November 14.—The wreck of the Cromwell, was passed 4th ult., in lat 42, lon 17, by the Jane arrived here. Sligo, November 29.—The Dromhair, Pyne, from Quebec, in entering this harbour, 23rd inst., got on the Perch Rock, but came off the following tide, making five or six inches water per hour. The arrivals in Great Britain from Quebec and Montreal, during the preceding fortnight were, 238; of which 224 were from Quebec.

The Limerick Chronicle says: Two shipwrecks have occurred off the coast in Dunny Cove Bay, one vessel the Chester, from Quebec, for Liverpool, completely lost, all hands perished. The other the Jessie Torrance. There were on board 21 hands, including a gentleman's son on his return home to Edinburgh; the Captain's wife, a young woman of 18 years; was washed overboard, and not as yet found. Mr. Croker, of Ballyva house, aided by his son George, at the risk of their lives, were let by a rope down a cliff, at least 100 feet, and rescued one of the crew.

The brig Lady Sale, Gosbee, in 14 days from Quebec, and the schr. Emily Garrett, from Montreal, both arrived at Halifax on the 5th instant.

BIRTH. At Montreal, on the 12th inst., Mrs. Thos. Tait, of a daughter. At Ballymena, Ireland, on the 22nd ultimo, the Lady of R. A. Young, Esquire, of Quebec, Canada, of a son.

MARRIED. On the 16th instant, at Christ's Church, Montreal, by the Revd. W. A. Adams, William F. A. Elliott, Esq., 93rd Highlanders, eldest son of Sir

Wm. Francis Elliott, Bart., to Charlotte Maria, third daughter of Robert Wood, Esq., of this city. On Saturday evening, 19th instant, by the Revd. G. Mackie, B. A., Mr. George G. Ardoun, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Teed.

DIED. Lady Augusta Sophia Cathcart, died at Cathcart House, Renfrewshire, the seat of her noble relative, the Earl Cathcart, on the 18th ult.

QUEBEO MARKETS. Corrected by the Clerks of the Markets up to Tuesday, 22d Dec., 1846.

Table with 4 columns: Item, s. d., a. d. Items include Beef, Mutton, Ditto, Lamb, Potatoes, Maple Sugar, Oats, Hay, Straw, Fire-wood, Cheese, Butter, Ditto, Veal, Pork, Eggs.

ENGLISH MAIL. LETTERS for the above Mail will be received at the Quebec Post Office, till SATURDAY, the 26th December.—PAID Letters till THREE o'clock and UN-PAID till FOUR P. M.

FOR SALE, 150 QUINTALS Merchantable large Table Cod-fish, 127 Barrels Green do., 35 do. Salmon, 63 do. Mackerel, 29 do. Herrings, 6 Kegs Cod Scales and Tongues, 23 Barrels Cod Oil.

ALSO—5 Hogheads Bright Muscovado Sugar, 6 do. do. Bastard do., 20 Boxes Twankay Tea, 15 do. Superior Maccaroni and Vermicelli, 70 Boxes, half do. and quarters Bunch Muscatel Raisins.

50 Tinnets River Ouelle Butter, 30 Boxes Scheidam Gin, 45 do. English Starch, 10 do. Pig Blue, 12 do. Composite Candles, 15 do. English Wax Wick do., 65 Dozens Corn Brooms.

AND—His usual assortment of Liquors and Groceries consisting of—Champagne, Sherry, Madeira, and Port Wines, Martell's Pale and Cognac Brandy, Spanish White do., Holland and English Gin, Scotch Whiskey, Jamaica, Demerata, and St. Croix Rum, French Liqueurs, Teas, Coffee, English and American Cheese, Pickles and Sauces, Spanish Nuts, Walnuts, Almonds, Sperm, Olive and Seal Oils, &c. &c. By A. LENEVEVEY, 17 St. Peter St. Quebec 24 Decr. 1846.

BRADFORD'S Coffee, Tea, French and Italian Sauce & Pickle Warehouse, No. 63, St. Louis Street.

JUST received, by the DOUGLAS and other vessels, and for sale, a choice assortment of ENGLISH GROCERIES, comprising the finest qualities of Souchong, Old Hyson, Young Hyson, and FLOWERY PEKOE TEAS: MOCHA and JAMAICA COFFEES; also 25 baskets of CHESHIRE and 10 cases of NORTH WILTSHIRE CHEESE. Quebec, 26th Nov. 1846. J. BRADFORD.

FRENCH AND ITALIAN WAREHOUSE, 65, ST. LEWIS STREET, JUST received and for sale—75 Fresh Smoked Salmon, in good order, 300 Canisters of Fresh Lobsters, 200 Do. do. Salmon, 700 Do. do. Mackerel, 200 Tins of Sardines in Oil, 100 Boxes Table Raisins, 75 Do. Bunch Muscatels, 50 Quarter-Boxes do., 20 Boxes of Fresh Lemons, 21 Jars of Fresh Prunes, 25 Baskets of Cheshire Cheese, 10 Cases of North Wiltshire do. J. BRADFORD. Quebec, 10th December, 1846.

WANTED. A CLASSICAL MASTER, to take charge of a small SCHOOL, a short distance from Montreal. He must be qualified to direct the children in the ordinary branches of a classical and general education. Address (post paid) stating qualifications and references, to the Rev. A. B. at the Rev. D. B. PAINTIER'S, Montreal.

FOR SALE. SIXTY HIDS. MUSCOVADO SUGAR, 150 do Guysborough Herrings, 60 do No. 3, Mackerel, 20 do Roasted Coffee, 1000 Lbs. Bees' Wax, 100 Bundles Palm Leaf, 10 Tons Fustic, 1 do Cocoa Wood, 20 M Yara Cigars, 30 M Cuba do., 30 Boxes Twankay, Bohea, Congou and Gunpowder Teas, 6 Tons Logwood, 50 Lanceswood Spars. J. W. LEAYCRAFT. Quebec, 17th December, 1846.

FOR SALE, No. 6, NOTRE DAME STREET, LOWER TOWN, THREE Cases North Wiltshire Cheese, 200 Boxes and Qr. boxes Raisins, 50 Bbls. Raisins (50 bls. each), 100 Drums Figs, 50 Boxes Starch, 28 do. Valencia Almonds (28 lbs.), 1 Bale Fresh Almonds, 20 Hds. & 10 bbls. Sugar. —ALSO— 10 Puncheons Molasses, 10 do. Jamaica Rum. JOHN R. HEALEY, Quebec, 9th December, 1846.

NOTICE. THE BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY having reduced their rate of Premiums, the scriber is prepared to receive proposals according to the new scale. R. PENISTON, Agent. India Wharf, 29th October, 1846.

ROBERT CAIRNS, MERCHANT TAILOR, No. 2, St. Louis Street, Place d'Armes, IN thanking those Gentlemen who have for so many years extended their support to him; begs respectfully to announce the receipt of a choice assortment of Goods suitable for the season per Douglas, from London; and as every care has been taken in their selection, he can confidently recommend them as being superior to anything hitherto imported. He would therefore solicit a continuance of their patronage, and all orders intrusted to him shall be executed with every care and attention to ensure satisfaction. Quebec, 5th November, 1846. 2 m

HARDWARE! No. 20, HARDWARE!! FABRIQUE STREET. MCKILL & BLIGHT, BEG respectfully to inform their friends and the public, that they have now received their Fall supplies, comprising a very general and well selected assortment, which they will dispose of on the lowest terms for CASH or approved credit. Quebec, 26th November, 1846.

FALL AND WINTER CLOTHING. HENRY KNIGHT begs to thank the Military and Gentry of Quebec, and the public generally, for the very flattering patronage with which he has been favoured since he commenced business, and pledges himself to spare no effort to ensure a continuance of their support. H. K. also invites an inspection of his stock of Cloths, Cassimeres, Tweeds, Vestings, &c., &c., having just received per "Safeguard" and "Pearl" from London, a general assortment of those articles, all of the very best quality and latest fashion, which he will make up in his usual style, at moderate prices. No. 12, Palace Street. Quebec, 19th Nov. 1846.

W. LEHEMINANT, No. 4, Fabrique Street. HAS just received and offers for sale the following choice lot of HAND PICKED APPLES, viz:— 75 Barrels Greenings, 50 Do. Fameuses, 20 Do. Spitznburgs, —ALSO— Daily expected a small lot of Spanish Grapes. Quebec, 19th Nov. 1846.

PIANOS. IN addition to their Stock of PIANOS on hand, the undersigned have just received a new assortment, which they will sell at low prices. J. H. WYSE & Co. No. 26, Mountain Street, 11, Palace Street. N. B. Pianos to let. Quebec, 26th November, 1846.

QUEBEC BANK. NOTICE is hereby given that a Semi-annual Dividend of Three per Cent has been declared upon the amount of the Capital Stock, and the same will be payable at the Bank, on or after TUESDAY, the 1st of DECEMBER next. The Transfer Book will be closed on SATURDAY, the 14th of NOVEMBER next. By Order of the Board. NOAH FREER, Cashier. Quebec, 19th November, 1846.

BUCK-WHEAT AND INDIAN CORN MEAL. THE Subscriber has just received a small supply of the above. —ON HAND— Sperm, Belmont Sperm, Imperial, and Composite Candles, Sperm, Olive, Porpoise, and Pale Seal Oils. M. G. MOUNTAIN, No. 13, Fabrique St. 5th Novr. 1846.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS. A DIVIDEND will be paid to the Creditors of the Estate of the late J. J. SMY, on the 15th inst., at the office of Messrs. C. & W. WURTELE, St. Paul's Street. CHRISTIAN WURTELE, Trustee. Quebec, 10th Decr. 1846.

SPLendid NEW & FASHIONABLE JEWELLERY, WATCHES, GLOVES, &c. THE Subscribers have just received per "Lady Seaton" and "Douglas," from London, a splendid assortment of JEWELLERY, WATCHES, &c. far surpassing in richness, variety, and extent, any they have hitherto imported; also, CHESSMEN, BOARDS, LADY'S COMPANIONS, and Mechanical Railway or Fantasmata Chimney Ornaments. M. ARDOUIN & SON, 60, St. John Street. N. B.—Old Gold, Silver, Plate and Watches bought or taken in exchange. Quebec, 12th November, 1846.