

political intrigue and party jobbing. It is not one colony in particular that is badly managed, or that has been grossly neglected,—but ALL. It is not the West Indies, more than the British American Colonies, that have been next to ruined by detrimental enactments; it is not the Cape Colony, more than New Zealand, that has been left a prey to inexperienced and incapacitated Governors; it is not Ceylon, or Barbadoes, or Trinidad, only, that have cause to petition the Imperial Government to cast a considerate eye just for once on their welfare; it is not Van Dieman's Land alone that has to fall a sacrifice to the blighting practices of the State;—but one and all have reason to complain that they have not merely been neglected, despised, and shamefully treated,—but that they have been wronged, in the violation of their just rights and privileges as integral portions of the British Empire. The Colonies have been completely thrown in the background; they have merely been looked upon by Ministers as sinecures or places of patronage for old and incapacitated officers,—men of all others generally most unfit for such duties.

Have our Fisheries been prosecuted to the extent their immense importance and our almost exclusive possession of them, would lead one to expect? Have the fields for commerce that our Possessions in every quarter of the globe have created and opened for us, been enlarged and fostered? Have the advantages our Colonies held out for our superabundant population been seized upon for their benefit (except in one case, we know, of course)? In fine, have the Colonies, as important outlets for our daily increasing population, as extending our commerce and navigation, as creating new manufactures, been considered, protected, and rendered of avail to any proportion like the benefit they might, under judicious and proper management, have been? We fear not to assert again, that they HAVE NOT.—*Simmonds' Colonial Magazine.*

## LOWELL.

During a visit to that remarkable city, last summer, we obtained a copy of the "Statistics of Lowell manufactures for 1846." From it we learn the following particulars. The amount of capital invested in all the factories, including buildings, machinery, houses for the operatives, &c., is as follows:—

	Capital.		Capital.
Merrimack, Man. Co.,	\$2,000,000	Lawrence,.....	\$1,500,000
Hamilton,.....	1,200,000	Tremont Mills Man.Co.	600,000
Appleton,.....	600,000	Boott Cotton Mills,.....	1,200,000
Lowell,.....	600,000	Massachusetts,.....	1,200,000
Middlesex,.....	750,000	Lowell Machine Shop,.	300,000
Suffolk,.....	600,000		
Total capital,.....			\$10,550,000

## CANADA STEAM COMPANY.

Considerable attention is at present directed to the proposed Canada Steam Company, recently formed in Toronto, and many inquiries are made, and various suggestions afforded, as to the most suitable means of carrying into vigorous effect and profitable execution, an undertaking equally desirable and extensive. It is, I believe, proposed by the company to build propellers solely, as it is conceived that that class of vessels are better suited than any other, to the trade of the St. Lawrence.

Before entering into so large an undertaking as the one proposed, it would be advisable to ascertain the wants of the trade, and what description of vessels would be best suited for carrying on an extensive business, at the lowest rates. In forwarding, two great objects are not only desirable, but almost necessary,—despatch and low freights. That the former of these wished for objects would be attained by the employment of propellers, cannot be questioned; but some doubts may be reasonably entertained of the ability of such vessels successfully to compete with ordinary craft. It may be necessary to enter into a few details, more clearly to explain the subject. A propeller, carrying at the utmost 2,500 barrels of flour, would cost £1000; whilst a simple barge, taking nearly double that quantity, could be constructed for one fourth of that sum, and the only advantage the propeller would derive, would be from a preference of freight, at a very small advance.

Steam, no matter how applied, is exceedingly expensive; still, some large propeller would be desirable upon our lakes, and could be profitably employed, in order to ensure the arrival of produce at a shipping port such as Kingston, but from thence to Montreal or Quebec they would hardly be required, as one principal steamer could easily tow a number of barges with safety and despatch, whilst there is little doubt that between Quebec and Montreal, the barges would be towed at a lower rate by the numerous steamers, now on the river, than propellers could afford to steam the distance.—*Correspondent of the Quebec Gazette.*

PROGRESS OF TORONTO.—Mr. Boulton took the oath of office as Mayor of Toronto, on Monday last, and from his inaugural address delivered to the Council, we glean the following facts:—Within the last twenty years, the population of the city has increased from seventeen hundred, to twenty-two thousand? The present debt of the city amounts to £70,000, and the revenue for the present year is estimated at £12,400, leaving a balance, after paying all expenses, of £1,700 to be expended in public improvements. The rate of taxation is 1s. 1½d. on the pound, and the annual expense of the gas with which the city is lighted, is £1,050. The exports during the last year exceeded the imports by £140,000, and the duties on the latter for the same period, amounted to the enormous sum of £33,000.—The shipping list is considerably increased—2,750 vessels having entered the port during the year. There are sixteen Common Schools in the city, having 1,400 pupils, and supported at a cost of £773 12s., including school rents. It is gratifying to note the rapid prosperity of Toronto, and the flourishing state of its finances.

We understand that at a late meeting of the Municipal Council of the District of Johnstown, it was agreed to draw up a petition to the Imperial Parliament in favour of the Free Navigation of the St. Lawrence; and that it is also contemplated to call a public meeting of the freeholders of the county, to obtain their opinions on the same important question.

## LOCAL, PROVINCIAL, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

A public meeting to consider the best means of relieving our distressed brethren in Ireland, was held in this city on Monday last, when resolutions were adopted having for their object the opening of a subscription list, and such other means as may best further the end in view. At the same time it was resolved that the action of the committee should be simultaneous with that of a similar body appointed to obtain relief for the destitute in the Highlands of Scotland, whose state late accounts received from home represent to be most deplorable; it being understood as the basis of the arrangement that *three-fourths* of the money so collected should be appropriated for the Irish as the most numerous body, and one-fourth for the Scotch. This arrangement, we regret to say, has been disturbed by a resolution passed at a subsequent meeting, called by the Scotch inhabitants, at Daley's Hotel, where a resolution was passed declaring that one-third of the monies collected should be appropriated to the relief of the Highlands. It is to be feared that this proceeding will create an unpleasant feeling, and put an end to the union which it is so desirable should exist.—At Quebec, steps are being taken to call similar meetings, and we have no doubt that such will be the case generally throughout the Province.—In the meantime, His Excellency Lord Elgin has subscribed £50 towards the Montreal fund, and Earl Cathcart £25.—The postponed Levée came off finally at Government House on Wednesday, and was numerously attended. In the evening a ball was given by the Countess of Cathcart to nearly six hundred persons at Daley's Hotel.—Great preparations are making in Montreal for the approaching Municipal Elections, and apprehensions are entertained of a revival of that fierce party spirit which has already done so much mischief. It is to be hoped the Government will call on the authorities to do their duty.—Steps for the formation of a Gas Company are now being taken in Quebec. Strange as it will appear, that city has hitherto been without this almost indispensable convenience. Latterly, however, a new spirit has fallen upon our neighbors, who are determined no longer to stand still. One proof of this is the projected Gas Company,—another the efforts making to get telegraphic communication with Halifax.—The first of a series of letters on the project of connecting Halifax and Quebec by railway, addressed to His Excellency Sir John Harvey, has just made its appearance in the *Novascotian*. It is an earnest and even enthusiastic appeal in favor of this great national undertaking, from the pen, as is surmised, of Mr. Young, whose name is so prominently connected with the scheme.—The recent mining mania has led to numerous announcements in the newspapers respecting wonderful mineral treasures, situated in different parts of the province. This week a city newspaper announces the discovery of a field of iron ore near Vaudreuil, which, as a matter of course, appears to the editor—who says he knows nothing at all about such matters,—wonderfully rich.—A new company under the title of "the Marine Railway Company," is about to be formed in Toronto.—The *Hamilton Gazette* announced that letters were received by the Directors of the Great Western Railway, by the last mail, of a very satisfactory nature; and that every preparation is making for the commencement of the line.—The weather for the last week has been exceedingly mild, and there are indications—amongst others the arrival of the crow—of an early spring.

## THE MARKETS.

MONTREAL. Friday Evening, 12th Feb.

The transactions in our market during the past week have been so few and unimportant, that they are scarcely worthy of notice.

Canada Fine Flour is held at 32s. 6d., without any apparent anxiety to buy or sell.

Pork is higher. We hear of a sale of 200 barrels, deliverable at Bytown, at \$20 per barrel. This shows a considerable advance, and warrants us in quoting it at 19

A good deal of Grain and Flour from the country parishes in this neighbourhood is offering in our market. Grain of all kinds fully realizes our last quotations. Lower Canada Wheat is worth 5s. 6d. to 6s. Pease, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. Barley, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d. Oats, 2s. to 2s. 1d.