

Eastern Townships.—It is not, perhaps, generally known to the public that our Provincial Geologist, Mr. Logan, has discovered materials very abundantly existing in our vicinity, so admirably adapted for the manufacture of every description of Earthenware and Glass, that a company organised for the purpose of testing the facts are only wanted to produce, according to Mr. Logan and other practical men's assurance, articles in these species of manufacture of a most superior texture and usefulness, and in abundance for export and home consumption, the production of which would, most probably, contribute towards the permanent prosperity of Sherbrooke, more than even the discovery of the auriferous deposits rich as they may be said to be found in several localities in our neighbourhood. Besides these there has been discovered lately marble of various kinds, and most superior description, suited for tombstones, mantle pieces, &c., and when I mention further, that in addition to these, Gypsum has been found to a very considerable extent in Oxford, an article hitherto imported principally from Nova Scotia, and that men of some practical experience, and at the same time possessing capital, are living in our midst, it cannot be considered too sanguine to expect that influential gentlemen will be found, during the absence of Mr. Galt in England, ready to take the initiative before organizing. The British American Land Company have very recently, through their Chief Commissioner, signified more than usual solicitude towards establishing every species of manufacturing industry in our Town; by liberally affording every facility to the utmost extent that water privileges and aid in money can be wantonly advanced to men of practical skill and enterprise, to render Sherbrooke what nature has destined it to be, the great workshop and manufacturing Lowell of Canada.—*Cor. of the Sherbrooke Gazette.*

The Metal Trade of the United Kingdom.—The total declared value of the exports of various descriptions of metals during the month and 12 months, ending with the 5th January, is as follows:—

Years.	For the month.	For 12 months.
1853.....	£927,102.....	£9,928,405
1852.....	509,358.....	8,918,124
1851.....	627,354.....	8,767,646

These figures show an extraordinary expansion of the export trade in metals; and one of the most remarkable results consists in the fact, that in the last month the movement has been more marked than ever before known. It may be fairly assumed that the export of metals for the current year will be larger than any known in the annals of our commerce. The increase on the corresponding month of 1852 is no less than £318,744, or 62 per cent. The general increase in this branch of trade is the more worthy of notice, when it is considered that the prices of all descriptions of metals have during the last year experienced an almost unexampled rise, a circumstance which ordinarily has the effect of checking foreign demand. On a more minute analysis of the returns, we find that this check has been actually perceptible in the articles of copper, lead, and tin, but that the present tendency of these items is now in the direction of a rally, the chief increase is in the article which has also been marked by the greatest rise in price—iron. The augmentation in the shipments of this metal during the last month, more especially, is calculated to excite great attention, and fully bears out the anticipations indulged in by us on several occasions. The exports of this metal are shown below:—

Years.	For the month.	For 12 months.
1853.....	£530,269.....	£6,155,600
1852.....	297,568.....	5,414,383
1851.....	305,314.....	4,056,308

This demand is mainly owing to the vast railway works which are now being carried on by our enterprising capitalists in so many parts of the world. In fact, a large portion of the money which we have lately subscribed to foreign and colonial railway projects never leaves the country at all, but is at once invested in railway iron. Again, a large portion of the American and other railway bonds lately taken up here have been paid for in our iron. The declared value of the shipments is of course increased by the enhanced prices now current for metals; but after making due allowance for this, we have still evidence of an unexampled foreign and colonial demand. The demand for iron ship-building and iron houses, is also exercising an important influence. The present position of the market for this metal is exciting so much attention, that these returns are invested with additional interest. The exports of copper of all kinds for the month and 12 months are thus stated:—

Years.	For the month.	For 12 months.
1853.....	£148,609.....	£1,612,732
1852.....	90,503.....	1,535,931
1851.....	172,747.....	1,851,495

In the twelve months the exports of tin have been to the extent of £83,608, against £80,047, in the corresponding period ending the 5th January, 1852, and £124,798 in 1851. Those of tin plates have been £1,103,317 against £1,020,206 and £927,202; and those of lead £353,101 against £344,315 and £387,394.

Mr. W. Pringle, of Edinburgh, writes to the *Phil. Mag.*, the following singular account:—

"On February 20th, 1846, about 10 P. M., when looking from an eastern window, I observed a very splendid Arch in the Heavens. Its open was situated some degrees south of the zenith, its direction being nearly at right angles to the magnetic meridian. While gazing at it I was astonished to see a portion of the eastern limb at a height of about 45 deg. or 50 deg., suddenly change its character and aspect, and for an extent of perhaps 5 deg., exhibit the spectacle of a crowd of minute meteors rushing and commingling with one another; each individually, so far as the eye could detect for the rapidity and confusion of their motions, precisely resembling an ordinary shooting star, having an apparent nucleus and a luminous train following it. This sight lasted, it may be, nearly a minute. The portion of the luminous bow thus occupied was strictly confined in breadth to that of the arch; there was an obvious motion of the luminous matter of the arch itself from East to West, resembling a tremulous stream, and the cometary projections followed the same course while they lasted.

Obituary.

Vox Buch.—This eminent geologist died at Berlin, on the 4th of March, aged 79 years. The following is a letter from Humboldt to Sir R. I. Murchison, announcing his death, (*Athenæum*, No. 1921.)

"That I should be destined—1, an old man of eighty-three—to announce to you, dear Sir Roderick, the saddest news that I could have to convey—to you for whom M. De Buch professed a friendship so tender, and to the many admirers of his genius, his vast labours, and his noble character! Leopold De Buch was taken from us this morning by typhoid fever, so violent in its attack that two days only of danger warned us. He was at my house so lately as the 26th [ult.] despite the snow and the distance between us, talking geology with the most lively interest. That evening he went into society; and on Sunday and Monday (the 27th and 28th) he complained of a feverish attack, which he believed to be caused by a large chilblain swelling from which he had suffered for years. The inflammation required the application of leeches, but the pain and the fever increased. He was speechless for forty-eight hours. * * He died surrounded by his friends,—most of whom knew nothing of his danger till Wednesday evening, the 2nd of March.

"He and I were united by a friendship of sixty-three years,—a friendship which never knew interruption. I found him in 1791, in Werner's house in Freiburg, when I entered the School of Mines. We were together in Italy, in Switzerland, in France,—four months in Saltz-burg. M. De Buch was not only one of the great illustrations of his age,—he was a man of a noble soul. His mind left a track of light wherever it passed. Always in contact with Nature herself, he could well boast of having extended the limits of geological science. I grieve for him profoundly,—without him I feel desolate. I consulted him as a master; and his affection (like that of Gay Lussac and that of Arago who were also his friends) sustained me in my labours. He was four years my junior,—and nothing forewarned me of this misfortune. It is not at the distance of a few hours only from such a loss, that I can say more respecting it. Pity me,—and accept the homage of my profound respect and affectionate devotion."

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