

INWARD ENGLISH MAILS.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL NEWS
FOR CANADIAN READERS.

Social Political and Commercial Doings—
Culled from English Papers Received
Since our Last Issue.

English and Indian Wheat.

In a letter on the present and future of English wheat, Mr. W. T. Bates says: "Most people overlook the fact that foreign wheat, in large proportion, is absolutely necessary for our present day demands. In good, dry seasons English wheat can be used in fairly large proportion, but in no case does it exceed 50 per cent. of a miller's mixture for flour making; but in wet, ungenial seasons like our last, and particularly when followed by damp, humid weather, such as we have recently had—for wheat readily absorbs atmospheric moisture—it becomes almost useless for flour-making and the proportion used is considerably smaller. A great many millers avoid it altogether, and those who use it at such times do so almost as an adulterant. If a duty of 5s., or more a quarter were placed upon these necessary foreign wheats, it would have no effect upon the price of English. Millers would be forced to buy foreign at the enhanced price, which would raise the price of flour and bread, but English wheat would not necessarily participate in the improvement. There is one, and only one, competitor which favors the British wheat grower, and that is India. Positively cheap Indian wheat is a godsend to country millers in wet seasons, and a real friend to British farmers, on account of its excessive dryness. Indian wheat contains 8 per cent. of moisture; English 14 to 20 per cent. When mixed with English wheat it neutralizes its bad properties and enables the miller to use a larger proportion than he otherwise would do."

Won't Form Labor Bureaux.

The Works Committee of Paddington Vestry have declined to establish labor bureaux in the parish, and in reply to the circular letter of the local government Board they intimate that they devote £10,000 annually for special repairs to paving and sewers, and have no other work on which they can engage extra labor.

Gladstone and Crofter Emigration.
The outgoing of Lord Salisbury's Administration and the incoming of that of Mr. Gladstone has quite upset the policy and the plans in the matter of State-aided emigration.

The Secretary for Scotland has intimated that there will be no further Crofter emigration to the Northwest under control of the State. The British Columbia Crofter scheme is affected by this declaration, and as a consequence the Crofter Company proposed to establish a Crofter colony and provide the members with means for making a living, which would be to the mutual advantage of both the Company and the settlers, is still unformed and the syndicate has been compelled to obtain an extension of time of one year for its formation.

Reciprocity with Canada.

A meeting of the council of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce was recently held under the presidency of Mr. R. P. Yates. The following resolution was recommended by the General Purposes Committee:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the future prosperity of British commerce must increasingly depend on our commercial relations with our colonies, and, recognizing the fact that Canada has, by the resolution of her Parliament, invited the mother country to enter into an arrangement for reciprocity, we hereby urge upon the Government the necessity of taking this invitation into their immediate and most serious consideration." The committee also recommended that a special meeting of the chamber to which the manufacturing and mercantile community of the district be also invited, should be chosen for the discussion of the matter at an early date. The report was adopted.

The Falkland Islands.

The annual report on these islands for 1891 has been issued by the Colonial Office. The revenue for the year amounted to £11,551 3s. 6d., and the expenditure to £13,302 4s. 7d. The value of the imports is given as £67,428, and of the exports as £103,732. At the last census—taken on April 5, 1891—the population of the islands was 1,789—1,084 males and 705 females. The year 1891 was according to the report of several of the earliest settlers, one of the most genial in regard to weather ever experienced in the Falklands. There was a little snow and no severe frosts during the winter, and a fine summer was ushered in by a mild spring. Seasons like it cannot, the reports states, be too highly appreciated in a colony such as this, where so much depends on the rearing of sheep. Falkland Islands' wool continues to realize a fair price in the markets, and the export during the year was 3,385, 210 lb. The number of carcasses of frozen mutton sent from the colony to the home market was 18,277.

The Traffic in Adopted Children.

At an adjourned inquest held in London on the body of a little girl of illegitimate birth, certified to having died from the effects of starvation and exposure while in the charge of a man and his wife, aged 20 and 70 years respectively, who had adopted her through an advertisement, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against these two persons. They also agreed to call the Home Secretary's attention to the facts of the case, and to suggest that some modification of the present system of the adoption of children should be obtained by means of a scheme of registration and supervision. The coronor thought the case showed the facility with which illegitimate children could be passed from hand to hand and the necessity for fresh legislation to protect infant life. Justice Grantham on Public Houses.

Speaking at a People's Concert in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, Mr. Justice Grantham said that, of all the efforts made by philanthropists in this country nothing had done so much to reduce crime as the promotion of such concerts and of rational amusements for the people. He had, he was afraid, often said what was displeasing to many of his friends when he had described public houses as a necessary evil. People must have amusement and relaxation, after a week of work, either of mind or body; and unless it was given them they would go to the only place that was open to them—to the place which attracted them, as it was always well lighted up, and as they could there get that which gave them life and spirit, even though it was only for the time being. He considered that there was no better antidote than good concerts. There the people were elevated in the highest degree, and they were given entertainment without having to go to the public house, where they got entertainment of a far less wholesome kind. On his own behalf, and on behalf of Mr. Justice Gaintford Bruce, who had accompanied him, he expressed a hope of the continued success of those concerts which did so much to elevate the tone of the working classes of the city, and which would, he hoped, result in her Majesty's Judges having less crime to deal with when they came there.

Medals for Volunteers.

The Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, held a levee at the Horse Guards on Monday, on the occasion of presenting to Volunteer officers of senior rank in the Home District the decoration recently granted for long service and general proficiency. His Royal Highness prefaced the presentation of the decorations in a few words, expressing his hope that the granting of the distinction might be the means of inducing many at present only engaged in civil pursuits to render service to their country by joining the Volunteer force.

Thanks from the Grand Old Man.
London, Jan. 3.—Mr. Gladstone has sent out a card expressing his gratitude to his friends throughout the world who sent him congratulatory letters and telegrams on his birthday. He regrets, he says, that the largeness of the number of these friends renders it impossible for him to acknowledge the kindness of each through individual letters.

Jews Trying to Sell Their Children.

At a recent meeting in London, there was a demonstration of East-end Jews. Lewis Lyons, secretary of the Jewish Unemployed Committee, spoke, asserting that there were 15,000 unemployed Jews in the East-end, that their distress was such that some of them had attempted to sell their children, and that the rich members of their community would do nothing for them. He demanded the establishment of municipal workshops, and urged organized resistance to the payment of excessive rents.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, writing to the incorporated Free and Open Church Association says:—"To make churches free and open to the very limits of what is possible is an aim in which all must sympathize."

Forty clergymen, who were fellow students of Dr. Hornby, Bishop-designate of Nyassaland, at Cuddesdon 17 years ago, have presented him with a cape and mitre the latter set with crystals and amethysts. Dr. Hornby was consecrated at St. Paul's Cathedral.

At Milwr lead mine, Holywell, a winding chain broke, and the kibble fell upon two men, killing them instantaneously.

The ratepayers of Salford, on a poll, have voted, by 13,385 against 3,032, in favour of the granting by the Corporation of a loan of a million sterling for the completion of the Manchester Ship Canal.

PAGES OF BRITISH HISTORY.

Historical Battles—Noteworthy Events in
the Story of the Creation of the
British Empire.

(Continued from our last.)

The Sea Fight of Cape Passora.

Turning aside from the fighting on dry land, we come after a few less important naval victories to the sea fight of Cape Passora in 1718. King George I of Britain took up arms against Spain in defence of the Kingdom of Sicily. A fleet was dispatched under Admiral Byng to co-operate with the land forces in the Mediterranean, and this fleet consisting of 20 ships of the line discovered the Spanish fleet, 27 ships of the line, off Cape Passora on Aug. 13, 1718, when the Spanish Rear-Admiral the Marquis de Maria, with six ships of war, and the galleys, fire-ships, and bomb-ketches, separated from the main fleet, and stood with all sail in-shore. Captain Walton, with the Canterbury, the Argyle, 50 guns, and six other vessels, was despatched in pursuit; and on coming within range, one of the Spaniards shortened sail, and poured a tremendous broadside into the Argyle.

The Spaniards thus, though fugitives had the honor of beginning the action. "My ship," says the Marquis, in his letter to the Cardinal Acquavia, "being separated from the line, six English sail followed me, and gave me a signal to surrender, but I answered it with the fire of all my artillery."

The chase continued alongshore after Don Antonio de Castanita, with three of his rear-admirals and the largest of his ships; the captains of the Kent, Superb, Grafton, and Orford having strict orders to get ahead of the fugitives if they could, but not to fire unless the Spaniards repeated their fire; and on the guns of the Santa Rosa, under Don Antonio Gonzales, opening, she was at once engaged by the Orford, a seventy gun ship, whose crew soon took her. The San Carlos, of 60 guns, under Prince Chalay, next struck, almost without opposition, to the Kent. The Grafton lay alongside the Prince of the Asturias, the rear-admiral's ship, and after a sharp engagement, on the Breda and Captain coming up, she left her for them to take (which they soon did), and then stretched ahead after another sixty-gun ship, which had lain to starboard of her while she was engaged with the rear-admiral.

The fighting was now becoming general among both fleets, and was visible to the people along the whole coast, from Passora to the little town and fort of Vindiciari.

The Prince of the Asturias was repeatedly boarded. Admiral Chacun defended her bravely, driving the assailants from his deck again and again; but being severely wounded, having most of his men killed, and his ship shot fairly through and through, he was compelled, after disabling one man-of-war, to haul down his flag.

By one o'clock the Kent and Superb engaged the ship of Don Antonio Castanita, and two others, maintaining a running fight until three in the afternoon, when the first-named ship, "bearing down upon and under her stern," says Lediard, in his "Naval History," gave her a broadside, and went away to leeward of her. Then the Superb put in for it, and laid the Spanish admiral on board, falling on her weather quarter. But the Spanish admiral shifting helm and avoiding her, the Superb ranged up under her lee quarter, on which she struck to flight. At the same time the Barfleur, being within shot of the Spanish admiral astern, inclining on her weather quarter, one of their rear-admirals and a sixty-gun ship, which were to windward, bore down and gave her their broadsides, and then clapped upon a wind, and stood in for the shore.

The British admiral followed them until night fell, when the wind almost died away.

According to the Spanish accounts, their admiral, Don Antonio de Castanita, defended himself so well and vigorously that he gave all the vessels that attacked him an infinite deal of trouble; and the English admiral, resolving to board him, brought up a fire-ship to reduce him by flames, but in vain. However, Don Antonio, having fully 200 of his officers and men shot down, his left leg wounded, and being stunned by the fragments of a human body dashed about him, as a man was cut in two by a cannon ball at his side, hauled down his colors and surrendered about midnight.

The Essex took the Juno, 36 guns after her commander, Don Pedro Magna, fought her for three hours; and the Volante, 44 guns, fought till

all her sails were shot away. Her captain, Don Antonio Cardero, a Knight of Malta, ordered a new suit to be bent; but the ship "being pierced through and through by cannon-balls in six several places, and in danger of sinking, his crew obliged him to surrender." This he did to Streynsham Master, Captain of the Superb.

Rear-Admiral Cammock, Captain Wauchope, and eighteen other commanders, effected their escape, with their vessels and galleys, but all the rest were burnt or taken.

"Had the Spaniards followed the advice of Admiral Cammock," according to Smollett, "Sir George Byng would not have obtained so easy a victory. That officer had proposed that they should remain at anchor in the road of Paradise, with their broadsides to the sea, in which case the English admiral would have found it a very difficult task to attack them, for the coast is so safe that the largest ships could ride with a cable ashore; whereas, farther out, the currents are so various and rapid that the English squadron could not have come to anchor, or lain near them in order of battle."

This unfortunate Jacobite officer afterwards fell into disgrace with the Spanish Government, and was banished to Ceuta, where he died in obscurity and penury.

In this most signal victory the British fleet suffered little damage. The Admiral lay by for some days to refit and overhaul the prizes he had taken; and, during this, on the 18th August, he received from Captain Walton a dispatch, which is justly deemed a curious specimen of the laconic style:

"SIR,—We have taken and destroyed all the Spanish ships which were upon the coast; the number as per margin.

I am, &c.,

G. WALTON."

The "margin" showed that among the vessels referred to were one of 60 guns, commanded by Rear-Admiral Mari; one of 54, one of 40, one of 24, and a bomb-vessel and store-ship taken; one of 54 guns, two of 40, one of 30 guns, and a fire-ship and bomb-ketch burned. Captain Walton was knighted for these services, and died an admiral in 1740.

AN ESSEX LANDLORD'S EXPERIENCE.

\$360 a Year on an Investment of \$20,000
and the Entire Revenue Swallowed up
in Expenses, with More Besides.

"A distressed landlord" writes from Feltham, as follows:

"In view of the attention lately drawn to matters agricultural by the congress which has just concluded its sittings, the following figures relative to a small farm of 140 acres, situated in South-East Essex, may prove of interest to your readers.

The place was purchased by the present owner in 1878 for £4,000, (say \$20,000), and was at that time let at a rent of £160 or (\$800) per annum. In 1884, Essex in the meantime having been overtaken by the agricultural crisis, the farm was relet at the reduced rent of £51 15s. (\$260) per annum, and the following figures refer to the period, eight years in all, from Michaelmas, 1884, to Michaelmas, 1892:

RECEIPTS.

Rent, eight years, at £51 15s.	£414 0 0
Bal. acc. loss.	12 2 10
	£426 2 10

OUTGOINGS.

Property tax.	£10 12 2
Land tax.	28 4 7
Quit rent.	19 1 3
Drainage and other materials supplied to tenant.	388 4 10
	£426 2 10

"You will observe that in the foregoing I have allowed nothing for interest on the capital originally sunk, but that I am, in spite of this, exactly £12 2s. 10d. out of pocket. I think you will agree with me that the reduction of rent, which is, after all, only interest on capital advanced, can no further go, but that relief for the distressed farmer must be sought in other directions.

It seems to me that many Imperial and local taxes were imposed on land by way of rent for the monopoly created by protective duties, and that the rent is still exacted though the monopoly has ceased to exist."

FRANK BLOMFIELD,

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Finest Hair Dressing and Shaving Parlor in the City.

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—AND—
SUPPLIES.

To hand, especially for holiday season, a full assortment of the above, including Color Cases in polished White Cedar, Red Cedar, Maple and Mahogany, Studies, Colors, etc., etc.

WM. HOWE,

Rideau Street.

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—AT—

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173 & 175 Sparks Street.

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HEAVY BRASS CAST-
INGS.

Discount on Tradework.

We Cast Twice a Day.

SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Shoulder Brace Corset

PREVENTS STOOPING AND
EXPANDS THE CHEST.

Jean . . . \$1.50

Coutil . . . 2.50

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READY - MADE CLOTHING.

Men's Suits,

Boys' Suits,

and Hats.

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& Co.146, 148, 150, 152 and 154
Sparks Street.Use only Clapperton's Spool Cotton,
the best. Bryson Graham & Co