

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE AT LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES.

"INSURANCE BLOCK"

Corner of Market Square and Prince
William Street, St. John, N. B.

ROBERT MARSHALL,
General Agent.
NOTARY PUBLIC AND BROKER.
Capital Assets \$25,000,000.

Insurance at Lowest Current Rates, effected
upon Dwellings, Furniture, Warehouses, Stores,
Merchandise, Steamships, and all other property,
and upon every description of Property against loss
or damage by fire, in the following Companies—

Imperial Fire Insurance Co.
OF LONDON, Established 1803.

The **Ætna Insurance Co.,**
Established 1819.

Hartford Fire Insurance Company
Established 1810.

Losses paid by the above named Companies since
their incorporation have reached the large sum of
Ninety-five millions dollars.

MARINE INSURANCE
Effecting on Vessels, Cargoes, and Freight
and from any part of the Commercial
World, under the most favorable terms, and at
current rates, on terms and conditions customary
of St. John.

British American Assurance Co.,
—AND—
MERCHANTS' MARINE ASSURANCE CO.,
—AND—
The Capital and Assets of the several Companies
represented in the Fire Block and Marine Block
amount to over \$100,000,000, and the aggregate
of \$100,000,000 is deposited at various banks
in the Dominion of Canada, and is available
for the prompt payment of claims.

Losses promptly paid, at maturity, in cash.
Applications for Policies and Marine Insurance
respectfully invited.

Apply at Insurance Block, Cor. Market Square and
Prince William Street.

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General Agent, Notary Public and Broker.

BOOTS, SHOES, SLIPPERS
—AND—
LARRIGANS
1879-80, For Fall & Winter 1879-80

—AND—
VINCENT & McFATE'S,
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JOB PRINTING OF ALL KINDS

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Orders from the country will receive prompt at-
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P. TOLLE,
Proprietor.

THE
FREEMAN
FOR 1880.

We can only promise for the FREEMAN,
that in 1880 it will be what it has been
for so many years past; that it will
steadfastly maintain in all cases what it
believes to be right; that it will
inconsistently and earnestly in the cause of
good government, popular rights, and
even-handed justice; that it will do all it
can to keep its readers acquainted with
all public affairs of importance and to en-
courage them to form just and sound
conclusions on all these subjects on which
they may at any time be required to ex-
press an opinion or to pass judgment; and
that it will co-operate heartily in every
well-directed effort for promoting the
welfare of this country.

Our readers are aware that the
FREEMAN furnishes much news of great
interest to the majority of them, which
they would seek in vain in any of the
other papers published in the Province,
and that it devotes much space to the
refutation of calumnies and the combat-
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to create ill-feeling between the different
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population is composed, and so de-
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the FREEMAN's power for good greatly less-
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their importance demands. We desire also
to furnish our readers with a greater variety
of news and with interesting details,
which want of space compels us in
many cases to omit.

We were the circulation as large as it
should be, some desirable improvements
could be made, and we ask our friends in
all the Province to make an earnest ef-
fort to assist in a work which really is
theirs as well as ours. If every one who
professes to admire the FREEMAN en-
dorsed to get even one or two additional
subscribers for it, a great deal might be ac-
complished. The time is, we believe, an
easy one, but the price of the paper is so
very low that they must be few, indeed,
who can not afford to pay so small a sum.

The Weekly Freeman.
Saturday, February 7, 1880.

The Week.
The Queen was to open Parliament in
person this week, and great preparations
were made for what has been the latest
uncommon event. It is said that
unusual precautions were taken to pre-
vent the possibility of any attempt being
made on her life. The speech might be ac-
complished at the time, it is believed, and
it is rumored that it will contain only a
slight reference to Foreign affairs, and that
the expression of sympathy with Irish suf-
fering may prevent the Irish members
from making any attempt to attack the
Government, and that the example of the
dress which was talked of at that Dublin
meeting. It is said that the Government
will immediately introduce Bills for the
abolition of primogeniture and entail
laws, and for facilitating the sale and
transfer of lands, calculating that these
Bills will be thrown out by the House of
Lords, but the current is now running so
strong in this direction, not only in Ire-
land, but also in England and Scotland,
that the rejection of such Bills will but
render the passage of more sweeping
measures at no distant day inevitable. It
is said that the Government will in-
crease the duty on tobacco to 10 per cent.
and that their policy is to withdraw
their troops now in Afghanistan to the
scientific frontier as soon as they have
taught the Afghans to respect British
power as they should.

The people to whom they please as
Amor, but whoever he is he must be
guided by his foreign policy by the British.

The accounts from Afghanistan are
conflicting. One account says that Gen-
eral Roberts never felt the least uncer-
tainty or thought his position critical,
and that when he retired into Shirpur he
did not fight his way. It is said that
General Bright, sent with a large force to
prevent the union of the many tribes of
the Khokhans, has failed to accomplish
the purpose of his mission, and that his
force is now separated only by a narrow
range of hills from Ghaznia, where
Mohammed Jan has a large force as-
sembled. It is said that this leader and
other still threaten to attack the
British. There are accounts of sangui-
nary feuds between rival Afghan
chiefs, and in one case, it is said, several
villages belonging to one tribe were
destroyed by the warriors of another, and
over two thousand were slain in the war.
The accounts are conflicting, but the
news is not very intelligible. It was said
that the Prince Imperial was going to Italy to come to a
satisfactory understanding with King
Humbar and his Government; if possible,
and also with the Pope. All this, it was
said, was to do as a preparation for the
change which must take place when his
father dies. It was then said that there
was some objection to his going to see
the Pope, and now it is announced that
the visit to Italy has been abandoned;
that complete harmony exists between
Humbar and the Emperor, and that
Humbar shows himself as energetic and
active as ever. We may learn some
day what all this means.

The enlargement of the German army
is generally regarded in other countries as
a preparation for an attack on some one.

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The N. P. and the Working- man.

The advocates of Protection always
profess to have the interests of the masses
at heart, and pretend to treat the charge
of wishing to build up monopolies, and
to make the rich richer, and the poor
poorer as a very high calumny. In Eng-
land in the early days of protection they
pretended to have regard mainly to the
interests of the artisans of the cities and
towns, and high protective duties were
imposed on iron and manufactures of
iron, on woollens, etc. After a time the
advocates of protection, as managed, be-
came insufficient to produce food enough for
the people of the country, and then the
duties on breadstuffs were found to be an
intolerable burden, which almost crippled
the industry of the nation, and crippled
the pockets of the people. Then what re-
mained of the Protectionist system was
swept away, and the manufactures and
commerce of the country, relieved from
restraint and burden, increased with a
rapidity that seems even yet incredible.

Protection can affect the working-
man, under any circumstances, not only
temporarily and partially, but in a
permanent and complete manner. When, throughout Europe, the
artisans formed close corporations, which,
by their regulations, prevented what they
considered an undue increase in the num-
ber of persons engaged in any branch of
trade or manufacture, those who de-
pended on their skill in such trade or art had
protection for their labor. But regulations
such as these can not be enforced at this
time of day in this country, and the
working-man, under any circumstances, is
not in a position to acquire, and the men now
engaged in such work, therefore, be-
lieve in such regulations, if by any system
of protection, the demand for the home
product were suddenly increased, yet, even in such cases, the benefit to the
workmen would only be temporary, and
after a time, their wages would be regu-
lated by the general rates paid in Canada
and the United States. While the sys-
tem of protection existed in Great Britain
the manufacturing districts of Great
Britain, for the past year or two, because
of the depression in business all over the
world, caused by great war, over-trading,
ill-balanced production, etc., as Lord
Derby stated in a speech some days ago,
the working-man, having no working capital,
was not very great or very extensive;
certainly not as great or as extensive as
in the days of protection, when it was so
often necessary to employ military force
to restrain populations maddened by suf-
fering. Miss Martineau and others who
wrote at that time, and who left no doubt
of the misery which they saw in the man-
ufacturing districts. If we come down to
later times, and read what took place in
the United States a year or two ago, we
will find that there was much misery and
suffering in that country, and it was
chiefly amongst those who had been em-
ployed in the occupations most highly
protected in that country. The coal
miners and the workers in iron of Penn-
sylvania were reduced to the most abject
poverty, and were compelled to live on
compulsed to live on cold potatoes and
other inferior food, and scarcely ever
tasted meat, while those who were out of
employment, and they numbered many
tens of thousands, could not procure even
potatoes or corn meal. In every city in
which there were working men, the streets
were filthy, and the air was foul, and
there was rioting because there was hunger.
In those parts of the New England States
where the highly protected cotton and
other textile manufactures flourished for
a time the distress was great.

In Canada we had an abundant harvest
in 1879, yet we have much suffering
among the working-men. The working-
men were told that protection would en-
sure them abundant employment at high
wages, and out of the abundance to be
enjoyed by the workmen, merchants,
property-holders and all others were to
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