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*The Office of the MONETARY TIMES has been removed to the next office north of the one previously occupied. Our location is now No. 64 Church Street.***THE MONETARY TIMES,
AND TRADE REVIEW.**

TORONTO, CAN. FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 1872.

THE SAN JUAN BOUNDRY.

If the decision of the Emperor of Germany in the San Juan boundary arbitration was disappointing to Canada, the discussion that has arisen out of it was commenced by the *Times* telling the Dominion, in no gingerly terms, to set up on its account. In the rattle of replies and replications, the merits of the arbitrator's award are in danger of being lost sight of. But before we get absorbed with the collateral question, it will be well to look at the subject matter out of which it arose. It is universally conceded that in all questions of boundary the Americans get the better of us. This is not difficult to account for. An entirely new tone has been imported into the discussion of these questions, since the American colonies won their independence. When France and England were contending for supremacy in North America, England would not yield an inch of what she considered her just claims. Since the exhaustive discussion of the disputed boundaries of Acadia or Nova Scotia, by the French and English Commissaries, before the Seven Years' War, which determined the long contested

supremacy, no such spirit of resolute firmness has been shown by the English. For five long years, the English commissaries accumulated every fact and exhausted every argument applicable to the case. The sword finally cut the knot of the difficulty, and gave not only what she had contended for in Nova Scotia, but also the whole of Canada to England. When the pressure of French aggression was removed, the English were free to quarrel among themselves, and England's colonial empire in America was broken in pieces: all that remained to her being the recent acquisition from the French. When she had given up an empire, England deemed it matter of indifference whether the boundaries of her remaining possessions were contracted or expanded by a few miles on one side or the other. Against this indifference the United States opposed the ruling passion for territorial expansion, manifested besides in the annexation of Texas, the Mexican War, the purchase of Alaska, the numerous attempts to get possession of Cuba, the nibbling at St. Thomas, and the desire to absorb all the northern part of the continent.

Canada, which is really interested in these boundary questions, has not the settling of them; and she wastes in faction fights the time that might profitably be given to their consideration. Nothing could more clearly show the utter indifference with which such questions are approached than the fact that when the English surveying party now in this country left England, the Imperial Government was ignorant of the fact that the portion of the international line from the mouth of Pidgeon River to Rainy Lake had still to be run, the survey made under the Treaty of Ghent having been set aside by the Ashburton Treaty. It was only, we have reason to believe, by Mr. Lindsey, of this city, calling attention to the circumstance, that the fact became officially known. On investigation, it turned out that the English and American Commissioners, under the Treaty of Ghent, disagreed and made a separate report, which led to a readjustment of the question by the Ashburton Treaty. When on our side this ignorance prevailed, the Americans have been making private surveys of this section of the international line, and are chuckling in advance about the advantages they intend to obtain; notably in securing by anticipation an island rich in coveted minerals.

It is rumored that something of the kind helped to make the San Juan decision go the way it went. The Americans are said to have obtained surveys of the two channels to which the choice of the arbitrator was

very improperly confined by the Treaty of Washington, and to have presented them in evidence; and as there was no rebutting evidence, though there might and ought to have been, the case went against us. If England was not indifferent, she did not feel the same interest that would have moved her if Jersey or Gurnsey had been in dispute instead of San Juan. The latter island is valuable only from its position in commanding the Strait of Rosario, and we must now resort to artificial contrivances to make the navigation of that Strait of as little consequence as possible. We can only hope measurably to succeed; and that at a very serious outlay.

Canada can no longer absolve herself from blame in questions of this kind. Our patriotism ought to prompt us to take as much interest in them as Americans take. If the same trouble was not taken on the English as on the American side, a large share of the blame may be taken to themselves by Canadians. It was within our power to have got up evidence to rebut that offered by the Americans; it may not have been our business, strictly speaking; but we could have made it our privilege. We have got the Imperial Government virtually to give the Dominion a representation on the International Boundary Survey; but the folly of the selection will utterly nullify the privilege, and we shall be quite as bad off as if we had not offered any one to the nomination of the Imperial Government. Hereafter, it will be the fault of Canada if she does not use every exertion to secure justice in all international questions in which she may be interested.

**THE FLOUR AND GRAIN TRADE OF
GREAT BRITAIN.**

The quantity of breadstuffs annually consumed in Great Britain has become very large, and as the mother country is largely dependent upon other nations for its food supply, this question is always one of the highest importance. A bad harvest at home, or a bad one either in eastern Europe or western America, is sure to raise the price of bread to the toiling millions of Great Britain, and that is a trial which comes home to every dwelling of the poor. Situated as Canada is, as one of the grain producing countries of the world, it is of interest to us, as it always is to our fellow-countrymen at home, to see whence the flour and grain supply of the mother country is obtained, and whether its tendency is to diminish, increase, or change into new channels.

The quantity of breadstuffs and other cereals produced by Great Britain itself is large.