

## NEWS.

The *Cambris* arrived at Boston in 12½ days, bringing dates to 4th December.

The decline in bread stuffs has been checked, and a slight advance on last quotations realized. Provisions are still dull.—Timber of all kinds is declining. Staves are especially dull.

Doubts are entertained that the peace of Europe may not be long preserved. Russia and Austria have, it is said, taken advantage of the misunderstanding between Britain and France relative to the Spanish marriage, in order to annihilate the small republic of Cracow and annex the city to Austria. France wishes Britain to join in a protest against this infraction of treaty stipulation, but Lord Palmerston, though disposed to protest, does not seem willing to join in so doing with a state which has just been engaged in violating treaties herself.

Lord Elgin and Sir Benjamin d'Urban are, it is said, to leave about the 19th December in a *Man-of-War*—but Lady Elgin, according to accounts, is not to accompany her husband at present.

There is much agitation for a reduction of the tea duties.

Rumours of divisions in the Cabinet prevail but nothing certain is known.

The controversy respecting Sabbath travelling on the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway continues to rage. The Edinburgh Town Council has, by a large majority, memorialized the directors against discontinuing Sabbath trains. The Church Courts, both Established and Free, are equally active in approving the course of the directors, who, by the by, seem to be really in earnest in the matter, as they are petitioning Government for leave to give up transporting the mail on Sabbath.

Portugal is still in revolution, but the accounts of proceedings in that Popery-desolated country are extremely confused.

The news from the Punjaub are by no means favorable to the peace of that country.

The Caffre war continues with no incident of consequence. Two Chiefs had submitted to the Colonial authorities.

It is reported on the authority of letters from Constantinople, that Beder Han Bey, a ferocious Mountain Chief, has massacred the Nestorian Christians of 35 villages, to the number of about 3000, and that the remainder of that persecuted race are flying with their herds and flocks in all directions into Persia. It is understood that this massacre has taken place because the Ottoman Porte and the Christians were on too friendly terms for the Bey's safety, who sets both at defiance.

The American Congress, now in session, is busy with the measures recommended in the President's Message, but nothing definite is accomplished.

There are no news of moment concerning the war.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

**EARLY SHOP SHUTTING.**—A number of the most respectable grocers, tea-dealers, and warehousemen in Edinburgh, have agreed to close their places of business during the winter season, at eight o'clock (Saturdays excepted) commencing on Monday last.

The Queen has been paying a visit to Arundel, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, who fills an office under her Majesty, and the daily newspapers contain long details of the circumstances connected herewith.

**AMERICAN ORDERS.**—The orders for British goods, brought by the *Caledonia*, are unusually large, and that there is every prospect of a very extensive trade with the States when once the new tariff has come into operation.

**SHORT TIME IN LANCASHIRE.**—It is understood that about five hundred of the largest mills in Lancashire, have now commenced working short hours. Many thousands of operatives will thus feel the pressure of the times in a very painful manner; but, after all, when production has exceeded the demand, or when the demand has fallen off through unforeseen circumstances, it is better to curtail the hours of working in time, than to continue running long hours, until a crisis be superinduced, and the mills have to be stopped altogether.

The Duc de Bordeaux was married, on the 5th inst, to the Princess Maria Theresa Beatrice, sister to the reigning Duke of Modena. The Princess numbers among her other charms 300,000,000 francs, or twelve millions sterling! This marriage cannot, of course, fail to annoy Louis Philippe, not so much on account of any immediate danger from the elder branch of the Bourbons as from the better position in which it will place the pretender hereafter, to take advantage of whatever the chapter of accidents may turn up.

**THE LATE FLOODS IN FRANCE.**—The French Minister of Public Works has received a general report of the ravages committed by the floods, from which it appears that it will require upwards of 65,000,000 francs to repair the bridges, embankments, roads, &c. The number of houses destroyed or carried away, at Roanne alone, amounts to two hundred; and the record of the number is daily augmented. Not fewer than two thousand persons are without food or raiment, and to this amount must be added sixty families belonging to the neighboring communes. The little commune of Epercieu St. Paul, near Feurs, has lost forty-two houses out of ninety-one. Of ten floods recorded between 1755 and 1845, none equalled in height and

force the recent one. The King, Queen, and Royal Family, have placed 12,000 francs at the disposal of the Minister of Commerce for the use of the sufferers. The journals publish many liberal subscriptions, including one from the Bank of France of 25,000 francs. The Archbishop of Paris has called on the clergy of his diocese to make collections in their churches.

**FACTS FOR SMOKERS.**—German physiologists affirm that of twenty deaths of men between 18 and 25, ten originals in the waste of the constitution by smoking.

**THE GREAT BRITAIN STEAMER.**—In consequence of a statement which appeared in a morning paper of Thursday, we have made inquiries, and learn that the attacks of the sea upon the noble ship, in the gale of wind and the high tide alluded to were such as seriously to injure her hull, to wash away the temporary breakwater, to alter her position upon the rocks, and to put her more broad-side to the sea and altogether a in worse position. At the same time we learn that her hull is entire, and, to the eye, that little or no alteration is perceptible. We learn, also, that everything movable is ordered on shore; and we augur from this that the underwriters and directors have abandoned all hope of bringing her away from the scene of her sad disaster. The Irish papers are full of accounts of the damage done to the small ports and towns in the neighborhood of Dundrum bay by the same gale, in which the tide rose higher than it had ever been known before. We can only express our wonder that, under such circumstances, the ship should have held together, or that it should have been safe for such of the crew as are engaged to have remained on board.

Frederick Douglass is now free, the anti-slavery friends in this country having raised, within a few days, more than has bought his freedom.

The Custom-house officers have seized three vessels lying in the Thames which form part of an expedition that is being secretly fitted out by General Flores, in this country, with the intention, by hostile means, to effect a revolution of government in a state of South America, with which we are on terms of peace and friendship. It is said they are in possession of information concerning them, that leaves no doubt of all the three vessels being ultimately condemned as forfeited to the crown. Two of them are large class steamers.

Numerous persons are preparing to emigrate from Sweden to America, under the guidance of Erich Junson, a fanatic, it is said, who has set himself up as a prophet, and who has thousands of followers.

We learn from Munich that Lieut. Weiss, of the Bavarian Artillery, has invented a compression globe or ball, the effects of which are said to be tremendous. It is under examination by a military commission.—*Gahgnani*.

By recent experiments it has been proved that cast iron lock gates on canals are superior to wood, or any other description of lock gates hitherto introduced in France and England.

**THE ASHES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.**—The Sardinian Government has, it is said, entered into a negotiation with Spain for the restitution of the ashes of Christopher Columbus. The mortal remains of this great man, after having been first deposited at Seville, were removed to St. Domingo, where they remained till 1795, when they were taken to the cathedral church of Havana, where they now are. As the King of Sardinia has no ambassador at Madrid, it was through the representative of the Two Sicilies that the application was made to the Spanish Government.

**DISTRESS IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS.**—Private letters give a very melancholy account of the destitution which prevails in several of the remote districts of the Highlands. In Long Island, numbers are represented as being in a state of actual starvation; Barra and South Uist are equally ill off; neither is Benbecula, North Uist, or Harris, in a good condition. Parties competent to form a good judgment in the matter have stated that several parts of the Highlands are worse off than Ireland.

**ANTI-RENT CONSPIRACY.**—It appears that a very dangerous anti-rent conspiracy has been entered into in some parts of the country by the tenants. On several properties not a farthing has been paid this year. In some cases they offer one-fourth of the rent, and demand a receipt for the whole, threatening, in event of refusal, to pay nothing at all.

No change in markets.

## PROSPECTUS TO SECOND VOLUME

OF THE

## MONTREAL WITNESS

## WEEKLY REVIEW &amp; FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The Second Volume will begin on the first Monday of January next, and be conducted substantially as heretofore, viz., in five departments.

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5. News.

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