

product, according to the census of 1815, is 22 bushels to the acre, (which would make the cost 51 cents, instead of 60, as he has it,) and yet the population of that town decreased 5 per cent, in 1810 to 1815; and the production of wheat in that town was only 109,000 bushels in 1815, against 106,000, in 1810. It is to be observed that the items buying land, fencing, and breaking up, are incident to western farming only the first year, when the product is 20 bushels, and will cover the expense. After that, the light-ploughing, harrowing, threshing, harvesting, carting, drawing, wear and tear, &c., will, at the outside, reach \$4.50 per acre—but we will say \$5.00—and 30 bushels will be raised, from which deduct 2 bushels for seed, and 18 bushels will cost 17 cents each. This is the case with western farming, although our correspondent may be nearly right as to New York wheat. Again, in relation to the cost of wheat on the river counties of Illinois, an intelligent farmer, of large experience, stated to a member of the American Institute,\* (in reply to a question as to the cost of producing a bushel of wheat in that region,) as follows:—

"To hire the land and all the culture, with every expense, it would not exceed, on an average, 30 cents per bushel."

Now, it will be supposed that these facts would produce results. Unfortunately for the State of New York, they have done so. Take the State census for 1840, and point off the eight largest wheat counties, and compare their product and population in 1810, with 1845, as follows:—

	WHEAT PRODUCED		POPULATION.	
	1810.	1815.	1810.	1845.
Cayuga.....	601,824	652,896	50,362	49,663
Genesee.....	911,596	1,025,218	59,605	57,294
Livingston.....	823,050	821,762	35,710	33,193
Monroe.....	1,074,320	1,338,585	44,718	45,634
Ontario.....	770,335	918,616	43,501	42,592
Orleans.....	680,302	692,127	25,015	25,845
Wayne.....	571,083	587,817	42,160	42,515
Yates.....	705,628	403,069	20,442	20,777
	6,137,838	6,441,090	321,538	317,613
Increase.....		303,252		
Decrease.....				3,935

The population for Monroe excludes the city of Rochester, and Genesee embraces Wyoming. Here is an actual decrease in the population of the great wheat-growing counties of New York. Let us now look at the large wheat-growing counties of Michigan:—

	WHEAT.		POPULATION.	
	1840.	1846.	1840.	1846.
Calhoun.....	176,630	10,599	15,749	
Cass.....	95,101	5,710	8,078	
Jackson.....	180,649	13,130	16,853	
Kalamazo.....	161,168	7,380	10,192	
Lenawee.....	167,891	17,889	23,011	
Oakland.....	264,965	23,646	30,238	
St. Joseph.....	131,451	7,068	10,097	
Washtenaw.....	216,597	23,571	26,979	
	1,394,452	109,183	141,247	
Increase.....			32,064	

There is no report of the wheat product of Michigan, with the census of 1845, but we may compare the exports of Detroit, St. Joseph's, and Monroe, as follows:—

	1841.		1846.	
	Flour.	Wheat.	Flour.	Wheat.
Detroit.....	180,000	51,000	464,092	114,397
Monroe.....	9,302	23,015	155,108	372,847
St. Joseph.....	68,600	90,612	129,333	235,645
Total.....	257,902	164,627	748,533	722,889

Now it is to be observed that the exports in bushels of wheat from those cities were 1,354,137 bushels, nearly equal to the product of the eight counties in 1811. If the exports in 1846 bear the same proportion to their products, the wheat crop of those counties must have increased 2,800,000 bushels, or 290 per cent, in the same time that the product of the New York counties has increased by 5 per cent, and the population decreased. These are the legitimate results of the figures we have pointed out in relation to the cost of wheat at the West. It will be observed that the argument of our correspondent, that low prices failed to call out wheat, holds true of New York; but the prices which did not remunerate the New York farmer, stimulated Western production in the manner we have seen, and New York farmers moved West to avail themselves of the difference. The Western ports nearly all show similar results. In 1841, Chicago exported, in flour and wheat, 935,000 bushels; and in 1846, 1,458,672 bushels. This large increase has been without internal means of communication, and mostly in seasons of low prices. Last June flour in New York was under \$4. Next spring the Illinois and Indiana canals will throw open vast tracts of land, capable of cultivation at the low figures we have named.

\* See New New York Farmer and Mechanic, Vol. IV., p. 138—1846.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The papers are more than usually barren this week, though they present one good indication in paying more attention to matters connected with the trade of the country. The Usury Laws, in particular, continue to attract attention, and last night a lecture on this subject was delivered before the members of the Mercantile Library Association, by the Hon. H. Sherwood.—Rumours have during the past week been circulated, and generally repeated through the newspapers, to the effect that the Governor General has renewed the attempt made by his predecessors to induce the French Canadians, or rather their leaders, to assist him in carrying on the Government, and that the attempt has not succeeded.—It is also rumoured and generally believed that Mr. Rolland has received the appointment of Chief Justice of the District of Montreal, vacant by the death of Mr. Valliers, and that the Puisne Judgeship left by this promotion has been given to Mr. Attorney General Smith.—A correspondent of the *Cobourg Star*, a gentleman of great experience in mercantile affairs, complains of the great want of good and commodious store houses in Kingston and Montreal, to contain the flour sent down from Canada West. He states from experience that thousands of barrels lie exposed for days at both these places, much to the injury of the owners, and to the character of the mills.—Upper country papers announce the death of Mr. Geo. Menzies, editor and proprietor of the *Woodstock Herald*, a clever political writer, and poet of no ordinary mind. Mr. Menzies was in the 51st year of his age.—On Saturday last, Mr. Richd. Evans, a respectable inhabitant of Rougemont, St. Cesaire, was drowned in crossing with a span of horses on the ice over the River Richelieu, on his way home from Chambly, where he had been transacting some business.—John E. Mills, Esq., has been re-elected Mayor of Montreal.—Captain Jones, and the Officers, non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Queen's Light Dragoons, have made the munificent donation of Fifty Pounds to the joint Irish and Scottish Relief Fund.—The Congress of the United States has placed at the disposal of Mr. Polk all the war supplies asked for, including three millions of dollars for Secret Service Money—really, it is well understood, to bribe the Mexican leaders. Armed with this, Mr. Benton has gone to the seat of war, as Diplomatic Agent, to negotiate or fight, as the case may require.—We have inserted in to-day's paper the Appendix to a pamphlet just sent forth by Mr. Young, of Halifax, on the subject of the proposed railroad between the former city and Quebec. This is a question to which public attention is being daily more and more turned, and we shall endeavour to make it a matter for consideration in our columns—viewing it rather as a national than as a commercial work.—We would direct attention to an advertisement inserted in another column, calling a public meeting for the erection of a House of Industry—an establishment which is much wanted in Montreal, both for the purposes of humanity and to protect the public from imposition.

THE MARKETS.

MONTREAL. Friday Evg., March 12.

Ashes are firm at 27s. 6d. for Pots, and 27s. 9d to 28s. for Pearls, Flour.—There have been several large transactions at 31s. 9d. for delivery in May, and 31s. 3d. in June. Provisions are dull at former quotations, with a slight downward tendency. Exchange.—Best private bills have been sold at 7 per cent, but that rate is not now obtainable.

AGENTS FOR THE CANADIAN ECONOMIST.

- UPPER CANADA.
- London, - - - Mr. Thomas Craig, Bookseller.
  - Woodstock, - - - Mr. James Laycock.
  - Brantford, - - - James Wilkes, Esq.
  - Hamilton, - - - Messrs. Ramsay & M'Kendrick.
  - Port Dover, - - - Mr. Alfred Buckwell.
  - Toronto, - - - Mr. James F. Westland.
  - Whitby, - - - Mr. Gavin Burns.
  - Darlington, - - - Mr. Josiah F. Marsh.
  - Port Hope, - - - David Smart, Esq.
  - Bellville, - - - John Ross, Esq.
  - Cobourg, - - - Mr. Lewis.
  - Kemptville, - - - Joseph Leeming, Esq.
  - Peterborough, - - - W. S. Conger, Esq.
  - Kingston, - - - Messrs. Ramsay, Armour, & Co.
  - Brockville, - - - Wm Mathie, Esq.
  - Prescott, - - - W. B. Wells, Esq.
  - Cornwall, - - - Mr. L. N. Putnam.
  - Martintown, - - - M. John R. Smith.
  - Williamstown, - - - Mr. John Wright.
- LOWER CANADA.
- St. Johns, - - - Messrs. Mott & Pattee.
  - Three Rivers, - - - Mr. Stubbs, Bookseller.
  - Quebec, - - - Mr. William Lane.