

have been abundantly repaid. Our informant, who visits Manchester weekly, spoke of the sensible difference in walking the streets of that town. From the above facts it appears that the evils of smoke extend not only to the inhabitants of the towns themselves but to those living at a distance of many miles all around, and the advantages of consuming the smoke are general to the whole district, special to the town, and greatest of all to the owners of steam engines, who find the practice to be a saving of money.—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE DECIMAL COINAGE.—The report of the select committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the practicability and advantages, or otherwise, that would arise from adopting the decimal system of coinage, has been laid before the House. The report commences by stating that the concurrent testimony of the various witnesses with regard to the inconveniences of the existing system was clear and decided, and equally strong in favor of the adoption of the decimal system upon numerous grounds; the report concluded by saying: "Your committee feel that a certain period of preparation destined to facilitate the transition from the present to the new system, is indispensable. During such a transition period, various measures should be adopted with a view to prepare the way for ulterior changes, and to create in the public mind a desire for their completion. Your committee believe that no unnecessary delay should prevent the full introduction of the decimal system, and they recommend that the necessary preparatory measures should be entered on at the Royal Mint as soon as possible."—*London Paper*.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—Munich has seventeen public libraries, in every one of which strangers unquestioned may enter, peruse, and depart in peace. Of these institutions, the most celebrated are lending-libraries. Statistics preach where Sermon does not lift its voice. These are its words: In London there are in round numbers 500,000 volumes accessible to the public, or about an average of twenty-two volumes to every 100 inhabitants. Dublin, with all its deficiencies, has 59. In Paris, the proportion is 160 volumes to every 100 inhabitants; in Berlin, 182; in Florence, 317; in Copenhagen, 467; in Dresden, 490; in Munich, 780. So that Paris is six times better provided than London; Berlin, seven times; Florence, thirteen times; Copenhagen, nineteen times; Dresden, twenty times; and Munich, thirty-one times.

THE CONGRESS LIBRARY.—The Congress Library was thrown open on the 24th ult. to the public for the first time since its restoration. But one opinion prevails as to the exceeding beauty and taste of the architecture of the hall, its superior adaptation to the purposes of a library, its convenience for reference, comprehensiveness, and simplicity of arrangements. There are three ranges of alcoves, one over the other for the reception of books, of which from twenty-five to thirty thousand volumes are already in place. Considerable additions have been made to the furniture of the hall, all of it made for the purpose and in harmony with the surroundings.

Mr. Meethan, the courteous Librarian was present on the occasion, and greeted with his well-known cordiality and *bonhomie* many of the former visitors of the hall. It will continue open, subject to the usual regulations, until some time in November, when it will be closed again till the commencement of Congress.

A VALUABLE TABLE.—The following Table, compiled from the calculations of J. M. Gornett, Esq., of Virginia, will be found exceedingly valuable to many of our mechanical readers:

A box, 24 in. by 16 in. square, and 22 in. deep, will contain a barrel, or 10,852 cubic inches.

A box 24 in. by 16 in. square, and 11 in. deep, will contain half a barrel or 5,426 cubic inches.

A box 16 in. by 16.8 in. square, and 8 in. deep, will contain 1 bushel, or 2,150.42 cubic inches.

A box 12 in. by 11.2 square, and 8 in. deep, will contain half a bushel, or 1,075 cubic inches.

A box 8 in. by 8.5 in. square, and 6 in. deep, will contain 1 peck, or 636.1 cubic inches.

A box 8 in. by 8 in. square, and 4.2 in. deep, will contain one-half peck, or 267.0 cubic inches.

A box 7 in. by 4 in. square, 4.8 in. deep, will contain half a gallon, or 131.4 cubic inches.

A box 4 in. by 4 in. square, and 4.2 in. deep, will contain 1 quart, or 67.5 cubic inches.—*Farmer's Library*.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON AND VOLTAIRE ON RAILWAY TRAVELLING.—Sir Isaac

Newton wrote a work upon the prophet Daniel, and another upon the book of Revelation, in one of which he said that in order to fulfil certain prophecies before a certain date was terminated, namely, 1260 years, there would be a mode of travelling of which the men of his time had no conception; nay, that the knowledge of mankind would be so increased that they would be able to travel at the rate of fifty miles an hour. Voltaire, who did not believe in the inspiration of the Scriptures, got hold of this and said: "Now look at that mighty mind of Newton, who discovered gravity, and told us such marvels for us all to admire. When he became an old man, and got into his dotage, he began to study that book called the Bible; and it seems, that in order to credit its fabulous nonsense, we must believe that the knowledge of mankind be so increased that we shall be able to travel at the rate of fifty miles an hour. The poor dotard!" exclaimed the philosophic infidel Voltaire, in the self-complacency of his pity. But who is the dotard now?—*Rev. J. Craig*.

ANECDOTE OF PITT.—Mr. Pitt was a remarkably shy man. He was on terms of the greatest intimacy with Lord Camden, and being at his house on a morning visit, "Pitt," said his lordship, "my children have heard so much about you that they are extremely anxious to have a glimpse at the great man. They are just now at dinner in the next room: you will oblige me by going in with me for a moment."

"Oh, pray don't ask me; what would I say to them?"

"Give them, at least, the pleasure of seeing you."

And half led, half pushed into the room, he approached the little group, looking from their father to them, from them to their father, twirling his hat, without finding a single sentence at his disposal. So much for the domestic eloquence of an orator.—*Selected*.

STATISTICS OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES.

UPPER CANADA—1852.

Counties.	Popula- tion.	Acres.	Valuation.	County Towns.
1. Glengarry	17596	288080	£511327	Alexandria (v).
2. Prescott	10487	305620	281420	L'Orignal.
3. Stormont	14643	250200	460852	Cornwall.
4. Russell	2570	242400	56520	
5. Dundas	13811	241200	395670	Morrisburg (v).
6. Carleton	31397	574520	1027270	Bytown.
7. Renfrew	9415	725000	161157	McNab (v).
8. Lanark	27317	755000	725181	Perth.
9. Grenville	20707	269280	493946	Prescott.
10. Leeds	30290	515400	886504	Brockville.
11. Frontenac	30735	858040	761570	Kingston.
12. Addington	15165	368700	680234	Bath (v).
13. Lennox	7955	108000	376597	Napanee (v).
14. Prince Edward	18887	213900	953566	Pictou.
15. Hastings	31977	847800	940942	Belleville.
16. Northumberland	31229	467500	1267453	Cobourg.
17. Peterborough	15237	643300	444614	Peterborough
18. Victoria	11657	478200	340628	Lindsay (v).
19. Durham	30732	306600	1287880	Port Hope.
20. Ontario	29571	503600	1551765	Whitby.
21. York	80724	558100	3013420	Toronto.
22. Simcoe	27165	1150000	906938	Barrie.
23. Peel	24816	293200	1436338	Brampton.
24. Halton	18322	232000	1094583	Milton.
25. Wentworth	42619	273000	1745212	Hamilton.
26. Lincoln	23868	195700	1321919	Niagara.
27. Welland	20141	228000	1116412	Merrittsville
28. Haldimand	18788	293524	884167	Cayuga.
29. Norfolk	21281	383200	976723	Simcoe.
30. Brant	25426	266004	1481357	Brantford.
31. Waterloo	26537	328483	1425967	Berlin.
32. Wellington	26796	791604	1110558	Guelpch.
33. Grey	13217	1485905	342723	Sydenham.
34. Bruce	2837	364764	36799	Penatangore (v).
35. Huron	19198	892769	650878	Goderich.
36. Perth	15545	446728	533606	Stratford.
37. Oxford	32638	457600	1606024	Woodstock.
38. Elgin	25418	450200	1000000	St. Thomas.
39. Middlesex	39899	696398	1255175	London.
40. Lambton	12040	699826	506942	Port Sarnia.
41. Kent	17469	557000	496579	Chatham.
42. Essex	16817	433300	549966	Sandwich.
	953239	20794325	37187222	

LOWER CANADA—1852.

1. Tadoussac	1865	Tadoussac.
2. Chicoutimi	7079	Chicoutimi.
3. Saguenay	13041	Baie St. Paul.
4. Montmorency	9598	Chateau Richer.
5. Quebec	60941	Quebec.
6. Portneuf	19051	Cap Sauté.
7. Champlain	13896	Batiscan.
8. St. Maurice	14147	Three Rivers
9. Maskinongé	13415	Maskinongé.
10. Berthier	16390	Berthier.
11. Joliette	18218	Joliette.
12. Montcalm	12824	St. Patrick.
13. L'Assomption	16866	L'Assomption
14. Montreal, Hochelaga Riding }	77381	Montreal
15. Montreal, Jacques Cartier Riding }		