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The Standard,

OR RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL RECORD.

E variis supendium est optimum.—Cic.

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LAW RESPECTING NEWS PAPERS

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Guide to the Newspapers.—For a breach of privilege, read speaking the plain fact—For crime, read the public food—For a standing case in Chancery, read Lock upon Human Understanding—For speedy Reform, read as it was, is now, and ever shall be—For heavy debate, read Much ado about Nothing—For all prizes and no blanks, read vice versa—The Atlas.

CANADA

The mail yesterday brought us Quebec papers to the 30th ult. The annexation movement has completely spent itself, and the loyal and truly liberal portion of the Country, which forms an immense majority, are now going to work. The anti-annexationists of Sherbrooke are getting up a requisition calling upon Mr. Galt, their member, to resign, for having betrayed his constituency, in advocating annexation—No doubt the independent men of Sherbrooke will soon reduce him to his proper level, and supply his place in the Assembly with a better representative.

The Montreal Pilot contradicts the assertion that Lord Elgin has addressed a letter to the Catholic Bishops of Canada on annexation or the Jesuits' estates; and says that, L'Anse-au-Loup was just romancing.

Major Campbell, Secretary to the Government, intends resigning the Office which he has held for the last three years.

The Season.—Winter has fairly set in.—On Tuesday night, at 10 o'clock, the ground was whitened with snow; on Wednesday it was clear and frosty; but in the afternoon there were two or three light snow showers; on Thursday morning at 9 o'clock the thermometer marked 20°, carriages were partially in use, far caps were put on—winter was acknowledged. Last night about 10, it was quite fresh and we feared a thaw; however it appears some more snow has fallen during the night, and the thermometer is a degree or two below the freezing point. The navigation between this port and Montreal may probably remain open until the 10th of next month—Quebec Morning Chronicle, Nov 30.

We regret to learn that the Indians, in taking possession of Mica Bay, killed two of the miners; but Mr. Bonner gives us no further particulars.

From the tenor of the telegraphic despatches we think it probable Mr. Bonner will remain at the Sault Ste. Marie till the troops arrive.

Great pains have been taken to excite the Indians against the Mining Companies, but it is well known that two or three desperate men, who act as their leaders, are the main cause of all the present trouble.—Id.

The Hamilton Spectator says:—If Brother Jonathan cannot annex the Province of Canada to his territory just now, he is in a fair way of annexing the British steamers which touch at his island port.—During the past week the Chief Justice, Emerald, and Lord were seized for an infraction of the revenue laws, and the Canada has for some months been in the possession of the United States authorities.

The Toronto Globe contains an account from the St. Catherine's Journal, of a lamentable accident, resulting in the death of Mr. George Ross, Merchant of St. Catherine's, a gentleman held in high esteem by a large circle of acquaintances. The deceased gentleman, and a Mr. Chisholm, on Monday afternoon, the 19th instant were driving a spirited animal into St. Catherine's, when the reins broke and the horse feeling no control, galloped off at full speed. Mr. Chisholm leaped out and escaped with trifling injury. Mr. Ross also leaped out, was thrown upon his head and was so severely injured that he only lived in a state of unconsciousness until the Wednesday morning after.

Mr. W. L. Mackenzie has issued an address to the "Resident Land owners of the County of York" detailing the events of his political life, and requesting some declaration of opinion respecting his constrained absence from the Colony—or rather, we should say, from Toronto.

CUSTOM HOUSE AFFAIRS.—Mr. Maxwell, the Collector, has served the storekeepers in the Custom House with notice that, from the first of next month, their salary will be reduced from \$1,000 to \$800. This reduction has created no small stir among them considering that they are compelled to subscribing for the Washington government papers out of the balance. This will not be a saving after all, for he is increasing the number of hands, giving situations to his friends, and additional watchmen are appointed and, altogether, the storekeepers complain of the new regime as despotic and harsh.—New York Herald.

Six monks died of cholera on board the steamboat Constitution, near St. Louis, on the 15th inst. They were from Waterford, Ireland, and bound for Dubuque.

The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia has appointed Thursday the 20th inst., to be observed as a day of general thanksgiving in that Province.

From Fraser's Magazine for November.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

The harvest may now be said to be over; and the yield proves in many places far short of expectation. Everywhere the growth of straw has been most luxuriant; but the ears of wheat prove to be less full, as the grains are, generally speaking, decidedly smaller than in ordinary seasons. As may be expected, the farmers are by no means in high spirits, nor have they any cause to be. Their only chance this year lay in the superabundance and general excellence of their crops; and now that the event has failed to realize these hopes, their prospects are gloomy enough. We do not remember ever to have seen in the London and provincial newspapers so many advertisements of farms to let, and of stock and farming implements to be sold. It is to no purpose, too, that the owners of the soil offer large abatements of rent. They are met by the straightforward answer, that rents are, in comparatively few instances, more exorbitant than they ought to be; and that could the tenants see their way in other directions they would not be deterred from entering upon the occupation of the land by a consideration of two or three shillings per acre, more or less, in the shape of rent. But the grain and stock markets are so flooded with foreign commodities, that the English agriculturist can find no profitable mart for his produce. Hence every man possessed of capital holds aloof, feeling that it is better to live upon such interest as his money, when funded, will fetch, than to embark it in a business which can no longer be carried on to advantage.

Meanwhile we are sorry to see that the names of persons at one time regarded as among the most respectable, if not the most wealthy, in the cotton spinning and weaving trades, are beginning to appear in the Gazette.

There is still a wide difference between the manufacturers and their operatives; the former seeking a move to reduce the men's wages, while the latter demand an increase, and enter into combination for the purpose of pressing it on. This has occurred to an alarming extent in various places, though for obvious reasons the local newspapers take little or no notice of it; and there is too much reason to fear that as the season advances the example will spread. As a necessary consequence upon all this—upon the passing of land out of cultivation, and the growing estrangement between employer and workman—the poor rates have begun to rise in the agricultural districts, and the union houses are filling fast. Fortunately the violence of the pestilence, which not long since threatened to decimate the land, has subsided. The cholera returns present a very different figure now from that which they did last month; and from other diseases the nation is wonderfully free.—Still diseases for the ensuing winter are not good; and the shadows which they cast over men's minds are apparent everywhere.

It is difficult to account, under such circumstances, for the improvement in the revenue, which official documents set forth. To be sure the amount of duties levied on the exports and imports of a country are by no means an unerring criterion of the social condition of the people. Manufacturers having extensive machinery on their hands, and, it may be, large surplus stocks, may sell at a loss, or without a profit, rather than come to a dead lock. And if they export, they will probably import something in exchange, for nations are not much given to disburse the precious metals when they have raw material or wares of any sort to barter. And so there may be great bustle at the outports, with flourishing returns from the functionaries employed to keep the accounts there, while in the interior there is embarrassment, lack of employment, and a steady decrease of wages. We offer no opinion as to the accordance of this sketch with the state of England at the present moment. But the fact is unhappily beyond dispute, that our agriculturists are universally in a state of depression, our manufacturers by no means at their ease, while the broad sheet of the national ledger exhibits such an array of figures as would appear to be incompatible with any other condition than that of extensive national prosperity.

It is clear that neither the Protectionists nor the supporters of the administration are unaware of these matters. While the latter, through the public press, strive to make light of the people's sufferings, and to account for matters which will not bear glossing over by a reference to the political state of the world; the former, with Mr. Disraeli at their head, have begun a course of agitation which bodes no good to the stability of whig rule, even should the Peel party throw their whole weight into the ministerial scale. The speech of the member for Bucks at the agricultural gathering near Chesham last month, has not, like his Aylesbury oration, perplexed his friends and cheered his enemies. He sets himself clear from what he affirms to have been the misrepresentation of the reporters, and now stands forth as the uncompromising advocate of a system of duties on all articles exported from abroad, and the establishment, out of the proceeds, of a sinking fund. The

Times has endeavoured to laugh the scheme down, and talks of letting posterity bear its share of burthens contracted for national purposes. But the Times does not, in this instance, carry the convictions of the people of England along with it. Mr. Disraeli may express himself too generally when he demands that duties should be levied on all articles imported from abroad. Let him modify his terms, and insist upon taxing all manufactured articles, all articles especially which we can ourselves produce, whether the great bosom of the earth be the crucible from which we draw them, or mills or manual skill mould them into shape, and his meaning will be more clear. And to this, no doubt, he will come. But his idea of a sinking fund is simply the application to public affairs of a principle on which every honest man desires to regulate his private affairs. If individuals endeavour to save out of an income to pay a just debt, why should not the nation do the same? And why should Mr. Disraeli be derided for proposing to do that which Mr. Pitt did ill, and for proposing which that great minister was greeted at the moment with the applause of the nation? Had Mr. Pitt's sinking fund been better worked, had it been the duty of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to pay off, every year—say five millions—instead of entrusting the management of the accumulations to a staff of paid commissioners and their clerks; and had the system been persevered in—fresh wars and war expenses notwithstanding—the national debt would have been at this day a much less serious affair than it is. And if the plan be again warmly taken up, the people will derive an immediate benefit to the extent of the interest of five millions annually, while at the end of twenty years there will be just one hundred millions less of principal on which interest will require to be paid.

Mr. Disraeli's may be a startling, but it is by no means an unstatesmanlike proposition. It undertakes to deal with the future as well as with the present. It is no make-shift, no device whereby this year, and perhaps the next, may be tied over. We shall see, when Parliament meets, how the party is disposed to deal with it; and long before the meeting of Parliament, how far it obtains favour in the sight of the people.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Count Caroly, and four other Hungarian state prisoners, have been removed to the fortress of Theresienstadt in Bohemia.

In consequence of the intercession of the Papal Nuncio with the Government in favour of the Hungarian bishop Rudnansky, who had been condemned to several years of imprisonment in a fortress, and who in the meantime had been quartered in a Franciscan convent, the Emperor has granted the bishop a free pardon.

The widow of Louis Batthyany passed through Vienna lately, on her way to Switzerland, from which country she embarks in the spring for America.

The Hungarian hussars (150 in number), who fled to England, and were sent thence to Turkey, were not permitted to land at Constantinople. As they had not got military passes, and were in uniform, they were looked upon as deserters.

One of the officers of the Comora garrison has been lately executed at Schemnitz, in direct violation of the terms of General Klapka's capitulation.

Sixteen hundred and nineteen sentences in all have been pronounced by the courts-martial sitting in Vienna.

Twelve men, charged with putting to death some Croatian prisoners at Guns, in the early part of the war, have been given over to the hangman.

Schuska's new work, entitled "German Journeys," has been forbidden in all places within the state of siege.

The change of ministry in France has caused great sensation in Vienna. The calculation of reliance on French aid had all been swept away by the circumstance, and Austria would more than ever be thrown into the hands of Russia.

The Emperor had given his sanction to the report of the Minister of Justice concerning preliminary measures for the establishment of a universal maritime and commercial customs union for Austria and Germany. For this end the Minister proposes a congress of all those German states whose maritime interests make it important for them to attend the conferences on the subject. This is the first step towards an Austro-German Customs Union.

The Wiener Zeitung contains an ordinance of the Minister of Justice, Schmerlin, completely reorganising the judicial system of Hungary, which is assimilated to that already promulgated for the other dominions of the crown. One of the main features of this plan is to place the nomination of the judges, who were heretofore elected for a term by the counties and towns, in the hands of the crown, by whom they are to be appointed for life.

WANT OF RECIPROCITY WITH FRANCE.—The arrivals of Belgian coal into France by canal are becoming so extensive as almost to

drive the English article from the market.—An English captain arrived at Boulogne on Tuesday, the 6th instant, from Calais, to endeavour to dispose of his coals, and stated that not less than twelve large craft, each averaging from 200 to 300 tons, were then lying, laden with Belgian coal, in the basin; and the import and municipal duties being much less on Belgian than on English coal, the latter was becoming almost unsaleable.

POETRY.

A NAME IN THE SAND.

Alone I walked the ocean strand,
A pebbly shell was in my hand,
I stooped and wrote upon the sand
My name, the year, the day.
On onward from the spot I passed,
One lingering look I fondly cast,
A wave came rolling high and fast
And washed my lines away.

"And so, methought, 'twill shortly be
With every mark on earth from me!"
A wave from dark oblivion's sea
Will sweep across the place
Where I have trod the sandy shore
Of time; and been to be no more;
Of me—my day—the name I bore,
To leave no track or trace.

And yet with him who counts the sands,
And holds the waters in his hands,
I know a lasting record stands
Inscribed against my name;
Of all this mortal part has wrought—
Of all this thinking soul has thought,
And from these fleeting moments caught
For glory or for shame.

HAYDO.—Some particulars which I have heard regarding the parentage of this fiend are such as to account in some measure for the disposition he has exhibited. He is between 60 and 70 years, and is a natural son of an elector of Hesse-Cassel, whose name is held in infamous recollection throughout Germany, not only for several vices, but for the fact of his having shipped off his subjects in consideration of subsidies from England, to serve in our American war. He was afterwards obliged to fly from his territory, during the French invasion, and the circumstance of his depositing his ill-gotten treasure with the grandfather of the present Rothschilds, was the foundation of the fortune of that family. [Correspondence Boston Commercial Advertiser.]

A BULL FIGHT.—On Tuesday afternoon, a fine Bull, belonging to the Alma House Farm in Ipswich, being upon the Railroad track in Rowley, as a train was approaching, became furious and rampant, and showed evident symptoms of giving fight. He stood eying the locomotive as it approached, and assumed the most scientific fighting attitude, until the train came within striking distance, when he made a dash at the iron horse with all his might, and was, of course, instantly demolished. Steam and iron was a little tougher than bull, beef, and the heroic pluck of Sir John could not save him.

THE TURN OF LIFE.—From forty to 60, a man who has properly regulated himself may be considered as in prime of life. His matured strength of constitution renders him almost impervious to the attacks of disease, and experience has given him judgment the soundness of almost infallibility. His mind is resolute, firm and equal; all his functions are in the highest order. He assumes the mastery over business; builds up a competency on the foundation he has laid in early manhood, and passes through a period of life attended by many gratifications. Having gone a year or two past sixty, he arrives at a critical period in the road of existence; the river of Death flows before him, and he remains at a stand still. But onward this river is a viaduct called the "Turn of Life," which if crossed in safety, leads to the valley of "Old Age," round which the river winds, and then flows beyond without boat or causeway to effect a passage. The bridge is however constructed of fragile materials, and it depends upon how it is trodden, whether it bends or whether it breaks. Gout, apoplexy, and other bad characters are in the vicinity to waylay the traveler, to thrust him from the pass; but let him gird up his loins, and provide himself with fitting staff, and the way will be in safety, with perfect composure. To quit metaphor, "The Turn of Life," is a turn either into a prolonged walk or into the grave. The system and powers having reached their utmost expansion; now begin either to close like flowers at sunset, or break down at once. One injudicious stimulant—a single fatal excitement, may force it beyond its strength; whilst a careful supply of props, and the withdrawal of all that tend to force a plant, will sustain it in beauty and in vigor until its night has entirely set.

The German Catholic Church, which, under the lead of Ronge, made such a sensation a few years ago, and excited so much inter-

est in the United States is on the decline, and especially in South Germany. The Bavarian papers have noticed recently the dissolution of several congregations of that sect. The distinguishing doctrine of the sect is the rejection of the supremacy of the Pope.

Singular laws and Customs relative to Mechanics in Germany.

The different crafts in Germany are incorporated by law, governed by usages of great antiquity, with a fund to defray the corporate expenses; and in each considerable town a house of entertainment is selected as the house-of-call, or "harbor," as it is styled, of each particular craft. Thus you see in the German town a number of taverns indicated by their signs, "Mason's Harbor," &c. No one is allowed to set up as a master workman in any trade unless he is admitted as a freeman or member of the craft, and such is the stationary condition of most parts of Germany, that no person is admitted as a master workman in any trade, except to supply the place of some one deceased or retired from business. When such a vacancy occurs all those desirous of being permitted to fill it present to a piece of work executed as well as they are able to do it, which is called their master-piece, being offered to obtain the place of a master-workman.

As soon as the years of his apprenticeship have expired, the young mechanic is obliged in the purchase of his own country to wander, for three years. For this purpose he is furnished, by the master of his craft in which he has served his apprenticeship, with a duly authenticated wandering book with which he goes to seek employment. In what ever city he arrives, on presenting himself, with his credentials, at the house-of-call or harbor of craft in which he has served his time, he is allowed, gratis, a day's food and a night's lodging. If he wishes to get employment in that place, he is assisted in procuring it. If he does not wish it, or fails in the attempt, he must pursue his wandering; and this lasts three years before he can anywhere be admitted as a master.

The cause of the splintering and disruption of trees when struck by lightning, is the sudden expansion of the sap that is converted into vapour by the electricity.

M. Lovini, of Turin, states, that by placing colored glass between the eye and the eyepiece of a telescope the effect of a fog in obscuring objects is very much diminished.

ECENTRIC TRAVELLER.—A gentleman named Randall, a solicitor in Southampton, was in the habit of taking a tour every year, which occupied him between two and three months. He would leave Southampton suddenly, scarcely acquainting his confidential clerks that he was going, and no one would know anything about him until his clerks would receive a letter from him, dated, perhaps from St. Petersburg or Vienna.

About two months since he left Southampton suddenly and secretly, according to his usual practice, and no one knew of his whereabouts until his clerks received a letter about a fortnight since from him from Canada, since which, information has been received that Mr. Randall was taken ill of cholera, died, and was buried in twelve hours after in America.

TARTAR WOMEN.—Some of the Tartar women wear long snow-white veils, which conceal not only the face, but the whole of the head, and upper part of the body; and, as if veils were insufficient to protect them from observation, they no sooner behold a man than they hang their heads, and endeavor to escape notice by flight.

An English servant observing this practice, deemed it to be an act of rudeness on his part to give them the trouble of hiding their faces and of running away on his account; therefore, whenever he encountered them, he covered his face and took to his heels, in order to hide himself in the first place he could find. This past unnoticed for some time; at length the Tartar women, struck with the singularity of seeing a man always avoiding them, let fall a portion of their veils when they next met him; but this only caused him to run faster than before. Such conduct excited their curiosity more than ever, and at last they fairly hunted him: after following him in parties to his hiding place with their veils off, they resolved to see a man, who, for the first time concealed his face at the approach of a woman; and, having caught him, they actually demanded an explanation of his unaccountable behaviour.

Familiar Errors.—"Nothing is more common than to hear people who have been in a heavy shower of rain, remark, 'I was wet through,' although such a thing is morally impossible!—Also, (in allusion to a tough cough), 'What a bad cold I've got!' when it would puzzle them or any body else, to know what a good one it is! Again, in describing serious alarm, 'Oh! I was frightened to death,' whilst the party thus exclaiming, is