

lows: "We feel highly gratified to witness its appearance; and with some changes, which a more careful consideration will doubtless suggest, it may be rendered a model law, worthy of the imitation of every nation of Christendom."

The principal features were the establishment of a Patent Bureau with a Commissioner permanently at its head, and a Patent Board, to be composed of the President of Council, the Commissioner of Patents, and the Attorneys General and Solicitors General of Upper and Lower Canada, a "Register of Patents" and a "Register of Proprietors." It provided for a reference to experts, to be named by the Boards of Arts and Manufactures, in case of difficulty with the Commissioner, and gave the experts power to summon witnesses as in civil suits. It proposes to do away with the illiberal and obnoxious limitation of the grant to resident Canadians, and obliged non-residents to manufacture in reasonable quantities in the province, prohibiting the importation of articles patented here. It provided for provisional protection, by which the inventor, before applying for his patent is allowed six months to work out his invention without fear of piracy. It also provided for temporary protection, thus enabling the patentee to look about before incurring the full fees which, in the case of a poor inventor, is a very desirable provision. It also provided for the repealing of patents improperly obtained. It provided for the manner of conducting suits for infringement, and authorized the judges to issue injunctions to prohibit the manufacture of the article by either party during the progress of the suit; and also provided for the Registration of Trade Marks and Designs.

The Bill now before the Legislative Assembly is based upon that we have just noticed but is considerably shorter. It provides for a Patent office and a Patent Commissioner, which office shall be attached to the Bureau of Agriculture; and, unless otherwise provided, the Minister of Agriculture shall be the Commissioner of Patents. The whole work of the office devolves on the Commissioner without making any provision for a reference to the Law officers of the Crown. It omits the provisions respecting provisional and temporal protection, as also those respecting the repeal of Letters Patent, and the conduct of suits for infringe-

ment. It grants patents without respect to the nationality of the Inventor, and thereby opens the way to the honest Inventor and to the introduction of foreign capital into this country. Its provisions are vastly superior to those now in force and are highly creditable to the government under whose auspices it is introduced. We trust for the sake of our country's name that it will, whether adapted to meet the wishes of the Boards of Arts and Manufactures or not, become law and take the place of the narrow-minded, illiberal and unjust law which now cumber our statute book; and we are sure all our readers will join us heartily in giving due credit to the Macdonald-Scotte administration for their patriotism and devotion in this matter; the result of which will be that the whole American market will be thrown open to Canadian inventors, instead of being closed to them as it now is by the enormous discriminating fee of \$500.00 imposed upon Canadians applying for patents in the United States.

The lateness of the hour prevents our adding more on this subject in the present issue, but in our next number we will refer to the provisions of this bill, and point out its superiority to the Act now in force at length.

#### MENDING WATER PIPES.

Many of your readers have doubtless had more or less trouble at some period of their lives in repairing water pipes, where the water could not be shut off, conveniently, at the fountain head or some intermediate point. In going to my office a few days since, my way led past a place where a man was repairing a lead pipe which had been cut off, accidentally, in making an excavation. There was a pressure of water of more than fifty feet head. His plan seemed to me to be novel and ingenious. The two ends of the pipe were plugged, and then a small pile of broken ice and salt was placed around them; in five minutes the water in the pipe was frozen, the plugs removed, a short piece of pipe inserted and perfectly soldered, and in five minutes more the ice in the pipe was thawed and the water flowing freely through it. It seemed to me that so simple a method of doing a somewhat difficult piece of work should be more generally known, and I know of no way of reaching the mechanics of the country so readily as through your columns.

## COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

CONTENTS:—Prices current of home and foreign markets.

Potash, per cwt., .....	\$6.70 to 6.75	Wheat, U.C. White, per 60 lbs.,	\$0.92 to 0.94
Pearlash, " .....	6.25 to 6.30	" U.C. Red, " .....	0.92 to 0.97
Flour, Fine, per 196 lbs. ....	3.75 to 4.00	Peas, per 66 lbs., .....	0.65 to 0.68
No. 2 Superfine, .....	4.30 to 4.40	Indian Corn, per 56 lbs., .....	0.45 to 0.47
No. 1 " .....	4.55 to 4.60	Barley, per 50 lbs., .....	0.95 to 1.00
Fancy " .....	4.70 to 4.75	Oats, per 40 lbs., .....	0.41 to 0.42
Extra " .....	4.95 to 5.00	Butter, per lb., .....	0.15 to 0.16
S. Extra Superfine .....	5.20 to 5.30	Cheese, per lb., .....	0.07 to 0.08

The Produce Market has been very dull through the week. The depressed state of the British Markets, affecting prices here to such an extent, that buyers hold aloof. Butter is almost unsaleable. For Pork there is scarcely any demand.

The insurrection in Poland is looked at with the prospect of a rise in the price of breadstuffs more especially with the probability of an European war, resulting from the present difficulties.