NEWS ITEMS.

London consumes 5,000 tons of potatoes per week.

In Kentucky there are 60,000 men who are unable to read, and out of a total of 76 counties only 34 support their schools.

"The leisure squad" is what the Norwich *Bulletin* calls those fellows whose occupation is seeing what is going on on the street.

During the last ten years 21,000 persons in the United States have died from yellow fever. Of this number 14,000 in 1878.

Truth calls attention to the curious fact that Napoleon I., Napoleon III, and the Prince Imperial in succession wrote and left their wills on British soil.

Miss Martha A. Head, the bride at a wedding in Wayne County, Ga., was only ten years old. Her parents were present at the ceremony and gave it their full approval.

M. Gounod has sold the score of his new opera, "Tribut de Zamora," for $20,000. It is to be brought out at the Grand Opera in Paris at the commencement of the next season.

Europe has, for a total population of 203,000,000, schools to the number of 370,000 and 24,400,000 pupils, or an average of eight for each hundred inhabitants, and spends $97,200,000 for public instruction, or an average of something over $3 a pupil.

"But you know, pa," said the farmer's daughter, when he spoke to her about the addresses of his neighbor's son, "you know, pa, that ma wants me to marry a man of culture." "So do I, my dear, so do I; and there's no better culture in the country than agriculture."

Mr. Bass, the member for Derby, England, in the course of a speech, stated that he found that his brewery firm employed during the season 2,336 men and 221 boys, at a weekly rate of wage of not quite £3,000, and that the annual payments for wages and salaries, &c., amounted to £172,648.

The long meditated increase of the German army will not be further delayed now that the Government is by the new tariff provided with a larger revenue. There will be an increase of upwards of thirty-seven thousand men, which will involve an extra outlay of nearly a million and a half per annum.

Salmon in the Scottish rivers are suffering from a pestilence. It begins as a skin disease, and soon a white mold eats into the head of the fish, which rubs itself to pieces, in its agony against gravel and rocks. Mr. Frank Buckland, the naturalist and connoisseur in salmon, thinks that the plague is the result of overstocking, just as in old times overcrowding caused typhus in jails and workshops.

The French Government wrote to Lord Salisbury to say that they did not object to the Prince of Wales attending the funeral, nor did they take exception to the Queen showing her sympathy by her presence at Camden on Saturday; but that there was one thing against which they must make an official protest, and that was against the Lord Mayor of London taking part in the proceedings. This astounding communication was really received at the Foreign Office.

One of the largest blocks of granite ever cut in the United States has recently been taken from the quarry at Vinal Haven. It is 59 feet long, 6½ feet square at the base, and 3½ feet square at the top. It weighs from 75 to 100 tons. It cost $1,700 to quarry it and move it to the shed where it is to be finished. It is to foot the shaft of the monument to General Wool, to be erected at Troy, N. Y. The shaft, with the base stones, will form a structure of about 75 feet high.

The streets of London, England, have been recently placarded with an advertisement stating that "the art of begging is exhaustively taught in six lessons by Prof. Lazarus Rooney, who begs to inform the public that he has founded a college for theoretical and practical instruction in mendicancy." Among other practical appliances for the profession the Professor announces that he keeps on hand artificial wounds and sores, assorted braces of twins, trained dogs for blind men, crutches for cripples, and surgical bandages for wounded impostors. Information is afforded respecting the most lucrative streets and neighborhoods.

The promoters of the National Policy are indeed floundering among the breakers of self-impcsed difficulties. Innumerable ports of entry are jealously guarded by untold legions of officials, who, far from being burdened with an excess of sagacity to guide them in their impossible tasks of discrimination, are, as a rule, below the ordinary standard of salaried intelligence. They are the blind led by the blind, and not unnaturally they are continually falling into the ditch. If essential oils pay 20 per cent. and essences $1.90 per gallon and 20 per cent., how can the Custom House enact an equitable and uniform rate of duty, and guarantee a just classification at every port of entry?

Twelve thousand machines are now engaged in Southern Russia in the task of exterminating the corn beetle. Large sums have been voted by the authorities of the Provinces towards the expenses involved in hiring thousands of hands to destroy this pest; but its ravages are reported to be on the increase, notwithstanding all the efforts exerted by the Government and the people. A new visitor, moreover, arrived in the neighborhood of Odessa, in the shape of the Hessian fly. The wheat crops in the district where it has appeared present the aspect of having been subjected to a devasting hailstorm. This destructive insect was never previously known to cross the Russian frontier.

In an autobiographic speech not long since Mr. Spurgeon gave some interesting facts about his life. Among others, he said he well remembered a little old woman, poorly dressed, coming into the vestry some years ago at a time of great straits, which not a soul in the world knew, not even a deacon of the church; and she said to him, in the most strange way: "Thus saith the Lord, behold I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee." She put down £50 on the table, vanished, and he had never seen her since. He never knew her name even, and never should, perhaps, until the Day of Judgment. He supposes she would be in heaven; it was some years ago, and she was very old then. Things had happened so, and his impression was that they would occur again.

Captain Lord Charles Scott, son of the Duke of Buccleuch, has put into commission the Bacchante, corvette, at Portsmouth, and the vessel will shortly proceed on a long voyage, for the purpose of affording the Prince of Wales', the Royal Navy cadets, an opportunity to become acquainted with practical seamanship. It has been decided that the Bacchante shall carry two captains, the duties of one of whom will be to act as the cadets' instructor. After leaving the Britannia the Royal youths will be allowed a holiday, and will not probably go on board the Bacchante before the beginning of September. They will almost circumnavigate the globe, and although the precise route has not yet been determined, it is understood the vessel will call at the West Indies and Halifax. The ship's complement will consist of 385 men.

Says the Chicago *Tribune*:—Canada people are gowing very uneasy over the declared intention of the United States to terminate the Fishery Award. They say we have paid for the privileges granted by the treaty for five years, and are bound to take what we have paid for. But the United States say:—"No; you Canadians have played a sharp trick and overeached us; you got the arbitration on your own grounds, had a majority of your own men appointed, and put the whole thing in soak. You thought you had done a very smart thing in playing a little confidence game on Uncle Sam. Now, we intend to show you that fraud does not pay in the long run. We have paid the award, though it was unjust. We now renounce all our alleged privileges under it, and will stop the free importation of your fish into the United States at once. In no other way can we demonstrate forcibly that our arguments before the Halifax Commission were sincere, and that we still believe Canada gained more by the reciprocity clause of the Treaty of Washington than the United States did. We intend to get that $5,500,000 back out of your hide before we resume friendly relations with the Dominion of Canada."

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, and HER ROYAL HIGHNESS the PRINCESS LOUISE will hold a

DRAWING ROOM

at **Government House**, Fredericton, on **MONDAY, the 11th instant**, at 9 o'clock, P. M.

FULL DRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen who propose to attend, are requested to bring with them two cards **each with their names legibly written thereon**, one to be left at the door of the Presence Chamber, the other to be handed to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting.

By command,

F. DEWINTON,
Major, R. A.,
Governor-General's Secretary.

Fredericton, August 9, 1879.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 9, 1879.

Vice-Regal Reception.

Gentlemen from Fredericton who were in St. John on Wednesday, on their return, gave glowing accounts of the grand, loyal, cordial reception accorded the Governor General and H. R. H. Princess Louise. We gather as much and more from the St. John papers, which are full of the minutest details of all incidents of the arrival and reception of the vice-regal party and incidents connected therewith, but all prefer the testimony of independent visitors to the report of professional eye witnesses. The citizens of St. John have done themselves infinite credit by the mode and manner with which they welcomed the vice-regal party. Slow to take fire they fairly burn with enthusiasm when once they are touched with the sacred flame, and not the dampest and chilliest of their fogs can sensibly diminish their ardour. If the citizens of Fredericton follow in the steps of the St. John people, and do as well as they in proportion to their means and opportunities, they will do as much as the most exacting could require.

The reception of the vice-regal party from the time they first met with the people of the Province was happy in all its incidents, save the weather. The vice-regal train arrived in Moncton at a quarter past eight, amidst a down pour of rain, and His Excellency and Her Royal Highness were received by the Lieut. Governor and the members of the Executive, and a concourse of people no longer sustain, will come down with a crash. No failures of great magnitude has taken place, bnt there have been so many and under such a variety of circumstances, and so many rumors of private liquidations, that disquiet has been generated, suspicion has been aroused, facilities have been limited and business activity restricted.

The protective policy adopted by Germany has also had a disastrous influence in checking the improvement of trade. In May, there was great activity in the trade in iron and steel goods, and great quantities were imported from England to avoid the increase of duty, but that activity has fallen off since the tariff has come into operation. Bismark's protective policy also has disquieted the continent, it cuts off—says the *Saturday Review* numbered at 2000. There a very loyal address from "the Acadians" was presented to the Governor General by Mr. Girouard, M. P., to which His Excellency made a very gratifying and pleasant reply. The vice-regal stopped at Sussex, where the address of the Municipality of the County of Kings was presented, and at Hampton, where Geo. Otty, Esq., welcomed the Marquis of Lorne to the shire town of King's County, and Misses Wedderburn and Otty presented the Princess with a beautiful bouquet.

Five minutes after twelve, to the booming of cannon, the Vice-regal train entered the station at St. John. Every coign of vantage, hillside and housetop, window and doorstep, every point where a view could be possibly obtained, was crammed with eager and loyal spectators. Outside the station house the 62nd regiment and King's County cavalry were drawn up, and inside a fair assemblage was gathered. On the western side of the dais were ranged, the Mayor and Warden, and the members of the City, County and Portland Municipalities, and a number of officials. The Governor General and Princess, on entering the station house took their position, standing on the dais. The City and County addresses were then presented.

The reply of His Excellency to the city address of welcome was lengthy and interesting; it showed knowledge of the history of the past and present, and was justly complimentary to the energy of the citizens, "which no depression in trade can master, and which even the roar of fire has only been able temporarily to effect." The county address happily noticed the fact that "this auspicious day was also anniversary of his Excellency's birth."

Nothing could exceed the enthusiasm, as the cortege, in marshalled order, the Governor-General and Princess in open barouche in the centre, proceeded along Paradise Row, through Dock and Mill streets to Market Square, up King street and along Charlotte street, down Jeffry's Hill, and from thence to Reed's Castle. Towards evening, the weather fortunately cleared up, and the splendid illumination and gorgeous torchlight procession showed to fine effect. But for full and true descriptions of the Vice-Regal reception in St. John, and all the subsequent incidents see the daily papers. What we here are most concerned to enow is, how will the citizens of Fredericton acquit themselves. We are bold to say that in cordiality, enthusiasm, and heart felt desire to do honor to the young talented, and cultured nobleman, scion of the lofty House of Argyll—the Governor-General of the Dominion—and to the beautiful, amiable and accomplished Princess daughter of our beloved Queen—his wife—our citizens will successfully vie with those of the commercial capital. Our preparations are, necessarily, not so extensive, or so elaborate as those made there, but in a city like Fredericton, whose surroundings are green woods, and whose chief beauty is its beautiful trees and gardens, it would be like adding a perfume to the violet, or anything similarly extravagant, to erect profuse green and floral arches, and spruce bough embellishments.

We heartily bid our distinguished visitors welcome to the capital of the province.

THE INTERNATIONAL MATCH.—The Canadian team for the international cricket match, to be held at Ottawa on the 19th and 20th inst., has been selected as follows:—From Hamilton, Messrs. R. Ferrie, H. C. Simmonds and B. W. Waud; from Orillia, Mr. W. Armstrong; from Whitby, Mr. Ray; from Ottawa, Rev. T. D. Phillips; from Montreal, Messrs. J. C. Badgely and E. H. Gough; from Halifax, Mr. E. Kearney; from Toronto Mr. K. Ogden. The eleventh man will be from Ottawa, which will also be relied on to supply any vacancy that may arise from the inability of any of the above to accept the invitation extended to them.

Programme of Vice-Regal Reception.

His Worship the Mayor has published the order of the proceedings on the reception, and during the stay of His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise in the city, for the information of the citizens, and in order as much as possible to avoid all confusion and disappointment. The following is the official programme:—

Business will be suspended at noon, and the afternoon will be observed as a General Holiday.

The Steamer *David Weston*, with the Vice-Regal Party on board, will leave St. John at 10.15 o'clock in the forenoon, and is expected to arrive at the wharf in Fredericton about 3 o'clock p. m.

The Steamers *Florenceville* and *Soulanges* will leave their respective wharves at Phœnix Square and Regent Street, at 2 o'clock, with Ladies and Children, and proceed down River, accompanied by a Band of Music, to meet the *David Weston* and escort her to the landing.

An efficient Committee will be in charge of each Steamer, and Ladies and Children are invited to attend. The Steamers will leave their wharves promptly at the hour named.

As the Steamer bearing His Excellency and Her Royal Highness approaches the City, a Royal salute of twenty-one guns will be fired from Waterloo Row, and two Highland Pipers will play "The Campbells are Coming," on the wharf.

The Vice-Regal Party will be received at the wharf by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, the Members of the Executive Council and the Mayor.

After the salute by the Military Guard of Honor, a procession of Carriages will be formed under Harry Beckwith, Esq., acting Marshal.

ORDER FOR PROCESSION.

Marshal and Aids

Mayor, City Council, and Civic Officers.

Mounted Escort.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS LOUISE.

Deputy Adjt. General and Aids.

Lieutenant Governor and Members of the Executive Council.

The Lord Bishop.

Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme and County Courts.

Senators and Members of House of Commons

Members of Provincial Legislature.

High Sheriff, Warden, Coroners, Officers and Members of the Municipality of York.

President of the University and Chief Superintendent of Education.

Professors of the University.

The Procession will move through the entire length of Queen Street and proceed directly to Government House.

Ladies and children are requested to appear at windows on the route.

In the evening there will be a general Illumination of the City, with a display of Fireworks from 8.30 to 10 o'clock.

SUNDAY, 10th August.

His Excellency the Governor General desires to avoid all public display, and that the movements of the Vice-Regal party may be strictly private on Sunday.

No intimation of intention to attend Public Worship has been given.

MONDAY, 11th August.

At 11 o'clock A. M., the Exhibition Building will be open for the admission of the public, and a Band will by the side doors be in attendance.

Ladies and children, and gentlemen accompanying ladies will be seated in the gallery. A committee will be in charge.

At 12 o'clock, the Vice-Regal party will arrive at the Building, where it will be received by a Guard of Honor from the 71st. Batt., and, on their entering the Building, a choir of children will sing a verse of the National Anthem.

His Excellency the Governor General and Her Royal Highness being seated on the Dais, a bugle will sound for silence, and immediately the addresses of the City Corporation and Municipality of York will be presented to His Excellency; which being answered, and the Mayor and Aldermen of the city, and the Warden and Councillors of the County presented to His Excellency; a second verse of the National Anthem will be sung, and the Vice-Regal party will retire. During the ceremony a boquet will be presented to Her Royal Highness by three little girls.

In the evening there will be a torchlight procession, starting from the City Hall at 8.30, proceeding directly to Government House by Queen street, thence down Brunswick street to York street, through York street to Queen, down Queen to Church, through Church to Brunswick, up Brunswick to Regent, through Regent to King, up King to Steam Fire Engine House, where it will disperse.

There will be a Drawing Room at Government House in the evening at 9 o'clock.

The Vice-Regal party will leave the city on Tuesday morning.

Fire Department.

The Fire Department of the City of Fredericton will assemble at their respective Engine Rooms, in white shirts and black pants, on Monday evening, 11th inst., at 7.30 o'clock, for the purpose of taking part in the Torch Light Procession.

ANDREW LIPSETT,
Chief Engineer.

CITY COUNCIL.—On Tuesday evening last the regular monthly meeting of the City Council was held in the Council chamber, and important business was transacted. The proposal of the Gas Company to light the streets at the rate of $27 for each lamp, per year, excepting the five nights at full moon as heretofore, breakages and repairs to be borne by the city, and the arrangement to continue until the 1st November, 1879, and from that date to the 1st of November 1880, was accepted by resolutions moved and seconded by Aldermen Babbitt and Smith. A further grant of $400, was on motion of Alderman Beek, passed to the Alms House committee. Relief was granted on petition, from the poll tax, to a number of old and indigent persons.

The day for payment of taxes under discount was, on motion of Ald. Beek, extended to the 1st of September.

A resolution moved by Ald. Moore, was carried, that the city horses be exercised from time to time on the steam fire engines, so often as the fire committee consider advisable, the time of such exercises to be arranged between the chairmen of the respective committees.

The Police Magistrate was authorised to employ ten special policemen for duty on Saturday and Monday next.

A resolution was moved by Ald. I. W. Simmons, looking towards exempting the property and income of joint stock companies or individuals hereafter establishing manufacturing or industrial enterprises within the city, of a character not at present in existence, from taxation, for a period of ten years from the commencement of operations. In amendment the subject matter of the resolution was referred to a special committee, composed of Aldermen I. W. Simmons, Beek, Burchill.

Debentures bearing date 1st September, 1879, amounting to $2,000, and payable in sixteen years, were ordered to be issued, to take up debentures of a similar amount falling due on the same date.

In the matter of city printing it was decided that a committee be appointed to call for tenders as they may seem advisable, and report to the Council, the said committee to be Aldermen G. Simmons Burchill and Babbitt.

The road committee were authorised to procure a temporary street sprinkler. The Mayor was authorised to appoint a Marshall to arrange the vice-regal procession from the place of landing to Government House. (Mr. J. H. Reid was appointed but we are informed has declined the honor).

His Worship read a communication from the Governor General's Private Secretary, stating that the Corporation Address will be received at 11 o'clock on Monday, in the Exhibition Building.

The Mayor and Aldermen Beek and Babbitt were appointed a committee to prepare the address which is to be illuminated, signed by the City Clerk and sealed.

Effects of the New Tariff.

The new tariff has not in this Province, it will be acknowledged, made itself felt in the way of restoring confidence, reviving enterprise, and improving business. It is exceedingly doubtful if it will answer the real end for which it was imposed, and increase the revenue. The Government will, in all likelihood, fail to realize the needed $2,000,000 and they will be confronted with a deficit next session.

The Toronto *Globe* in criticising the statement made by Sir S. L. Tilley in Manchester, that the practical effect of the new tariff is that it will promote certain manufactures in the Dominion, says, that the tariff, while failing miserably to protect any home industry, which had not previously the command of the home market, has managed by increasing the cost of foreign goods so to reduce the revenue, that the receipts for the first three months under the new tariff fell off full 25 per cent.

Another statement made by Sir S. L., that the new tariff will diminish the imports from America, without diminishing as a whole the imports from Great Britain, the *Globe* argues is unfounded, untrue, disingenuous. Where the tariff is adverse to the United States, it is on articles of which no great quantities are imported from thence as manufactures of iron, steel, brass and copper, the whole importations of which do not exceed $2,500,000, while, when the tariff strikes Great Britain vindictively, it is on some important trade, as that of woolens, which is entirely with England, and which amounts to eight or ten million dollars per annum. On the cheapest qualities of grey and unbleached cottons which are imported from Great Britain, a specific tax of one cent per yard, and 15 per cent, equal to 50 and even 65 per cent are placed, whilst on the dearer cottons which are imported from the United States the same tax is not above 20 to 25 per cent. The shrewd business men of Manchester will not find comfort in Sir S. L. Tilleys statements when they find that the tariff hits them hard.

The new tariff, whatever our Finance Minister may say, will not recommend itself to British manufacturers on close acquaintance. In Canada, among the supporters of the Government, there is a strong push and effort to see something good in the new tariff. A Canadian business man, who professed to have felt good effects from the N. P., has at the request of the editor of the Canadian *Spectator*, put down in black and white the various ways in which he thought trade would be benefitted by it. He advances the following nine reasons. The first five are prospective, exist only in hope, the rest are absolute, but are not, if verifiable, verified by figures:—

1. Excessive importation will be stopped, thereby preventing the over-crowding of country merchants with stock they cannot dispose of.
2. The ruinously long credit system promises to be shortened, thus compelling country merchants to make their collections.
3. Credit will not be so cheap, as Importers, having to pay one-third hard cash for duties, will look where they place their goods, and the half-starved merchant who knows nothing of business will be driven to his proper place—to till the soil, or something else he understands.
4. The N. P. is doing away with the false system of having support accounts, each man now having to stand on his own merits.
5. The Yankee pedlers from across the lines, who have been draining the country of its cash, will now be driven back to where they came from.
6. It has placed us in a position to manufacture goods which have hitherto been imported, and our people are suprised that so much has been accomplished in so short a time.
7. We are keeping and employing our own people instead of sending them and our money out of the country to build up another nation's commerce at the expense of our own.
8. Country villages which had drifted into apathy are awakened by the click of hammer and shuttle, and welcome operatives who have come to make their homes among them, and whose stores will have their custom.
9. We are positively making better goods, and selling for lower prices under the N. P., than could be imported under the old tariff. No effort was made to do this until the National Policy gave us encouragement.

In Belville, Ontario, an editor has been casting about to find what benefits have resulted from the N. P. He has also found "nine reasons" in its favor, as follows:—

1. A new board sidewalk is being laid on Moira-street.
2. Another window in the old building near the Exhibition Grounds has been broken.
3. A ragged boy found a rusty horse-shoe on the Market Square last Saturday.
4. More straw hats have been sold during the last two months than for the six months previous. (This is a clincher.)
5. Dundas-street has been gravelled and repaired.
6. There is some talk of building a new shanty down on the Plains.
7. The body of a dead horse has floated ashore on Zwick's Island.
8. A new skatting rink will be in operation next winter.
9. There is a movement towards a boat race in the fall.

And yet there are "Grit" papers that will say that the "National Policy" is not doing good to the country! Our exchanges give hundreds of such instances of reviving trade as we have quoted above.

Storm.

Wednesday afternoon a little after four, a sudden squall burst over the city. While the sky was light in the northwest a huge dense black cloud hung low, like a pall over it. The wind blew fiercely, and ruffled the face of the river which showed full of whitecaps. The upper boat house was, by the force of the gale cast adrift from its moorings and went careering rapidly down river. Soon after, the crowds who had assembled at the landings, saw a boat drifting down rapidly with the tide. In it was a lad named Sisson and his two young brothers. As it passed the wharf at which the "David Weston" was moored, a party put out in one of the steamer's boats and rescued the castaways. Young Sisson was found almost insensible and paralyzed by the cold. The squall along the line on which it blew, split and uprooted trees and telegraph posts, and committed other such vagaries, doing come damage, but no serious injury.

SPORTS.—Mr. J. H. Reid, is determined to see if he cannot utilize the large crowds who will visit the city on Monday, and who will not know what to do with themselves in the afternoon. He and the owners of certain fast trotters have succeeded in making a match which will come off in the York Driving Park on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The horses, or rather the mares, for they are of the gentler sex are Jess, grey, Jessie, Springhill Girl, chestnut, Woodstock Maid and Bessie Minor, brown. As they all have nearly the same speed, the race will be close and the more interesting. Single admission to the track 20 cents, horses the same. The grand stand will be free. The proceeds of the tickets will be used towards putting the track in order.

The Union Baptist Sabbath Schools intend holding their annual picnic on the beautiful grounds of Wm. Shehan, Esq., Fredericton Junction, on Thursday next, the 14th inst.

Business Prospects in England.

Business men have detected symptoms of improvement in business generally in England and abroad in the West, but now they say the prospects are gloomy as ever. The favorable symptoms showed themselves in England, in an increase, though slight, of exports, in the returns of the clearing houses in London, which showed larger business transactions, in the marked revival of the spirit of speculation and in the rise of stock, and in vivification of hope. Abroad the improvement was more distinct and the hopefulness more pronounced, and it appeared at last that the long looked for revival had in reality set in. But in June the black clouds again gathered, and at present, the prospects are as gloomy as ever.

The *Saturday Review*, in a late issue, states the causes of the renewed gloom. First and foremost is the persistent bad weather, which has destroyed the prospect of even an average harvest. Farmers are beginning to lose heart. Land owners fear that they may have still further to reduce rents; trades-people recognize that for the next twelve-months the agricultural classes will be worse customers than they are at present; shop-keepers see the last opportunity of doing a summer trade passing away, and railroad shareholders are apprehensive that the holiday season will be unprofitable.

The outlook throughout western Europe is scarcely better. In the south of France the harvest will be fair, but in the north and most neighboring countries it is unpromising. As the harvests of Western Europe are likely to prove deficient, the imports of corn from the United States and Russia will probably be very large. And of course the greater the demand the higher will be the price. Thus it is possible that several countries bidding against one another may make wheat dear, and necessitate the export of a very considerable amount of gold to pay for the wheat.

Another cause of the check to the improvement in business, is the apprehension entertained in business circles, that failures will be numerous, that large houses that have been making bad trade, which the banks will—both Russia and Austro-Hungary from their accustomed trade routes, and under circumstances which may arise, might even shut out the former of these empires from the markets of the world. A coolness and estrangement have grown up between Russia and Germany in consequence, and the fear of complications, and a rupture of the peace have intensified the causes that have checked the improvement of trade abroad. Since Bismark has carried his tariff bill, there has been a fall in the stocks which showed buoyancy in May in the bourses of Berlin and Vienna, and the reaction has been felt in the London Exchange.

If the foregoing statements were undoubted facts, one might think that they were the beginning of that "distress of nations," which is one of the "signs" of the approaching end. But these statements must be taken with alleviations. The harvests in Great Britain and in the countries of the continent may turn out, after all, much better than now anticipated; the fears of extensive failures in England may prove to be greatly exaggerated, confidence may revive, and the apprehensions of an open rupture between Germany and Russia may be one of those passing disquietudes which are continually rising in Europe.

The Panama Canal.

M. Du Lesseps is, if the Washington correspondents of the *Tribune*, *Sun*, and *World* are to be believed, will encounter strong opposition from the American Government in carrying out the Panama Canal Scheme. The Government is decidedly in favor of the Nicaraguan route, and looks with strong disfavor on any plan that would give a foreign company control of the proposed water route from the Gulf to the Pacific.

The President has expressed an expectation that American capital will build the canal, and that the American government will control it, and a condition that the existing Bulwer Clayton treaty cannot prevent them. We must do the United States government the justice of believing that no treaty would prevent it doing what it was determined to do, if it thought it was for the interest of the freest and most independent of nations, and would spite any foreign country Mr. Du Lesseps is not only going to encounter opposition from the American government, but is to have a formidable rival in the person of a Captain Eads, who is opposed to a canal either by the Panama or Nicarguan route, and who advocates the constructing a ship railway. "I propose," he lately said, "to take the ship with her cargo out of the water, put her on a marine railway, and whisk her across the Isthmus, in about twelve hours, and launch her on the other side. I am going to Europe partly on this and other business, and partly for pleasure and rest." The idea of Eads going to Europe to press the ship canal on a sceptical world, and for rest and pleasure, is incongruous, is absurd.

The British Parliament will soon rise. Last Wednesday evening the Lord Mayor of London gave the civic banquet to H. M. Ministers, which is the customary preludium to the close of the session. Whether it is to be a prorogation or a dissolution is not yet known. Earl Beaconsfield replied to the toast of H. M. Ministers, and took a hopeful view of the situation. He vindicated the Berlin Treaty. "Not a single soldier," he said, "now remains in Turkey. The Czar has honorably fulfilled his engagements and is now co-operating with England and the other powers in endeavors to maintain peace." If the promised reforms in the Turkish provinces have not been yet realized, it is because the Sultan, since the signature of the treaty, has had to encounter numerous and complicated questions regarding them. The Berlin Treaty, the Earl added, "has taken its place among the archives of the capitals of Europe. The end is to assure general peace, and if danger and difficulties supervene in the countries to which the treaty especially relates, its conditions and resources will suffice for every eventuality." These sentences have a proud and confident ring, and will be taken as a text for many a Liberal diatribe. Regarding the Indian-scientific-frontier, he said, the object of the war has been accomplished with singular precision and rapidity Referring to the Zulu war, he believed, tha. in a very short time news will arrive of asoet lution of all the African questions. As to the commercial depression, one of the secondary causes was imprudent speculation, and there are already signs of its amelioration. If there are good harvests in all parts of the world, he believed, the darkest days of the depression will have been seen. As it is not possible that the harvests in all parts of the world can be good, what then? The despatch states that the conclusion of the Earls speech was recieved with "frantic cheers." It must have been a glorious dinner.

The return Rifle Match between Lieut. Loggie's team and Quarter-Master Lipsett's team took place on Thursday last, resulted in another victory for the Commisariat Department. The scores stood:—

Quarter-Master Lipsett's team	286	pts.
Lieut. Loggie's "	275	"

Beechmont.

It has been often said that farming does not pay in this country, that it gives no returns in proportion to the amount of labor expended on its operations. Farming consequently has been at a discount. But in those days when the spirit of speculation, enterprize, of quick money returns seems dead when demand for labor is unheard, the occupation of reclaiming the land and tilling the soil is coming more into favor.

If ordinary farming to which the farmer turns as his sole means of livlihood does not pay, what can be said of "gentlemen farming? That it must ruin those who engage in it, unless they are quite independent, and can afford to lose money for their own amusement. Not necessarily by any means, if the amateur farmer knows what he is about, and he is above putting his own hand to the plough. We think we know an instance to the contrary, and several more might be adduced without going many miles from the vicinity of Fredericton. Beechmont on Maryland Road, owned by J. H. Phair, Esq., formerly the place of residence of the late Judge Street, is one of the most finely situated properties about Fredericton. The original house was burned down twenty-two years ago, and a convenient villa has been erected in its place. A very fine view of the city, the river, and the Keswick heights, and Maryland uplands is seen from its verandah. Its trees are the particular charm of Beechmont. Beeches line the approach from the lodge, the butternut and locust shade the house, there are clumps of maple beech and fir, and the fields are lined and protected by continuous rows of spruce. Thirty acres of land are attached to Beechmont, or Beechmont is attached to thirty acres. About twelve acres are occupied by the house, garden, and orchard, and the rest is given up to tillage and pasturage As the land lies on a considerable slope it is naturally drained.

Mr. Phair attends to the culture of the land in the intervals of his professional duties and employs only one "hand" continuously, but calls on outside assistance at haying season, but he says that he finds that farming in this style pays. In gardening he devotes himself to be useful, more than the ornamental, though he by no means neglects floriculture; he is too much of an artist, a lover of the beautiful to do that. He pays great attention to his strawberry beds. This season he raised no less than 400 quarts. He cultivates "all the vegetables" and prides himself particularly on his parsnips, celery, peas, potatoes, carrots, cabbages and beets. He raises enough of this "household stuff" for his own large family, besides sending a considerable quantity to the market. In fruits, besides strawberries, he gives his attention to the culture of varieties of apples, plums, currants, and has this season set out grape vines. The orchard this season is a sight to see, the boughs of the trees are fairly laden down with fruit, and can only sustain their weight by the means of artificial props. Among the old trees there are a number of young ones, two or three years growth, which promise well. Mr. Phair finds a ready sale for his early apples in town, and in good seasons makes "a good thing of them." He has by the way, supplied himself with an "apple picker," of his own invention, very simple and handy. He has also effectually guarded his orchard from the raids of the boys of the town; at least they would be clever agile youths who could get over the wall and bramble bushes intervening between it and the picket fence, without being stuck.

This year eighteen acres were under grass, from which 42 tons of hay were cut. Two and a half ton to the acre, is a very fair yield indeed. The hay was secured in the barn in excellent condition, and before winter is out Mr. Phair will have made a good account from it. The fields of potatoes, oats and buckwheat are situated on the upper part of the farm. They are approached through a piece of pasturage yet in somewhat rough condition, but which will be stone-picked and cleaned before another season comes round. The potatoes look very healthy. The "Colorado bug" has indeed made its appearance, and has perforated and eaten some leaves, and laid larvæ, but it is not likely that it will prove destructive to the crop this season. Mr. P. grows the "Susies," Early Rose," "Vermont," and Mohawk, and finds the first named variety the best paying and most prolific.

The fields of buckwheat, turnips, oats, promise very well. From the oats Mr. P. expects a yield of 250 bushels, the expected quantities of the other crops we forget, but the yield on the whole will be satisfactory and encouraging.

As a fertilizer, ashes and barnyard manure, a ton of the first to two of the latter, is used, and is found to be a first rate compound for enriching the soil and stimulating growth.

Mr. Phair has all the adjuncts of a prosperous farm, dairy, piggery, poultry yard and apiary, and is quite satisfied that farming in the style he does, does pay now, and will pay better and better, as the farm gets into better and better order.

The Preparations.

As the time has drawn near, the enthusiasm of the citizens has been roused, and their preparations quickened.

This morning the city has quite a gala look, and is sure to make a most creditable display this afternoon. The look of the sky is such as to cause anxiety, but we hope that the sun will come out master of the ceremonies.

Without giving any minute particulars, we may say that the Government, the citizen's committee, and the citizens generally have done well in the way of preparation.

Along the line of procession the effect will be fine what with the telegraph poles clothed with fresh boughs, making it look like an avenue; the evergreens, arches, pendants, wreaths, mottoes, coats of arms, streamers, flags, lanterns, in front of public buildings, banks, hotels, halls, and stores. The triple arch on York street, off the line is exceedingly handsome. Fredericton has never been so brilliant in illumination as it will to-night.

The Dominion Government have placed $300 in the hands of H. Perley, Esq., Dominion Engineer, far the purpose of Illuminating the Government buildings and Fire Works. Mr. Perley has appointed T. G. Loggie, Esq., to carry out the arrangements, and judging from appearances Mr. Loggie will carry them out creditably and most satisfactorily. The Fire Works will be set off at 8 o'clock in the officer's square.

DROWNING ACCIDENT.—On Thursday morning Wynet A. Williams of Douglas, with his brother put out to cross the river to Sugar Island. The canoe being leaking, one was obliged to bail while the other paddled. In spite of all exertions the canoe filled with water. Being unable to swim he sank with it and was drowned. His brother managed to escape to shore. Williams leaves a wife and family of four children.

Cramps and pains in the stomach and bowels, dysentry and diarrhœa, are very common just now and should be checked at once. *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment* will positively cure all such cases, and should be kept in every family.

The most distressing case of scrofula or blood poison that we ever heard of was cured by *Parson's Purgative Pills*. These pills make *new* rich blood, and taken one a night for three months will change the blood in the entire system.

The Canadians at Wimbledon.

On Saturday, the 19th of July, there was a brilliant assemblage of visitors at Wimbledon Camp, amongst whom were many representatives of the nobility, and a number of distinguished foreigners. The day was showery, but not the most disagreeable of the most disagreeable summer ever known in England. The Duke of Cambridge and the Colonial Secretary, Sir Michael Hicks Beach were received in the prettily laid out quarters of the Canadians volunteers by Col. Gzowski, Lt. Gen. Sir Patrick McDougal, Sir Leonard Tilley, Countess of Wharncliffe and Lady J. A. McDonald.

The London *Telegraph* says that general satisfaction was expressed when it became known that the Prince of Wales' prize, £100 stg. and badge, had been carried off by one of the Canadian volunteers, Lt. Col. Gibson, with the splendid and unprecedented aggregate of 94 out of a possible 105, none of his competitors being within three points of him. The Duke of Cambridge was introduced to each member of the Canadian team individually, who at his request named the particular part of the Dominion from which he hailed, and described the competitions in which he had succeeded in carrying off prizes. At the close of the inspection H. R. H. said:—

"It gives me great pleasure to come down again to this annual practice, and I hope it will be many times that I may come again. It has given me especial pleasure that the Canadians have been rewarded by earning a prize to-day of very great importance, which I can assure you adds much to the pleasure we have had in receiving them. We are glad to see them take it away, and we do not in the least grudge them the honor of taking it away to Canada. It is very satisfactory and pleasant to us, and we hope they will come again and shoot for it annually. We think we can shoot also, but we are glad to see you compete with us. I am satisfied that the interest taken by the colonies in the Mother Country is highly beneficial, and I must say that anything that adds to the benefit of the colonies is felt with equal interest by us. The interest we naturally feel in the colonies is very strong, but the interest I feel is not only felt by me, but by every Englishman, I am sure, both here and in every part of the country. The connection of the colonies with an empire adds mainly to the importance and value of an empire, and we look upon Canada as a very important colony. We are very much pleased at all times to see the representatives of distant portions of our empire among us, and we receive them hospitably, although on this occasion the weather has not been all that we could have wished for their reception. However, you have had other advantages, although we could not manage the weather, and you have seen we can hospitably receive you and welcome you with cordiality as far as we can. I can assure you that we are very much pleased to see so large a number of the representatives of the Dominion come here, and that you appreciate the sentiments which we entertain toward you, whether it is in the rifle shooting or in any other advantage which can accrue to the different portions of the empire. We are always happy to see you, and I hope and trust that the kind and cordial feelings which exist between us and you will ever be maintained."

Russia.

Russia is in a dismal condition at present. The Czar come out of the war with Turkey a victor, but at what a price! The advantage he has gained is hardly worth the £150,000,000 of treasure and the 200,000 valuable lives it has cost. The war has been a bitter burden and disappointment to the Russian people, and has helped to raise revolt against the oppressive Government under which they groan, and give an impulse to the spread of Nihilism, the most subversive of revolutionary doctrines. While the heart of the Empire is gangrened with evil passions in many districts, the plague of insects blights the hopes of harvest and threatens famine and pestilence in addition to all other woes. With regard to the plague of of insects, an exchange says:—

The Russian crops this season will in all probability fail. There have been an unprecedented number of visitations. Drought, rain, hail, beetles, caterpillars, and grasshoppers have come in turn, and the finest wheat-growing sections of the country are practically ruined. The Russian *News* says in the Province of Satoroff in a district of 300 square miles "there has been no rain since spring till this day (June 30,) and at a temperature of 86° in the shade and 104° in the sun, all the crops and grass have been withered. The peasants desert their homes to search for employment, and the frequent fires add to the existing calamities." The *Golos* describing an invasion of beetles on the Black Sea coasts, says the seashore was so thickly covered with them that the boatmen could not ply their oars, and the peasants in vain strove to drive them into the sea. Vast fires have