The Morning Courier.

FOR THE COUNTRY.

Optimus est Reipublicæ status, ubi nihil deest nisi licentia perendi.—SENECA.

No. 38. MONTREAL, THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8, 1835. VOL. I.

Morning Courier.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY, OCT. 6, 1835.

THE public mind appears to be impressed with the idea of some sweeping and unconstitutional concessions being about to be made to the Revolutionists by the Commissioners. Without further evidence of the truth of these undefined rumours, we would remain impassive, under the conviction, that the members of the Commission, if they are worth a straw, will not suffer themselves to be swayed by party representations. There is one point on which we confess that we feel considerable anxiety, and that is, that the measures proposed by the Commission may be *decided*. We would have them of such a character as that no one can doubt their ultimate tendency. Be their issue good or evil, we wish to see them stand out distinctly, and divested of all delusion.

The following are the more prominent of the Resolutions which were proposed at a recent meeting of the American Institute, New York. Internal improvement with the Americans is now decidedly a practical, and not a theoretical principle. It is not one whose truth requries to be tested with them, but it is a conviction which is of sufficient strength to produce active co-operation in all who are under its influence. From the State of New York, as the centre of radiation, this influence has been propagated throughout the Union.

The reason why internal improvements must always command the support of every sound and right thinking community is obvious. These undertakings are not monopolies for the benefit of any one species of manufactures. They know no distinction between the different branches of business which are all benefited by increased facilities of traffic between distant portions of the country. Nothing but the blindest and most selfish policy could have hitherto kept Canada in so dormant a state in all that relates to her internal trade. Her natural advantages in this way seem to have operated as a bounty upon her indolence. A brighter period, we would fain persuade ourselves, is fast dawning upon her. In reference to her commercial prosperity, let her men of enterprise ponder well the subjoined view of the advantages of *Internal Improvement*:—

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.—At a meeting of the American Institute of the city of New York, held at Clinton Hall, on Thursday, the 24th day of September, 1835, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, this Institute was incorporated by the legislature of this state for the purpose of promoting *Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures and the Arts.*" And whereas, the prosperity of each and every of these departments of industry is greatly dependent on safe, cheap and easy travelling and transportation, especially in respect to our manufactures and artizans, the materials of whose fabrics are to a great extent procured and transported from distant markets and places, and returned again in the manufactured goods; and, whereas, the merchant also is deeply interested in internal improvements, as by means of roads and canals production is greatly increased, and the materials embraced by mercantile operations are thereby made more abundant, and the facilities for the purchase and sale of these materials proportionably multiplied.

It was therefore resolved, that the interests of the farmer, merchant, manufacturer and artisan, require that internal improvements should advance, and that no considerations of false economy should be permitted to arrest their progress, but that adequate expenditures ought to be made at once in order to obtain the benefits arising from internal improvements by means of railroads and canals, wherever the country will admit, and the wants of the people require such facilities.

Resolved, That these expenditures will be doubly repaid to the state and people; first, in the income received from the tolls, and secondly, from increased agricultural productions in those fertile sections of this state whose distances from market render the fruits of farms of little value, and in the establishment of extensive manufactories on never failing streams, whose waters are now running to waste, and in extended commercial operations and dealings, and in new and vigorous efforts of industry, which the expenditures in improvements will inevitably produce.

Yellow fever has made its appearance at New Orleans.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER.

SIR,—I did not intend to trouble you so soon again with any remarks of mine; but in my search for a rational mode of putting a stop to our present political difficulties, I would not feel myself excused by passing over any scheme of the kind which may be bruited. In a series of letters, entitled Anti-Gallic or Anti-French, (a very unhappy title by the way,) a plan of retaliation upon the Government and the House of Assembly is submitted to the judgment of Lord Gosford. The author does not condescend to particularize the specific measures which he would have carried, by a system of coercing the Powers that be through the Provincial Treasury; so that I am in the dark whether he means the legal reforms generally wanted, or the introduction into our Constitution of some element which would prevent, in future, the recurrence of such a stand-still in the Legislature as is at present experienced. However this may be, all common sense people must view his laboured scheme as the height of absurdity.

As I am not myself a subscriber to the paper in which the Anti-Gallic letters appeared, and had merely a reading of them from a friend, I will not pledge myself to the entire faithfulness, to a tittle, of my representation of the grand coercive measure therein developed. As far as my recollection goes, "CAMILLUS" proposes that all Constitutionalists should bind themselves, by a solemn agreement, to use no kind of merchandize that has paid duty at our Custom-House, and by this means to annihilate the Provincial revenue, which is chiefly made up by the Custom-House receipts at Montreal and Quebec. "CAMILLUS" would not have Constitutionalists to go without their usual luxuries, of wines, brandy, rum, English broad-cloth and calicoes. He says all these things could be got from the United States; and, in order that Constitutionalists may be put to as little expense as possible, on account of their political principles, and that the plan might actually have the effect of diminishing, instead of increasing the public revenue, he insists upon all these goods being smuggled across the Line. To leave no doubt of the practicability of this grave absurdity upon Lord Gosford's mind, "CAMILLUS" assures his Lordship that the 400,000 Canadians consume next to nothing of what is imported, with the exception of the one article of rum. The *habitant* clothes himself in *etoffe du pays*, and uses neither superfine broad-cloth, London-made boots and shoes, nor Irish or Scotch linens, &c; and contents himself with drinking a compound of Leeward rum and whiskey, made from the produce of his own farm. The hardware and cutlery which he is forced to use, the calicoes and silks in which his wife and daughters dress themselves, are to be overlooked, to render more cogent the assertion, that the British settlers may be truly regarded as the only contributors to the public revenue.

But, suppose that the Constitutionalists were to take a fit of self-denial, say for one or two years, and that a most extensive system of smuggling were organised, let me enumerate a few of the consequences. The present wholesale merchants would necessarily become resetters of smuggled goods, which again would require to be carefully concealed from the Custom House officers, because their owners could give no satisfactory account of their origin. There would, in fact, be no possibility of doing anything in a large way, at all; and every head of a family would require to smuggle for his own establishment. The Canadians, we may be assured, would not willingly pay fifty per cent. more for goods for being smuggled. Were our merchants (oh the supposition!!) to refuse importing British manufactures, besides the two or three Canadian importing houses already in existence, one hundred more would immediately spring up, which would be supported not only by the natives, but also by the more economical and less scrupulous Constitutionalists. And what would the inhabitants of Upper Canada do? If we did not import for them, would they not do so for themselves? Really, Sir, the absurdities of the "CAMILLUS" scheme are so glaring, that many believe the whole to be a ponderous caricature of a certain class of Constitutionalists. I hope Lord Gosford will not conceive badly of the body for it, if it should ever get *smuggled* into his presence. It would certainly be a most affecting attitude for any party to assume, in order to coerce a Government, which was furnished with the means of enforcing the revenue laws, to threaten, in the spirit of martyrdom and self-denial, to exist entirely on *smuggled articles*.

Not to exhaust your patience, I would conclude, by asking "CAMILLUS," as he seems fond of theorizing, what plan he would adopt in order to set our political machinery in motion again, and to keep it so?

If the above hurried remarks be not considered *taxable*, their insertion in your journal will much oblige your obedient servant,

Montreal, Oct. 3. COS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER.

SIR,—My absence from town has prevented me from noticing earlier the remarks which were made in your paper of the 1st instant, on the arrangements at present existing on the St. Lawrence line of Steamboats and Stages, between this place and Prescott.

I perceive that you entertain an erroneous impression regarding them, and your article will, of course, convey a similar impression to those of your readers not more intimately acquainted with their true state, and induce them to form an unfavorable opinion of this year's management, as compared with the exertions made in former years, to facilitate the conveyance of the mail and the arrival of travellers, at this place.

Now the fact is, that at the period pointed out by you as pre-eminent with regard to the despatch attendant on travellers and the mail, both were nearly a day later in arriving at Montreal than has been the case during the present season. When the mail and passengers arrived here at two, or at four o'clock in the afternoon, they did not travel on the same day further than from Cornwall, where they remained during the night, having left Prescott the day preceding, and before the arrival of the mail from above, which, received now at that place late in the afternoon or evening, leaves it with the passengers early on the succeeding morning, and both generally arrive at this, their destination, on the evening of the same day; the latter frequently in time for the Quebec steamboats, enabling them thus to reach that city on the same day on which they would formerly have arrived at Montreal; and giving also to merchants a day to attend to their correspondence, in place of two or three hours as before.

At this advanced time of the year, when the days are getting short, the weather changeable, and the roads bad, the same regularity which prevailed during the summer months cannot be maintained. It is the desire of the proprietors on this Line, and my own anxious wish, as agent, to do all that can be done towards hastening the transmission of the mail, and the arrival of passengers, and also to afford to the latter, comfort and satisfaction; but unavoidable accidents and occurrences will sometimes thwart our best efforts. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. WHIPPLE.

Montreal, Oct. 3, 1835.

The defective state of the American law of copyright, is, we are glad to notice, beginning to excite considerable attention. A portion of the press has just discovered the truth of what they were long since told from the other side of the Atlantic, that the facility with which their publishers availed themselves of the entire literature of England, without making the slightest compensation, was not quite so advantageous for the good people of the States, as at first sight it appeared. Though they are enabled to possess the newest and the best works of our authors at very trifling cost, they are at the same time, virtually prohibiting men of genius of their own country from coming before the public. What inducement, for instance, has a publisher to give for a copyright one or two thousand dollars, when he can reap a rich harvest from England, without putting himself to greater charges than those incurred for paper and printing. It must be manifest to every one, that if it be an object for the Americans to possess a literary character of their own, they must permit the foreign author to secure a copyright in the States. By being placed on a par with the native writer, not only would the former profit more by his writings, but the latter also. The publisher would not, as now, select works for printing, merely because he obtained them for nothing, but from the higher motive of their real worth, whether of American or English origin. Independent, however, of this view of the matter, it is neither liberal nor just in the States, to continue the present mode. In Britain, an American author may, and very often does, secure a copyright, as well as in his own country—witness the cases of Irving and Cooper. Why is not this boon reciprocated? The penury and hardship which many of the sons of genius have to contend with, would be materially lightened, if they derived from the publication of their writings in America, a moiety even of what they received in their own country. Alluding to this subject, the *Courier and Enquirer* of New York says:—

"Do we not look back to Shakespeare and to Milton, to Bacon and to Taylor, as to the models of our language—and shall we say to those speaking, writing, and adorning the same tongue, imitating and honouring the same high models, subservient to the same great objects, worshiping the same bright liberty, shall we say to these,—"You and we are two, and not the same?" We will revel in the creations of your genius, we will profit by the discoveries of your science, we will struggle towards the same goal, and bow before the same God, with you, and yet we will be the only gainers. You shall not profit by your own,—"you shall reap, and we will sow?"

* * * * * *

"In this age, when it is becoming every day more and more apparent that not only the consumer, but the manufacturer is injured by monopoly; when the spirit of free trade is increasing day by day, it is indeed high time, that an end should be put to this most unequal and unjust enactment. Till that shall be done, it is useless to preach on the doctrine of mutual good will to the English and American authors; it is vain to tell English writers, that they should look upon themselves and us as constituting not *two*, but *one* great nation; that it is for their interest no less than for ours to promote mutual good feeling and regard; that we are intended by nature to be united, and that it is not for man to set a gulf between us; it is useless, nay it is absurd, to argue thus, when we array the interests and the vindictive feeling of the best and greatest among them against ourselves, by flagrant and injurious wrong.

"Let us look to the fact. Scott's novels, the first and never rivalled specimens of modern romance, the works of the most amiable, the most benevolent, the most instructive and most intellectual writer of the nineteenth century, have had, and still continue to have a circulation from one end to the other of the United States; thousands, and hundreds of thousands of copies are annually printed and published, to the great mental and moral improvement, to the universal delight of American readers,—to the vast monied advantage of American publishers,—to the incalculable detriment of the American authors,—and to the very serious loss of the English writer.

"Again, Bulwer's works, are circulated to the extent of twenty or thirty thousand copies each, without his obtaining any compensation for his labour, the whole return being swallowed up by the native publisher; who, in consequence of this enormous surplus of profits derived from the reprint of a foreign work, of course deems native authors entirely below his notice."

There is a probability of an attempt being made in the next session of Congress, to procure the passage of a new law of copyright. The beneficial effects of one, which should overcome the hardships experienced under the present system, would not be confined to the States and to Britain. The Colonies on this Continent and in the West Indies, would be relieved from the duties which are now paid to Government on American reprints, for, if once the author derived a profit from these, the sole plea for continuing to levy so heavy a tax as that now paid, would be obviated.—*Montreal Gazette.*

The London Correspondents of the *Vindicator* shrink from a direct reply, to Mr. Ryan's plain contradiction of a particular and distinct assertion made by them, and take refuge in generalities. New assertions too are brought forward; but as unfounded and untrue as the previous one. For instance, Mr. O'Connell is stated to have uttered certain expressions on the subject of the Legislative Council to Mr. Ryan. We are authorized to state, that Mr. O'Connell never uttered a syllable on the subject to Mr. Ryan; and further, that Mr. Ryan never did call upon Mr. O'Connell, never asked him to denounce Mr. Papineau, or any other person or persons, and never had an interview with him save one, unexpected and unsought by Mr. R., and which did not occupy the space of two minutes. These are facts from which the public can judge how far the statements of the *Vindicator* and its correspondents respecting Mr. Ryan are correct. However willing we are sure Mr. Ryan will be, (on a fitting occasion and when it is properly sought) to give the fullest explanation of the circumstances so misrepresented in the *Vindicator*, we think he should not descend to any discussion with anonymous writers, who seem ever ready with a fresh relay of calumnies to supply the place of those refuted.—*Quebec Gazette, October 2.*

Captain Yule returned yesterday from his reconnoissance of the route of the proposed Railway to Maine, commencing at the forks of the Du Loup and Chaudiere rivers, and going up the last river to Lake Megantick. That route is practicable without any serious obstacles. The reconnoissance of Capt. Yule, and those of Colonel Long, which will no doubt be placed before the public, will afford the best possible information for entering upon the regular survey.—*Ib.*

SNOW AT THE SOUTH.—The weather has not been cold, and few frosts have occurred at Quebec. Early yesterday morning, to the southward of the city at forty or fifty miles distance, the mountains were observed to be covered with snow. A gentleman who came down yesterday morning from St. Mary's says, that near a foot of snow had fallen, but that it was fast melting. To the northward of Quebec, where the first snow generally appears on the hills, there is none to be seen. The incessant and heavy rains which have occurred for the last five days, have made it altogether impossible to attend to housing the crops which are out. Those parts of the crops that have been long out, must have suffered. In many places the oats are still quite green.—*Ib.*

For some days past there have been numerous arrivals from sea, but they furnish no later intelligence from Europe than has been previously received, having generally had long passages. The number of vessels which have arrived this season including those at Grosse Isle reported from the Telegraph, at 16, A. M. this day, 964; at the corresponding period last year the arrivals were 917.—*Quebec Mercury.*

Upper Canada.

The lovers of sport are requested to take notice that the new race course at Williamstown is now completed, and that as soon as sufficient funds are raised to enable the Stewards to present purses worthy of attention, due notice will be given of the days on which the races are to take place. It is therefore expected that all such as are desirous of witnessing real sport will contribute towards the same.—Having been at Williamstown a few days ago, we had an opportunity of seeing the place, and in justice, (to Mr. Angus M'Donell, Long, its principal projector,) we must say, that a finer level, better ground, or a more desirable situation for a race course, cannot be found in Upper Canada. Messrs. John Lane, Thomas Marshall, Daniel Campbell, Alexander M'Bean, James M'Donell and Dr. Fenlisson, are to act as Stewards on the occasion.—*Cornwall Observer.*

The Provincial Penitentiary in this Town has received within the last few weeks a large accession to the number of its inmates. Including the six persons convicted at the present Assize, there are now 54 criminals within the walls of the prison—the Gore District alone having furnished 23 of the number. The system of discipline established in the Penitentiary works very satisfactorily, producing those habits of sobriety, industry and order, which have elsewhere been its results. The peculiar fitness of the Warden also, for his responsible situation, gives additional effect to the excellent regulations by which the convict is at the same time corrected and reformed.—*Kingston Chronicle.*

On a late trip of the *St. George* from Toronto to Kingston, a number of gentlemen after dinner were descanting on the different natural productions of Upper Canada, when it was remarked by the vessel's owner, who chanced to be on board, "that every vegetable and fruit increased in size and flavor, with the exception of peaches, which seemed to degenerate." "That is very true," observed a gallant Colonel, who was partly dozing, "they are the most degenerate pack I ever heard—they usually preach me asleep."—*Kingston Whig.*

THE WEATHER.—The equinoctial gales this season, though not so boisterous as heretofore, have been of unusual continuance, and accompanied with a severity of cold, most disadvantageous to the farmer. So intense was the frost on Monday night last, that we fear hardly a plant in the district, exposed to its influence, can have escaped injury. The grain crops generally, however, we understand, in this neighbourhood, have been housed with less damage from the wet than was first apprehended; and, being more than an average quantity, the farmer may still anticipate with confidence a fair return for his labor.—*Cobourg Star.*

United States.

NEW ORLEANS, *Sept. 16.*—*A Prize.*—The notorious Thomson has been taken at last. The schooner San Fellippe had sailed from the port on the 25th of last month for Brazoria with Col. Stephen Austin and other Texians; and on the evening of Tuesday following, she heard firing ahead. On nearing the place Captain Hurd perceived the Mexican schooner Correo, commanded by Thomson, and an armed sloop, engaged in attacking the American brig Tremont, which was assisted by a steamboat. When Captain Hurd advanced the Mexican ship ceased and retreated; and then the steamboat took much of the cargo and most of the passengers on board, and brought them into Brazoria. During the night, the Mexican vessels used their sweeps and approached the San Fellippe, when Capt. Hurd raised anchor and hoisted sail.

When within half a mile the Mexican fired large guns, and the small as they advanced. Hurd waited till they were within musket shot of him—and then gave them a volley from the small arms, and afterwards a dose from his two cannons—the only once he had on board. The San Fellippe continued the encounter against both parties for about an hour, when the Mexican retired. Next morning the San Fellippe descried a sail ahead; and believing it to be the Correo, he prevailed on the steamboat to tow him along. Not being able to preserve his distance, Thomson sent an officer and two men to remonstrate against Capt. Hurd's chasing a Mexican armed schooner—but the Ambassadors were cavalierly treated, and Hurd fired a gun to make the other surrender.—Thomson lowered his flag; and Hurd sent a boat to take the corsair on board, and a prize crew to take possession of the Correo. The steamboat towed both into the Brazos; and Hurd having left there the San Fellippe, returned yesterday, with his prize, into port.

None of the crew of the San Felippe was injured; but it was said that Thomson received two wounds on the thighs, and that his gunner is severely if not mortally wounded.

SPEED.—The schooner *J. A. Parker*, Captain J. Sims, left this port on Monday evening last, at six o'clock, for Cleveland, with a full cargo of merchandise, which having delivered, she returned yesterday, (Thursday,) at five o'clock, with a cargo of flour from that place; having performed the voyage, delivered the cargo, and received on board another, in the short space of two days and twenty-three hours.—*Buffalo Com. Advertiser.*

SHIP CANAL AROUND THE FALLS OF NIAGARA.—The corps of U. S. Engineers, who have been engaged some months in surveying several routes for a ship canal, around the falls of Niagara, have completed their labours. They consider, we understand, the undertaking entirely practicable, and its estimated cost by no means great, compared with the importance of the work. The result of their labors will be laid before the Congress at an early day.—*N. Y. Times.*

The amount of receipts on the Boston and Worcester Railroad, during the last week, was as follows, viz. for passengers, four thousand and eighty dollars, eighty-three cents; for freight, three hundred and eighty-seven dollars, ninety-one cents—total, four thousand four hundred and sixty-eight dollars, seventy-four cents.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

INDIA RUBBER FABRIC.—A discovery has been recently made by Mr. Goodyear, by which India rubber, after having been dissolved, can be restored by a cheap process to its original whiteness, and the pure gum be formed into a fabric to be used instead of cloth, leather, or parchment, and can be moulded into almost any form, and can also be combined in a variety of ways with cloth, cordage or leather. Being first made white, it admits of every shade of color worked in and as durable as the rubber itself. Fine specimens are now being exhibited at the Mechanics' Institute at Castle Garden, which will give an idea of the general utility of the invention. From our little experience and that of one of our friends in the use of this fabric, we are disposed to the opinion that it is valuable, and the invention one of importance.—*Journal of Commerce.*

COMET.—To-morrow, October 1, the comet will rise about a quarter past nine o'clock in the evening, and will rise a few minutes earlier on the succeeding evenings. From the 7th to the 13th of the month, it will be within the circle of perpetual apparition, and will consequently, during this period, revolve around the pole without descending below the horizon. During the latter half of the month it will be seen only in the evening sky. On the 18th it will set at 10 o'clock, and on the 31st at about a quarter past eight.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

SHIPWRECK.—The British ship *Challenger*, with 150 men, mounting 18 guns, was wrecked, June 10th, on a reef near the island of Mocha, without loss of lives.—*Ib.*

It is stated in the *Boston Gazette*, that, for the last two years, the Steamboat Companies between Providence and New York have divided *forty-five per cent per annum.*

Commercial.

Ashes have experienced a further improvement. Pots were sold yesterday at 33s. 6d., and Pearls at 39s. ⅌ cwt.

In the Flour market there is no alteration.

At auction yesterday, 36 puncs. Molasses sold at 2s. 1d. @ 2s. 1½d., and 14 hhds. bright Muscovado Sugar at 46s. 9d. @ 47s.

The *Rankin*, at Quebec, from Hull, has on board about 15,000 bushels Foreign Wheat.

We learn from our Quebec Correspondent's letter of Saturday evening that sales of Fine Flour had been made in that market at 29s., and that one lot of 100 brls. had brought 29s. 6d. ⅌ brl. Holders of West India Produce appeared sanguine of realising full prices, it having been ascertained that three or four of the regular traders from the West Indies, which were expected, have not been able to procure cargoes; in addition to which, among the great number of vessels which have just arrived there is not one with West India Produce on board. A pretty extensive sale of Groceries, &c., which took place at Quebec on Saturday, went off briskly; the articles offered were:—

20 barrels bright Muscovado, (all sold,) 42s. @ 47s. 6d
2 do dark do. (do.) 45s.
5 puncheons Jamaica, 2 @ 5, withdrawn, (offered at 4s.)
20 pipes Cognac, (only one sold at £3 2s. per 100 gallons, the rest withdrawn.)
25 do Spanish, good, (4 pipes sold, 1 at £7 2s. 6d., and 3 at £7 10s., the rest offered at £7 10s.)
15 hhds Genevo, good, (3 hhds. sold, 1 at 4s., and 2 at 3s. 6d., rest withdrawn offered at 4s. 6d.
8 small casks Sherry, (all sold,) at 3s. 7d. and 3s. 9d.
25 hhds Brandy, Favreau's, (only 1 sold at 4s. 6d., rest offered at 3s.)
14 boxes Orange Pekoe Tea, (all sold,) at 1s. 11½d. and 2s.
10 do Imperial Gunpowder, (only 3 sold,) 3s. 11d. and 3s. 11½d.
5 do Gunpowder, superior quality, put up at 5s. 8d., and none sold.
63 chests Twankay—the Company's Tea bought in London, and imported from Boston—was put at 3s. per lb., and none was sold.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7, 1835.

We refer our readers with great pleasure to the able exposition of the *real* use of Usury Laws, which "CAMILLUS" gives in his communication. The subject of which our intelligent Correspondent treats, is, doubtless, deserving of the grave consideration of our Legislators. The impracticability that has ever been found to exist in rendering usury laws effective, affords, perhaps, one of the strongest arguments against their continuance. The affixing of penalties to breaches of these laws, only increases the evil they are intended to suppress. The borrower is obliged to pay to the lender a higher premium to cover the risks of an evasion of them. But, we will not extend our remarks on this subject, as it has received at the hands of "CRŒSUS" so able treatment. We will only express our cordial acquiescence in the belief, that the loan of money, instead of being regarded as a necessary evil, ought to be reckoned among the most powerful and stimulating aids to Industry, and be applied to the advancement of society.

We are glad to perceive by an advertisement in the *Mercury* that the Scotchmen of Quebec, are about to form themselves into a St. ANDREW'S Society.

A most disastrous fire occurred at Boston, on the 1st instant. It is singular that printing and publishing establishments, as in the late great fire, at New York suffered most. Among the property destroyed, eight large steam-power presses, are mentioned.

We recommend to the perusal and attention of our correspondents and contributors, the following few plain rules to be observed in writing for the Press. We trust that they will not escape the notice of our valued Correspondent "COZ."

A WORD TO WRITERS FOR THE PRESS.—Permit me to offer a few items of advice to young writers, particularly those whose lucubrations are intended for newspapers, that they may avoid the danger of having their writings disfigured with so many errors, as we frequently see in newspaper essays, whereby the sense is often entirely marred.

In newspaper offices, particularly those of morning papers, there is so much hurry and confusion, that it is difficult to pay the attention that it is necessary to guard against errors, and therefore writers should, as far as in them lies, prevent the danger.

1. The writing out to be as plain as possible; for it often happens that manuscripts are put into the hands of apprentices and inexperienced journeymen, who are not very skilful in deciphering the pot-hooks and hangers which are often presented for publication. Writing approaching to the perpendicular is much more easily read, and of course less liable to be mistaken, than that which approaches a horizontal direction.

2. A margin about one fourth part of the width of the page ought to be left for the purpose of introducing additions or corrections. The reference from the text to the margin ought to be in figures, which are not so liable to be mistaken as stars, daggers, &c.

3. Manuscripts intended for newspapers ought generally to be written on one side of the paper, as it happens that an essay of even a single column has to be divided between two or three compositors, and, of course, requires to be cut up in as many pieces.

4. Punctuation requires far more attention than it generally receives. Writers too frequently neglect it almost altogether, or at least point their matter so carelessly, as often to confuse the sense.

5. Particular care is necessary in writing proper names of persons and places, and figures. The names and figures ought to be written so plain as to preclude error, with a proper degree of care on the part of the compositor.

These rules are so plain and so simple that it may appear a work of supererogation to urge them with so much formality. It is nevertheless true, that there is not above one manuscript in five, in which due attention is paid to them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER.

SIR,—There is a subject which I think has been too little regarded in this country, though it is one which has, of late years, been much agitated in England, as being of great national importance, and affecting, in an especial degree, her commercial and manufacturing interests.—I refer to the Laws of Usury; and as the Provincial Parliament is about going into Session, I would endeavour to attract a more serious attention to it than it has hitherto received here.

A celebrated writer on Natural Law has said, that if the compensation allowed by law do not exceed the proportion of the hazard run, or the want felt by the loan, its allowance is neither repugnant to the revealed, nor the natural law; but if it exceed those bounds, it is then oppressive usury,—and though the municipal laws may give it impunity, they can never make it just. In this passage will, I am of opinion, be found the best solution of the doubtful propriety of establishing a positive enactment, either wholly against the lending of money on interest, or for restricting the usufruct to a certain rate. I believe no one of sound views will be found in the present day to assert that there exists any reason in the law of nature why a man should not be paid for the lending of his "money" as well as any other property; and the authority of the Old Testament warrants the lending of money upon usury, (that is, interest,) except among the Jews themselves, who were altogether ruled by a peculiar dispensation.

Assuming, therefore, the equity of loaning "money" on interest, I shall attempt to exhibit the general policy and expediency to the constitution and wants of civilized society.

Money, I mean the current coin of a country, in the absence of any inducement for its distribution, is hoarded up, and gradually gets into comparatively few hands, thus creating one of the most baneful and fearfully powerful oligarchies in a State. At the same time the springs of trade are dried up, and the improvement of society effectually impeded. Trade would scarcely reach beyond the mere bartering of the first necessaries of life, and not only

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