NEWS ITEMS.

The recent famine killed off 10,000,000 Chinese.

The trial of the City of Glasgow Bank Directors begins on the 20th of January.

Some admirers of Mr. Gladstone, propose to present him with an axe on his sixty-fourth birthday.

Computation from all sources in the United States, shows the aggregate wheat crop of this past season was 425 million bushels.

News from Turkestan show the Chinese are concentrating against Kuldja, a post in Kashgar occupied by the Russians.

Russia has now 25,308 elementary public schools in which are instructed 1,102,713 pupils, 193,871 of these being girls.

A Michigan man tried to commit suicide by holding his head in a hot oven. After getting properly baked he saw his foolishness.

A Providence, R. I., watchmaker is credited with drilling a hole through the entire length of a common pin from head to point.

The amount of paper money in circulation in Japan is estimated by the Government to be one hundred and fifty millions of dollars.

A fleet of Russian iron-clads and swift unarmed vessels is gathering in the Chinese Seas, but for what purpose has not transpired.

Ten thousand five hundred barrels are a good many apples— this quantity left New York City for Europe on a recent Saturday.

The police of Berlin, on the 1st of last August, notified the King of Spain and of Italy that an international plot was laid to kill them.

A Boston physician tore up the prescription that he had written for a boy with diphtheria because the mother had no money to pay for it, and with a few hours the boy died for lack of medicine.

The supremacy of American industry is now established beyond dispute. The cotton tract submitted in New York made a sensation which furnished seventy-six feet six inches and weighed thirty-one pounds.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., DECEMBER 28, 1878.

1878.

Communications.

For the "Agriculturist."

Emigration to New Brunswick and how it should be conducted.—

SIR.—The situation of New Brunswick is one which renders it especially well adapted as a place of residence to natives of New Brunswick; the frequent and abundant means of communication with the mother country, its healthful and invigorating climate in which the moist damp winters of Great Britain are replaced by clear bracing cold weather; its fertile soil, several millions of acres of which are yet in a wilderness state, all these elements well worthy of consideration.

Beet Root Sugar.

The subject of sugar is being discussed very generally now in the United States, the frauds committed by many New York Refiners have attracted a great deal of attention; and even of consternation at the discovery that poisonous adulterations are being practised by them.

Lecture on Cyprus.

The lecture delivered by the Rev. Mr. Hamlin of Bangor, on Saturday night in the City Hall, was numerously and respectably attended. The subject was "Cyprus" but, in strict fact, it was a review of all the circumstances that brought on the war between Russia and Turkey, and of the events that led up to the peace of San Stefano, and to the Treaty of Berlin, and to the acquisition of Cyprus by England.

Canada Agency Office.

Attention is being directed to the Colonies in the English papers.

Trade Depression in ?

Loss of the "Charlie Bell."

The storm of Saturday night the 21st of December was very destructive to shipping, and there were many wrecks on the Maine coast. The schooner "Charlie Bell," in command of Capt. H. G. Knox, and having a crew of, as known, of three aboard—viz., David Fox, Charles Kimball, and Wheaton, sailed from New York on the 18th of Decem.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Double Parricide.

An appalling tragedy occurred lately between the members of a family and was fated by the temperance people in Ottawa.

R. C. B. Concert.

On Thursday night the Reform Club Band gave their concert in the City Hall, and it was largely attended, the body of the hall and the front seats of the gallery being well filled.

The Loan and the Award.

Hon. Mr. Tilley has returned to Canada, after a short stay in England, and was fated by the temperance people in Ottawa.

THE SKATING RINK.—On Monday evening the Skating Rink was opened, on which occasion, Mr. Estey extended a free invitation to the public.

The Governor General presented prizes to the children of the Public Schools at Ottawa, before the Christmas vacations, and made a very complimentary speech.

Mr. James McCausland, Superintendent of the Gibson Leather Company's Factory was presented at Christmas, by the employees with an address, accompanied by a gift which was very acceptable to him as a lover of the nicotine weed.

Mr. D. Tapley, trackmaster of the N. B. Railway, also received a Christmas present from the section men of the road, in the shape of a gold watch and chain.

SOCIALS.—The Social Club of Fredericton who have held a number of pleasant meetings already this season intend giving a social on the first evening of the new year, Jan. 1st, 1879, in the Temperance Hall.

TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.—We understand a Temperance Convention is to be held at the Club Rooms, in this city, on Tuesday, the 31st inst., at 2 P.M., at which the friends of the cause from all parts of the county as well as from the city are expected to be present.

LOYAL ORANGE.—At the late meeting in Toronto of the Dominion Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry an address to the Governor General was proposed, and it was forwarded to Ottawa on the 20th inst.

Valuable Cattle for Australia.

The Australians are alive to the importance of keeping up their breed of cattle.

THE PRETTIEST GIRLS IN MONTANA.— There was a prize for the prettiest girl at a ball in Gold City, Montana, and the definite question was to be decided by a committee.

TANNING IN TWENTY MINUTES.—R. D. Cox of Camden, N. J., has invented a process by which the skins of bullocks, calves, and goats are tanned in from twenty to forty minutes.