

The fine new steamer *Speed* was burned to the water's edge on the 23rd ultimo, on her passage from Grenville to Bytown. Passengers all saved. She was valued at £10,000, and was not insured.

The petition in favour of a modification of the Navigation Laws, was sent home by the mail, which left this on the 15th inst.

**GREAT BRITAIN AND THE CONTINENT.**

The English papers call 1847 the year of ruin, and make calculations to show reasons for it:

Depreciation of public securities, consols declining from 100 to 19.....	£168,000,000
Fall in Railway Shares, estimated at 50 per cent.....	60,000,000
Failure of Commercial Establishments...	20,000,000
Loss on East and West India produce...	100,000,000
Depreciation of Colonial property in plantations and buildings.....	400,000,000
	<b>748,000,000</b>

Several noblemen and gentlemen lately proposed erecting a monument to the memory of the late Mr. Walter, proprietor of the *Times*. His friends decline it, and say that his best monument is the *Times*.

There appears to be great demand for emigrants in Sydney.

The coming harvest in England promises to be abundant. Nearly 3000 families in Paisley have received warning to quit their houses at the next May term, from inability to pay rent.

In one week 270 foxes were shipped at Boulogne for England.

During Louis Philippe's reign 57 journals were obliged to discontinue publication.

The price of wheat in France, at present, is 20 per cent. below the average.

In London and its suburbs there are 2,500 master bakers, and 12,000 journeymen.

An epidemic amongst cattle at present prevails in Nottinghamshire.

The cholera is again raging in Russia. John Mitchell, convicted of sedition, has been sentenced to be sent to Bermuda.

**UNITED STATES.**

The Mayor of Brooklyn has prohibited a monster meeting of Irish sympathizers, called for Sunday fortnight, on Fort Green.

Taylor and Clay seem to be the representatives for the presidency of the two great parties in the Union.

A free negro was lately tried in Maryland for circulating an abolition paper, and found guilty. He has since committed suicide.

A number of Mexican families have arrived in Cincinnati. The number of immigrants arrived at New York in May 1847, was 27,643; in May 1848, 35,161.

In New York, in one day lately, 100,000 baskets of strawberries were sold, averaging 4 cents per basket.

Wisconsin which is to be a free State, contains about 90,000 square miles.

**CIRCULAR**

ADDRESSED TO THE OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED PROVINCE OF CANADA.

DEAR FRIENDS,—A crisis seems to have arrived in the Temperance Cause which requires on the part of all who appreciate the importance of this mighty reformation, renewed activity, either in the old organizations which have heretofore done good service, or in such new ways as may be deemed most advisable.

Our present societies are to a great extent defunct. Few have regular meetings—few publish annual reports, and even among most of those which do, little more or better can be said of them than that they continue to exist: there are scarcely any signs of health or vigor about them.

The reasons for this are various. Some societies are paralyzed by debt; some are choked by the inconsistency of their office bearers; some are rent by petty jealousies of a sectarian or political nature,—but more, many more, waste away to nothing through mere carelessness and apathy.

Brethren, should this state of things continue? If we have not heretofore adopted the right means, or if those means are no longer suited to the times, let us change them, but let us not continue barren and unfruitful in a cause which reason, experience, and revelation, alike commend to us. It is good to be *always* zealously affected in a good thing; and, in this matter, we have a duty to perform to the drunkard—a duty to the rising and all future generations—and higher than all, a duty to God.

But while we have been sleeping as it were, the Temperance Cause has not been standing still. The good seed sown in days of activity has taken deep root, and is springing up and bearing fruit. The rising tide of the Temperance reformation has reached the halls of legislation—and, even without us, there cannot be a doubt that Truth is mighty and will prevail. This, however, should form no incentive to indolence on our part, but rather the reverse, lest the curse of Meroz fall upon us.

Several of the representatives of the people, and among them some members of the Executive Government take a warm interest in the Temperance Cause, and it is, doubtless, known to you all that a measure was introduced during the last Session of Parliament with a view to elicit information concerning the extent of, and incentives to intemperance, and provide whatever remedy the case might admit of. This measure will, it is understood, come up for discussion at an early period of next Session, and we have the authority of the most prominent legislators concerned in the movement, for stating that they require all the information on the subject with which Temperance Societies can furnish them.

Now, brethren, it is for you and us to say whether we will respond to this call or not; whether we will prove recreant in the hour of need, or come forward with manly diligence and communicate the information required of us. Doubtless you will all say, "Give the information by all means," but remember statistics (the only kind of information worth having in Parliament) can not be made up without much inquiry and a good deal of labour, and who is to undertake that labour in each of the temperance societies of Canada? Again, the whole returns are to be collated and reduced to a tabular form,—and who will do this? Let us look intelligently at the amount of labour required,—compare it with the importance of the result sought, and resolve that we will deny ourselves in this matter, *and do the work*. The Montreal Society, besides furnishing its own statistics, will volunteer to collate and arrange the whole.

Whilst addressing you at any rate, and to save the postage upon separate answers, we will also lay before you briefly the position of the Montreal Temperance Society, which has, in many respects, done the duties that would have devolved upon a Provincial society, or Union of societies, had such been in existence.

**MONTREAL PRICES CURRENT.—JUNE 30.**

ASHES—Pots, 25s 3d a 25s 7½d	BEER, per 200 lbs,
Pearls, 26s 9d a 27s 0d	Prime Mess, 40s 0d a 00s 0d
FLOUR—	Prime, . . . 30s 0d a 00s 0d
Canada Fine, per brl. 196	PORK, per 200 lbs,
lbs, . . . 23s 6d a 23s 9d	Mess, . . . 65s 0d a 66s 3d
WHEAT, U.C. best, per 69	Prime Mess, 47s 6d a 48s 9d
lbs, . . . 5s 6d a 0s 0d	Prime, . . . 41s 3d a 00s 0d
Do. red. 5s 4½d a 0s 0d	