

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

The Pullman Car Company seems to be a flourishing concern. The receipts of the company for the year ending 31st July last reached the large sum of \$2,000,000. The expenditure, including \$250,000 for dividends, amounted to \$2,000,000, leaving a surplus of \$250,000. The company now owns 1,000 cars.

The death of President Garfield has elicited an expression of general regret throughout Canada all classes of the people being in it. In England, too, feeling on the subject is very strong. Leading newspapers appeared yesterday with prominent flags flew at half mast from public buildings, and in other ways there was visible evidence of the sorrow which is felt at the melancholy termination of President Garfield's career. Yesterday morning the Queen telegraphed to Mrs. Garfield, stating that words could not express the deep sympathy she felt for her in her affliction. A despatch was received from the Lord Mayor on behalf of the citizens of London, expressing regret at the sad loss sustained by the American nation. Indeed, from all parts of the civilized world messages of condolence arrived after the announcement of the President's death. It is seldom that a public event has occurred that has called forth such general sorrow as, in the first place, the attempt upon President Garfield's life, and, in the second, its fatal result.

and expensive machinery used in cooking, unclean, filthy, and unwholesome, and the fact that it is kept constantly burning. The goods when prepared are packed in the second story where they are packed, labelled and stored ready for transport.

HAPPY SETTLEMENTS IN MICHIGAN

This is an entirely new paper, and is manufactured by a new firm, establishing their headquarters in Toronto. It is used for laundry purposes in public institutions, laundries and private houses instead of lard and square blue, and is universally acknowledged to be superior to all former kinds of blue. It will not spot, streak or dye the finest fabric, which requires washing and bluing. This blue is an improvement on the old system of using blue bags, as none are required when Harper's Liquid Blue is used, a single drop colours a large goblet of water three will make it a dark blue. The manufacturer of this blue makes a very creditable display in the main building of about fifty dozen of his liquid blue. This blue factory is entirely new and the only industry of the kind in the Dominion. Considering the manufacturer has only been in operation since the third of July 1881, he has experienced a good demand for his product, and hopes yet to have a large show of the public patronage of our fair Dominion, trusting to the public, by means of the Press and individual attention, to secure that patronage which the venture of the manufacturer deserves. We are pleased indeed to state that he has received the highest award at the Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, 1881, against the world. Mr. A. Harper, 20 Francis street, Toronto, is the manufacturer of this blue, and deserves credit for his display, as we think it eclipsed any exhibit of one article at the World's Fair, Toronto, 1881.

DEVASTATED MICHIGAN

The recent terrible forest fires in eastern Michigan revive memories of that terrible day in October, 1871, when not only Chicago, but as well several sections of the lumber district of the North-West, were devastated by the destroyer. Among the sections of country which at that time were visited with swift destruction was the same district which now claims again the sympathies of the civilized world, by reason of the terrible suffering and loss of life resulting in a culmination of the causes which were then established.

Those familiar with the map of Michigan will recognize the devastated district as what is not infrequently spoken of as the "thumb" of the state. It is that country lying north of the line of the Detroit & Bay City railroad, from its junction at Lapeer with the Grand Trunk road to Port Huron. While Chicago was in flames on October 9, 1871, this same territory was being swept by fire, as a result of which thousands were rendered homeless, while hundreds of dead bodies testified to the ruthless character of their disastrous experience, and their helplessness of endeavour to escape from the sea of flame. The loss of life at that time was never fully ascertained, and, indeed, it is but a few weeks since it was reported that the remains of four human skeletons, huddled in a group, which were supposed to be those of a family who perished in the great fire of ten years ago, now, for the first time, discovered.

The region of country so terribly afflicted was the field of the earliest endeavours of the lumberman in the state of Michigan. On the banks of the Black River, and other minor streams emptying into the St. Clair river, were watered that large stock of logs which for many years supplied the mills of Port Huron, St. Clair, Detroit and other river points. Later, the attentions of the lumbermen were attracted to the Cass and Flint rivers, whose waters leading in the region which would naturally be explored by the loggers operating on the streams flowing east were found not only eminently suited to log running, but seemed a provision of nature for enabling immense forests of the most valuable pine timber which had, up to that time, or, in fact, has since been discovered upon the continent of America, to be utilized for the benefit of a rapidly developing nation.

The Cass river pine, and scarcely less that of the Flint, became so famous throughout the country that it was no uncommon occurrence in the East to see a lumber yard sign, or a newspaper announcement by some enterprising dealer, read, "Cass river pine lumber for sale." At the time of the great fire of 1871, lumber operations upon these streams had been carried to their very sources, and the near at hand timber had been pretty thoroughly taken off, after the manner current in those days, in which no timber was thought fit to cut that would not yield largely the upper quality, or that was not over twelve in height in diameter. There was still remaining a vast quantity of small timber, not remote from the streams, a considerable quantity of larger growth.

The country had not for any length of time presented an inviting field for the lumberman, and abandoned with bits of good hardwood with hemlock and cedar swamps, which were not as yet considered of value. Along the coast of Lake Huron, the mills of Port Austin—producing from 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 feet per year—constituted about the last of the chain of mills which had for years invited the lumber buyer to Lexington, Port Hope and other

ports towns West of Port Austin. Beyond the last shore of Keeweenaw Bay, the water, with a good mill was to work on the timber which was still to be had on the eastern river. Following a certain settlement was made a few years since, in which a number of the country men in an excellent manner organized. Over a large proportion of all this territory was scattered farms, some of which were cleared by the lumbermen in order to establish a supply of roots, hay and vegetables for their winter operations.

Those who are familiar with the lumbering business need not be told as to the character of a large proportion of the settlers who were to recognize, as among the labourers in the lumber camps, who had settled upon cut lands, taken up homesteads or purchased swamp lands, the same in a neighbourhood where work was to be obtained in the pine woods during the winter, enabling them to obtain ready money for necessities unobtainable without, and to take out the winter means available from the products of farms in process of clearing. But few in all this region of country could boast, at the end of each successive year, of available results of their labours, beyond an increase of the area of cleared land, and an increase in the months to be provided for villages and hamlets were springing up in all directions as the farming communities would demand, but none possessing any greater elements of wealth than were presented in the enterprise of small traders, and such mechanics as were in demand in a new country.

It was over this country that the flames swept upon the fatal October days of 1871, leaving ruin and devastation in their track. The standing timber was killed over vast areas of country, and lumber operations were almost wholly suspended. After the first season, by reason of the valuelessness of the timber. Thousands of small farms were at that time swept of all their buildings and fences, as well as the crops which had been raised during the season. Hundreds of families were called to mourn the loss of some of their members, and in scores of instances whole families perished in a day. The sympathies of the world were awakened by the dire results of those days of terror in Michigan and at Port Huron, Wis., but above and overshadowing all, by those at the better known and more readily located city of Chicago. Relief was freely forwarded from all quarters, but the scattered settlements of the stricken farming and lumber districts received, comparatively speaking, only the crumbs which fell from the richer supplies of bounty which were lavished upon the sufferers of Chicago. It is said that at the time of the Irish famine of 1845 the Prince of Wales, then a small lad, had been listening to the tales of suffering and starvation, when he turned to the Queen mother with the remark, "Well, I would not starve if I were there. I would live on crackers and cheese first. And not a few of the sufferers in Michigan would have been glad of such a diet.

Such aid as Port Huron, Detroit, the Saginaw valley and southern Michigan, supplemented by supplies principally of second hand clothing, from other sections as could be made available, were distributed among the settlers, and with the lapse of years the experiences of those terrible days became a memory of the past, to be recalled only with a shudder, accompanied with the earnest prayer that such a calamity might never again be visited upon any portion of the land.

The country has again been settled by a quarter of a million souls, scattered over 6,000 square miles. The timber killed by the forest fire of 1871 has stood in vast areas of this territory, the whitened trunks pointing upward, and drying to the heart. In the midst, clearings have marked the faith of new settlers that the walls of tinder wood which surround them would never again take fire, until the financial ability of the people should enable their permanent removal. Many express surprise that the people in the burned district did not, after their first disastrous experience, remove the dead timber which could, and did, prove a constant menace to their safety. These do not appreciate the extent of country involved, the comparative sparseness of its population, or the poverty of a majority of those who go into the timber wilds to bow out a home for themselves and their families—facts which at once forbid a man struggling for a poor existence from undertaking works of a public character, for the general benefit especially where the work is to be performed upon the lands of another, who, perhaps, is a non-resident, and who, if approachable, would probably not appreciate the danger with which an entire community was menaced by the condition of his property.

The present improved timber department has a well calculated to remove the last vestige of dampness from the dead timber of this last section of country, and what wonder that again the flames have obtained a foothold in the dry trunks of the miles of forest trees, and that the sympathies of the world are awakened for thousands of naked, hungry and homeless sufferers, including the survivors of those families from among whom hundreds of victims have fallen in the holocaust of flame, and, destitute and discouraged, a vast population looks upon the ruins of their lately comfortable dwellings and farms, despondently contemplating the coming of a winter season, which can, at the best,

present to them, and which only an outlook of darkness, and a gloomy and somber future, with a people suffering with unutterable pain, and supplication to their more favoured fellow citizens, and their appeal for aid, should not call upon for open unappreciative ears.

Could the money value of each of the acres be at once replaced from the bounty of the world, there would still remain an untold and unpayable amount of suffering which money cannot replace or compensate. Five thousand families might again be provided with houses, fuel, and provisions, but the hundreds of lives which have been sacrificed can never be replaced. Only time can replace the orchards destroyed, or rebuild the fences and farm buildings. The horses, cattle, fowls, comfort, which have been destroyed, may not all be replaced in a day, and in many instances can never be fully substituted. Still it is in the power of sympathizing people to relieve a vast amount of distress, and to this end, no doubt, the call for aid will meet with a hearty response. If this should come at once, much can yet be done toward relieving the distress which the near approach of winter makes inevitable. Hundreds of families must be aided through the entire winter, and until the crops of another season shall enable them again to rely upon their own endeavours. With everything they possess swept from them, hundreds of those who are the heads of families will seek a winter's work in the pine woods, supporting their absent families, dwelling meanwhile in temporary habitations, to the extent of their comparatively small earnings. Such should receive the utmost consideration of employers, not only in providing them with work, but also in the prompt payment of their earnings, while at the best the absent families will inevitably be deprived of the comforts upon which they had confidently relied, during a cold winter. The lumbermen of the country will, no doubt, feel it a pleasure to aid the sufferers, and those of Chicago have already responded in a measure to the cry for immediate aid.—North-Western Lumberman.

THE TRADE QUESTION IN ENGLAND.

(Edinburgh Courier.)

The manner in which the question of Free Trade is being treated shows clearly that the thing called Liberalism is consistent only in its inconsistency. It claims to represent all that is implied by progress, the redress of grievances, and the adaptation of everything to the Constitution to the circumstances of the times. In regard to many things it certainly is identified with change—mischievous and unnecessary change, but with respect to this particular matter, it not absolutely retrogressive, it assuredly displays the most pertinacious obstinacy towards the suggestion of any modification in the commercial laws which were deemed most advantageous some forty years ago. About that period a body of gentlemen, now known to fame as the Manchester School, decided that the prosperity of this country could best be promoted by throwing open its ports to foreign merchandise and foreign manufactures. There need be no hesitation in confessing that for a considerable period a result, so far as the mere amount of trade transacted is concerned, was all that had been predicted. But everybody knew that a period of prosperity must follow such a change, and it was only far-seeing statesmen like Lord Beaconsfield who perceived that a time would come when the then agitating masses would plead for a reversal of the policy of free trade. It was only men possessed of his courage and patriotism who ventured to declare in the face of an overwhelming majority that such would be the issue. The present circumstances of the country in relation to commerce are a sufficient commentary on that prophecy. We have not yet quite reached the stage for testing the matter, but the most unending apostles of Cobden and Bright are conscious of the fact that it is rapidly ripening. They have no arguments to offer; they are unable to show by statistics, or by reference to the conditio, commercially, of the community at the present moment, that Free Trade is still a boon to us. They cannot even convince themselves that it is not occasioning the loss of many millions per annum. Instead, however, of admitting that they were mistaken as to the ultimate result, they content themselves with abusing those whose eyes have been opened to the situation, and who recognize in it the necessity for a change.

When Lord Beaconsfield prophesied as above, Mr. Cobden and his friends informed all whom it might concern that ten years later Free Trade would become universal among the civilized nations of the earth. Shortly afterwards the present Premier hazarded his reputation for prescience and foresight on the assertion that in a much more limited space of time this result would be produced. What of that prophecy now? Instead of veering towards Free Trade, every nation with whom we have commercial relations is hedging itself round year by year with a more rigidly prohibitory import tariff. This is a fact which cannot be got over by the most elaborate use of statistics and polemics. It is not in the slightest degree affected by calling ugly names and hurling uncomplimentary epithets at those who are in a position to realize and admit the circumstances in which we are now placed. It has been said that such "must be possessed either of great courage or of intense stupidity." The courage to know and to declare the truth is oftentimes in these days a rare commodity. In this sense alone are the advocates of Free Trade courageous and their stupidity, if it exists at all, consists in the fact that they possess the courage. The sarcasm which is being persistently held up to the public gaze is Protection. This new thing called Free Trade, it is

maintained, is but Protection under a thin disguise. No doubt men are still living who remember the state of things prior to the adoption of Free Trade, and such of those who were then in favour of it, and who, so far, have experienced no personal disadvantage from it, will probably still be disposed to argue for its continuance. If they did but argue there would be little difficulty in meeting them and convincing them. What is it that they tell us? They tell us that under Free Trade the manufacturers of this country have beaten the manufacturers of every other country in the world. The answer to this is that for a time our manufacturers were decidedly in the van of commerce, and that they are now, through the continued operation of the same principle which is said to have secured their supremacy, decidedly in the rear. Why is this so? Too other nations by whom our manufacturers are beaten have certainly not advanced in consequence of the adoption of Free Trade in their part. Is it not rather because they have strenuously adhered to a policy which gives their products a monopoly at home and the most equal terms abroad? At all events, it is surely worth while to consider how that while they have without exception advanced, we have of late years been receding. This is done by the Free Traders. The tell us that in ten years our foreign trade has increased 21 per cent, which is true. But the foreign trade of America in the same period has increased 67 per cent, and that of France 61 per cent.

When Free Trade was adopted in 1847 the contention was, firstly, that it would be an immediate and immense gain to the consumer in this country, on the principle of counting heads; and, secondly, that it would ultimately be a gain to the world at large, inasmuch as all other nations would follow suit. Upon this latter proposition the main justification for the step taken was confidently based. At the end of thirty-five years it is found that no such justification exists, and those who still adhere to Cobden tenets are driven to the humiliating position of arguing that "the total of the manufacturing production of this country is as great as it ever was!" If it were not now as great as it ever was, what would be the position of a community so vastly increased in numbers, and whose ideas as to what constitutes the necessities of life have undergone such a change? Forty years ago the exports of this country exceeded the imports in value to the extent of nearly fifty millions sterling. In 1870 the value of the imports surpassed that of the exports by 114 millions sterling. In other words, for each 5 per cent. increase on exports there has been an increase of something like 150 per cent. on imports. Those who maintain that the value of the country's exports is its imports, are thus faced with this logical dilemma, that under protection Great Britain had to give goods to the value of, say, 100 millions in value, and that foreign nations are now carrying in their trade with us under similar conditions. The facts which we have quoted go to show that such a proposition is absurd. Without unduly emphasizing the progress which has been made in America, seeing that it is a new country with incalculable wealth and undeveloped resources, let us simply institute a comparison between ourselves and France. The difficulty of negotiating commercial relations with France has increased on each successive occasion, until at last it is confessed that treaty negotiations between the two countries have been abandoned. That they have been abandoned is in no sense due to any little which we possess to treat our nearest neighbour cavalierly. On the contrary, it is because the terms proposed to us have graduated from one stage of stringency to another, till at last they are deemed worse than no treaty at all. And why has France treated us in this high-handed manner? Because the trade of France has increased 61 per cent. during the time it has taken us to achieve a growth of 21 per cent. And whence the diversity of growth? France has had great wars, revolutions, changes of government, and general unrest. Such has not been our history. But the policy of the French Government has been to protect the French producer—upon whom, it is held, depends the prosperity of the labouring classes and the nation generally—from undue competition from abroad. Free Trade, on the other hand, proceeds upon the assumption that the producer and the consumer are beings apart, having no interests in common, and no mutual advantages. Another evidence of the weakness of the case of the free traders is that they persist in saying something is proposed which actually is not proposed at all. "A protective duty upon corn" is not among the things suggested, but this is the skeleton in the Cobden cupboard, and this is the way in which the imaginary proposition is reasoned out; the effect being to increase the price of bread, the farmer would be enabled to pay a higher rent to his landlord. Would it not be as reasonable to say that the additional sum received in name of increase in the price of corn would enable the farmer to pay higher wages to his labourers, to purchase more freely of the commodities generally manufactured in the country, to keep the land under cultivation, and to maintain a position of solvency? But it is a gross and deliberate misrepresentation of facts to say that the advocates of Free Trade desire to return absolutely to protection. What they desire is, that the manufacturers, farmers, and producers generally in this country shall be enabled to compete upon equal terms with those of other nations in the markets of the world. It is no simple problem to solve, and we are far from saying that it is yet within appreciable distance of solution. Those, however, who think that it can ever be solved by means of a blind adherence to the principle of free imports, are at once possessed of "great courage and intense stupidity."

SPECIAL NOTICES.

W. J. NORRIS & SON.

ORDER OF PIANO, ORGANS AND PIANO COVERS, AND MANUFACTURERS OF PIANO STOOLS.

This firm is one of the oldest in Canada, having been established for the past twenty-five years, and are doing a remarkably thriving trade. In piano stools and covers they are doing an immense wholesale trade, and are exclusively supplying the trade from Gaspe to British Columbia. Owing to the immense supply of piano stools which they send through the country, and the material economies bestowed on them by an appreciative public, they are contemplating to withdraw from the piano trade and devote their extra attention to the manufacture of piano stools, which are unsurpassed in design, style and finish. The warehouses and office of this firm are at No. 3 Adelaide street East, Toronto.

TODHUNTER, MITCHELL & CO'S CELEBRATED COCOA AND CHOCOLATE PREPARATIONS.

It is well known that owing to the extremes of heat and cold in our Canadian climate something is needed to build up our constitutions, and the excellent preparation of cocoa and chocolate manufactured by Todhunter, Mitchell & Co. seems to supply the want. Persons of sedentary habits who do a vast amount of brain work will find the brain invigorated by this chocolate and the nerves soothed to induce a quiet sleep. Ladies will find by its use a transformation from sickly, mallow complexions to that of the bloom of health, and for children also it is the best drink, as it contains the highest amount of nourishment in the most digestible form. As cocoa contains the sustaining qualities of tea and coffee, without their hurtful properties, farmers and mechanics who are overtaxed with manual work will find it invaluable. Todhunter, Mitchell & Co's cocoa and chocolates are entirely free from the liability to become stale and unwholesome. Although, in accordance with the Adulteration of Food Act of 1875, chemical analyses have been frequently made of cocoa and chocolate, yet, in every instance, Todhunter & Mitchell's improved system of manufacture has been reported entirely free from any deleterious substances, and of fine quality. Owing to a variety of causes all previous attempts to make the manufacture of cocoa and chocolate a special industry in Canada has resulted in failure. It has, however, been the good fortune of Todhunter, Mitchell & Co to successfully demonstrate the fact that as fine goods can be made here as in any part of the civilized world, and to their increasing determination to maintain a high standard of excellence is attributed the great and constantly increasing demand for their cocoa and chocolates. Their works are located at 112 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, and a short description may be had as follows. An immense engine and boiler in the basement supply the power for turning the various machines in the three upper flats. The third floor is used for storing the various kinds of cocoa beans imported from the West Indies, Mexico and South America, and here they are roasted to develop the aroma, in patent cylinders, and of twice calculated previous to being lowered to the ground floor when the numerous

Winnipeg, Man., 21st.—Write have been issued for local elections in the electoral divisions in the newly acquired territory. The nominations take place on October 21st, and the polling on November 2nd.