

Haven directors on way, of the reports grand Trunk would Boston and Maine. merging the Boston tor of the company just soon find, one against its Boston & rown to the winds to the highest bid- e, be he American

urchase of the New & Maine came as a indeed, business such a matter it is from the fountain ser might be either York Central or the Journal points out, it is certain as any l of the Boston & The 110,000 shares ew Haven are prob- es scattered among k and virtually car-

l by Sir Thomas tions proceeding on for the purchase of Railway Company's Maine Company." ident of the Grand dation for the rumor Trunk and the New ny's holding of the

ne by the Canadian oad finance. The , is interesting to

" it says, "there is in the world to-day never abused its which looms on its tege of the present y to be in the near hat Government has

h all the way from ritish Maritime Pro- an Pacific seeks an acquisition of the c would enable that England States. It poration a complete try in Maine, New ctory this would be the Boston & Maine

ton state that it is acquisition of the ic and the establish- in three American ave possibilities, and The Journal differs

with the Boston & wport, Vermont. If ew England railroad to Boston and Port- the Maine Central, ston & Maine.

Nelson, B.C., branch as left on a month's s. During the man- oy Dr. J. T. Beattie, M. Foote, accountant enwood.

The Monetary Times

Absorbed the INTERCOLONIAL JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, 1869;
the TRADE REVIEW, Montreal, 1870; and the JOURNAL OF
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up for Parliamentary consideration, will be fully dealt with
in these columns.]

SUGGESTIVE.

Ere our Eastern readers have skimmed these pages
—for days are with us when the expectant spirit is upper-
most—some unfortunate people far distant may find the
Monetary Times a bulky and uninviting item of their
Christmas mail. But there is consolation in the knowl-
edge that editorial efforts to afford food for mental
reflection at these times will give place to the worship
of culinary confections and domestic duties. The man
who gets his financial paper two or three days before
Christmas will probably consign it to the waste paper
heap with as much celerity as him who receives it on
Christmas morning. In all these thoughts there is much
satisfaction. To the reader, that dollars and cents litera-
ture is not a necessity to thanksgiving and joyfulness,
unless it be a store catalogue; for the writer, there is
an irrepressible pride in duty done. And then, come
what may, the prickly holly and the investigation of the
pudding by a Kitchen Commission are pre-eminent.

The wise man says this is no time for stocks and bonds
and finance, or, indeed, anything that savours of the
mercenary. He tells us to forget the dollar. The spirit
being infectious, we do so, until reminded that Christ-
mas is the season of spending money; to make, not
money, but happiness.

The anticipations of pleasures to come are fre-
quently greater than realization. Whilst anticipating,
the Christmas dinner, for instance, is in the imagination,

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and reflections generally are fairy-like. Realization
means the Christmas dinner is elsewhere. Besides
taking the edge off the appetite, it sometimes takes the
edge off optimism; for indigestion unmakes a phil-
osopher. The man who eats from a platter in a land
over which flutters the British flag, celebrates all festi-
vals by a strenuous exercise of his gastronomical func-
tions. No anniversary is complete unless he eats. The
patronage of Bacchus usually goes along as a bonus
with the festival meal. Christmas without indigestible
viands might be a heartsome affair. With them the
drug store increases its sale of headache concoctions.

Apparently it is the privilege of each and everyone at
this season to give advice. In the exuberance of the
individual's glee, to say nothing of his verbosity, the
friend he meets—nay, even the stranger—is the recipient
of goodly sized parcels of pickled philosophy and waning
wisdom wrapped around with the usual words of good
cheer. The snow and the frost, the bells, and the mood
of the hour firmly establish his state as a sort-of superior
person, with a twelve months' forgotten mission in im-
mediate mind. So it is that a newspaper, as December
days close, is frequently told of its sins of omission and
commission; which is another reason for the flight of
men whose pens are expected to administer seasonable
advice with the solemnity of the owl and the unctious-
ness of the hypocrite. But the mission of the Monetary
Times in these few lines is not in the capacity of an
advisory committee on Christmas. Advice thereon it has
none; suggestions, many. It might be as well, say, on
the day of toil cessation, to throw to the four winds
thoughts of the money you had in your bank, and now
have in stocks as fanciful as Santa Claus. The money
you thus have, you might reasonably label as the money
you once had. This will be seasonable entry in the bad
debts account. As for the depressed condition of the
stock markets and its low prices, as for the declining
value of your substantial stocks, let hope beat eternal
in your breast. It is largely by the help of hope that