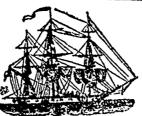
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ECONOMIST.

FREE TRADE JOURNAL.

AND WEEKLY COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Vol.].]

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, 24rn APRIL, 1847.

[No. 52

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMIST.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, 24th APRIL, 1847.

APPROACHING SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

At length the Provincial Parliament is summoned to meet on the 2nd of June, "for despatch of business." Almost the latest moment to which the prorogation could possibly be extended will have elapsed before the collective wisdom of the country will be assembled. This, we have had occasion in several numbers of this pay ir to show, is, under the pressing circumstances of our commerce, a serious evil; and we moreover fear that at the inconvenient season of the year at which the Legislature will meet, it will be difficult to secure the full attendance of the members for such a length of time as the adequate consideration of the various important subjects which must be laid before them will require. Our apprehensions, however, may turn out to be unfounded, and we sincerely hope that the ministry will make amends for the protracted delay which they have interposed, by the vigour and comprehensiveness of the measures which they will introduce at the ensuing Session.

That the next Session of the Provincial Parliament is destined to form an important epoch in our history, seems now generally to be admitted, and the public eye, in expectation of great events, is auxiously directed to the course which our public men may pursue on that occasion. The event will go far to prove how far our statesmen of all parties are qualified for the position in which both the constitution and the suffrages of the country have placed them. On them we may with truth say our destinies depend: it is for them now to decide, whether, hedged round by restrictions, our commerce is to continue in sickly and stunted vegetation; or whether, exposed to the bracing air of freedom, the feeble sapling is to expand until it becomes a mighty tree.

Although, protesting as we must ever do against the unpardonable delay in the assembling of our Legislature, we must admit that one benefit has sprung from it. Our Ministry have had full opportunity both to make up their own minds and to ascertain the sentuments and opinions of the country. During the last yearespecially within the last six months-all the prominent topics of commercial legislation have been amply and freely discussed in all their bearings through the public journals. The interest with which these discussions have been read is a significant index to the ministry of the interest with which their proceedings will be watched, and must convince them, we should imagine, that their stability in office will, in a great measure, depend on their proving themselves equal to the emergency.

That, on many of the subjects connected with Free Trade, there is a considerable divergence of sentiment, cannot be denied; but we apprehend that every dispassionate observer will admit that there is a growing bias towards it: a conviction that,

however local or temporary circumstances may render difficult its immediate adoption, its principles are sound, and must ultimately prevail. The bitterest opponents of Free Trade cannot but admit that the whole spirit of the age is in its favor; that its victories are extending on every hand; that antiquated systems, which but recently were considered as the concentration of wisdom, are now viewed as the offspring of folly and ignorance; and that not only the nations which have ever been foremost in the work of reform, but even those which are most conservative in character—whose maxim is, stare super antiquas vias—are, to a greater or less extent, embodying the principles of Free Trade in their commercial policy. These are facts that cannot be denied, nor can our statesmen lose sight of them without the most wilful blindness.

We have frankly admitted that on many of the details connected with Free Trade, there is considerable difference of opinion; but on examination it will be found that that difference generally arises from a desire in each particular class to retain a protection for itself, at the expense of the community. Selfishness is the grand obstacle which the Free-Traders have to encounter. This is the rock on which there is danger of the national ship foundering. counteract the influence which class interests possess on the Legislature, that a high degree of public virtue in our statesmen will be required; and here is the main ground of our apprehension. There are but few men who, like the late premier of Great Britain, Sir R PLEI, will immodate themselves at the altar of their country in order to secure the triumph of any principle, however salutary. Such a holocaust we can scarcely look for amongst Canadian politicians. Nor do we believe that such a sacrifice would be requisite; on the contrary, we are convinced that the support of the majority of the House of Assembly would easily be obtained for liberal Free-Trade measures, if well digested and zcalously advocated; and we are convinced that the statesman who shall be the vehicle of their introduction, will make for himself an enduring reputation, and strengthen the political party with which he may be connected. But there must be no half-measures—no trimming to catch stray votes—no pandering to sectional or class interests or prejudices. The Differential Duties must be abolished in teto: the Duty on Foreign Wheat, and the Agricultural Duties, must be repealed: the full influence of our Legislature over the Imperial Government must be invoked to obtain the rescinding of the restrictions on the Navigation of the St. Lawrence, and the repeal—at least so far as regards us—of the British Navigation Laws: a Tariff of Taxation must be framed, just in its principle, and equal in its pressure: a Scale of Tolls on the Canals must be adopted, with a view to encourage the transport both of foreign and colonial products on our waters, in preference to those of the United States. the Usury Laws hast be repealed, or at least so modified as to place money in the same category with other merchandise for mercantile purposes: and such internal improvements must be made as may be requisite to give full efficiency to those great public works, constructed or constructing at the expense of the country, to develope its resources. These, with the measures tending to make the com-merce of the country "free as the air we breathe," must be passed this session, if we are to reap the full advantages to arise from the adoption of our commercial system to our altered relations with the mother country.

These various and important subjects will of necessity call for more than ordinary assiduity on the part of the members of the Legislature, whom we would therefore, with all respect, address in the words of Lord Chancellor Bacon, to the Commons of England:

"For the time, if our parliament was to be measured by the hourglass, it is this; in regard of the instant occasion flying away irrecoverably. Therefore let your speeches in the house be the
speeches of counsellors, and not of orators; let your committees
tend to despatch, not to dispute, and so marshal the times as the "public business, especially the proper business of the parliament, be put first, and private bills be put last, as time shall give leave or within the spaces of the public."

BANKING AND THE USURY LAWS.

Our contemporaries the Toronto Examiner and the British Colonist, each in his peculiar way, continue their tirades against the suspension of the Usury Laws with reference to the transactions of Banks, so far as their notes are concerned. The former considers the Usury Laws "absurd and inconsistent," because "it would be "just as rational to fix the value of crery kind of property by law, "as of one; just as reasonable that grain, pork, houses, and land, "should have their value fixed by law, as that the value of gold "and silver should be fixed by law." Moreover, he very sensibly admits that the undoubted effect of these laws is to make capital scarce and dear; because, as he very justly remarks, "money, like every "other kind of mercantile commodity, will always seek the best "market, and in those countries where the law fixes its value, and "attempts by artificial means to make it cheap, the effect will be "to make it scarce and artificially dear."

So far we and our contemporary agree perfectly. But now comes the issue; in other words, the point whereon we differ. Our contemporary, denies that bank notes have any title to be considesed money, and consequently denies that the Usury Laws should be suspended in relation to loans made in them. He would suspend the Usury Laws as regards loans made in coin or bullion; he would allow the possessors of such to make any bargain for the loan or use of it which they can mutually agree upon : but so far as banks are concerned, he would limit them to taking no more than six per cent

per annum for loans made in Bank papers.

Our contemporary evidently has no affection for paper money, and, we feel constrained to add, appears to have a very inadequate notion of its functions and utility, as well as an erroneous notion of the laws which regulate the value of the circulating medium, whatever it may be composed of. He appears to be unaware of the principle established by Hume, Ricardo, and others, "that the market "rate of interest is settled by the general rate of profit which can "be made by the employment of capital, and that it is independent of the quantity or of the value of money." But perhaps our contemporary does not clearly understand the meaning of the word value." We believe he does not, and shall therefore take the liberty of telling him, that, according to Adam Smith, "the word "value has two different meanings: it sometimes expresses the "utility of some particular object; and sometimes the power of "purchasing other goods which the possession of that object con"veys" Such is value: but interest is a very different thing. Interest is the rent or price which a borrower can pay to a capitalist for the use of money, and that rate, it is admitted by every one capable of arguing on the question, is regulated by the average rate of profit which can be made by the employment of capital.

In another number we shall take up more especially the distinction which our contemporary attempts to draw between coin and bank notes convertible, on demand, into coin. Meantime we shall content ourselves by referring briefly to the opinions of the American statesmen, Webster and Clay, whom he adduces as the high authorities whose opinions he delights to rely upon. We must remark, however, in passing, that we think it rather singular that a pro-fessed Free Trader like the Examiner should cite the opinions of such bigoted protectionists as Webster and Clay. Their opinions on questions of political economy we hold exceedingly cheap, and we consider it another inconsistency on the part of our contemporary to hold opposite views to those of the statesmen in question respecting Free Trade, and yet worship them as authorities upon an equally important question of political economy, viz: that of the currency. We will give him the benefit, however, of his quotations, and will set Ricardo's opinion against Clay's, and Sir Robert Peel's against Webster's. Perhaps, however, our contemporary may object that Ricardo was not a statesman, although his opinions are quoted in the House of Commons by the first statesmen of the day; if he do so, we pledge ou selves to substitute a name to which no objection

can be raised.

The Examiner's quotation from Daniel Webster, is as follows:

" Of all the contrivances for cheating the labouring classes of mankind, none have been more effectual than that which deludes them with paper money. This is the most effectual invention to fertilize the rich man's field with the sweat of the poor man's brow."

And the following is the extract on which he builds the reputation of Clay as a political economist:

"But all corporations enjoy exclusive privileges—that is the Corporators have privileges which no others possess; and if you create fifty corpora-tions instead of one, you have fifty privileged bodies instead of one."

Against those we offset the opinion of Ricardo, as follows:

"A currency is in its most perfect state when it consists wholly of paper money—but of paper money of an equal value with the gold which it professes to represent. The use of paper instead of gold substitutes the cheapest in place of the most expensive medium, and enables the country, without loss to any individual, to exchange all the gold which it before used for this purpose for raw materials, utensils, and food; by the use of which, both its wealth and its enjoyments are increased."

Sir Robert Peel, in his great speech on the renewal of the Bank Charter in 1844, said:

" What I want is this-that I shall be able to command a supply of that paper currency whose value shall be exactly conformable to gold, and that that supply shall be given to me by parties in whose honor, integrity, and solvency I shall have the greatest confidence,"

Our readers must judge as to the respective weight of the authorities-that is to say, between the British and the American states-

Meantime we return to the point where we dropt our contemporary's argument, viz: that while he would suspend the Usury Laws with reference to loans in coin or bullion, he would maintain them in relation to loans in bank notes convertible on demand into coin.

Now in reply we affirm that the proposed limitation is, first, abstractly absurd, and secondly, practically impossible. In the first place, bank notes, that is, notes convertible into coin at the will of the holder, of which alone we are speaking, are either equivalent to money or they are not.

If they are equivalent to money, surely the issuer who is bound to provide coin for them, on demand, is entitled to the same interest upon them as he would be upon the coin itself. And, so far as the borrower is concerned, if they answer all his purposes as well as coin, surely it will be doing him no wrong to permit him to pay the same interest for the loan as he would for hard cash.

In the next place, if such notes are not equivalent to money, then we would not tamper with them, as our contemporary would, by allowing them to circulate or be lent at an interest of six per cent. per annum. On the contrary, if they are not equivalent to money our remedy would be—not to maintain the Usury Laws in relation to them,—but either to suppress them altogether or to apply such additional guards and restrictions to their issue as would have the effect of making them equivalent to the

coin which they profess to represent.

We repeat it, if they are equivalent to coin,—as they must be while they are convertible at the will of the holder,—let them circulate in the same manner as coin would; allow the borrower to pay for them what he finds them to be worth, for undoubtedly if they are not equivalent to coin, the borrowers will soon find it out, and will give for them only what they are worth, thus rendering the limitation which the Examiner and British Colonist

contend, nugatory.

But again, as we have said, it would also be impracticable. Suppose, for instance, a borrower gets a discount at a bank for a thousand pounds. Well, it is placed to his credit, and may be drawn for at pleasure, either in bank notes or coin. If drawn out in active the Francisco would admit that the bank should have the in coin, the Examiner would admit that the bank should have the right of exacting any rate of interest that might be mutually agreed upon But supposing it to be drawn out in bank notes. then the Examiner would say, the bank should not be allowed to charge more than six per cent for the loan. What! not allowed to charge more than six per cent for the loan, although the notes might be returned in five minutes afterwards, and coin demanded for the amount! The Examiner must perceive that the distinction he wishes to draw is untenable and absurd,—because there is practically no difference between com and bank notes convertible into coin at the will of the holder.

We beg the Examiner, however, to understand, that, although we are thus arguing for the unqualified repeal of the Usury Laws, and attempting to show that abstractly there ought not to be, and that practically there cannot be, any distinction drawn between loans made in coin and loans made in bank notes convertible on demand into coin, yet we are very far from going the length of

On the contrary, we have every let nom going the length of the contrary, we have even affirmed, what we now resterate, that our banking system is extremely faulty, and requires to be thoroughly scrutinized and revised by our local Legislature. On this question we shall hereafter enter mole at length; meantime we think we have said enough to satisfy ovr readers that it is quite independent of the Usury Laws, and requires to be treated of separately.

THE NAVIGATION LAWS. OPINIONS OF THE BRITISH MANUFACTURERS.

It will doubtless be interesting to our readers to know the opinions of the British manufacturers touching the question of the Navigation Laws. The following pithy extract is taken from the Report of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, to which we made reference in our last issue. It will be seen by it that the manufacturers of England, unlike the Quebec Board of Trade and its followers, have no hesitation in expressing an opinion as to the character and effect9 of these pernicions laws. The manufacturers of England do not hesitate to assert that they "operate at all times against the true "interests of the bulk of the people"; and in short, that they are a

"musty incubus" from which the country must forthwith be re-

Let our Board of Trade be on the alert, and second the efforts of the manufacturers of England. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce have avowed their intention to forward a memorial to the House of Commons to aid Mr. Ricardo in the great task of investigation which he has undertaken. Let the present Council of our Board of Trade do the same. Time presses. Let a Committee be appointed at once to prepare a case against these pernicious laws, and let a memorial founded thereon, addressed to the House of Commons, be forwarded by the next mail to England. The present Council, we understand, boast that they, as well as their predecessors, want to see the Navigation Laws modified so as to allow us to employ "the cheapest vessels that can be procured, whether British or Foreign" We call upon them, then, to show their sincerity,—to show that they are in earnest. If they neglect this opportunity of memorializing while Mr. Ricardo's Select Committee is sitting, the inference, we conceive, will be irresistible, that they are are either insincere in their professions, or guilty of neglecting the high interests committed to their charge. Time will show.

The following is the extract we have alluded to:

NAVIGATION LAWS .- Of all the monepolies by which the consumers of this country have been appressed, none have a more ancient date, or have been more densely surrounded by the haze of prejudice, than our Navigation Laws. From the time of Cromwell to the year 1815, they have been working mischief; and even since the first disturbance of them in 1815 to the present hour, they have been permitted by the public apartly to teniain comparatively without attaint. The dispensations of Divine remain comparatively without attaint. The dispensations of Divine Providence during the last year have, however, brought those laws more prominently into the light, and will no doubt bring the hitherto almost hidden effects of them into public notice and condemnation. Foreseeing the effect they would have upon the importation of food, if the famine which was then feared should, as it has since done, come upon us, the Board forwarded a memorial to the Lords of the Treasury, setting forth its condemnation of them,—that under the afflicting circumstances under which many portions of the empire were then placed in respect to food, a paternal government should not suffer these laws to remain for one unnecessary instant upon the statute book; for whilst operating at all times against the true interests of the bulk of the people, they aggravated, at the present moment, their ordinary injustice, by adding to the difficulty of providing against impending famine; and the memorial prayed that, on the grounds of policy, justice, and necessity, the whole provisions of the Navigation Laws might be taken into immediate considera-tion, with a view to provide such remedies as the well-being of the people imperatively requires. Of the suspension of these laws, which has lately teen so unanimously conceded by Parlament, your Board need say no more than to express its deep regret that the measure is only a suspension, and not an abolition, and that the suspension itself is but a half measure, measured as it relates merely to grain. But the discussion which must hereafter arise with respect to the general policy of those laws, must unmask the evils which attend upon them; and in the present enlightened state of public opinion, with reference to points of political economy, it was be a grateful, as it will doubtless be an earnest, endeavour on the part of the directors of this chamber for the coining year, to aid in ridding the country of this musty incubus.

LAKE ST. PETER.

We draw attention to a letter from Mr. Begly on the subject of Lake St. Peter, which we have inserted in to-day's Economist. It will be seen from it that the Secretary of the Board of Works writes-in answer to an enquiry made by the late Board of Trade as to the progress of the works on Lake St. Peter-that a channel of 150 feet wide, by 14 feet deep in low water, will be prepared for the use of the trade " in as short a time as circumstances will permit." Our readers will bear in mind that this new channel of 150 feet wide, is only one half the width which its projectors deem necessary, and that some £70,000 have been already expended in this attempt to make a new channel in a place where there was a better natural one, capable even yer of being rendered available, at a less expense than what will be required to fini-h the work of 150 feet wide by 14 deep, so unfortunately commenced by the Board of Works. We are not surprised that the Chief Commissioner cannot say when the work will be available to the trade. That gentleman was one of a Special Committee from the House of Assembly who inspected the work last summer, and who were unanimous in opinion that to deepen the old channel was the best policy. Time must prove how far last summer, and who were unanimous in opinion that to deepen the old channel was the best policy. Time must prove how far we have been correct in our opinion, that this attempt to make a new channel has been a mistake. On the success of deepening the channel in Lake St. Peter, and in other places between this city and Queber, depends the progress of Montreal. If all restrictions are removed from our commerce with the West, the trade which will flow through the St. Lawrence will exceed the expectations of the most sanguine. We, however, have no hesitation in stating our belief, that the great bulk of that trade will tation in stating our belief, that the great bulk of that trade will inevitably pass Montreal and centre in Quebec, unless a channel can be made from the latter city, by which vessels of large burden can come up to this city without lighterage, to meet the vessels which, after the completion of our Cauals, will come from the West. Without a proper channel, such craft will proceed at once to Quebec, for the reason that it will be more profitable to do so than to have any transhipment between Montreal and Quebec.

In respect to the new channel, it is pretty evident that something is radically wrong, when, after two years' labour, and the expenditure of so large a sum of money, a work which was to have been finished last spring, should still be in such a state that the Chief Commissioner cannot tell when it will be finished, or even a rilable in any way. Is the Hon, gentlemen aware that for three miles the old and now channels are yet both alike in depth? It behoves the owners of real estate, as well as commercial men, to bestir themselves in this matter; for they may rest assured, that unless a deep channel to Quebec is made, and made speedily, their interests will suffer most severely.

"TIMES CHANGE, BUT MAN REMAINS THE SAME."

We perceive that the great champion of "deferential duties," —the Hon. Mr. Moore,—is trying his hand again on the subject of Agricultural Protection. We are bound to admit, however, that the honorable gentlemen has altered amazingly in his style since his last attempt. He now talks "like a book," and keeps up a friendly understanding between his deferent "parts of speech," which is quite encouraging. This is the whole extent of the change, however; and, everything considered, we almost doubt whether it is an improvement. We have an idea that Mr. Moore was a much more original writer when left to his own unaided genius, and that in mending his style, he has destroyed all that was tolerable in the author. As matters now are, he is only a little more stupid, and not half so amusing.

Under these circumstances, we do not think we should have noticed the honorable gentleman's re-appearance, were it not that we can furnish him with an extract which will serve his purpose much better than anything he can write, and which he is quite at liberty to make any use of he pleases. It is taken from Lord Campbell's "Lives of English Chancellors," and is a further illustration of the truth that "times change, but man remains the same." For "Ireland" read United States, and for "England," Missisquoi, and what can be more pat? We trust Mr. Moore will introduce it into his next letter to the Editor of the Philipsburg Gleaner:—

PROTECTIONISTS TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO. - In the next controversy in which Clarendon was engaged, he gained great distinction with the judicious, although he was denounced by the landed interest as "a friend of free trade." The importation of cattle from Ireland had lately considerably increased. The landlords, headed by the Duke of Buckingham, instead of pretending to stand up as the advocates of the tenant-farmers, of the labourer conference of the results and the labourer conference. of the labourers, or of the public, plainly spoke out, "that, from a fall in the price of cattle, their rents were lowered to the amount of £200,000 a year, which they could not afford." A bill was therefore brought in absolutely to prohibit such importation in fiture; and this was followed by another bill, equally to prohibit the importation of any cured meat or provisions from Ireland, which (according to the notions of law then prevailing), that the King might not afterwards be able to permit it by his dispensing power, was declared to be a "nuisance." These bills passed the Commons by great majorities, and when they came to the Lords, the Duke of Buckingham declared that "they could not be opposed by any who had not Irish estates or Irish understandings. The Chancellort however, had the courage to deliver a most admirable speech againss them, pointing out the injustice of these measures to our fellow-subject, in Ireland, and the impolicy of them with a view to English manufactures, the demand for which from Ireland must cease,--and even to English agriculture, which could not fail to prosper with the increased prosperity produced by a free interchange of commodities between the two islands. He was told, however that the heavily taxed English could not enter into a competition in the breeding of cattle with the lightly taxed Irish, and that without the proposed "protection" tenants would be bankrupt, labourers must come upon the parish, and the kingdom must be rained. He was shamefully beaten in all the divisions on the bill; and all that he could effect was, in the committee, to carry an aniendment, by 63 to 47, to strike out the word "misance," and to insert "detriment and mischief" in its stead. The Chancellor's amendment set the Commons in a flame, and many sarcasms were uttered upon the presumption of a lawer, who had hardly inherited an acre from his father, either in Ireland or England, pretending to speak upon such a subject. Several conferences took place between the two houses, the King for some time, at the request of the Duke of Ormond, supporting the Chansome time, at the request of the Duke of Ormond, supporting the Chancellor, but the squires declared that they had not yet completed the supplies, and that they would stop them at all hazards if they were to be thus dictated to by wild theorists, who had no practical knowledge of the breeding of cattle, or of the true interests of the country. Finally, the importation of Irish provisions was by Pathament declared "a nuisance to all his Majesty's English subjects," and, by the act of exclusion, "a more permanent injury," continues Lord Campbell, "was done to this country than by the plague or the fire of London," which happened about the above period." the above period."

'QUEBEC BOARD OF TRADE.'

We insert from the Quebec Gazette of the 21st instant, a reply to the strictures which appeared in our last, on the Report of the Quebec Board of Trade. This we do from a desire that our readers may judge between us. It will be observed that the writer in the Quebec Gazette, from a reluctance we suppose to "bandy words," has studiously abstained from answering our arguments; and has not condescended to explain the obvious inconsistency between the views of the Quebec Board of Trade in November last, and those of the same body at the present moment.

We are not aware that in our strictures we were wanting in courtesy to the Board of Trade personally; their Report we view as public property, and the fallacies contained therein we assert our right to expose with freedom, and even with severity, when their

tendency is so manifestly injurious.

We observe that the writer in the Quebec Gazette admits that the remarks of the Board of Trade on the timber licenses require further explanation. It is for the public to judge whether the additional light now thrown on the subject alters its position. We do not understand his allusion to parties whom he accuses of seeking "to ruin and undermine everything connected with the great staple of our export." If it have any application, it can only, in our minds, be to those who would seek to place the timber trade on a different footing from other branches of our commerce. Whilst, however, we have never hesitated to admit, that the protection which we enjoy in the British markets is a great advantage to us, we have never viewed it as being granted as an equivalent by the British Government for certain advantages to be conceded to either British shipowners or British manufacturers; nor have we thought that our cause would be benefitted by lugubrious statements of losses and hardships which exist only in a morbid imagination. We have confidence in the energy and industry of our own people, if they are allowed to avail themselves of the advantages which the British Government voluntarily tenders for their acceptance.

We are not aware that we ever recommended Yankee negociation, as our Quebec friend politely terms it: our views are and have ever been, that our own legislature is quite competent under our constitution to regulate the Trade of the Province in all matters, when their legislation does not cross the Imperial policy:-

"The Montreal Pilot and Economist, in no measured or courteous tone, condemn the Report of this body: the former talking of their "caol impudence," and the latter of their inconsistency. Considering that the members of he Free-Trade Association are not, at present, in favour with the commercial body in Montreal, as evidenced at the late election of the Council of the Board of Trade, it is not strange that their organs of the Press should show how rabid they are, and hence the senseless attack on the document in question. We will not bandy words, but at once reply to the objections urged in these papers. The Editor of the Economist the objections urged in these papers. The Editor of the Economist insists that, although there is a difference in freight of 20s. per load in timber from the Baltic in favour of the producer there. yet, still as the Canadian manufacturer has a protection in duty of 14s., that we have no reason whatever to find fault. As we are not of those who agree in such reasoning, we think the Quebec Board of Trade are entitled to the thanks of the country, for mak-

no the plain statement they have done.

Respecting the Differential Duties, they simply state that the mother country, giving to the colony the right of repealing any or all of them, is another proof of the interest taken by her in our

Touching the Usury Laws, they certainly wish to see any change made in them, assimilated to those that have been adopted in England, where mortgages, bonds, &c., are specially provided for, and on which nothing but legal interest can be exacted.

As to the Navigation Laws, the members of the Quebec Board of Trade advocate protection equally for the British, as the Colonial shipowners: but while they do this, and when we read of one hundred and fifty merchants crossing lately from Toronto to Rochester, en route to New York to purchase goods, there is certainly no inconsistency in the Board advocating the removal

of restrictions from American vossels navigating the St. Lawrence.

By the American Drawback Bill the transit of British goods is sought by every possible allurement on the part of the States. Let Canada, in like manner, by removal of restriction on American shipping, induce the merchant in Michigan to send his flour where he likes, by way of the St. Lawrence. But the Conneil of the Quebec Board of Trade, we apprehend, never advocated, as do the Free-Traders of Montreal, that American shipping should be employed in transporting British produce on equally favourable terms as British shipping.

The Council deserve well in dwelling on the mode this should be done, not by Yankee negociation, but by Imperial legislation.

The duty on potatoes from Prince Edward Island is 3d. per

bushel, on flour from Canada to the same Island 5s, per barrel. Can any thing be more unnatural or more injurious? And, can anything be more gratifying than the advances made by Nova Scotia for unrestricted trade between the colonies of the same One uniform inter-colonial system would do more to join the North American colonies in community of interest and feeling, than any thing that could be devised; while a rail-road from Halifax to Sarnia would virtually make them one province.

The Editor of the Pdot, while he wishes to ingratiate himself with the Montreal Free-Traders by one part of his criticism on the Quebec Report, does not forget, in a quiet way, to throw a sop to the Upper Canada farmer, by abusing the Board for asking the withdrawal of the 3s. duty. Like the witches of Macbeth, he is

one of those jurgling friends,

That patter with us in a double sense,

That keep the word of promise to our car,

And break it to our hope.

The Editor of the Pilot knows well, that since the change in the Corn Laws in England, the effect of the 3s. duty is most injurious to the general interests of the province, while in fact it is no protection to the agriculturist, the question being simply, Shall this flour go to England by way of Canada, or through the States? Why does he, therefore, in this sinister way, induce the farmers in the Upper Province to continue their opposition to the repeal of this duty? Any one who knows his totuous course, need not pause for a reply.

It is a matter of regret that the Board of Trade had not gone into more details respecting the stipulations made by the Crown Land Department, in the licenses to cut timber, as at first sight it does appear strange that parties should have liberty to cut and yet not exercise it; but it must be remembered, that holders of licenses are obliged to manufacture 500 feet for every mile, and the objection is to doubling this quantity, or giving up the license-Licenses are granted from year to year, and one not conversant with the trade, would imagine it to be easy for a person, apprehending low prices, to keep away from the sale; but the well understood and established custom has been, that a licenseholder always had the preference of renewal, provided he cut 500 leet on every mile; and acting on this, many parties have gone to an immense outlay, amounting to thousands of pounds, in making roads, clearing streams, &c., and it is, certainly a hard case, if, after having done so in good faith, they are to have onerous and additional conditions annexed.

It is well known that when lands are wanted for settlement the holder of the license can make no objection. Montreal is interested in the timber trade as well as Quebec; indeed the whole province is benefitted by it, and we are sorry to see those repeated attempts, in certain quarters, to ruin and undermine every thing connected with the great staple of our export.

For age, the countries on the Baltic have carried on a lucra-

tive trade in the export of their timber to England, but we do not find people there, as we unfortunately do here, arguing that it would be well for them to be without it."

CULTIVATION OF FLAX AND HEMP.

The following is an extract from the Agricultural Report of Mr. Evans, of Cote St. Paul :-

"When agriculture is prized as it ought, and when it is understood that in Canada it must be the basis of commercial and general prosperity, greater attention will be bestowed upon it by the wealthy and educated. I have for many years recommended the cultivation of Flax and Hemp, but as yet to no purpose. Flax is reported to be the most profitable crop grown in Ireland. I know this country is most favourable for producing both plants, by proper cultivation. The soil and climate of Canada is very similar to that of Russia, and that country is, I believe, the best on earth for producing these plants. They are known not to exhaust the soil more than other crops, and the soil may be cleaned by their cultivation, because no weeds should be suffered to grow with them. The sced of an acre of good flax would be as valuable as an acre of wheat - It could be exported, or fed to cattle for the butcher, in place of potatoes manure made from cattle so fed is much more valuable than any other. The seed of hemp is also valuable. The only encouragement required to grow these would be the construction of machinery to dress the fibre and prepare it for exportation. If a company could be formed who would purchase the crop from the farmer after he had grown it, dried it, and stacked it—the company then to take charge of it, and manage the whole process of steeping, drying, and dressing. There is a most favourable situation for a flax mitt on the Lachine Canal, near the Cote St. Paul Locks. The small river St. Pierre is close by, and would be the most favourable place for steeping, and the flat land adjoining for drying. The situation would be most conveniently placed for experiment, and for the inspection of those who might wish to see and understand the whole process of steeping and dressing. This subject is worthy of consideration, as it might be the means of greatly increasing the quantity of exportable commodities, and the trade is now almost altogether in the hands of foreigners."

CANADIAN COMMERCE-ITS RELATION TO OSWEGO AND THE NEW-YORK CANALS.

[From the Oswego Daily Advertiser.]

Owing to a deficiency in Canadian statistics, the resources and growing commerce of the Canadas are but imperfectly understood and appreciated on this side of the line, or out of the circle of those engaged in the Canada trade — There are vast regions of inoccupied fertile territory belonging to the Coundas, which is being rapidly settled, and must soon form the basis of an extended commerce, already of very considerable magnitude, as we

shall show from figures derived from authentic sources.

The vast productions of this tract of country, when it becomes fully settled, must come on to Lake Omario, and go to market either by way of the St. Lawrence or the New York canals, as it shall be invited or re-pelled by the legislation of the two countries already embarked in the

laudable strife of commercial rivalry.

To secure to the St. Lawrence the trade of Upper Canada and the Western States, the British Government have adopted a liberal policy, to avail themselves of their geographical position and the improvement of their commercial advantages. They have enlarged the Welland canal, and constructed the St. Lawrence, at a heavy expense, which is to be completed the ensuing senson. These works are of a capacity to admit completed the ensuing senson. These works are of a capacity to mainted the passage of vessels of 400) tons burthen, to the ocean. This class of vessels may take in cargoes at Chicago and pass through the great chain of lakes to any port in Europe or elsewhere. In connection with these works, a railroad from Montreal to Portland, is in rapid progress of construction, over which to transport the productions of the West to market during the winter season.

An official statement made at Toronto of the business of that port for the year ending January 5th, 1847, gives a list of British vessels owned on Lake Ontario and employed on the inland waters of Canada, with

their value, as follows:

67 Steamers, two of iron, value	
2 Ships, 5 Brigantines, 94 Schoolers,	· ·
300 Barges	320 000 G ₂ ,000
	\$2,414,000

These vessels are mostly engaged in the trade and travel of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence, and have little to do with the vast timber trade of Canada, as shown by the exports of Montreal and Quebec. We learn from Hunt's Merchant's Magazine for January, that during the season of invigation closing in November last, the arrivals at Quebec from sea, were 1439 vessels, forming an aggregate of 573,208 tons. During the same period of 1816, there were 30 vessels, 21 of which were square rigged, built at Q tebec, forming an aggregate of 19,751 tons, and making a total of 592,577 tons of shipping which took loads in the ports of the St. Law-race. The arrivals at Montreal in 1846 were 221 vessels, tonnage 55,968

Of the agricultural productions of Upper Canada and the Western States, going down the St. Lawrence during the last serson, about 500,000 bils, of flour, with a corresponding amount of the other staple articles, were exported from Montreal and Quebec. The exports of flour and wheat, as given from the district of Toronto and Hamilton, taking in the

western part of Canada, are equal to 930,000 brls. of flour.

The benefits of the late acts of Congress, the Drawback and Warehousing laws, begin to be felt here; and since the opening of the British ports, large consignments of Canadian flour destined to the scaboard under ports, large consignments of outside in a second content and these laws, through our canals, are already noticed for shipment on the opening of navigation. The Drawback law has been in operation but two opening of navigation. The Drawman has been an appears, and its effects upon the Canadian trade through our canals may be following is given as the valuation of merchandise exported for the benefit of drawback for the two seasons:

1946	• • • • • • • • •	\$336,301 256,671	10 80
			-
Increase,		\$378,029	20

The total value of foreign and domestic exports at the port of Osvego, The lotal value of foreign and domestic exports at the port of Oswego, for the senson of 1846, was, according to the report above referred to, \$1,464,872. The arrivals during the same period, of American and foreign vessels, at Oswego, were 2,301 and the clearances 2,224.—The amount of tonnage enrolled at the port of Oswego, was \$15,513 80.

There are now building 23 vessels of a large class, on the American side of Lake Ontario, within the state of New York, which are mostly embraced in the appended list of vessels with their tonnage, owned on

the American side, and engaged in the commerce of our citizens:

					~
7	Steamboats, aggre	zato t	onna	ze	3 516
11	Steam Propeliers,	41	**	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	2066
	Briga,	• 6	••	••••	3.937
1	Barque.	44	44		3/10
93	Schooners	• • • • •	••••	•••••	15,279
	Total American to Total Canadian	onna ob	I no:	ake Ontario	26 018 42,325
	Total tonnage own	ed en	lak	c Ontario	69,373

This statement does not embrace a number of vessels and propellers built and owned by our citizens, registered and employed in the trade of Loke Eric, nor the U. S. iron steamer Jefferson, of 375 tons, now in our

Such is the lake tonnage which has grown up and is growing up with unexampled rapidity, and yet does not keep up with the trade and settlement of the regions watered by the lakes and rivers of the north and west -regions containing the elements of a great commerce which remains to

be developed by the settlement and occupation of the country. netive competition going on for a prize of such magnitude, New York may win or lose this trade, according to the degree of importance with which she may appreciate it. By affording to it every facility within the scope of wise and just legislative provisions, it may be permanently scented to swell her revenues and enrich her commercial metropolis.

From the foregoing facts, it will be seen that Oswego must soon take rank among the first in the State as a depot for the transhipment of produce and merchandise, and as a market for the agricultural productions of Canada and the great West. From her unlimited water power, and of Canada and the great West. From her untimited water power, and unrivalled advantages for manufacturing purposes, the flouring of wheat has already become a great leading interest. The progress she has made in this branch of manufacturing may be seen in the appended report from the canal office of the exports of flour on the Oswego canal for the last four years:

1845. 1813. 1844. 471,318 Flour, bbls, 209,270 346,812 379,334

These figures do not embrace the flour made, (mostly from western wheat shipped through this place,) at the Oswego Falls, ten miles above, or the amount that has been sold to Canadian dealers and shipped North. During the past season full 500,000 barrels of flour were made at Oswego. In addition to the present flouring establishment here, four large mills are in progress of erection, making the whole number fourteen, and of sufficient capacity to turn out at least 7,000 bbls, per day. During the ensuing season Oswego can make one million barrels of flour, and challenges the world for a place that makes an equal quantity.

WESTERN TRADE.

The annexed brief sketch of a recent debate in the Legislature of New York will serve to show how narrowly our commercial proceedings are watched by the people of that State, and the anxiety felt as to the future course of the western trade!

The question recurred on Mr. Lee's proposition to increase the appropriation to the Oswego canal to \$100,000

Mr. Cornwell resumed his remarks in reference to the amount which, in his view was at the disposal of the legislature. He then proceeded to notice the objections to the enlargement of the Oswego locks. The attempt to regulate and control the trade of the west, except by affording it facilities for access to our great market, would be suicidal. To undertake to prevent that trade from taking a direction down the St. Lawrence, by obstructing its progress down the Oswego to the Erie canal, would result in depriving the State not only of the canal tolls between Syracuse and Buffalo, but of the tolls between Syracuse and Albany. He urged that there was at the disposal of the legislature, of funds denominated available, about \$600,000, not specifically appropriated by the constitution—and that justice to our internal improvement policy, and the localities interested in the lateral canals, required that something should be done for those branches of the system, such as the bill proposed. The amen liment he supported, as but justice to one of the most important canala, and to the public interesta

Mr. Lee followed in support of his amen linent. It was essential to secure to our canal, or to a part of it, a share of the tra le that sought a market through the Welland canal and the Lake—specially under the efforts of the Canadian government, to invite the Western trade in that direction—and the efforts also of the Boston capitalists, by means of the northern railroad to divert it to the seaboard through a new channel. Mr. L. went into the details of the commercial importance of Oswegoamount of the tonnage owned there engaged in the Lake trade—its rapid increase during the last few years—the extent of its flourishing business—and its constant increase—the amount of the salt transportation on the Oswego canal-its importance as a mode of transporting wood to the salt works-dwelling on the importance, under the efforts made north and south to secure a portion of the western trade, of increasing the capacity of this inlet to the grand canal. Mr. L. read some extracts from Mr. Barton's pamphlet, on the subject of the trade of the canals and of the lakes, as bearing on this question.

Mr. Shumway repelled any feeling of jealousy as between Buffalo and Oswego, in the position he had taken. Buffilo and advantages of position that could not be taken away. He also disclaimed hostility to the system of internal improvement. He had ever been in favour of it as a system. But he arged the importance of the Eric canal, as a matter of state interest—the consequence given to at by the constitution—and the intention of its framers that the enlargement should first be completed, along with the two unfinished canals, before any thing was done towards enlarging or improving the laterals. He urged that the Erie canal had made the commerce of the Lakes what it was—employing a tonnage equal to the entire foreign tonnage of the port of New York. If the Erie canal was enlarged, and the tolls reduced one-third, the entire western trade might be drawn through that chennel. The sooner that was done, the sooner would the State be enabled to enlarge and improve the laterals. All the energies and means of the State, he urged, should first be devoted Even now, the advantage was on the side of the Oswego and Welland canal route—and a large portion of the trade sought that route, which the enlargement of the Eric canal would invite through the entire length. He urged also that the effect of the enlargement of the Oswego canal would be to retard, it not ultimately defeat the enlarge-He urged also that the effect of the enlargement of ment west of Syracuse.

Mr. Lee replied-discarding and repelling the idea that the Uswego canal was to be classed among other lateral canals, as a secondary work—insisting that it was part of the main trunk, and as much entitled to the festering care of the State as the Eric canal itself—that to defer its enlargement until the Eric canal enlargement was completed, would defer it until it was too late. The trade of the west would by that time have become irrevocably fixed in the direction of Canada. He urged also, that

the enlargement was provided for by the constitution—that the bill appropriated as much money to that object as could be profitably expended the next year—and that so long as this appropriation in no way trenched on the funds appropriated by the constitution, it was but right and just to the great interest of the whole State, that this money should be appro-

Mr. Watson followed in reply, and in support of the amendment—insisting that it involved the question whether the western trade was to be driven through the Lake to Canada or the St. Lawrence, or invited through the Oswego canal to our own great commercial emporium

Mr. Perkins concluded some remarks in favor of completing a double set of locks from Albany to Buffalo, with the least possible delay-by urging that the appropriations to the Black River and Genesee Valley canal should be struck out-and that all the revenues at the disposal of the legislature should be devoted to the completion of a double set of locks -- and that the money accoung was abundant to do u. As for the enlargement of the Oswego locks, he would do that us fast as they decayed, but no sooner.

TRANSIT OF CATTLE ON RAILROADS.

Steam navigation, says Chambers' (Edinburgh) Journal, is acknowledged to have done much for Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and other quarters, in the way of cheap and rapid transit of sheep and cattle to market—a speedy and comparatively inexpensive voyage being now often substituted for one of a protracted nature, or for a fatiguing and ruinous joinney by land. An additional convenience to the store farmer is in course of being achieved by railway transit. On this subject we find the following observations in a late number of the Railway Register.—

"Mr. Hyde Clark reckons the average loss upon all distances by driving, and consequent saving by conveyance on railway, at 5 lbs. per quarter for bullocks, or 20 lbs.; 2 lbs. per quarter, or 8 lbs. for sheep; and 21 lbs. per quarter, or 10 lbs. for hogs. This is believed to be a low estimate. Mr. Handley, M. P., one of the heads of the agricultural interest, calculates the loss on driving from Lancolnsh re to London, at 8 lbs. in weight, and 25s. to 30s. in money for sheep. The time for sheep he calculates at 8 days for getting up to market, which is equivalent to there or four market days, during which the chances of the market may be much affected. The promoters of the Northern and Eastern Railway, the latest the latest and in their prospectus, calculate the loss on driving a hundred miles, at 40s, for bullocks, and 5s. for sheep. They state the supply of the London market at 150,000 beeves, and 1,500,000 sheep per annum, the saving on which, by railway conveyance, they set down at £675,000. This saving might be fairly taken at 40 lbs. for bullocks, 8 lbs. for sheep, and 20 lbs. might be fairly taken at 40 los. for buildocks, 8 los. for slieep, and 20 los. for swine; which would give a gross saving of pounds of animal food on the present number conveyed on railways, as follows.—on 220,000 cattle, 8,800,000 lbs. of beef; on 1,250,000 sheep, 10,000,000 lbs of mutton; on 550,000 swine, 11,000,000 lbs. of pork. This would give a total of 29,500,000 lbs. of animal food economised, even at the present moment, in the infancy of the railway system."

INCREASE OF POPULATION IN THE WESTERN STATES

The Home Missionary thus sums up the growth of the Western States:-

Onto welcomed the first permanent settlers in 1788; now occupied by

1,732,000 people.

Michigan, to which the attention of emigrants was turned twelve or

fourteen years ago, now has 300,000 people.

INDIANA, admitted into the Union in 1816, has received a population of more than half a million since 1830, and now numbers more than 900,000 inhabitants.

ILLINOIS was organized as a separate territory in 1810, and entered the Union as a State in 1818. From that date, its population trebled every ten years till the last census, and in the last five years it has arisen from 476,000 to 700,000.

Missouri, which in 1816 had only 20,800 people, has now 600,000,

having increased 50 per cent, in five years.

Iowa was scarcely heard of at the East ten years ago; it is but fourteen years since the only white inhabitants, north of the Missouri line, were a few Indian traders. More than 100,000 now make that beautiful land their home: 60,000 of whom have gone in during the last

heautiful land their home: 60,000 of whom have gone in during the last four years.

Wisconsin was organized ten years ago; the marshals have just taken the census, and, from present appearances, the population will vary but little from 150,000, being an increase of 100,000 in five years. One portion of the territory, 33 miles by 30, which, ten years ago, was an unbroken wilderness, now numbers 30,000 inhabitants; and the emigration to that portion of the West is greater than ever. The seven new States and Territories above enumerated—to say nothing of the Western and Southwestern States and Texes—have increased since the last adjustment of the ratio, more than a million and a half.

COMMERCE OF THE BRITISH COLONIES.

The colonial possessions of Great Britain, which have been acquired by conquest, cession, purchase, or colonization, while they circumscribe the earth with a chain of subjected provinces, constitute, probably, the most extraordinary political speciacle of the present age. In those colonies, extraordinary political speciacie of the present age. In mose colonies, scattered through the four quarters of the globe, the supreme government has established British laws; it preserves their social order through the agency of inhitary force, composed of royal and colonial troops, and has introduced a European system of education, commerce, and religion. Some of those colonies have been far from constituting sources of wealth, their expenses exceeding their revenues; yet, from causes connected with their expenses execeding their revenues; yet, from causes connected with the protection of its maritime ascendency—as profitable markets for its products, or for other purposes—they have been fortified and sustained, as possessions which are to be maintained and protected.

Let us briefly enumerate those colonial establishments. Commencing with the West Indies, we find the British government in possession of Jamaica, Trinidad, and Tohago, Grenada, St. Vincent, and Barbadoes, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Christopher, Montsearat, Nevis, Tortola, and the Virgin Isles, New Providence, the Balannas, and the Bermudas, to which are added Demerara, Essequibo, Berbice, Honduras, and the Falkland Islands. It is probably well known, that a large proportion of the staple articles of sugar, rum, and molasses, which supplies the markets of the world, is derived from those colonies; and in supplies the infrices of the world, is derived from those colonies; and in return, they doubtless afford an extensive field of consumption for various species of British products. In North America, it holds the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, Labrador, and the Hudson Bay Territory.

If we direct our attention to Asia, we find the government of Great Britain in possession of the vast empire of India, exporting from its colonies the gold, gems, silk, ivory, and spices of Hindostan, Ceylon, Penang, Malacca, and Singapore, and exercising a pacific jurisdection over them by the exercise of policy or military force. In Australasia, it holds the colonial establishments of New South Wales, Van Dieman's Island, Swan River, and Southern Australia. From its colonies in Africa—the Cape of Good Hope, Mauritus, and and Scychelles, St. Helena, Ascension, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Acora, Cape Coast Castle, and a few minor colonial establishments—it receives ivory, gold and other products. Besides those, are its European colonial possessions Gibriltar, Malta, and Gozo, Corfu, Cephalonia, Santa Maura, Ithaca, Zante, Paxo, Cerigo, and Heligoland. Those several colonies occupy an area of 2,119,708 square miles, with a total population of 107,708,323. Their total exports and imports amount to the value of £55,533,500 sterling, and they possess a shipping, which has grown to the tomage of 7,514,595 total of 7,514,585 tons.

TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE LOAN TAKES .-- We have the pleasure of aunouncing that the whole Loan of Eighteen Millions is taken above par, at a premium varying from one-eighth to two per cent. The whole amount bid was \$57,790,883, of which the sum of \$54,926,583 was bid above par, and the remainder, \$2,864,300, at par.—Washington Union, April 12.

THE NEW LOAN .- Treasury Department, April 12, 1847 - Allbidders at par, or at a premium of less than one-eighth of one per cent, are informed that their bids could not be accepted, the whole loan having been taken by bids at a premium of from one-eighth to two per cent. The amount of the loan advertised having been only eighteen millions of dollars, and the bids amounting to nearly fifty-eight millions of dollars, about fifty-five millions of which were above par, the work of selecting the bids will be completed this day, and the successful bidders informed by the R. J. WALKER, mail of this evening.

Secretary of the Treasury.

UNITED STATES, -EXPORTS FROM 1st SEPT. 1846.

	At.Britain	&- Irelan	d. Fre	nea.	OtherFore	ignPort	s. Tot.	ıls.
	To M	lar.31 to	To N	(ar.31 t	o Tu	Mer 31 t	o To A	far Alto
NEW YORK								
Flourbb	s. 662.510	31,152	113 983	:.:33	100,049	7,152	885,542	46.142
Corn Meal, d	o. 155,868	42.7.0	200	1,2-8	2,603	1.243	162 676	45 21
Whoat bshl	s. 999,376	14.321	167,347	11,732	147,098	7,039	1,313 821	331 /2
Com,d	0.10.572,6	650,002	4 623		31,669	4,228	3.314,908	88420
Ryo d	o. 28%2	7.711	6,032	6,822	542,210	5,558	551,193	20 051
Ozis, de		21,601	3,836		4.951	1.560	132,127	23.101
Barley de	o. 127,039	••••	95	• • • •	1,593	••••	128,774	
BOSTON.							To A	pril 15.
Flour, bb	la		••••	• • • •	• • • •	••••	••••	101 545
Wheat bsh	ls				• • • •		• • • •	·2 >·3)
Corn, d	0	••••	• • • •	••••	• • • •	••••	••••	498,703
PHILADELO	H.ToMar.20	i. 1	FoMar 23.		Foliat 28.		оМат.26	
Flourbbl	s. 121,442		5 990		10.434	••••	137,866	
Corn Meal, d				••••		••••	77,971	
Wheat bshi			27 908		••••		243,986	
Corn, d			••••	••••	••••	••••	474,492	
		Mar.27	to				3.1	31.27 to
BALTIMORE	E. TcMar.26.				ToMar.20	3. T	oMar.26.	
Flour bbl	s. 170.519	21.800		••••	5,530	• • • •	176 079	21 1400
Corn Meal, de		₽,303	••••	• • • •		••••	30,515	8333
Wheat, bsh		6,000	• • • •	• • • •		• • • •	34 756	6 0/0
C 3	002 700	010 222					0.10 0.10	O141 222

Corn,.... do. 993,768 210,373 943,763 210,373
 NEW
 Mar. 2016
 Mar 21 to
 Mar. 20. April 7.
 Mar. 20.

RECEIPTS AT NEW YORK.

Per Western Canal, from 8th to 16th April 1847—Flour, 32,152 bils. From Southern Ports, from 1st to 14th April.—Flour, 27,062 bils., Wheat, 11,549 bushels. Corn, 80,679 bushels. ESTIMATED STOCKS.

April Sth, 1817 .- Flour, Southern and Western, in first hands. 10,000 barrels.

N.B.—As large quantities of Indian Corn are received here from the adjacent country, of which in details are attainable, any estimates of the total receipts or stocks are purely conjectural.

We learn from the Toronto Patriot, that a public meeting has been We learn from the Toronto Patriot, that a public meeting has been held in Toronto for the purpose of taking into consideration the most efficient measures of assisting the immigrants who may arrive during the approaching season. The Meeting was addressed by Dr. M'Caul, Hon. R. Baldwin, Mr. Sheriff Jarvis, and G. W. Thomson, Esquire; and it was resolved that a society should be formed called the "Immigrant Settlement Society," whose particular duty it shall be to put the immigrant on their arrival in the way of procuring steady employment without delay, at moderate yearly wages; and of settling themselves and their families in the interior of the country, and generally to afford information to any person desiring to settle in any part of the province. person desiring to settle in any part of the province.

We learn that the Board of Works have intimated their intention to open the Lachine Canal at the earliest possible day: it is hoped that this may be done by the time the river and takes are navigable.

may be done by the time the river and lakes are navigable.

| Punke Works, | Modreal, 27th March, 1847. |
| Sir.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, addressed to the Chief Commissioner, requesting earlier information returned to the Works for despending take St. Peter. In reply, I sim directed to state, for the information of the Council of the Board of Trade, that active preparations are now, and have for some time, been making, to economic the work with vigour on the opening of the insignation, and that every possible excition will be made to obtain a chained of 150 feet in breadth with 14 lest of water in as short a time as circumstances will permit:

| I have the honor to be Sir.
| Your very obedient servant, THOMAS A. BEGLY, Secretary.
| F. A. Willson, Equire,

F. A. Williams, Esquire, Secretary Montreal Board of Trade, Montreal,

Sin.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., addressed to the Unief Commissioner, relative to the opening of the Lachine Cacal, and in reply I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Council of the Bloard of Trade, that the Commissioners, being anxious to afford very facility to the Trade, have had all the necessity arrangements made for the opening of the Canal as soon as the case, will adont, and they anticipate no obstruction to the passage of vessels through it, the moment the river and lakes above are rangable.

I have the bonor to be, Sir.

Your very obeds, servant,

THOMAS A BEGLY, Secretary.

F. A. WILLSON, Esq. | Sec. Board of Trans. Mentrent. |

For R DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE —The ship Osceola, arrived last night from Greenock, having left on the 25th att.; but unfortunately, Captain Childs brought no papers—He reports flour and provisions of all kinds on the decime; and the store-houses well filled.—N. Y. Herald.

OPENING OF THE NAVIGATION.—The Lake Royal Mail Steamers have commenced their regular trips between Kingston and Toronto above, and between Kingston and Dickinson's Landing below.—The Bay of Quint6 is not yet clear of ice -At Montreal the ice was shoving yesterday, but some days must clapse before the river will be clear.-At Quebcc, the steamboats have renewed their trips to the opposite side.

First Lat North This Season.—Yesterday morning, about 10 o'clock, Mr. Geo. Black enfely inunched, from his ship-yard, the splendid new chipper bark." Scottish Maid," of about 500 tons. She is allowed, by all who have seen her, to be as fine a model and substantially built vessel, as ever was launched in this port .- Quebec Gazette, of Wednesday.

The Telegraph Posts, we preceive are laid along the line, and are ady to be sunk in the ground as soon as the frost is dispelled. We have ready to be sunk in the ground as soon as the frost is dispelled. not heard if Cornwall has made any proposal or a station; but we are under the impression, that it has not. The charges of the Company are so excessively unreasonable, that parties are discouraged from the undertaking—and the more especially in places where the expense of the thing would considerably exceed any commercial or other advantages to be derived from it .- Cornicall Observer.

LOCAL, PROVINCIAL, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Official Gazette of Saturday last contains a Proclamation convening Parliament on Wednesday the 2nd June next, for the despatch of -lt is now p recetiy understood that the vacant Chief-Judgeship for the District of Montreal has been conferred on Mr. Rolband, and that Mr. Santh, Attorney-General East, will be elevated to the vacant Pusaci-Judgship. Mr. Badgley, the lete Commissioner of Bankrupts, and a Circuit Judge, is the new Atterney-General East. All these appointments will appear in the Official Gazette of to-day.— The Kingston Argus states that the wharves of that town present a very busy appearance. flour barrel follows flour barrel in rapid succession; ousy appearance. nour parter to now nour parter in rapid succession; and the axe and hammer of the carpenter are unceasingly at work, in the erection of additional warehouses.—The Quelec Gazette says: "We learn that the new and splendid steamer 'John Munn' will commence running about the 10th May. Her cabins are being fitted up, and the other internal arrangements rapidly completed."—The new Montreal other internal arrangements rapidly completed."—The new Montreal Merchants' Exchange and News-Room will be epened to the public on the first of May, after which period Change will be held regularly. The situation is an excellent one,—the Odd-Fellows' Hall, Great St. James Street. The Committee of Management consists of Messrs. Young, Holton, Bristow, T. Hart, Larocque, Cumming, and G. D. Watson.—The New-Brunswick Legislature was proregued on the 14th instant. The Governor expresses himself well satisfied with the session. Notice was given for next session for the removal of the Seat of Government from Fredericton to St. John.—The last news of Government from Fredericton to St. John.—The last news from Mexico and the seat of war state that Santa Anna has arrived at the capital, where he has been received with great honour, and where, it was thought, his presence would put down the factions which had spring up during his absence. The country is, however, in a terrible state, and it is very questionable whether anything like serious opposition can be offered to the advance of the enemy.

The English mail of the 4th is now hourly looked for. It had not been telegraphed at Boston on Monday.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

With the next number of the Economist, which completes the first volume, we intend to print a complete Index of the whole of the contents for the year. Comes of this well be sent to our different Agents, of whom the rear be obtained on the payment of 71d.; a sum barely sufficient to cover the expenses of printing. Those, therefore, who wish to have their numbers bound, will apply to the nearest Agent. Parties in Parties in Montreal can obtain the Index either at the Printers, or at the office of the Free-Trade Association.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

16th April, 1847.

The attival of various saling packets since the issue of my last Circular, his put us in possession of later dates from Lacetpool than those received by the stance of the 4th int. Our latest published advices are up to the 21 tills, per "Washington Irstog" to Baston; and as these showed a decure of 13, perquetter for in the highest color on Indian Corn, the market for this gride has been in a demond date, while France, of which the pure had been maintained, has again been selving freely for fature delivers, clistly on French account. The homodenism of for the article suffices to fature delivers, clistly on French account. The homodenism of for the article suffices to keep that the pressit quelation. The large arrivals of British ships, together with a fall og off in the strivals here of produce from the interior, have caused a great and sudden decline in Freights.

istoria Correction account. The homodom and for this number of high per former in decommendation. The homodom and for this number of high per did not be presented in the former of the

Cone Meal.—The stock here is small, and percels on the spot command \$4.75c. to \$75 for Jercey, and \$5 for Brondywine. This work the sales amount in 10,000 lbls. to strive some.

Where Y—Southern White has sold at 155c. Mixed, at 155c. A percel has been sold to arrive in May, at 160c.

Indian Corn —Owing to the navigation remaining closed longer than was anticipated, and the quantity on the spot being small, the price for immediate delivery rose last week to 102c for Northern Yellow; but the indiancable advices from England have depressed the prices, which close to day at 90 to 25 cents ber 50 lbs. Parcels for future delivery are freely offered, but at lower rates than before the late nows was terrorred. The quality of the Northern Yellow and White Corn, now arriving, appears to be unusually line.

RYN.—A large sale of 10,000 bushels was made to day at 93c., which is an advance on former quocations.

Oars.—The Gevernment being in the market for the article, for shipment to Mexico, the price has advanced and it firm if 4 to 53 cents per bush.

Excurances—Large arrivals of species by packet ships have given a fittiness to the market, which closes at 105 to 100c.

From —To London, 4s. to 4s. 6d. sig. per burtol.

To Clasgow, 4s. to 4s. 6d. sig. per burtol.

To Clasgow, 4s. to 4s. 6d. sig. per burtol.

No. Lex Roberts. Broker,

43. South William Steat.

W. Les Roberts. Broker, 43, South William Street.

BUFFALO. Fri lay Evening, April 16.

FLOUR—in active demand at \$5.25c. Steamers arriving with full cargoes from restern parts, an advance in prices is expected by next steamer.

Wheart.—6,000 bushels Cleve, and sold to arrive 1 \$1 ode.

Corn is dull, and netwern 6 levels can be obtained.

Pork — Not much in market. Prino Move \$13.

Stocks of all kinds of Produce light, with the exception of Flour.

MONTREAL. Friday evening, 23rd April.

ASHES —We have no transactions to note. Pats, 25 cd. Pearls 25. Gl.

Plour —In the early part of the week several sales were made in store, and for delivery in all May, at 25 df for Fine. Yesterday and to-day the market has been quite insertive, and a disposition shows on the part of heidler to accept less; several sales also delivery in grave the part of the part

NOTICE.

B. P. ISAACSON,

IN returning thanks to his numerous Friends and the Public generally, for the liberal support be has ox, emenced from them during a period of 10 years, at his O'd Stand (Folly's), St. Francois Navier Street, takes leave to inform them that he will REMOVE to

No. 9, CREAT ST. JAMES ST., (Three Doors East of the Post Office,)

(Three Doors East of the Post Office,)
At the coming May, at which place, from having greater and latter necommodation, he trusts to receive the continuous of their support. His Lander, as usual, will compose the best JOINTS, STEARS, and CHOPS the Market will failed, with every deheave that can be procured in second. His WINES and LIQUORS, he flatter time of from the long experience the public have had of his determination of keeping only the very best, it would be used as for lain to remark upon.

In conclusion, he assures the public, that the same desire to merit their support which has hitherto shown, will be continued.

Holly's Chop House,
Montreal, April 20, 1847.

NOTICE.

Supervisor of Cullers' Office, Quenec, April 14, 1847.

DERSONS desirous of obtaining a CERTIFI-DERSONS desirous of obtaining a CERTIFI-CATE of QUALIFICATION and FIT-NESS, from the Board of Examiners, whereby to canble them to apply for Licenses as Cullers, under Act 6 Vic., Cap. 49, are hereby notified that, agreebly to Provisions of raid Act, the Board of Examiners will meet the Fills's MONDAY of MAY next (the 3nl,, and all applicants are requested to Fille, at this Office, prior to that date, their several Applications.

(Signed)

JOHN SHARPIRS,
Supervisor.

Supervisor.

Deputy Supervisor of Cullers' Office, 56, Commissioners Street, Montreal, April 22, 1847.

DERSONS resident in this District, desirous of annearing before the Dollarict, desirous of appearing before the BOARD OF EXAMINERS, for the purpose stated in the above Notice,
are hereby requested to lodge at this Office, on Finings,
their respective Applications as early as possi, le.

WM. BRISTOW,
Deputy Supervisor.

REMOVAL.

ESSRS. W.M. L.Y.M.A.N. & CC. have REMOVED their place of Business to the corner of the adjoining building. Nos. 194 and 195, St. Paul Street, where there are negated to offer their words simply of OLNCON, LATENT MEDICINES, PER-TUMERY, &c. &c. &c. Pre-criptions accumately dispensed.

Brug Watchouse, resident in this District.

April 21rd, 1847. ESSRS. W M. LY MAN & CC. have

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE, And Reading Room.

ODD FELLOWS HALL, GREAT ST. JAMES ST.

THE MERCHANTS' EXC HANGE and READING ROOM will be OPEN to Subscribers on the 1st MAY next. Meetings on 'Change to begin on that day. Hou, from half past TWELVE to ONE o'clock.

A Temporary Room, adjoining the Roading Room, is now prepared where a book is opened for Subscribers.

Montreal, April 22, 1847

NOTICE.

THE Co-Partnership of the undersigned here-tofore existing under the Firm of JOHN TORRANCE & Co., ceases this day, by its own limi-

JOHN TORRANCE. DAVID TORRANCE. DAVIEL TORRANCE.
JAMES TORRANCE.

Montreal, April 15, 1947.

THE Business will be CONTINUED under the same Firm, by the Subscribers.

JOHN TORRANCE. DAVID TORRANCE. JAMES TORRRANCE. JOHN A. TORRANCE.
By his Attorney, DANIEL TORRANCE.

Montreal, April 15, 1847.

IME Subscribers have, this day, admitted Mr. WM. J. WDONELL, of Kingston, and Mr. JOHN PARROW, of Montreal, as PARTNERS in their Forwarding and Commission Business.

H. & S. JONES & CO. BROCKVILLE. II. JONES & CO. MONTREAL II. & S. JONES, KINGSTON.

Canal Wharf, Montreal, March 22, 1847

GUANO.

TWENTY BARRLLS for Sale, by JAMES R. ORR. 16th April, 1817.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been duly appointed ASSIC AFE to the Estate of EDWIN ATKINSON Shoemaker, Great St. James Street, requests the immediate parment of all DEBTS due to the Estate. All accounts not paid on or before the 20th April next, will then be branded over to an Atterney for collection.

MR. ATKINSON and MR. JOHN SMITH are duly authorized by the Subscriber to receive payments and give receipts.

Coll March, 1917

JOHN LEEMING.

25th March, 1947. JOHN LEEMING.

BY ORDER OF ASSIGNEE.

Cheap Boots and Shoes!

THE Public have now an opportunity of purchasting at COST PRICE AND UNDER, all kinds of Gentemen's at a Ladics' BOOTS, SHOES and SLIPPERS, at E. ATKINSON'S, Great St. Jaines Street, each door to Tett's 1 as the whole of the Stock must positively bus old off, before the 1st of May.

The GAS-FITTINGS and FIXTURES may be treated for on very reasonable terms.

Apply to D. ATKINSOS, Great St. James Street, or to 9th Appl. 1867.

JOHN L.PENING, GREATER

JOHN LEEMING, Assignee. 9th April, 1817.

FOR WARDING.—1847.

HE UNDERSIGNED hereby give Notice, that on the Opening of the Navigation, they will FORWARD THE PRODUCE NOW IN THEIR STORES AT KINGSTON, subject to Freight at ONE SHILLING AND SATENCE PER BARREL FLOUR. and other Property in proportion, together with the usual charges for Winter Storage and Marine Insurance; and that all other Property Forwarded downwards by them will be subject to such flates of Freglit as may be specially agroed upon, or as may be hereafter advertised.

MACPHERSON, CRANE & Co.
HOOKER, HOLTON & Co.
II. JONES & Co.
Montreal, March 23, 1847.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED hereby give Notice, that all Property consigned to them at Kingston, for furtherance to Mon.real, will be received by them at their expects of WAREHOUSEMEN, subject, when stored, to the following Rates of Storage, viz...

They further give Notice, that all Property Stored by them will be at the risk of the owners in respect of Fire, and other accidents beyond their control.

MACPHERSON, CRANE & CO. HOOKER, HOLTON & Co. H. JONES & Co.

10th April, 1817.

STRUNH

MERCHANTS' MAGAZ'NE.

And Commercial Bebieb.

BY FBEEMAN HUNT, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

PUBLIHED MONTHLY.
AT 112 FULTON-STREET, NEW-YORK. At fibt Dollars per annum, in Abbance.

At fibt Dollars pre annum, in Addance.

THE "MERCHANTS' MAGAZINE AND COMMERCIAL RLYIEW" will continue to include in its delign every subject connected with Commerce, Manufactures, and Political Economy, as—Commercial Legislation, Comparental History and Geography: Mercantile Engislation, Comparental History and Geography: Mercantile Engislation, Comparental History and Geography: Mercantile Engislation, Comparental Actions of the day, relating to Commercial Affairs: Descriptive, Statistical, and Historical Accounts of the various commodities which form the subject of Mercantile Transactions, Port Charges, Tarulis, Customs and Commercial Regulations, Treaties, Commercial Statistics of the United States and the different connected Statistics of the United States and the different connected the work of the United States and the different connected with Commerce, enhancing Eightens, Nearnes, Finance and Banking Associations—Exterprises connected with Commerce, enhancing Fisheries, Incorporated Companies, Railroads, Canate, Steamboats, Docks, Post Offices, &c., Principles of Commerce, Finance and Banking, with Practical and Historial Details and Illustrations. Commercial Law and Mercantite Law Reports, and Decisions of Courts in the United States and Turope, including Invariance, Partnership, Princ. .d and Agont, Bills of Exchange, Sale, Gurranty, Ban conject, Shipping and Navigation, &c. and whatever cles shell rend to develop the resources of the cumity and the world, and illustrate the various topics bearing upon commerce and Ounmercian Leterature, and we may venture to say that no work heretofare published, embrines in spages so large an amount of information on all these subjects, as the fourteen volumes now completed.

Our means of cohancing the value of "The Merchants' Magazino and/Commercial Review" are constantly increasing; and, with new sources of information, an extending correspondence abroad, and other facilities which seven years' devolum to a sugle object have enabled us to make examinable, we shall

HARDWARE.

THE Assignees of SCOTT, SHAW & CO. OFFER FOR SALE, the undermentioned GOODS, at the usual Credit, and at REDUCED PRICES.

CONTRACT CHE SALE, the undermention DODS, at the usual Credit, and at REDUCED PRICE English and Scotch Bar Iron, Banks's Best Refined do, Hoop and Sheet Iron, Charcoal do. do. Heet Builer Heads, Oval and Convex Iron, Cast. Shear, and German Steel, Spring and Bluster Steel, Oval and Convex Iron, Cast. Shear, and German Steel, Spring and Bluster Steel, Cast and Wrought Nails, Anvils, Vices Rellows, and Smiths' Tools, Chains and Anchors, Iron Plough and Plough Mounting, Potash Kettles and Coolers, Hake Pans and Bielited Pots, Simels, Saries and Minets' Tools, Trace, Halter, and other Cordago, Blusting, F. FF, FFF, and Camister Gunpowder, Grindstones, Selkles, and Scythe Snoiths, English Rosin, Whiting, Fresh Putre. Engine accessively the state of the second s

Goods, imported last y A.So, A Victoria Printing Press, 2 Large Gopving Presses, Printers' Chares, A Scatch Cart. A Carrer's Truck, 2 1 vrgo Roy Sleighs, 1 Uninished Cutter, A lot Wheelbarrows.

W. L.Y.MAN.
E. T. RENAUD,
P. HOLLAND,
Oth April 1847.

Assigness of
Scott, Shaw & Co.
199, St. Paul Street.

ESTATE OF SCOTT, SHAW & Co.

A DIVIDEND or ONE SHILLING and EIGHT PENCE per pound will be paid on or after TRURSDAY the 5th instant, to CRIDITORS who have proved their claims against the above Estate.

WILLIAM LYMAN,
FDWARD T RENAUD,
PHILIP HOLLAND,
192, St. Paul Street. 7th April, 1847.

For Freight or Charter to LIVERPOOL or the CLYDE.

CLYDE.

THE Barque "EUROPEAN," 525
Tons butten, (new measurement,)
coppered and capper fastened, will be ready to take in
Cargo at Quelec, at the opening of the Navigation, and is
an eligible conveyance for Measurement Goods.

Apply to 26th March.

W. BRISTOW 56, Commissioners Street.

"THE CANADIAN ECONOMIST," A Weekly Rewspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COMMERCE

DRICE of Subscription, 10s. per Annum,payable in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Six incessed under, 2s. 6d. first insertion, and 73/d each subsequent insertion. Ten lines and under 3s. 9d. first insertion, and 1s. each subsequent insertion. Above ten lines 4d per line first insertion, and Id. per line each subsequent insertion. The usual discount is made where perties advertise by the year, or for a considerable time.

OFFICE, -No. 3, ST. SACRAMENT STREET, where ell Communications are requested to be directed.

Montreal, 16th May. 1846.

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