

The Gleaner.

JAS. H. CROCKETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1888.

AN IMPORTANT VOICE.

The Ontario Lumbermen's Association at its first annual meeting at Toronto on Wednesday last, unanimously adopted a resolution favoring unrestricted reciprocity with the United States. This important body gives its countenance and assistance to one of the most popular and important movements which has engaged the attention of the people of this country for some years. The resolution will have great weight. It is the expression of view of some of the best business men of the country, of the men whose energies and industry have done much for their province, and it is undoubtedly the view entertained by the lumber merchants and operators of New Brunswick whose enterprise has contributed so largely to the growth and prosperity of this province. Today lumber governs the business of New Brunswick, and is one of the principal agencies in regulating the trade of the other provinces. Depression in lumber means with us, stagnation in money and general depression in business, and when reasonable and high prices prevail, every industry and business in our midst is materially assisted thereby. Therefore when the lumbermen declare by resolution and otherwise that unrestricted reciprocity with the United States would materially benefit their business, a powerful argument is at once set up in support of the scheme.

Protection in the two countries has worked great injury to the lumbering industry in Canada. The operators are forced to enormous burdens for the benefit of home monopolists. Everything they use is subjected to a heavy tax. Forced into the markets abroad they are brought into competition with foreigners who have not the same unreasonable burdens to bear, whose cost in production is less, and who can therefore undersell our countrymen, and with a profit. Practically deprived by the government of our own country of the benefits of a free foreign market, our lumbermen are not met with encouragement anywhere. The United States does not offer them any inducement. They can use our lumber and plenty of it. But they exact from us a duty of two dollars per thousand feet. They will pay as much for our lumber as for their own, but nothing more. And thus our operators who are forced into this market either suffer loss, or make little or nothing by their transactions. From 1855 to '87 we sold to Americans, lumber to the amount of \$25,446,632, upon which we were forced to pay \$5,299,208 before the article was placed upon the market. These are the fruits of protection, and the agency of a large measure of the present depression in Canada, and particularly in this province.

It is earnestly to be hoped that the resolution of the lumbermen's association will have the effect of awakening our people to the necessity of greater effort in the movement for unrestricted reciprocity. Let all whose interests are affected by the change, and they constitute nine-tenths of the population, take up the advocacy of the scheme and they will have found themselves possessed of a force that cannot long be resisted.

BUSINESS LOOKING UP.

There would seem to be good reason to believe that trade is about looking up. The British government, with information from the most important quarters, was in a position to say in the Queen's speech, that commercial prospects were really good, and commercial men, and commercial newspapers, well posted and competent to judge, are united in belief that at no distant day we will be sailing smoothly along on the wave of prosperity.

Free trade England is the first to feel the return of the tide. While others are still enduring the hardships of the depression she is quietly getting her feet in readiness for extensive future operations. England, too, has felt least of all nations the effects of hard times. Her people have been buying more and selling more than any of those of protectionist countries. Her trade in cottons and woollens has increased, and in iron and steel she has enlarged from 64.2 to 66.5 per cent. in machinery exports from 66.7 to 69.1. Germany has increased in paper, machinery and glass, but with France and Belgium has lost in iron, steel and other important lines in which England has made gains. We commend these facts to the consideration of the protectionists of this country.

THE UNHAPPY CROFTERS.

A short time ago we referred to the pitiable condition of the crofters of Lewis in Scotland. Since that time their condition has become even more miserable and the prospect of an early amelioration of it still more gloomy. Notwithstanding their exertions to sustain, they are on the verge of starvation. A correspondent of the London Times, who has had an opportunity of seeing the crofters of Lewis, says of them:—"They are living in squalor within wretched and overcrowded houses, which are the common habitations of cattle and human inhabitants. This condition does not obtain throughout the whole of Lewis, but it is almost universally the rule." Another writer following with their condition gives the following description of one of them:—"A crofter had for stock a cow, a heifer and four sheep, the animals lived under the same roof as the family, they entered by the same door and there was not so much as a partition to separate the quarters of the cattle from those of the crofter and his wife and children." Crofters seem to have been months

past their only food. They have been unable to obtain even animal food, to such a condition have they been reduced. Their clothing, too, has been of the scantiest description, scarcely sufficient to keep them from freezing. "Many of the boys and girls," the Times correspondent tells us, "were in rags and it seemed marvellous that they had lived as long through the winter. In one case seven persons were accommodated in two beds. Frequently the only covering of three or four persons in the same bed was a single thin and ragged blanket." The poorest of the poor with us would consider their condition inconsistent with life if they had to sleep in an old house with only a ragged blanket over them, but here are those unhappy crofters living in stables with their cattle, with not enough even to cover them. Emigration is the only means by which the crofters of Lewis can permanently escape their present ills. They are loath to leave their country, but the sooner they make up their minds that it is the only way of improving their condition the sooner will they be enabled to live in a manner their industry and integrity entitle them to.

A CONGRESSMAN ON CORRUPTION.

One of the congressmen of the United States in speaking of the shocking amount of corruption which prevails in this country says:—"There is not a law which gives protection to any industry but what was engineered by a private lobby. There is not a provision that has not some private interest behind it and some paid advocate to see that it is not disturbed. Legislatures have been bought, governors nominated and congressmen purchased to keep certain provisions in the law." If this congressman who is not afraid to speak emphatically about the corruption practiced in the United States, had ever visited Ottawa and taken a peep behind the scenes there, he would have said little about "lobbying and purchasing" in his country.

The Supreme Court are judgment this morning in Mr. Ellis' case, granting attachment. On the question of Judge Tuck's right to grant prohibition in the matter of the Queen's recent, the Court gave no decision, although one or two of the judges, we believe, expressed the opinion that Judge Tuck had not the right to make the order for Mr. Ellis' article was concerned the court was unanimous in the opinion that there had been contempt of court. Mr. Weldon, Mr. Ellis' counsel, intends to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada against the judgment.

We publish in another column a letter from Mr. Geo. H. Robertson, of St. John, in reference to the trade of the Argentine Republic, which some of our St. John friends are making strenuous efforts to secure. Though we do not believe any profitable results will follow either Mr. Robertson's undertaking, or Mr. Jones' mission; still we will be gratified to learn at any time of the success of either. We feel that the people of St. John have, in this instance, directed their energies in the wrong channel.

Sir John Macdonald repudiated the Toronto Mail at the Gannon banquet at Quebec on Saturday evening and advised all of his conservative friends to subscribe for the Empire. Although late in the day, we presume the repudiation is in order. It is now more than a year since the Mail repudiated Sir John. We suppose, therefore, that honors are easy.

NEWS OF THE WORLD CONDENSED.

From Our Own Telegraphic Reports and Our Exchanges.

Personal, Political and Religious News of the Day.

Cable, American, Canadian and General Topics.

Father.

Russia continues to expel Austrians from Poland. The government has abandoned for the present further prosecution of W. O'Brien, M.P.

The Mayor of Cork has been sentenced to fourteen days imprisonment without bail for assaulting a policeman at a plan of campaign meeting.

The British cabinet has decided to instruct the Irish authorities to cease prosecuting newspapers for publishing reports of suppressed branches of the league.

Canada.

Hon. Frank Smith will resume sittings in the cabinet shortly.

A collision occurred on the C. P. R. near Galtville Bridge, Thursday morning, which will cost the company \$200,000.

A fire broke out in Millbrook, Ont., Tuesday night, and spread rapidly, destroying the greater portion of the business part of the town.

A fire broke out in a domestic of Quebec, was so severely burned Tuesday by her clothing taking fire from the furnace, that she cannot recover.

A fire broke out in St. Paul street, Montreal, occupied by Gustave L. Farrow, hardware, was burned at one o'clock yesterday morning. Loss \$140,000.

Two young men, Lemay and Laport, of Montreal have been arrested for robbing a New York named Adolph Reichen, of a gold watch, chain and purse containing a large sum of money.

Struck by an engine. A man, whose name the reporter was unable to learn, was killed by a train at Hargreaves, Friday evening. He was endeavoring to cross the tracks at Hargreaves, before the train, which was in sight, came along.

The mail train which left St. John on Saturday night, was delayed by a fire in the engine which broke out at the station. The slight was caused by a spark from the engine which fell on a pile of straw.

Protesters seem to have been months past their only food. They have been unable to obtain even animal food, to such a condition have they been reduced.

FROM THE COUNTRY.

News from the Districts About Us.

As Reported by Our Active Correspondents.

Accidents, Personal Intelligence, and Things in General.

TAY CREEK.

Wrecked and Destroyed. - A train of the W. & N. B. R. was wrecked on the Tay Creek bridge, Feb. 13.

TAY CREEK, Feb. 13. Miss Henry, of Prince William, is at present giving instruction in music and painting to several pupils of this vicinity. Although the weather is most severe she is not the least daunted in making the journey from Stanley to Tay Creek, a distance of 6 or 7 miles on horseback.

We were sorry to announce the illness of Mrs. Mary Jones, but we are glad to hear from a severe attack of nervous prostration.

There seems to be some cause for alarm in the track and some danger have been seen crossing the clearing with rapid strides.

Mr. Joseph Hawkes, who, while chopping a log in the woods, fell and broke several of his ribs, has, we are happy to say, fully recovered and is able once more to attend to his business.

Mr. James Johnston, who has been living in Boston for some time, has returned and is about to lead to the altar one of Stanley's fair daughters.

BLACKVILLE.

As a desirable Entertainment. - Lumbermen and their families were entertained at a banquet given by the Blackville Association, on Wednesday, when its first anniversary was celebrated.

Blackville, Feb. 14. A most enjoyable evening was spent by Blackville, when its first anniversary was celebrated. There was a programme of songs, etc., interspersed with addresses suitable to the occasion.

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the poem. When she returned she found that her sister had passed peacefully away to the land from whence there was no return, hence was a young woman, beloved by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. She was a patient sufferer in her old age.

Mr. Joseph Hawkes, who, while chopping a log in the woods, fell and broke several of his ribs, has, we are happy to say, fully recovered and is able once more to attend to his business.

Mr. James Johnston, who has been living in Boston for some time, has returned and is about to lead to the altar one of Stanley's fair daughters.

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PALMO-TAR SOAP.

WE CONTINUALLY ASSESS, THAT FOR IMPROVING THE COMPLEXION AND SKIN THIS SOAP HAS NO EQUAL.

MOST SCALY Eruptions, PIMPLES AND CHRONIC DISEASES OF THE SKIN WILL BE CURED BY USING IT.

DAVIS & LAFORT, (LONDON) MONTREAL.

Richly rewarded are those who use this soap, for the skin will be soft and smooth, and the complexion will be improved.

It is a most valuable and useful article, and one which every person should have in their household.

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That you can not do business without Money and I would request all who are indebted to me to Call and Settle their respective accounts, or send by registered letter or P. O. money order before the 15th of February.

W. E. SEERY, WILMOT AVENUE.

Fredericton, Jan. 17th, 1888.

INVENTION. - A person who has invented a new and useful article, and one which every person should have in their household.

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