

STATE OF AFFAIRS AT THE SOUTH.

The following is an extract from a letter of a Pittsburgh gentleman travelling for a Philadelphia dry-goods house, dated.

Nashville, Friday, Jan. 6, 1861.
I am sick and tired of this trip. No money, no goods wanted, and nothing talked of but the distracted state of the country. There is a gloom over everything and every person, and I cannot and do not feel comfortable. This State, with the mass of the people, is conservative, but they may not be so in their constitutional rights, or they will be obliged to go out with the other Southern States. The Legislature meets to-morrow, but what their probable action on the Southern issue will be, I have not been able to learn, but Governor Harris is said to be rather inclined to secession.

The southern part of Alabama is also conservative but the northern part of Mississippi is red hot for secession, and will go out to-morrow or next day. I was at Oxford, sixty miles from the Tennessee line, and was very glad to get out of the State, and felt quite relieved when I got back to this State. This part of the country is not so red hot for secession, and you may well imagine that money is scarce, business prostrated and provisions high. Corn 80 to 90 cents; pork 7 1/2 to 8 cents; and other things in proportion. There is much distress among the poor of this city, and the end, I fear, is not yet, God help them.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, Jan. 18.
The question discussed over Holt's nomination for Secretary of War, was whether he was a co-operationist; his friends denying it and maintaining that it is his earnest desire to prevent bloodshed, but to maintain law by every possible peaceful means. During the debate on the nomination, Crittenden is said to have taken ground, that as Kentucky is now a central State enjoying all the prosperity consequent upon the present union, a form of government she would never consent to breaking up, nor the formation of a southern confederacy of which she would be a border state exposed to all the dangers and loss of such a position. It is stated that he was much affected during this portion of his remarks, and the manner in which he upbraided the southern men for deserting his compromise in the Senate was very severe. He took the position that the union must be preserved either by peaceful means or force, and that force used against the lawless citizens of a government is not the coercion of a State.

The speech being unexpected, created great sensation among the Senators. The story about the personal encounter in the Executive Session, between Senators Wade and Benjamin is a sheer fabrication. General Harney has been challenged by a late officer in the army.

The programme for Louisiana secession is already agreed upon by the leading members of the Convention. Arrangements are being perfected among the seceding States, for holding a general Convention at Montgomery on the 20th of February, to discuss the plan of a new confederacy to adopt a federal Constitution, to claim a title, and ask recognition by the European powers and the United States.

For Jackson and Philip were to be largely reinforced, for the defence of the mouth of the Mississippi.

It is contemplated to fit out privateers should coercion be attempted by the North.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.
Steamer Marion from Charleston has arrived. She brings three laborers from Fort Sumpter, and three free colored persons. The Garrison in Fort Sumpter numbers 75 rank and file and 25 laborers, who are in good spirits. There is plenty of provisions and water, and a scarcity only of fresh provisions.

The Tribune has positive information that it is the intention of the South Carolinians to attack Fort Sumpter on the return of their envoy from Washington.

Judge Swayne's charge concerning treason has driven several Southern army, including Mr. Thos., the agent of Alabama for the purchase of firearms, who let in such a hurry as to neglect completing his contracts.

The military authorities of New Jersey are taking measures to place their brigades upon a war footing.

The Herald has a rumor that a large military force is ordered here to seize the forts in the harbor as soon as hostilities at the South shall be commenced. It is said that from three to five thousand men are enlisted.

Herald's Washington correspondent says that Mr. Hayne, the South Carolina Commissioner sent a communication to the President to-day, which only suggests, instead of demanding the surrender of Fort Sumpter. The President will reply, it is possible, and refer him to Congress as the proper negotiating party.

Summers are entertained that the schooner which left Boston some time since with a party, of which Redpath and one of John Brown's sons are members, is waiting on the Southern coast for a favorable opportunity to make a descent upon the plantations and liberate the slaves.

Gov. Welles has accepted the Mexican mission. The Senate has confirmed the treaty with Costa Rica for the adjustment of the claims of our citizens upon that government.

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York, 12th inst., on fire. Took off captain, crew and passengers, 140 in number, including 60 females and children. Only one was lost.

Washington, Jan. 21.
Washington is now more free from excitement than it has been at any time since the secession of Congress.

Apprehensions of any difficulties attending the inauguration of Lincoln exist but to a limited extent. However, to guard against difficulties, ample means have been taken to preserve peace.

With the probable action this week of Louisiana, the secession movement will be retarded as to the Southern States.

A company ofappers and miners from West Point, acting as infantry, arrived here to-day, and are quartered at the Columbian Army.

Last week a large number of Republican members of Congress from New England, Middle States, and the West united in a strong recommendation to appoint Mr. Colfax, of Indiana, as Postmaster General.

Millidgeville, Ga., Jan. 21.
The Governor of Georgia sent to the State Convention this morning the threatening resolutions adopted by the Legislature of the State of New York on the 11th inst. After the resolutions had been read, Towns offered the following:

Resolved, unanimously, as a response to the resolutions of the Legislature of the State of New York, that this convention highly approves of the energetic and patriotic conduct of the Governor of Georgia, in taking possession of Fort Pulaski by the Georgia troops. That this convention requests him to hold possession of said Fort until the relations of Georgia to the Federal Government is determined.

Senator Hunter will announce his withdrawal from the chairmanship of the Committee of Finance in a few days. There is no doubt that instructions have been sent to the commander of the Home Squadron for a speedy return of some of the vessels on that station, their presence not being required there since the success of the Liberal party in Mexico.

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Georgia has succeeded—preserving the postal and revenue law, and retaining the officers of the United States.

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The marines at the Navy Yard were put under arms. The Militia at Brooklyn were also notified to be in readiness, and four regiments assembled at their armories. Nothing occurred. All passed off quietly.

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CHARLOTTE, S. C., Jan. 28.
The battery on Sullivan's Island fired into a boat, Monday night, which approached with muffled cars. The sentry warned off, and then fired. The boat turned, and went away. Soon after, he heard the boat haul up at Sumpter, one man saying he was wounded badly. Some say it was an effort to run the gauntlet of the sentry and spike the cannon; others, that they were deserters.

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After the adjournment of the Legislature, the Sovereign Convention will be called. The Governor is in receipt of many insulting anonymous letters from the north.

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Similar representations have been sent by the secessionists to Major Chase, who commands the Florida forts, and to Major Anderson, who commands the Florida forts.

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to call for the enlistment of volunteers, and a considerable number of war steamers will be forthwith ordered to be constructed. The recent demonstrations in Southern ports show that we are deficient in our naval force, and especially in substantial light draft vessels. Hence the recent necessity of employing an unnamed wooden shell, like the Star of the West, to go upon a warlike errand.

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A ridiculous rumor has been circulating around Washington that Major Chase had commenced bombarding Fort Pickens.

Major Chase, who is in command of the State forces at Pensacola, telegraphed to-day to Senators Mallory and Yule to the effect that he would not attack him, or out, unless they made an attack upon him. This despatch was in reply to one sent yesterday by these Senators, and by several other Senators, not to make any attack, but to let the present status remain.

All the Southern States have adopted this policy, and have so informed the President. The object is to prevent a collision for the present, in the hope that some mode of adjustment may yet be adopted averting civil war and the long catalogue of calamities that must inevitably follow it. The South do not desire, and will do everything to avoid, the happening of such a calamity under the present administration. If civil war must come, let it happen under a black republican administration—never have it said that it occurred under a democratic one. This is the result of a free conference by Colonel Hayne with the Senators and representatives from other seceding States, to the effect that no decisive step will be taken until the concurrent action of all the Gulf and cotton States, which are to meet before the 4th of March.

The President has been engaged all day in his library, preparing a reply to Colonel Hayne's letter. The course of policy which the President will adopt has not yet been decided. The understanding now current in South Carolina and the Government is entirely satisfactory.

ENGLAND AND COTTON.
Mr. John Mitchell, one of the Irish "exiles," a brilliant, but fickle journalist, is now in Paris. He is the correspondent of the Charleston (S. C.) Mercury; and in his last letter, dated Dec. 15, addresses that paper as follows:

"Now China, at present, produces even six times as much cotton as all your Southern States put together—not of the finest kind, but of the sort which nankens is made, in which about three hundred millions of people are clothed every day. Yet, where that cotton grows, it is calculated that other and better cotton may grow; and the magnificent alluvial valleys of Central China, all around the Hoan-Ho and the Yangtze-Kiang rivers, are certainly capable of producing the most valuable kinds of that useful plant as the valleys of the Mississippi and the Alabama. Labor, also, is far more abundant, and costs literally nothing at all. Once the country is subjected, English cotton-growers may have many millions of laborers, all anxious to work for their food and wages, for the most paltry sum of one penny would be a luxurious supply for five Chinamen. The Chinamen, too, will be apprentices, not slaves—the spirit of the age forbids—and so there will be no obligations to care for them, to feed and clothe them, when the work is got out of them. In short, if the cultivation may be had adieu to the Manchester and Liverpool markets; and that's the meaning of the China war."

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do we admit into our families? Do we not often suffer ourselves to be led by "blind guides?" With all our boasting of high civilization, superior intelligence, and universal education, are not our communities too readily duped? In politics, does not the noisy demagogue and the herring press, frequently distance his patriotic, sound, but more modest, competitor, who refuses to be bribed by government patronage and promises of support? In literature, does not the venter of sensation tales, the ignorant and unprincipled pandering to depraved tastes, and sickly sentimentalism, pass off his verbiage—his bombast—his melo-dramatic extravagance, for "the pure gold of the mind," while he who wields a truthful pen and scores to prostitute it to the service of vice or wrong, does not always meet with the success he deserves.

Whom have you elected? or for whom do you intend to vote? We are candidates for re-election. If you think the Herald has shown itself worthy of the high position it aspires to fill—if it has served faithfully and zealously its constituency advocating the rights and interests of the people firmly but kindly, and with charity for those who differ from it—if its tone and spirit are such as you approve—if its moral and literary character are such as you can safely introduce into your families and place in the hands of your children to read, then vote for it, by sending in your one dollar bank note ballots.

We have no particular news of importance this week. The latest European intelligence and the movements of the secessionists in the States, will be found fully reported in our columns, and cannot be made more intelligible by anything that we can say.

The political newspapers of Canada, just now, are very dull, and contain nothing of interest. The only question of discussion, at present, on the carpet, is when the House will meet, and whether the session will be a long or a short one. And none of the organs, either of the government or the opposition appear to be able to throw any light on the subject. Our own opinion is that it is a question of no great importance, as we expect little good to result to Canada from a meeting of the present parliament. We fear that very few useful measures will result from a house that supported the Quebec and Russell Election frauds, and the corruption, mismanagement and double shuffling of the present Ministry. More likely that a further sum will be voted for the Grand Trunk and the sanction of parliament obtained for a number of other useless expenditures, and the usual endorsements passed for the Lower Canadian Nunneries and other ecclesiastical institutions, as in former sessions.

SNOW! SNOW!—The winter, so far, has been a most extraordinary one for snow. We have had storm after storm, and storm after storm. The snow is now between four and five feet deep in the woods, and at the time we write, it is snowing rapidly, with every appearance of another heavy fall. The amount of snow which has fallen this winter is greatly in excess of the average. The travelling, both by horse power and locomotive, has been for several weeks, very much impeded, the roads being in many places, very much drifted, and in others entirely blocked up by enormous drifts of snow. In many of the thinly settled parts of the country, the inhabitants are entirely cut off from the outer world, by the impossibility of keeping the roads open. Our engine drivers and conductors have suffered severely by the constant drift of snow, being compelled to shovel snow, night and day, in order to get the mails through with any kind of regularity. Even the Grand Trunk, with all its borrowed money, government influence, and steam power, is completely stuck in a drift. The transportation of freight, having been for some weeks entirely suspended, and the whole available power of the company being insufficient to keep the line open for the passenger trains and the mails, and even these cannot get through with any regularity.

We think we can see indications of a thaw, at no great distance, and should it come, as we anticipate, it will be a great relief to the country.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Thursday last, while the children of Mr. Duncan McIntyre, Township of Horton, near the village of Renfrew, were going to school, they left the main road to take a short cut by a path which led through a piece of woods in which two men were engaged clearing. The men were at the time chopping down a tree, and did not observe the children, until the tree gave warning of its fall, too late, alas! as the tree fell, a fine little girl aged 8 years, could not get out of the way in time, and was struck on the temple by one of the branches, causing instantaneous death. The bereaved parents are deeply sympathetic with by the community at large.

It is stated in some of the English papers that the Earl Carlisle, at present Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, is likely to be the next Governor General of Canada, and that the Duke of Newcastle will take the Earl of Carlisle's place in Ireland.

A requisition appears in the Globe, signed by a large number of the inhabitants of the town of Perth and vicinity, asking the Hon. George Brown, M. P. P., to deliver an address on politics, in the town of Perth. Mr. Brown has accepted the invitation and promised to deliver an address at an early day, at which, no doubt, due notice will be given.

We think it would have been better to have waited until summer, and make a field meeting, in some convenient place for attendance from all parts of the country. There is no house in Perth large enough to hold fifth part of the people who would attend to hear Mr. Brown.

FOUR POST OFFICES BURNED.—Since the first of January, no fewer than four post offices have been destroyed, one at Embury, conducted by Mr. Matheson; at Devon, by Mr. Stephenson; the Maidstone, by Mr. Twomey; and the Jordan office, by Mr. Saur. The burning of so many post offices within a fortnight is remarkable.

The next annual exhibition of the Provincial Agricultural Association will be held in London in the last week of September. The necessary buildings for the exhibition as to be given up to the association by the local committee a fortnight before the time.

We learn that on Tuesday of last week, the Carlton County Council met at the court House in that city; the following Reeves and deputy Reeves being present:—

Glenora.—D. M. Grant, James Brown, Ogden.—D. Dow, Thomas Gangley, Nepean.—Jas Davidson, N. G. Robinson, North Gower.—Robert Craig, Fitzroy.—Thos Elliott, Marlboro.—Wm Mackie, March.—R. Y. Green, Goulbourne.—John Scott, Richmond.—Joe Hinton, Torblon.—John Buckham, Huntly.—H. McBride, J. Hinton, Esq., was unanimously elected Warden.

The following are the names of the Reeves and deputy Reeves present at the first meeting of the Leeds and Grenville county council met in Brockville on the same day:—

Adams Joseph, Reeve, South Gower, Anderson John, Deputy Reeve, Elizabeth town, Fields Reuben, Reeve, Front of Escott, Garvey Wm., Reeve, Augusta, Koeler James, Reeve, Edwardsburgh, Hunter Allan, Deputy Reeve, Edwardsburgh, Kendrick John, Reeve, Rear Leeds and Lansdowne, Kernahan Robert, Deputy Reeve, Oxford, King W. W., Reeve, Rear Yonge and Esocot, Kirker James, Reeve, Front Leeds and Lansdowne, Merrill Stephen, Reeve, Prescott, M'Crea Patrick, Deputy Reeve, Prescott, M'Crea Hiram, Reeve, Kitley, Mooney Henry, Deputy Reeve, Kitley, Spottawood Robert, Reeve, Kemptville, Taggart Alha, Reeve, North Crosby, Tennant George, Reeve, Front of Yonge, Willows Thomas, Deputy Reeve, Bastard and Burgess, Waughy Richy, Reeve, Oxford, Young William, Reeve, Bastard & Burgess, Wm Garvey, Esq., was unanimously elected Warden.

ARNPRIOR CORRESPONDENCE.
THE CHILDREN'S CONCERT.—Another of those delightful evenings attendant on the (I hope I may say,) periodical visit of Mr. Mason to Arnprior, was spent on Thursday last. This juvenile choir mustered in considerable force, and acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of every one present. I missed however the tasteful stage decorations which had such a charming effect last year, and which are certainly almost indispensable, when children are the most prominent performers.

The entertainment of the evening was agreeably diversified by several duets, glee, &c., admirably executed by amateur singers. Mr. R. Lyons also distinguished himself as usual with some of his brilliant violin solos. Among the adult performers, I cannot omit mention of the beautiful song founded on an incident in the life of little Paul Dombey,—"what are the wild waves saying?" which was done full justice to by Miss Ogden, and Mr. Mitchell, and was received with enthusiastic applause. "The Canadian Boat Song," and "All's well," by the same performers, assisted by Mr. W. Knowles were also excellently given, as well as the humorous glee "a little farm, well till'd," which afforded great amusement.

Among the juveniles, it seems almost indignant to mention names, where all did so well; it is sufficient to say that their parents and friends were delighted, and their worthy teacher has every reason to be proud of his success.

Mr. Mason was favored with a tolerably full house in spite of the heavy roads, and rough weather, but as many persons expected, from the country were doubtless disappointed, he has consented at the general request, to repeat the Concert on Thursday the 31st inst.

Since commencing this letter, I understand that the apparent neglect in the decorations was in consequence of want of time, the Hall having been used by a Lecturer on the previous night. On Thursday next however every attention will be paid to that important point, and our country friends will do well to take a sleigh ride in this direction.

I am, Dear Sir, Yours &c., FRANK.

COUNTY OF RENFREW.
CONTINUED.

Sir,—In my former letter I was leaving Arnprior without mentioning that it is the residence of several of the Madawaska Lumbar Merchants, who have farms in the vicinity. The population of the township of McNab is Scotch generally, but of late years a large increase in the Irish element has taken place, with a large sprinkling of Canadian Americans. From the village of Arnprior two roads lead up through the Township towards the Upper portion of the County. The principal one, lying along the bank of the Ottawa River,—the other on the North Bank of the Madawaska River, on both of which, at this season of the year, long trains of double sleighs are pressing upwards, on their way to the lumber regions. Along the front, or Ottawa, the Township presents few features of attraction to the unromantic, plain, practical agriculturist, but to the tourist of ample means whose visions of life are not cribbed, and confined by the amount of potatoes, which an acre of land yields to yield,—the scenery must be deeply attractive, the magnificent expanse of inland scene, spotted with emerald dells—the banks clothed with the vivid life sombre Hemlock

and Pine, and away in the distance Northward the Mountain Range of Canada East, marking the valley of the Gattineau, whose turbulent waters glide calmly into comparative rest, three miles below the boiling "Kettle" of the Chaudiere, at Ottawa.

A few of the oldest settlers in the Township are scattered along the margin of the Ottawa. Seven miles from Arnprior, the villa of Alexander McDonnell, Esq., appears, called Sand Point,—A very fine substantial building, with surroundings that would grace the most recherche residence, the inside does not belie its outward appearance, taste and refinement mark the room appointments, the walls of which present some pictures of considerable merit—among which may be mentioned a splendid full length portrait of the late Chief McNab, in the dress of a Highland Chieftain; it is an excellent likeness, and of value. The Sand Point House has often been the scene of brilliant hospitality, and the present British Commissioner in China, Earl Elgin, rested here for some time on his tour up the Ottawa,—near this the Stewart's, the Roddy's, &c., remind one of the flight of time, when the Township of McNab was the scene of extensive lumber operations, and the names of Archy Stewart and Michael Roddy were "household words."

The Flat Rapid Road was principally formed though the exertions of Mr. McLaughlin and the settlers along the route. The centre of the Township is mostly a pine district, a clay soil, and will, at some future time, be a capital farming section, but the difficulty of clearing the land, deterred the early settlers from settling on it, and it is only of late years that the agricultural capabilities of the soil attracted the attention of those who can afford to expend the necessary outlay for clearing, &c.

About seven miles from Arnprior, the Town Hall "rears its stately head," within the walls of which the "Grattans," "Pitts" and "Erskins" of the Municipality of McNab fulminate their measures of burning eloquence to the tickled auriculars of our old good-hearted friends Allan Stewart, the two "Dannys," namely: "Dancing Danny," and "Deil Danny," and that Dunkled Celebrity "Tailor Sutherland." The local features of the Flat Rapid settlements, are rather too narrow to afford much basis to scribble on; near the Town Hall is a Tavern, and a school, the latter of which is well managed by a Miss Sutherland. A bridge here crosses the Madawaska River, and a Road on the South bank, winds tortuously through the woods to White Lake, a road on the North bank leads to Burnstown, past a good many farms, the soil of which is inclined to sandy, and the physical features of the County change materially—the banks of the River assume a rocky appearance, and from in gloomy grandeur on the impetuous boulder fretted torrent below, the land is broken up by rocky ravines and rolling hills, and where the land is cleared, sheep pasture is the rule and not the exception. Burnstown is well known to most of your readers, in fact the "Madawaska Hill," used to be a "terror" to the Loading-drawing Teamster in winter, and the strikingly romantic features of this tiny village when once seen, will never be effaced from the memory.

There are still lumbering operations carried on in McNab, but principally Saw-Jogs, the American saw-mill owners of Ottawa, have given a great impetus to trade, as they are enabled to give out contracts to people whose circumstances would not allow them to take any other lumber out, and several have benefited their families materially.

The progress of this Township has been rapid, and still retains the seniority of the County. I think that the population at this moment amounts to 2500.

I will forward some notes of the other Townships in a few days. FALCON.

McNab, January 21st, 1861.

For the Carlton Place Herald.

MR. EDITOR,—A short time ago, a Clergyman in this neighborhood, stated in his sermon, that the people of his communion, had reason, among other things, to be thankful for the great increase and prosperity of their church; that in Upper Canada alone, they had a million of communicants. Now I think it is a liberal estimate, and probably more than the real number, to allow one communicant to every fifteen of the whole population. The denomination in question, numbers not quiet one fourth of the population of U. C. and consequently there must be at least six millions of inhabitants in that section of the province! An increase and prosperity indeed, without a parallel!

The gentleman alluded to, is becoming quite noted for his propensity to draw a long bow, and bids fair to out-do even that renowned personage Baron Munchausen, in the peculiarity for which he is so justly celebrated.

ENUMERATOR.

Carlton Place, Jan. 25th, 1861.

To the Pupils of the C. P. Grammar School.

"Fellow School-mates" we bid you Adieu, there is something deeply depressive, and we might say melancholy in that little word Adieu; but the time has come, when we must endure its realities, when we must leave you, and it is uncertain, if ever we shall all meet under the same roof again; where we have met so often for the cultivation of our minds. Where we have spent so many pleasant days, and where we have united so often together in harmless amusement on yonder play-ground. But all those happy days are past and gone never more to return. And we must leave you. We must take hold, and fight the battles of life single handed. And although, that we may be far away in distant lands, roaming beneath foreign Climes, amid forms and faces strange, yet shall we always remember you. Yet shall you always find a place within, those day-dreams of the past. "Fellow School-mates" now is your time for improvement. Now is the time that you ought to direct all your attention to the cultivation of your minds. It is now in your youth, when your hearts are

light and joyous, and your mind free from the troubles, the trials and cares of life.—The time may come, when you may be deprived of the many privileges which you do now enjoy, your youth will not always last. The morning sunshine of your lives, will soon pass away, and dark clouds may arise, and the mighty tempest assail you in your course through life; by which your bark may be tossed and driven, and perch

COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

Montreal, Jan. 22nd, 1861.

The weather has been steady during the last day or two, and fine, with occasional light snow. Temperature in the city at 7 1/2 above, 13° above zero; at noon, 15° above. At Hochelaga, in course of the night, the thermometer indicated 90° above; at 7 a.m., 9° above; barometer at same hour, 30.30.

The roads are in tolerably good travelling order again, and the mails this week, so far as regular.

This has revived local business somewhat; the favorable influence of the advanced prices for Flour and Wheat, is also inducing farmers to sell, and a large business is expected throughout Canada during the month of February.

Breadstuffs.—For a week past the New York market has been dropping, with prices a shade lower. Flour and Wheat in Montreal have been firm at recent advances, and since the opening of this year a fair business has been done. The receipts of Produce during last week, however, have been light, on account of the roads. The following are receipts of principal articles for the Grand Trunk Railway, for week ending 19th inst.:

Flour, barrels, 1,265; Ashes, brls., 52; Wheat, bushels, 7,749; Dressed Hogs, 598; Pork, 894; Pork, barrels, 97; Butter, kegs, 183; Lard, 18.
At Toronto on the 18th, 500 barrels of Superfine Flour sold for \$5, and 250 more of a choice brand at \$5.05. On Saturday the market for breadstuffs was dull; no movement in Flour; small sales of Fall Wheat, at an average of \$1.18, the range being \$1.15 to \$1.20 per bushel; Spring in pretty good demand at 97c to \$1.01, the prevailing rate being \$1.

At London, on Friday, the range of price for Fall Wheat was \$1 to \$1.10; Spring, 90c to 93c.

In reviewing the British Grain Trade for the week ending 29th Dec. last, the *Mark Lane Express* says:

The continuance of frost, with the addition of a heavy fall of snow during the past week, closed all labour in the fields. The wheat that was up will be well protected, but the ploughed lands unsown would have been better prepared for seeding if left to the action of frost in a drier state. The difficulties of finishing this important work will be so increased in proportion to the depth of snow, and the character of the thaw. With the close of the year let our anxieties cease, and let us cheerfully hope for the best as the New Year opens. The holiday character of the week has reduced business to its wonted limits, but the upward tendency of prices has continued. If the wheat crop at such a period this state of things has obtained, the world prices have ruled without the aid of foreign countries. Still, it is most unsatisfactory to British growers to find their produce suppressed; and we trust the sharpness of the weather will improve the condition of their samples that they will soon find ready sales at better prices. The week has brought a full average gain of 1c per cwt. on former values, with some diminution in the foreign supplies, which cannot be expected to continue on the same scale. The weather has already begun to affect the navigation of the Thames, and as it is yet early winter, we may soon be entirely stopped as to deliveries from vessels, but a thaw has since commenced, which may continue. On the continent the Christmas festivities have almost set business aside; but wherever there have been markets held, the prices for wheat have been rising. This has been decidedly the case in France, while Belgium and Holland have been firm. The suddenness and severity of the frost (which has closed the Baltic) will check the upward movement in the German markets, and confine transactions to the deliveries for spring. New York advises come rather more favourably to sellers.

In reference to the movement of breadstuffs at some of the principal British ports, during the past year, the following facts are noteworthy:

At Glasgow, the imports show a falling off of about 31,000 qrs. Wheat; 25,000 sacks of Flour; 35,000 qrs. Barley; 7,700 qrs. Rye; 140,000 qrs. Oats; 35,000 loads of Oatmeal; and 35,000 qrs. Beans. On the following articles, there has been an increase—Flour about 179,000 barrels; and Malt 2,400 qrs.; Pease 21,000 qrs.; and Maize 3,500 qrs. The stocks in grain, at the end of the year, however, about the same as on 31st Dec. 1859; and the year closed with Wheat 16s. to 18s per quarter, and Flour 6s. to 7s. per barrel higher, than at the commencement.

The imports of breadstuffs at Liverpool to 31st Dec. 1860, were: Flour, 229,591 barrels, and 104,064 sacks; Wheat, 346,381 qrs.; Corn (Indian) 47,298 qrs.; Beans 15,265 qrs.; Peas, 7,529 qrs.; Oats, 11,903; Oatmeal, 7,812 loads; Barley, 1,895 qrs.; Malt, 1,196 qrs.

Hogs and Provisions.—Latest news from the Far-West indicates advancing markets for Hogs and the packed product. Both at Chicago and Cincinnati, prices are higher;—Mess Pork in the former city being quoted at \$16, and ex-warehouse on N. Y., at \$14.50 per cent. prem.; while in Cincinnati, the quotation given on Wednesday last, was \$16.25 to \$16.50, the latter price predominating. The Price Current of 16th, states as the result of many enquiries north and west of Cincinnati, that it is likely packing will continue active until the middle of next month, while, as the season advances, the quantity continues good, the abundant corn crop enabling farmers to feed longer than in ordinary years. In a number of instances the crop is 10, 15, 20, and 25 per cent heavier than last year. At Milwaukee, on 16th, there were sales of 1,000 bbls. Mess Pork at \$15.50 and Exchange on New York at 5 per cent.

There has been increased activity in Up per Canada within the past week; medium dressed Hogs, selling at \$5 per 100 lbs., in Hamilton, on the 17th, and \$5.50 for large carcasses. On the 18th some very heavy carcasses, weighing from 300 to 400 lbs., were actively competed for, bringing \$6 per 100 lbs. At Toronto, on the 18th, \$5.25 to \$5.75 were the extreme prices, \$5.60 being the highest current rate for average lots.

The Montreal Hog Market has been weak and drooping; the receipts are fully greater than the demand, and there are several heavy lots offering, with but few buyers. There has been a good deal of packing done within the last eight days, and we have seen informed, both at the establishment of Mr. Fayer, the City Provision Inspector, and that of Messrs. D. Rees & Co., that the quality and weight of what they are putting up will challenge comparison with that coming in from the Western States. It appears also, that these firms are filling orders for the British market, and we have seen only one put up here. It is hoped that this branch of trade will be a continuous one, as it will improve the Montreal market by bringing into profitable use the smaller sizes of hogs which come to the city,—leaner pork than that which is used in Canada, suiting the taste of European consumers, whose desideratum is, "as little fat as possible."

There has been much less Prime Mess received this season from the Western Province, at both the packing-houses, than during past years. The market has been very dull and irregular; nothing doing at all in Prime Mess and Prime, and very little in the market.

Groceries.—There is no new feature in the trade, a general dullness prevailing in the wholesale business. Black Teas are in full stock, and prices will probably rise somewhat; but lower; Green retain previous firmness, but prices are unaltered. At a recent auction sale in New York city, quite ordinary Young Hoyer brought 38c, which is equal to over 45c. here. The quantity of available Salt is not great, some holders not having stowed the bags. Parties holding salt over in winter, should never omit this very necessary precaution.

MONTEAL WHOLESALE MARKET.
Flour.—Several thousand barrels of No 1 Superfine have been sold at \$6.05 for May delivery; no Wholesale transactions on the spot, holders firm, at about \$5.50; that price was offered last night and to-day for 500 barrels choice, and refused. Fall Wheat Flour nominal; Fancy, \$5.60 to \$5.70; Extra, \$5 to \$5.25; Superfine Extra, \$6.50 to \$7. There has been a sale of Extra on the 18th of 100,000 bushels, at \$6.

Bag Flour.—No transactions; nominal at \$2.70 to \$2.80, which is relatively lower than the same quality in barrel.

Wheat.—Slight improvement, there being a demand for quantities for shipment; receipts of past week light, car-loads of U. C. Spring have brought \$1.15 to 1.17.

Butter.—Since last semi-weekly report considerable quantities from Eastern Townships have sold here at a shade over 14c and 15c. There has been some activity at lower rates for Store-packed, which we quote at 12c to 13c for inferior, and 13c to 14c for good.

Ashes.—No change; Pots, \$5.40; Pearls, \$5.35.
On the spot, 72c; 80c offering for future delivery.

Lard.—Little doing; 11c to 11 1/2c.
Tallow.—The transactions for the past fortnight have been of the merest retail character, at \$1.84 to \$1.9 for Mess. The dealers who ask these prices, however, decline to purchase, as there is no wholesale price to quote. There is little or no Prime Mess or Prime in market, and those who purchase to hold till summer, are only offering \$11 and \$13 for these grades, respectively. We hear of a small sale of Prime Mess at \$13.

Dressed Hogs.—Quite a number of sales have been made at a slight decline for choice carcasses, several fine lots on the spot being pressed to sale, and some to arrive. The average price for choice has been about \$6.25 for the past day or two, a large lot averaging 260 lbs. having changed hands at that price yesterday, and a small lighter lot this morning. At the markets to-day there had been very few sales.

Tea.—Tunkay, 40 to 48c; Young Hyson, 40 to 65c;ouchong and Congous, 40 to 50c, for ordinary to fine; 50 to 70c, for higher grades.

Sugars.—About as before; 7 to 7 1/2c. Salt—In lots, 65 to 70c.
Oils.—Cod is held at 60 to 65c.

JOHN DOUGALL,
Commission Merchant.

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.
Produce.—Since our last, business has been very inactive; and there are few actual sales on which to base quotations. The general feeling of the English Markets is favorable to shipping, but in the article of Ashes there is great dullness. In wheat and other Grains there was a temporary depression in the Liverpool Market; but in London the highest quotations were sustained, and business active. Transaction in Flour at a slight decline on former rates. Butter had slightly declined, but choice grades were in good demand. Money is scarce, and the Bank of England has advanced its rate of discount. If this continue business will be restricted. Ashes, we are inclined to think, must soon advance. The Stocks in hands of buyers, for manufacturing purposes, will soon want replenishing; and if cheap freight offers to shippers, a brisk demand will ensue. Wheat and Flour are not likely to suffer anything more than a casual decline; as the severe weather in England and the likelihood of another great war on the continent; will tend to retard, if not very much diminish, the harvest of 1861. In butter there is likely to be a paying trade; at all events until the opening of navigation here.

In our market flour has with difficulty advanced, and wheat remains stationary. There is little inclination shown by buyers to place contracts for May delivery; but sales of grain on the spot, can be readily effected at our prices. In both Wheat and Flour the business done is to advantage of sellers. We are still very much inconvenienced by the delay of the Grand Trunk Railway; but as these are incident to snow storms, we have no one to blame. We must again call the attention of consignors to the necessity of taking a railway receipt; and let that receipt, if practicable, that on the No of Car. Send a copy of this receipt to the consignee.

Flour Arrivals limited and few transactions. Little or no demand for anything but No 1, Superfine. A good quality of bag flour required for to barrel; bag flour being proportionately cheaper. No 1, Superfine, \$5.45, to 5.55, and for May delivery \$5.50 to \$6.05. Other grades nominal; no change from our last report.

Wheat.—Good U. C. Spring, \$1.15 to 1.17 and in one or two cases hear of touching at \$1.18. "Dreadnought" for present delivery; and for May less enquiry at previous rates.

Peas.—Good samples bring 72c to 75c for 60lbs. Brisk demand.

Oats.—Little doing; and last week's prices not sustained.

Dressed Hogs.—Slightly depressed at a fractional decline. Sales on the spot, and to arrive; \$6.40 for averages of 300 lbs. Smaller carcasses weighing 200 to 250 lbs. \$5 to 6c. Some heavy purchases have been made for packing and curing.

Pork.—No change from last week.

Butter.—Considerable sales at former rate; and moderate enquiry for good. Demand chiefly for Store-packed. Inferior 12c; extra, 13c; and 14c to 15c for best.

The last figure the very highest; excepting for occasional lots, when 16c cents may be obtained. Butter for shipping should always be packed in kegs; and for domestic use and retailing, in tins, containing from 30 to 60 pounds.

Ashes.—Without change; good tare will occasionally bring 10c more than our quotations; Pots, \$5.40; Pearls, \$5.35.

GROCERIES.—Business dull and few Auction Sales occurring. Our quotations are based on one sale only.

Sugars.—Hlds. Cuba \$6.70 to \$7.50. Sugar House Syrup—44 cents to 48c. Tea.—Hyson Tunkay, 45 to 52c cents. Hyson 45 to 55 cents. Oolong 55 cents. Soda \$4.55.

Refined Sugars.—No change. Lard 10 1/2c. Dry Crushed 9 1/2c. Yellow 8 1/2c. Fish—Green Cod \$2.50 to \$3. Dry Cod \$3.50 to \$4.25. Herrings \$4 to \$5.

W. & T. LEEMING,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
25, St. Nicholas Street,
Montreal, Jan. 24th, 1861.

A proclamation, in the official Gazette, postpones till June the taking of the census in that part of the county of Saguenay which lies to the east of Portneuf, in the island of Anticosti, on the coast of Labrador, and in the Magdalen Islands, on account of the remote position of those places, and communication therewith being impeded by the close of the navigation.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

The following is by telegraph from Liverpool to Queenstown, on Sunday, January 6th.

London, Saturday, 5.
The Cork Examiner states, it is rumored that the Prince of Wales is to be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It is not much doubted.

Sydney Herbert retires from the House of Commons and is to receive a Peerage. He retains the Secretaryship of War.

Napoleon's New Year's remarks to the diplomatists has had no effect in political circles.

FRANCE.
The Paris Bourse is dull.
The reported correspondence between France and England relative to the French fleet before Gaeta is most unsatisfactory. Affairs at Gaeta remain unchanged.

It is reported that negotiations are pending for extending the armistice.
The nomination of Prince Carignan as the King's Lieutenant to Naples is confirmed.

Count Trapais is said to be heading a reactionary movement in Abruzzi.
The Prince Regent of Prussia commenced his reign as William V.

Two Sardinian vessels with war materials were seized by Russia at Gaeta.
The Bombay mail to the 12th December reached Marseilles.

The income tax trouble continues.
Breadstuffs closed steady. Provisions closed dull.

London, Saturday evening.
Consols closed at 92 1/2 to 93 for account.
The latest sales of American stock were Erie 35 to 35 1/2; New York Central 76 to 80; Illinois Central 27 1/2 to 28 discount.

It is stated that the English Government has sent a strong note to the Emperor of France, protesting against the extension of the occupation of Syria by the French forces. No reply had yet been received.

ARRIVAL OF THE MARATHON.
New York, Jan. 22.
The steamship Marathon, from Liverpool at two P. M. on the 8th, arrived at ten A. M. Financial matters form the chief features of her news.

The action of the Bank of England on Monday was sudden and unexpected.
Consols fell 1/2; Railroad securities considerably more, and Commerce generally was checked.

It is believed that the American news and the position of the Bank of France were the main incentives.
The Bank of France on Tuesday followed the example of the Bank of England, and advanced its rates from 5 1/2 to 7 per cent. There was no pressure for discount in London.

The weather in England continues most severe. Snow was still falling when the Marathon left.

The ship Saratoga, from Mobile for Liverpool, which put into Crookhaven on the 4th, ran ashore, but after cutting away all her masts was got off.

The Paris Bourse was depressed. It closed on the 7th at 67.20.

The Daily News announces that the French Government offered to withdraw its ships from Gaeta provided the Sardinians discontinued firing till the 18th or 19th inst., after which it is understood the bombardment by sea may commence.

It is asserted that England will no longer permit to Austria the use of Venice.
One of the ministers in the Saxony Chamber asserted that all the Federal Governments was ready to act in accord with Prussia on the Danish question, and if necessary take the field.

A questionable report that eleven English and seven French gun-boats were wrecked in a hurricane in Fehlo is prevalent, but the rumor is unconfirmed.

The Paris correspondent of the Times says the English Government had sent a strong note to the French Government against occupying Syria for a longer period than is warranted by treaty with the Porte.

Three new iron-clad ships are ordered to be commenced at Toulon.

The Herald's Paris correspondent says that by the beginning of March France will possess an army of 140,000 men, ready to march at a few hours' notice, beside the Imperial Guard 40,000 strong, which are kept on a war footing. In addition, 400,000 men are under arms, unbrigaded, in the garrison of the Empire.

LIVERPOOL MARKET, Liverpool, Jan. 8.
The advance in the rate of interest produced general dullness in breadstuffs. Flour dull, and 6d lower. Wheat quite and easier, but quotations unchanged. Corn dull and lower; mixed offered at 38s with no buyers. Provisions dull and unchanged.

Tallow firm. Coffee firm. Rice firm. Tallow firm at 60s to 60s 3d.
American securities are—Erie 35 1/2; New York Central 75 to 78 in London Money Market. Consols were quoted on Tuesday noon, 91 1/2 to 91 3/4.

ARRIVAL OF THE ARAGO.
New York, Jan. 23.
The Arago brings London papers of the 9th inst. at 1 P. M.

Shells thrown by the Sardinians penetrated the room over that occupied by the King. His staff and Ministers insist that he shall remove his quarters. Shell also reached the central hospital.

Constantinople, 2d.
Hungarian and Polish Garibaldian volunteers were arriving at Pera on their way to the Danubian principalities.

Vienna, Wednesday.
The Emperor proclaims a very comprehensive amnesty for Hungary, Transylvania Croatia and Slavonia.

Paris, Wednesday.
The Bank of France advanced its rate from 5 1/2 to 7, and a deficit of two millions is anticipated next report. General affairs to the Bank discouraging. The American panic affected France equally with England.

The City of Manchester sailed from Liverpool on Wednesday with nearly half a million in specie.

Rome, 6th.
Placards were posted exhorting the Romans to await the arrival of the Sardinians. Neapolitan troops ordered home. A depot of arms had been discovered in the Fero Appio.

LIVERPOOL MARKET.—9th.
Breadstuffs quiet & steady. Provisions dull.

London, 9th.
Business in Breadstuffs nearly suspended owing to the continued severe frost.

ARRIVAL OF THE NORTH BRITON.
Portland, January, 23.
The North Briton has arrived.

The Bohemian from Portland arrived at Londonderry on the 9th, and the Etta at Queenstown on the same day.

Britain quiet.

Liverpool, 9th.
Rumors were abroad that a ship had entered a banker's shop and helped themselves, owing to the advance in price, want of employment, and the severe weather; and that regular riot had broken out. A large number of shops were forthwith closed, and a feeling of alarm prevailed. All proved groundless, and a feeling of confidence was quickly restored.

No break in the severity of the weather, and navigation was getting more and more difficult. Many parts of the Thames covered with floating ice, and the dock entrances kept open by steam tugs.

FRANCE.
The regiment of Thoulouarn from Foreign Affairs was again ordered.

Bourse closed steady.

The Constitutional says that in the event of the French fleet leaving Gaeta, it is believed it would cruise, for some time in the Adriatic.

ITALY.
Advices from Gaeta say that shell thrown by the Sardinians penetrated the room above that occupied by the King, and ministers insisted on his taking up quarters in one of the casemates. Shells also reached the central hospital.

The Piedmontese were constructing new batteries only 500 yards from the fortress. It is not true that the French fleet at Gaeta would be replaced by the Russian fleet.

AUSTRIA.
An autograph letter of the Emperor, dated the 7th inst., proclaims a very comprehensive amnesty for Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia and Slavonia, on account of such penal acts as have recently aimed at a change in the system of government as established before October last. Ministers were ordered to put this ordinance into execution at once.

A Pesh telegram says the government resolved to publish a provisionary electoral law for Hungary on the 15th article of the law of 1848.

The Hungarian Diet will assemble on the 2nd of April.

TURKEY.
The dismissal of Saft Pasha was received. Servus shows increased acquiescence. Lord Palmerston, in a speech at Southampton, referred to the American situation and said there was too much reason to fear that the Union, which conducted to so much prosperity, was in danger of disruption.

He expressed a fervent hope, whether the Union was maintained or dissolved, that amicable relations may be established, and that the world may be freed from the affliction of an hostile conflict between two brothers.

King of Prussia issued a proclamation after paying a warm tribute to the late King, he declares himself faithful to the traditions of his House, is desirous of elevating and strengthening his people, protecting the constitution, and advancing the position of his subjects in peace and prosperity.

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The Time's City Article says. This has been a settling day in English funds, but the market generally steady demand for discount at Bank moderate.

Le Nord says that on the 23 November the Russian Ambassador at Paris refused the convention confirming the privileges of Russia on the Amor, and extending commercial advantages.

SUPPOSED TRANCE.

A singular case of trance is supposed to exist now in this city. The daughter of a gentleman connected with the management of the Corporation (apparently) died on Wednesday last from an attack of influenza. Death took place rather suddenly, the deceased, only five years of age, having remarked a few minutes before that she did not think she was dying. The friends of the family having been apprised of the mournful fact, assembled on Saturday morning to accompany the remains to the place of interment. To their great surprise, however, they found that the corpse gave no indication of death whatever except the suspension of breathing. The family physician having been summoned, advised that the body be left undisturbed till some symptoms of decomposition appeared. The family and friends of the little one remain in a state of distressing suspense, which cannot be relieved till the case be decided in one way or the other.—*Montreal Herald.*

REMARKABLE RASCALITY IN CHICAGO.—The Chicago Gazette says:

"The rumor is widely circulated in the city that two parties, the one a banker and liquor merchant, both well-known in business circles, have victimized several business firms in this city and in Philadelphia to the amount of forty or fifty thousand dollars, and have absconded in company to Australia. The banker obtained about twenty thousand dollars from parties in Philadelphia for investment, upon which he paid regularly ten per cent, interest, and forwarded to his creditors bogus trust deeds and mortgages with a bogus seal of the Circuit Court attached, in some instances forging the name of his father, and run away with the principal. The liquor merchant obtained between ten and twenty thousand dollars on forged bills of lading attached to drafts, from a banking firm in this city, and cleared out in company with his friend leaving the banker in the lurch. Both parties sailed from New York for Australia, a few days since. It is to be hoped that they will land in Botany Bay."

JUDGMENTS AGAINST LANDS.—Sir, Permit me through the columns of your valuable paper to draw the attention of Parliament at the approaching session, to the existing, imperfect and cruel state of the law, with regard to judgments of the Superior Courts of Common Law and the County Courts of Upper Canada. In case five or six judgments are rendered against the same defendant for \$250 upwards each, the attorney or attorneys acting for the various plaintiffs can, the moment judgment is recorded, file a bill in the Court of Chancery to foreclose against, or get a decree for sale of defendant's lands, in each case, and all judgments registered have to be proved in each case, in order to come in their order of priority, as they appear on the registrar's books; thereby, incurring a bill of costs in each case of about \$250, and in all probability taking all the defendant's lands to pay the costs, instead of paying his just debts.—*Letter in Globe.*

DEATH OF MR. CLEMO.—The Toronto Globe announces the death of Mr. Clemo, the gentleman whose improvements in the manufacture of paper pulp from straw have lately attracted attention. He had been some weeks previous to his death actively engaged in directing the erection of machinery on an extensive scale for making paper under his patent, at Morrisstown, State of New Jersey, and had just completed his preparations, when he was seized with fever of a typhoid character, under which he rapidly sank. Mr. Clemo was a native of London England.

INFANTICIDE.—On Tuesday morning the body of a new born male child was found in the river, near an opening cut in the ice for the purpose of procuring water. The case is undergoing investigation before Dr. Edmondson, coroner.

The mother of the child is believed to be a young woman named Strachan, who has been placed under the surveillance of a constable, her state of health rendering it impossible to remove her from her own house at present.—*Brockville Recorder.*

THE SILVER CHOP.—The New York Commercial Advertiser says, the silver crop of 1861 promises to out yield the golden harvest of the year. The Mexican mines, as we learn from a traveller recently returned from that country, are about starting the world with developments more extraordinary than Humboldt predicted or old Spain imagined at the time of her conquest.

The St Thomas Home Journal says:—"We learn from a friend that Mr. Phelps, alias manufacturer, of Kingston, together with his hired man, on the 4th inst., went into his factory, and after tying down the safety-valve, got on a great head of steam, so much so as to burst the boiler, totally demolishing the building, besides injuring the hired man to that extent as to cause his death in six hours afterwards. Mr. Phelps himself is so badly injured as to leave but little hope of his recovery. And if he does recover, if the facts are as stated, he deserves to be severely punished for his criminal conduct."

The Barrie Advance relates the following incident:—A young man, named George Beal, a settler on the Muskoka Road, in the latter part of last month, pursued a wonderful deer into the woods somewhere beyond the Second Falls of Muskoka, and having missed his way fell into water concealed under the deep snow, and when he extricated himself was so frozen, and benumbed that he almost lost all power of action. For four days and three nights he struggled against cold

