

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

BAZAAR.—Upwards of £200 were realized at the Bazaar in aid of the Halifax Industrial School.

OUR REVENUE.—Comparative statement of the Revenue in the port of Halifax: Amount of duties collected from 1st January to 30th June 1866.....\$511,560.60 Collected during the same period in 1865.....381,075.22 Increase in year 1866.....\$130,485.38

RAILWAY DAMAGES.—The Eastern Chronicle says:—The jury on the railway damages have filed their report, and we learn that the total amount allowed for this county including the town of Pictou, is \$47,406.20. This is considered extremely low, and appeals will be made.

DARTMOUTH.—The Amateur Concert under the direction of Mr. Chesley on Monday evening last, was a very pleasing and successful affair. The large audience were evidently much gratified with the performance and the variety of pieces produced. The ladies and gentlemen forming the class deserve much credit for their efforts in cultivating a taste for music, and for giving to others an evening's enjoyment in listening to them.

FANCY WOOL AND NEEDLE-WORK.—Miss Knowles has opened a class for instruction in these branches together with drawing and painting at 99 Argyll Street. The specimens we have seen of her work are very beautiful.

A FRUIT EXHIBITION was held at Wolfville on Wednesday last. The Acadians inform us that there were some magnificent strawberries; there were also currants, gooseberries, some half dozen sorts, some truly mammoth rhubarb from Dr. McLatchy's garden; some $\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, Lucerne, broom corn, and several dishes of last year's apples (the latter looking as fresh and bright and sound as they did six months ago.

The corner stone of the St. John's new Presbyterian Church in Brunswick street, was laid on Tuesday last by James Farquhar, Esq.

The steamer Oriental will not leave Boston till the 24th inst. She will then supersede the Commerce between Boston, Halifax and Charlottetown.

THE NOVA SCOTIA GIANTNESS, Miss Swan who has for some time past been on exhibition at Barnum's Museum, New York, has returned on a visit to her friends at New Annan, Colchester County. She is said to be 8 feet 4 inches in height.

TEMPLE.—The Provincial Grand Lodge of British Templars held their annual session in Truro last week. At the close a grand Picnic was held at North River on Friday. A brass band was in attendance in a carriage drawn by six horses. There were besides about 150 carriages, containing near 400 persons. It formed an imposing cavalcade. The session is said to have been very harmonious. The following are the officers elected for the ensuing year: J. N. Freeman, Esq., G. W. T. Miss Sarah Michener, G. W. O. J. Rev. W. Gelling, G. W. Lecturer, E. B. Woodworth, Esq., G. W. Counsellor, Rev. J. J. Baxter, G. W. Chaplain, F. A. Lawrence, G. W. Secretary, M. Theakston, G. W. Treasurer, E. H. Woodworth, G. W. Recorder, James Cowan, G. W. Marshall, Miss Eunice Woodworth, G. W. D. Marshall, S. H. Cox, Esq., G. W. O. Guard; D. D. Reed, G. W. I. G.; Edward Mack, G. W. P. Chief.

HALIFAX DOCKYARD.—We learn that it is contemplated to make important changes in Her Majesty's Naval Yard at this port. In addition to a Naval Storekeeper, there is to be a Captain-Superintendent; and a large receiving ship, with a strong force of Marines, will be permanently stationed here. Extensive works will be forthwith proceeded with in the Yard. We regret to learn that a man named James Mitchell, living below New Glasgow, had his collar bone badly broken by the falling of a bank while at work on section 9 Pictou railway. Such accidents are of frequent occurrence.

Mr. Dawson, Principal of McGill College, Montreal, is expected to visit Halifax during the present week. An excursion to Liverpool and Lanesburg, on board the steamer Empress, is to take place this day, with the privilege of staying till Monday next, there and back for one fare. THE HEAT has been intense during the past week. The accounts of the height of the thermometer in different places show that it has been felt nearly alike in all parts. It is said to have reached 92° in the shade in Halifax on Friday afternoon.

The crops are reported from all parts of the country in a most thriving condition. The hay crop will probably be very large. In some of the uplands where the early drought affected the growth, it will be shorter than on the intervals. The dikes are said to be covered with a heavy crop of grass.

RAILWAY PROGRESS.—We are informed that parties are at work in Cumberland County, a few miles from Amherst, preparing for the track. We also learn that the route across Sackville marsh is staked off ready for operations. At Dorchester one mile is already for the rails. We shall be glad to hear of similar progress westward from Windsor.

GREAT FIRE AT CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.—We learn by telegram that on Saturday night last a large fire occurred at Charlottetown, when about sixty buildings were destroyed.

New Brunswick.

THE LEGISLATURE was closed on the 9th inst., by a speech from Governor Gordon, in which he informed that honorable body that the Queen had been graciously pleased to confide to him the discharge of important duties in another part of Her Majesty's dominions; and in taking leave of them on their return to your respective counties, he did so for the last time. He remarked also, "I have learnt with much satisfaction, that the opinion so strongly expressed by Her Majesty's Government, as to the expediency of a closer union between the British North American Provinces has now received the concurrence of both Branches of the Provincial Legislature. It is my intention, in accordance with the wishes of the House of Assembly, shortly to appoint Delegates who, in conjunction with Delegates from the other Provinces of British America, will arrange with Her Majesty's Government the details of an Act which, as requested by the Address of the Legislative Council to Her Majesty the Queen, adopted in April last, will be introduced into the Imperial Parliament for the purpose of effecting the desired Union."

It is said that General Doyle will have the temporary appointment of the governorship. The Royal Gazette contains the appointments of Hon. Charles Connell to be Surveyor General; Hon. John McAdam to be a member of the Executive Council; and W. H. A. Keans Esq., to be Sitting Magistrate in St. John, in the room of W. Leavitt, Esq., deceased. Two seamen deserted from H. M. Foam in St. John Harbor last week, and were captured at Shediac on Wednesday.

Frank Hind, aged 15, son of Professor Hind, was drowned while bathing in the river at Fredericton last Saturday.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A man named Daniel P. Ford, formerly a school teacher in Fredericton, dropped dead in one of the streets of that city on Saturday afternoon last. It was attributed to sunstroke, the heat being very great at the time.

A STABBING AFFAIR.—A shoemaker named Mullin was severely stabbed last night, while at work in his shop in Leinster street, by a young man named David Moore. Mullin was alone in the shop when Moore entered and fastened the door and began his attack. It is said when the door was broken open from the outside that Moore had his victim in a corner and would have probably murdered him had no one interfered. He has been arrested.—St. John News.

A meeting was held in St. John, on Thursday last, to take into consideration the relief of the sufferers by the Portland fire. Committees were appointed to collect funds. They keep a bear chained in the barrack green in St. John, N. B., and he got hold of a boy the other day and mangled him sadly.

Canada.

CONSTITUTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.—The following is given by La Minerve as an outline of the constitution for the Canadian Provinces under confederation: "The Local Constitutions shall come in force the moment that the Imperial Parliament shall have sanctioned the project of Confederation. Then the Governor of Canada shall call together at Ottawa, all the ministers of the several English Provinces and these shall fix the day for the convocation of the Confederate Parliament, which shall meet as soon as practicable. The Confederate Council, presided over by His Excellency the Governor Gen shall appoint for each Province a Lieutenant Governor, who shall be revocable at pleasure after the first five years of his administration. As soon as these Lieutenant Governors are appointed, they shall form, each under his own responsibility, a ministry for the Local Legislatures, and shall organize the House. The seat of the Local Government for Lower Canada shall be Quebec, provided the Local Legislature does not select another city. The electoral districts shall remain in Lower Canada the same as at present. There shall be two Houses. A House of Assembly elective, with a responsible ministry, and 65 members. A Chamber of Council, with 24 members, appointed to life by the Government. It shall be necessary for each Councilor to reside in the division he represents. The qualification shall be as follows:—For the Council \$4,000, free of mortgage. For the House \$2,000, free of mortgage. The Parliament shall last four years, as under the present system. The House can alter the representation by a vote of three fourths. The Legislative Councilors who remain two years without occupying their seats, shall there-by forfeit them. The Council alone shall decide upon the eligibility of its members, when contested. As much as practicable, the councillors shall be selected from amongst the present members, and the opposition shall not be excluded. The representatives in the Local House of Assembly, shall not be taken from the same as those of the House of General Assembly. But they can cumulate both functions, by undergoing two distinct elections. Our Lieutenant Governor will be paid by the General Government."

The French and English languages shall both be official in our Legislature. The Lieutenant Governor shall have the right of veto upon all measures adopted by the Local Legislature; but a two-thirds vote will set aside his veto. The Local Governments shall themselves appoint the several civil employees in the several departments. In Upper Canada, there shall be but one House, composed of 72 members. It shall be elective.

These arrangements will doubtless be carefully examined and discussed before they are finally adopted. It will be seen that there is a considerable difference between the arrangements for Upper and Lower Canada. The latter having two houses of Legislature, whilst the former has but one. A singular gas explosion occurred at Ottawa on the evening of the 6th inst., blowing into fragments an outside stone stairway on the northeast corner of the Parliament buildings. The Toronto Telegraph says that the Havelock Light Infantry before they left Cornwall, got up a row with the companies of Volunteers, in which fire arms were used. Fortunately no-one was killed.

LATEST FROM THE U. STATES.

THE FIRE IN PORTLAND of which our last contained a telegraphic notice was a fearful conflagration. It originated from a cracker thrown on a pile of shavings near a cooper's shop, and might have been quenched by a bucket of water, but in the confusion, it was allowed to proceed until it took hold of a large sugar refinery, and spread thence in every direction with but little to stop its progress. The wind was very high with a great scarcity of water, the fire therefore moved on with scarcely any thing to obstruct its destructive course. It is estimated that about 2000 buildings have been burned, and property destroyed to the amount of \$10,000,000, which is probably insured for about one half. The State valuation was \$28,000,000, and the real valuation must be over \$30,000,000.

A. Wood's Marble Hotel, the Freeman House, the American House, the Commercial House, the Sturdivant House, and Kingsbury Hotel are all destroyed. The two principal ones in the city, the Preble and the United States, escaped, although they were several times on fire. Among the buildings destroyed were eight churches, the heaviest loss in this description of property being the Church of the Immaculate Conception and the parsonage connected with it, amounting to \$100,000. The eight burned in the Second Parish, the Third Parish, Pearl Street, Universalist, First Baptist, St. Stephen's, Episcopal, Bethel, Swedenborgian, and Catholic Chapel.

The newspaper proprietors and printers are severe sufferers. Every newspaper office was destroyed. Type, presses, and materials of all kinds belonging to the Argus, Advertiser, Press, Mirror, Transcript, Zion's Advocate, and Price Current offices, are a mass of ruins. The Mayor of Portland, telegraphed to the Mayor of Boston, for relief, and in two hours over \$5,000 was subscribed. Contributions of every variety of food and of money began to come in large quantities. As soon as it was possible to get at the safes they were opened, and the following is the result: "The Merchants Bank vault is opened and its contents found entirely uninjured. This is the last vault opened, and all are safe. There is hardly a blackened ruin in the burnt district. Everything was at a white heat. The tents among the ruins are a study for artists. The church bells were all fused. The registering thermometers in Lowell & Senter's vault showed only 110 degrees at the highest point in the lower vault, and 130 in the upper. This vault was built fifty years ago. Live bugs crawled out of the Merchants' National Bank when opened. This was exposed to an unusually long period of heat, as many tons of coal were in the cellar, which is still burning. This was built some twenty five years ago.

The contents of the First National Bank vault came out in beautiful order; the safes of nearly all descriptions proved worthless in most cases when unprotected. Fifty Insurance Companies have been sufferers more or less amounting in the aggregate to nearly \$4,000,000. The work on the building is already commenced. Large sums have been subscribed for rendering temporary assistance. At last accounts New York had sent about \$150,000; Boston about \$50,000; and other cities and towns from \$5,000 to \$30,000; Montreal has subscribed over \$6,000. The FENIANS are disorganized, and do not now maintain their military attitude, but it may be believed their bluster and swagger are not yet put down. They are still looking forward to further operations. The pretension of liberating Ireland, appears but a faint shadow of their former designs. Henceforth they will be the disturbing element in the political maneuvering of the United States. A late issueing at St. James' Hall, Buffalo, Head Centre Roberts is reported to have said: "We have not abandoned our purposes. The contest has just begun. We shall soon make another effort, and Canada shall be our lever. I have a word to say to Canadians. I might as well say it here. I have no doubt there are some of them in this hall to-night. We are so near the border that this seems the most appropriate place to say it, and I wish them to hear me. First I will say that with the rest of Canada, who are not in arms to support England's outrage on our oppressed countrymen in Ireland, we have no quarrel to settle, no revenges to gratify, nor do we wish to be considered as foes. We went to Canada because it was the readiest place to be found from which we could operate to redress the wrong which England has, for 700 long years, heaped upon our race; and as long as the Saxon oppressors shall endeavor to rule our land, so long shall our operations be continued. We went to Canada for no other purpose." And notwithstanding the recent wholesale plunder of Canadians by this horde of ruffians, their leader had the effrontery to say: "That it was not for plunder, or to carry on a guerilla warfare the world must be convinced, from the unparalleled regard for personal rights and order preserved by our men during the late brief campaign. Had we not as good a right to go there as England had, when she made war on the French nation on Canadian soil? Had we not as good a right to strike a blow for Irish liberty in the English province of Canada, as Washington, when he struck in the same province, secured the independence of these United States. Let us not, in our struggle for Irish liberty, forget the oppressed of other lands—the German, the French, and whoever may claim your help—and be not restrained by race or color. The American heart is with us. The people of Buffalo, the citizens of Malone and other places, have nobly sustained the character of Americans, and proved true to the record of 1776. They hate England as day as of old. They say to you, 'don't give up stick to the cause you are able to whip John Bull, if we don't do it before you go. When you return to your homes, determine to sacrifice everything for Fenianism.' The battle of Lumeston's Ridge has exhibited your powers. But for the check from the government, we would have possession of Canada to night, and I would have been granting letters of marque to cripple England in her strongest point—her commerce. Our time will soon come. The day of Irish freedom is not far distant. Ireland will soon take her place among the nations of the earth and the fairest island of the globe, under the control of Irishmen, will be made to blossom as the rose and become a garden plot." It may be that the United States government are unable to put a stop to such ravages, but if any further organizing is allowed to be perpetrated clear that there is no inclination to prevent such murderous operations. When such speeches are allowed to be made by the Fenians it is bad enough, but when prominent American citizens are found panting to the dupes, or their readers, it indicates that an element of great danger exists in their midst. A Fenian meeting was held recently in New York at which the Mayor of that city was expected to speak. In his absence, a Colonel Steiger, of Philadelphia, addressed the multitude and said: "The day was not far distant when the time for the struggle would come, when in the Providence of God, he trusted that he would be with them. (Applause.) He had no ambition to gratify except to help every oppressed nation. He sympathized with them as he sympathized with the Mexicans, with Poland, Hungary and Italy in their efforts to break from their thralldom of tyranny. By exertions similar to that which freed America were Irishmen to gain their independence, and he was surprised that they did not manifest more interest in so noble a purpose. If they had courage, he trusted in God, their national flag would soon wave as proudly as the Stars and Stripes. (Applause.) As far as Canada was concerned, he was a Canadian as much as he was a Fenian. (A voice—"three cheers for Canada.") "He was for the Canadian democrats, in the true sense of that word, and the time for the Fenians to strike was when they would rise to annex her to the United States. There was no better example than that of Texas. Many Americans were there, and it occurred to them they ought to be independent, and they struck the blow, and Texas was now us brilliant a star in our galaxy as the Keystone or the Empire State. (Applause.)

THE ATTEMPT AT ANNEXATION introduced by Mr. Banks to the House of Representatives at Washington is supposed to be intended as a base of proposed operations, and intended as a bait to create a disloyal party in these provinces. The New York Herald describes it somewhat in detail as follows:—Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, has introduced into the House of Representatives a bill of more than ordinary importance and significance. It provides that the States of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada East and Canada West, and the territories of Selkirk, Saskatchewan and Columbia, shall be constituted and admitted States and territories of the Union whenever notice shall be deposited in the Department of State that the governments of Great Britain and of the provinces have accepted the propositions made by this government in relation thereto, and the President shall issue his proclamation accordingly. It is proposed that the United States shall assume the provincial debt at a rate not exceeding five per cent interest, as follows:—Canada West, thirty-six millions; Nova Scotia, eight millions; New Brunswick, seven millions; Newfoundland, three millions; two hundred and fifty thousand; Prince Edward Island, two millions. It is also proposed that the United States shall pay ten millions to the Hudson Bay Company. Altogether the sum amounts to one hundred and three quarter millions. We confess this is rather a cool proposition for this warm weather, but we perceive in it the outlines of the realty of a project long entertained by the dominant political power. The restoration of the Southern States and their representation in Congress the Republicans are aware cannot be much longer delayed. In