

throne, and to the constitution of this country. You tried and consistent advocacy of the equal enjoyment of civil rights by all classes of your fellow subjects, entitles the expression of your sentiments on the present occasion to peculiar consideration. You may be assured of my earnest desire, and firm determination, under God's blessing, to maintain unimpaired the religious liberty which is justly prized by the people of this country, and to uphold, as its surest safeguard, the pure and spiritual worship of the Protestant faith, which has long been happily established in this land."

The Court of Lieutenancy of the City of London were next introduced; and having presented their address, her Majesty acknowledged the same in a very gracious manner. The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge followed with their respective addresses, and it was after two o'clock before the ceremony of presentation had concluded.

THE AFRICAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—We have received intelligence from the Saharan African expedition up to the 29th of August last. The expedition had literally fought its way up to Selonfeet, in Aheer, near to the territory of the Kailonee Prince, to whom it is recommended. Mr. Richardson had been obliged to ransom his life and those of his fellow travellers twice. The whole population of the northern districts of Aheer had been raised against the expedition, joined by all the bandits and robbers who infest that part of the Sahara. The travellers are now in comparative security. It has been a tremendous undertaking for them to force their way amongst tribes who had never seen the face of a Christian, and who look upon Christians as the declared enemies of God. The great Soudan route, from Ghat to Aheer, is now explored.—London Times.

FRANCE.—The grand banquet of Louis Napoleon by the Municipality of Paris, in the Hotel de Ville, on the 10th December, evinces the President's popularity with the middle classes of that City, who gave him credit for the peace and prosperity they have enjoyed for the last two years. The President's term of office, according to the Constitution, is half year, and according to the same constitution he is not eligible for re-election. The following words, which closed the President's speech at the Hotel de Ville, show a keen appreciation of the tendencies and wants of the time:—

"Let us employ all our efforts in embellishing this great city—in improving the condition of its inhabitants—in enlightening them on their true interests. Let us open new streets, purify those crowded quarters that want air and daylight, and let us so act that the beneficent light of the sun shall penetrate every where within our walls, even as the light of truth descends into our hearts."

Louis Napoleon takes a position far in advance of the continental monarchs generally, with whom he is necessarily in competition. He has lost little and gained much by a long residence in England.—Glasgow Mail.

A new electric light is exhibiting in London, at the Polytechnic. A strip of silver foil pasted on the ceiling, gives a light equal to two thousand candles.

STATE OF ROME.—The following is an extract from a letter just received from an influential and well-known member of Parliament, who has been spending some time in Rome:—

"The condition of the Roman States is hateful and frightful. You feel yourself amongst a people who have but one desire, which is, to cut the throats of their rulers. That desire is energetically entertained, and presses itself upon you from every quarter. If the French bayonets were withdrawn, the life of the Pope and of his priests would not be worth an hour's purchase. The French soldiers seem to be an excessively well-behaved, and well-disciplined body, and to be terribly envied with their position. The Roman people keep aloof from them. I believe that it would have been far better for the Romans if Austria had occupied the Papal states, for it would not have suffered the Pope to govern his states worse than those of Austria. I am always surprised that those who have praised Palmerston for interfering on the liberal side have never denounced, energetically, the French occupation of Rome, which was done with his tacit, if not positive consent. That act has not received one thousandth part of its merited obloquy, either from the friends of liberal interference or of non-interference. It brought Russia into Hungary, and will justify that power meddling with the affairs of Germany."—Manchester Guardian

GENERAL NEWS.

[From the British North American.]

FREE TRADE.

JOHN H. CROSSKILL, Esq.,

Sir,—Being aware that your columns are ever open to the remarks and suggestions of your countrymen upon subjects of interest to the North American Colonies, I avail myself of the privilege thus afforded to lay a few thoughts before your numerous readers, upon Free Trade—a subject of deep importance, and one which I am happy to learn is now to receive the deliberations of the "Free Discussion Club."

Sir, what a picture do these colonies especially our own Province, now present? With as fertile soils, and as extensive Fisheries, as valuable water privileges, and as rich mines, as can be found on this globe, and an energetic and enterprising population whose taxes are lighter than those of any other people, we are yet in a state of almost humiliating depression. The question naturally arises what is the reason? To answer this question fairly let us review the condition of the United States while they were Colonies as we are, and contrast the slow progress they then made with the rapid strides they are now making. The United States, in her Colonial condition, did not advance at any faster rate than we are now doing. Why? Not because she was connected with Great Britain—not because she was governed by a parliament 4000 miles distant, for, although those facts were wound-

ing to the feelings, yet they did not materially affect her prosperity. It was the want of manufactories and work shops had held her back and retarded her prosperity, and when a separation from Great Britain cut her off from the British manufactories and forced her to establish them for herself, her career of prosperity may be said to have commenced. No longer compelled to send the produce of her teeming fields to pay foreign labourers she retained her wealth within her own bosom, and thus accumulated Capital, developed the resources of the country, and made it what it now is. Now, Sir, if the United States had started with a Free Trade policy, would she have arrived at her present state of prosperity. No. Because all past history teaches us that protection to home manufactures is most conducive to the prosperity of a young country. What has made England the most powerful and wealthy nation on the globe? Why, Sir, her work-shops and manufactures have done it, and these have been reared and perfected by protection. It is all right for England, who has brought her numerous manufactories to a state of perfection to adopt a free trade policy, because, no nation being able to compete with her, that policy must benefit her. But will it equally benefit us? No. We have already had too much free trade with England, and this is one of the main causes of our depression. Let us not continue the ruinous system of draining all our available resources for the purpose of purchasing the manufactured goods of England. Let us call work-shops and factories of our own into existence, protect them against the United States, England and every other country, but reciprocate with each other for mutual benefit. Let us so act, and according to the experience of other Countries, we cannot fail to prosper.

A NOVA SCOTIAN.

An inquest was held by the Coroner of this district, on the 23rd instant, on the body of a man named William Murray, who occupied the garret of a most miserable house, in the St. Lewis Suburbs, the widowed father of two sons, 7 and 9 years of age. It appeared on evidence that, on the Saturday evening previous, he was returning home with a piece of salted beef, and a piece of pork, which he exchanged in a tavern in the neighbourhood, for a certain quantity of spirituous liquor. This liquor he seems to have drunk that night, and the day following (Sunday,) so as to have kept himself in a state of continued inebriety. On the evening of Sunday, one of the children was forcibly sent out by him, barefooted and with scarcely any clothing, to the tavern for more liquor; this, also, was drunk, and, in the night, two women, occupying the lower part of the house, hearing some continued moaning, went to inquire, and found him insensible. Assistance was sought from the neighbours, but in an hour after, he was dead. The testimony proved that neither the deceased nor the children were seen, for months past, to have used other food than dry bread;—one of the boys acknowledged that he did not often drink liquor, because he seldom had coppers to procure it; that, when he had a copper, Mrs. —, the tavern-keeper, gave him part of a glass. The house was without a stove in any part of it, during this winter, until the day of the inquest. On examination, the stomach was found to contain about a pint of spirituous liquor, and the most unequivocal appearances of sanguineous apoplexy, occasioned by habitual and excessive drinking. The verdict was given accordingly.—Quebec Gazette.

SENECAVILLE VILLAGE.—There are no licensed doggeries in Senecaville. A remonstrance, signed by about 500 people, was sent up to Court, and the prayer of the petitioners was heard. Still the abominable traffic goes on. A widow lady, whose husband died in peace a few months since, and who is a member of one of the churches sells the article in this fashion. A curtain is hung to conceal the vender and the drinker, and thus the work of death goes on. Her son, who is the bar-keeper, was happily converted, it was thought, about a year or so ago.—He wished to join a certain church, but she advised him not, as their rules forbid the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. She had not yet opened a public house, but intended soon to do so, and did not wish her son to join a Church of that kind. He took her advice, and the result is, he has gone back to the world. It is rumoured that on one occasion liquor was called for and with tears he declined to hand it out, but the old lady gave the keys to another person and the customer was accommodated. What a horrible picture! A Christian woman selling liquor! A CHRISTIAN! and a WOMAN at that! Were it not for the commonness of the thing, we would be almost as much astonished at this as if we had caught an angel in theft!

The Provincial society for the encouragement of agriculture, Commerce, and Domestic Manufactury, held its Annual Meeting in the County Court House on Wednesday evening. A good deal of routine business was transacted, and Dr. Robb, the late President, read an admirable Report embracing the transactions of the Society for the last year.

As we understand that the whole will be published in a separate form, we abstain from further remark, except to state that the prospects of the Society are at present very encouraging. His Excellency the Lieut. Governor still continues its Patron; the Hon. Master of the Rolls is elected President; Professor Robb continues to act as Corresponding, and R. Filson, Esq., as Recording Secretary. The Vice Presidents are Robert Jardine, Esq., of St. John, and Robt. Chesnut Esq., of Fredericton.—Fred. Reporter.

FIRES.—A fire broke out in Mr. Hugh Irvine's house near the Aboideau, yesterday morning, but it was extinguished after burning a small hole in the roof. Last evening, another fire broke out in one of Mr. Thomas G. Hatheway's range of wooden buildings on Brussels Road. The house in which the fire originated was consumed. It was occupied by a number of poor families. The Engines were early on the spot, and prevented the further spread of the flames.

The Americans wish to cut the Provinces off altogether from participating in their legitimate trade with Canada, and the great Lakes, and have, for that purpose constructed Railways from Boston to Albany; and to ensure success, they built the Railway from Ogdensburgh, opposite Prescott, to Lake Champlain. New York has also its Railroads direct to the Lakes, and the great one now building from Lake Erie to New York, which is to be completed this year, will be the largest on this continent.—Portland determined not to be outdone by her larger sister Cities, has made considerable progress with their Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad. All these roads operate powerfully against the trade of this Province. Is it not incumbent then on all who wish prosperity to New Brunswick, to aid by every possible means in their power, the St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad, which is the most direct through British territory ever yet named, and with the brightest prospects of being one of the best paying lines in America.—St. Andrews Standard.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.—The Emperor of Russia has given £20,000 for the use of the Star and Garter at Richmond, and the Emperor of Austria has taken Mivart's Hotel for the season. House rents in London are rising enormously, as much as £12 per week being offered for a small house in Clarge's Street. There are reports of most extraordinary contracts in the provision line, one poulterer in the city having arranged for 1,000,000 chickens.

We understand that Mr. Harrison proposes to establish a "Mechanic's home" for 1851, capable of affording accommodation to 1000 persons. The building which it is proposed to arrange for this purpose is situated in the Ranelagh road, near the Vauxhall bridge, on the Middlesex side of the river, and occupies a space of two acres.—London paper.

A LIFE ON THE WAVE FOR ME!—A recent New York Journal says, "Just before the steamer Southerner left, a man, wearing one of Ralstan and Phillips' patent life-preservers, sprang into the water from the end of the pier, and gave considerable amusement to the bystanders by his unaccountable appearance as he tossed up and down on the brisk waves. The Indian-rubber dress in which he was clothed completely enveloped his body, protecting him from the chill of the water, while it afforded sufficient buoyancy to float four men. We understand a proposal has been made to supply Collins' line steamers with these life preservers. In case of accident, the crew and passengers could put on their India rubbers, take a week's provisions, and each set sail on his own hook. We shall next hear of aquatic pedestrian journeys to Europe.

The Montreal Gazette says, that in consequence of the strike of the Quebec Bar, so gallantly made, it is seriously agitated in Montreal to detach from their multitudinous body a colony of lawyers to conduct the business of Quebec.

The New Orleans Picayune says that a Negro woman belonging to Messrs. Thibodeaux and Batey, of the parish of Terrebone, was caught in the sugar mill, a few days ago, and ground up to the head—her body and limbs going through the mill.

A man named Morris, a painter, and for a number of years a resident in Halifax, was frozen to death on Christmas day.—Halifax Guardian.

A LONG LINE OF RAILWAY.—The Boston Mail states that by the 4th of July, 1862, there will be an almost uninterrupted iron road from the capital of the state of Maine to the Mississippi river—a distance of nearly sixteen hundred miles—and a person may travel the whole distance in a little more than three days and nights.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTEMENTS.

Her Most Gracious Majesty has been pleased to issue a Warrant under the Sign Manual, directing the appointment of the Honourable JUDGE CARTER to be Chief Justice of the Province of New Brunswick; and His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has appointed him to such office accordingly.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint, provisionally, the Honourable L. A. WILMOT, Her Majesty's Attorney General, to be a Justice of the Supreme Court of this Province.

By His Excellency's Command.

J. R. PARTELOW.

Fredericton, Secretary's Office 8th Jan., 1851.

A HARD CASE.—Last week an old offender called Harry Henry was brought up at the Police office in this City, for drunkenness and sentenced to one month's hard labour. This was his seventy-seventh appearance in the Toronto Police office on a charge of this nature; and on each of the former seventy-six occasions, he received a sentence precisely similar to that again awarded to him.—Christian Guardian.

THE TENDER-HEARTED ONE.—The Boston museum says that the following conversation was overheard by the Gloomy Man, as he was dining on a plate of thrilling beef soup at Milliken's:—

"Tom, does you approve of ment wittles?"  
"No, they is too bloody, and tend to furdur murder."  
"Tom, you is the tender-hearted fellow I ever see."  
"Well, I is. I wouldn't kill a fly—no, not even a frog and much as I despises puppies, I wouldn't even eat a sassage, if there was a dog in it."

A SAD MISTAKE.

A young exquisite, who was anxious to raise up a ferocious crop of whiskers, being told that bear's oil would facilitate their growth, went to a druggist and procured a bottle of oil, which he put profusely on his face when going to bed. Next morning, on looking in the glass, he was horrified to find either side of his face covered with a thick coat of white feathers. The druggist had made mistake, and given him goose oil instead of bear's oil.