

of the St. John River, at Fredericton, the Erie Canal, at New York, the first snow in Maine, and the closing of the Miramichi River, at the Town of Chatham, since 1825, are as follows:—

Closing of St. John.	Closing of E. Canal.	Snow in Maine.	Closing of Miramech.
Nov. 16.	Decem. 7.	Novem. 4.	Dec. 10.
218 days	240 days		230 days
open water	open water		open water.

[Remainder next week.]

European News.

Eleven Days Later from Europe.—The American steamship Franklin, from Havre, via Southampton, arrived at New York on Thursday last, with 40 passengers. She left Southampton on the 2d inst, making the passage in about 14 days.

The Asia made her last trip from New York to Liverpool in 10 days.

The missing steamer Atlantic left Liverpool on her regular day of sailing 28th Dec., the Saturday previous to the departure of the Franklin from Southampton.

The Franklin has been placed in quarantine below New York, in consequence of having the small pox on board.

The Grain trade was languid, without any material change in prices.

Money was in more demand in London, and stocks rather depressed, in consequence of the high rate of the money market.

Renewed vigour and activity is manifested in the Manchester markets, and a general advance in prices has taken place. Stocks are higher than they have been for some time past, and prices more on a par with the value of cotton. Great firmness was manifested in cotton, and a large business has been doing although the holidays had checked operations a day or two. Liverpool stocks, 464,879 bales, according to Manchester accounts.

The Continental News is of but little importance.

Some collision had taken place between the Prussian and Bavarian troops.

France.—Accounts from Paris were to the 1st inst. Some excitement had been created by a disagreement between the Government and the Assembly. In consequence French funds had declined.

Later from England.—The Royal Mail Steamship Asia arrived at New York early on Saturday last, in less than 14 days from Liverpool, bringing dates to the 4th inst, two days later. A telegraph despatch to the News Room brings a few additional items of news, which we subjoin.

We regret to state that the Asia brings no intelligence of the United States Mail steamer Atlantic, which left Liverpool on the 28th Dec.

The news by the Asia is of a cheering nature, as regard commercial affairs.

Trade at Manchester and other manufacturing districts continued brisk at advancing prices.

The excitement caused by the Popish appointments had greatly subsided.

The news from Germany and other parts of the Continent is considered more satisfactory. No farther collision between the contending armies is reported.

Markets.—Timber has improved. The imports for Dec., 1850, exceeded those of the same month in 1849 by 11,000 tons; but the deficiency upon the year is 20,000 tons.—Sales have been made at advanced prices, 16 nch at 15 1/4 d., 15 1/2 in. at 16 d., 18 3/4 in. at 18 d. Birch at 14 d. to 15 d. Spruce planks at £6 10s. to £7 15s. at Liverpool. Upon Canadian deals a further advance has been realized.

The Anti-Papal Movement in Scotland.—On Thursday week, there was a great and enthusiastic meeting in Edinburgh. Mr Cowan, M. P. occupied the chair. As a proof of the feeling of the inhabitants of Edinburgh we may mention that in the course of a few days a petition to her Majesty was signed by 22,000 persons.

The late Murder of Rev. G. E. Hollest.—We are glad to learn that our gracious Sovereign, with a consideration and liberality which distinguish her, has sent £50 as a donation to the fund for Mrs Hollest.—*St. John's Observer.*

Colonial News.

New Brunswick:

Timber.—During the last three years were exported from St. John to the United Kingdom 101,993 tons pine timber, 16,784 tons of Birch, 995 tons Spruce, 86,160 M. superficial feet Deals, 1477 M. superficial foot Sleepers, 626 M. superficial feet Boards, which generally exceeded the quantities exported to the United Kingdom in 1849, but less than in 1848.

Shipping.—The following vessels belonging to New Brunswick have been sold in Liverpool within the last six months:—Reuben, new, 616 tons, £2050; Olive Branch, Saint John, 2 years old, 866 tons, £6, 15s. per ton, O. M.; Blanche, St. John, new, 965 tons, £5220; Roscoe, do., new, 893 tons, £5 13s per ton; Crescent, new, 120 tons, £750; The John Calvin, of Quebec, new, 854 tons, £6 7s 6d per ton.—*St. John Observer.*

The Candidates hitherto announced for the representation of this County are—the Hon. Mr Fisher, a requisition to whom appears in this paper; Charles McPherson, Esq., who yesterday announced himself by card, which is also in this paper; and Mr John Reid, whose bill has been published for several days. It is also reported that Wm. End, Esq., intends to come forward for the same honor.—*Fredericton Reporter.*

Novascotia.

The vessel containing the apparatus intended for the new lighthouse has been lost—all lives providentially saved.—*Halifax Wesleyan.*

Bounties.—The amount paid in Bounties to Cod Fishermen, in one American Port alone, on the 7th instant, was over \$45,000! and yet the Ministry at home pretend to tell us that the principle of Bounties is exploded: when we have daily proofs that this country will be ruined, unless we equalise the condition of our working people with that of the people of the United States, and thus destroy the crushing distinction between the producers in that country and this.—*Halifax B. N. American.*

The West India Mail Route.—If we are permitted to judge from the tone of the West India papers, we should say that the working of the Mail system in that quarter is everything but satisfactory, either to the travelling public or the people of the Islands. The alteration of the route has been extremely prejudicial to Jamaica. The cutting off all intercourse with the Spanish Main, has all but annihilated the Dry Goods business of that Island. But while the new route has deeply injured the British Islands, neither the Company or the public have been benefited by the change. The Trent, on her last trip from Southampton to St. Thomas, arrived only nine days after her time!—and had only three tons of coal in her bunkers when she reached her destination. The Thames had not arrived at St. Thomas, although five days over due. Most of the passengers that arrived in the Trent, had to remain there an indefinite period, waiting the return of an inter-Colonial steamer. Complaints are becoming both loud and deep, and hopes have been expressed that Mr Cunard would be induced to extend his line to the principal Islands. The Merlin, on a recent trip to St. Thomas, conveys news thither six days later than was received by the West India Mail Steamers direct from England! It is said the merchants of St. John, Porto Rico, have made some favorable propositions to Mr Cunard, to induce him to allow the Merlin to call at that Island. Taking these facts together, we trust that the day is not far distant when exercising a little more common sense, and less favoritism to chartered companies, the British Government will adopt the simple method of reducing the two lines of Ocean Steamers, so liberally paid by the public, into one, and instead of sending a fleet of Mammoth Steamers to grope their way amid the rocks and reefs of the West Indian Seas, make one complete line to Halifax, from whence suitable vessels like the Merlin could perform the inter-Colonial service greatly to the advantage of all concerned.

A Joint Stock Company is about being formed in Pictou to prosecute the Labrador Fishery. Success to the enterprise.

The sleighing all through the Province is reported to be excellent; the recent thaw and subsequent frost have increased the facilities for travelling on the roads, &c; and the people of the interior have improved the opportunity for getting their wood, &c., and bringing their surplus produce to market.—*Nova Scotian.*

Canada.

It appears that a majority of the Committee of the Montreal Bar, who were appointed to enquire into the legality of the new tariff of fees, have come to the conclusion that the tariff of fees for the superior court is illegal, because incomplete, but that the tariff for the circuit court is valid. Five of the Committee, Messrs. A. Buchanan, S. C. Monk, Henry Stewart, R. Mackay, and T. J. J. Loranger, concurred in this decision, and two, Messrs. C. S. Cherrier, and G. Cartier, dissented. Their Report was adapted after much opposition.

We observe with great pleasure an announcement by the Lessees of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railway, to the effect that no spirituous liquors will be allowed on or about the works. The Contractors will find this regulation as profitable to themselves as it will be salutary to the workmen.

The rails are laid down, we understand, as far as 11 or 12 miles beyond St. Hayacinthe, and the road will be opened to Melbourne in the spring.—*Quebec Chronicle.*

The Toronto Globe asserts that all the 'rumours' about the ministerial appointments and exchanges are without a particle of truth.

West Indies.

Bermuda.—A cedar box, a boat, a violin, and table, are to be sent to the World's Fair from Bermuda.

The Government have contracted with Mr Cunard to run his propellers to Saint Thomas.

United States News.

Loss of a Fishing Schooner with all her Crew.—The schooner Tiber, of Newburyport was spoken in the Bay Chaleur on the 7th September, with a full fare of fish, and just leaving for home. She has not since been heard of, and was undoubtedly lost in the terrible gale which occurred next day.

It is computed that five thousand persons perished the past season on the Overland route to California.

SOUTH AMERICA.

From Valparaiso.—From her Majesty's Consul we learn that the British ship, Prince Albert, which sailed from New Port on the 10th July for California, with a cargo of coal, was wrecked in the straits of Magellan on the 7th October, near Sandy Bay. Two of the crew were killed by the Indians, and one apprentice was badly wounded. The rest escaped.

The Captain, John Rossiter, with the remainder of the crew walked to Sandy Bay, 150 miles. Thence some of them returned to the ship in the American steamer, W. G. Hunt; they found the Indians plundering the wreck. The crew of the steamer fired on the savages, drove them away, and rescued the two prisoners.

The Valparaiso Neighbor says that the government has entered into an arrangement for the survey of the Railroad between Valparaiso and Santiago.

The Politician.

THE COLONIAL PRESS.

From the Saint John Morning News.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The time is rapidly approaching when the Legislature shall meet for the dispatch of business. This session will be the most momentous of any of its predecessors, as the chief materials of the Lower House have sprung immediately, as it were, from the loins of the people, and will carry with them into power, a full knowledge of the wants and wishes of the country, which have been expressed, during the last twelve months, in language not to be misunderstood. The climax of all our political troubles, is generally believed, is near its consummation—and the hopes and aspirations of the people are about to be realized. Mr. Wilmot has left the Government without a pleader and defender. His successor is by no means qualified for the task, especially when we look at the force, the array of talent, that will be brought to bear upon him and his colleagues, from the ranks of the opposition. Whatever Mr. Partelow's talents may be in the closet, his tongue is at fault in that arena, where that little instrument is always found to be the most useful and potential weapon. A good cause in the hands of these two champions, would not gain much headway—how, then, will they acquit themselves when they have one of the worst causes to advocate that ever came up in the Province? If they are fidgetty at night now, upon their pillows, we are fully satisfied that they will not repose upon a bed of roses, when they have so many thorns sticking in their sides as they will next month, by persons well whetted for the task. Had the present Government been true to themselves, by being true to the country, when they had the opportunity, no opposition could have disturbed them in their possessions. But they took advantage of the listlessness of the people, and thought they could play upon the edge of the precipice with impunity. They will now learn a lesson to their sorrow; but it comes too late for them to improve upon. Defeat will either drive them to despair—or desperation. It is a hard thing for a man to part with power, because power once lost is very difficult to be regained; but the loss is more acutely felt by those who have been trained to look upon power as their heritage. The high families of this Province have always considered themselves born to rule and spend the people's money. The day draws nigh, however, when these opinions will have to give way to others—to those cast in a different mould. Once overturn the stronghold of Toryism, once let the lords of the land see that their fortress is not impregnable, and they soon become good democrats. In opposition they will be useful to the country whereas in power they are a check upon its progress.

From the Quebec Chronicle.

SPEECHIFYING.

Once upon a time everything was done by the sword. Public opinion was a thing unknown, and uncared for. The masses had no interest in national affairs, they were born but to obey to do as their lords dictated. That the influence of the sword is annihilated we do not pretend. Might is still right; but the mighty are now the many, not as in days gone by, the few. The few, the rich, the powerful it is true, still retain a certain weight upon the masses; but the masses weigh heavily upon wealth and power. Money power is in our day balanced with knowledge, that knowledge which is itself power—a power that makes despotism quake. Opinion, says Dickens, in his Household Words, is King of England and Victoria is Queen.—The pen has superseded the sword; the quill driver is greater than the warrior. The pen now destroys everything; it builds up and destroys; the 'press,' the Fourth Estate, the echo of public opinion is one of the most po-

tent instruments of our time. The press however rather expresses than forms public opinion. It tells the mighty, sometimes with fearful force, that which they may think; but it has little of any controlling influence on the masses, whom as we said before it rather represents than influences. Oratory is that which leads. A modern Demosthenes has only to clap the pebbles in his mouth and shout, and the 'cry' brings thousands about him ready to swallow anything he utters, determined to be convinced. The tongue is convinced. The tongue is the grand weapon of offence and defence. With it the wonderfully gifted O'Connell held Ireland spell-bound and astonished the world; with it Brougham amazes and at times bewilders the Lords Spiritual and Temporal; with it Disraeli cauterizes Lord John; with it Cobden obtained Free Trade; with it Daniel Webster has reached the highest pinnacle of fame; while Lord Elgin, to come nearer home, has almost regained a popularity which not long ago seemed irretrievably lost; with it the Marquis of Dalhousie has become popular in India, and with it Sir Henry Bulwer has become a favorite with our Southern neighbors. Since the days of Demosthenes we know that the public speaker has exerted an influence for good or ill upon society. Since the days of Demosthenes, what are we talking about? The 'prophets' cried out to the chosen people of the Lord, in language the most eloquent, the most attractive and convincing that can be imagined. But their's was not the speaking of our day; it was special speaking. Public speaking had not then become a trade; it had not been used to flatter the prejudices and follies of mankind. There, it must be borne in mind, a wide difference between fluency of speech and oratory. There are many who talk, and talk well too; but these have not the fascinating influence, that ability of mesmerising an audience, that gift of carrying off the feelings and with it the minds of lesser men, which is now being more and more cultivated, especially in high places. His Royal Highness Prince Albert acknowledges its efficacy, owes its influence. His distinguished position it might be supposed would have rendered it unnecessary for him to flatter either to flattery or prejudice; but with a creditable knowledge of mankind he condescends occasionally certainly not to harangue but to make a speech. His eloquent and philosophic oration at the York Banquet will be remembered. That speech raised his Royal Highness in the estimation of all who heard it and of all who read it. It was proof of a highly cultivated mind and gave evidence of a good heart. There is however another great personage—we cannot do otherwise than call, even the nephew of my uncle, great—the President of France who has used his tongue, with champagne and cigars, and French gold, as spice, to his words to very considerable effect. By a good use of that member Louis Napoleon has rid himself of suspicions and has obtained a popularity, which could not have been anticipated for a personage raised to power in the unexampled almost unaccountable manner in which he was.

Miscellaneous.

Accident and loss of Life.—New York, Jan. 15.—About one o'clock this afternoon, six new buildings in Twenty first street, the masonry work of which had just been completed, fell with a terrific crash. The workmen had just returned from their dinner, and from thirty to forty of them were buried beneath the ruins. Up to four o'clock four dead bodies had been taken out, and six severely injured. It is supposed that some fifteen to twenty have been killed. The appearance of the mortar used caused great excitement. It is said to be almost all sand and very little lime in it. We understand the builder's name is Spencer. Thirteen men are recovered—four dead.

One boy was killed on the sidewalk while carrying dinner to his father. The scene beggars description. The whole six buildings are a mass of ruins, level with the basement.—About one hundred men are at work removing the ruins and in search of other bodies. The number still buried is unknown, probably over twenty. Many poor women are in great agony hovering around the ruins.

New Orleans, Jan. 11.—Mexico and Yucatan.—The steamer Alabama brings news from the city of Mexico to 1st inst. The province of Yucatan had pronounced against the supreme government of Mexico, and had declared herself independent. Campeachy did not come into the arrangement.

Commerce of Boston.—For week ending January 10, the exports amounted to \$135,785 57, American goods, and \$56,765 15, foreign.

There has been sent to California from Boston during the last two years, according to the annual statement of exports in the Boston shipping List, 27,762,296 feet of lumber, 15,601,765 shingles, 5,918,600 bricks, 570 houses and store frames, and 641,367 feet of timber besides doors, window frames, sashes, &c., almost without number. The export of building materials for the year 1850, shew a considerable falling off compared with the previous year.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Canadian Reciprocity.—Mr Douglas, to-day, called up the Bill providing for Reciprocal Free Trade with Canada, and had it made the special order of the Senate for this day two weeks. We presume however the subject is too large for any prospect of favorable action upon it this Session. We doubt not Mr Douglas will give us an interesting exhibit of the Lake trade, and the