

A Washington Correspondent, of the N. York Herald vouches for the truth of the following:

A correspondence has taken place between the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs and our Minister at that Court, relative to the repeal of the Navigation Laws of Great Britain. Mr. Bancroft applied to Viscount Palmerston, early in November, to learn whether Ministers would consent to establish with the United States a perfect system of reciprocity, in making all vessels of either country, fitting out from any port of the world, free to trade to any port of the other nation, whether Home or Colonial. Viscount Palmerston, after the lapse of some weeks, replied that, although Her Majesty's Ministers did not feel at liberty to advise Her Majesty at once to make such a change in the commercial system as was asked by Mr. Bancroft, without the sanction of Parliament—yet, as soon as that body would meet, a measure would be introduced which would embrace all the views put forth by Mr. Bancroft in his note. It is not doubted that Parliament will at once act favourably on the Bill.

A. U. S. Senator writing to the Boston Evening Gazette, thus describes a visit to our talented and enterprising townsman Mr. Robert Sears:

"I called upon Robert Sears the well known publisher, a few days since, and found him occupied as ever in advancing the cause of education, for it is admitted by all that the works of this gentleman are better calculated to improve the reader than any set of publications now to be obtained. Mr. Sears is in every sense of the word a self-made man. Without patronage he started in the world, with an empty purse but a heart full of kindly feelings and a determination to succeed, if industry and perseverance could effect it. Of his success ask the thousands and thousands who now peruse his pious works from one end of the world to the other. Not a place where the English language is spoken on this continent but these works are to be found. At his house he has a most excellent and valuable library, where a mind like his is ever occupied in reading and searching after truth. From that still and quiet place issues those works, which have so great an influence upon all, but especially the youthful portion of his readers. A little circumstance he related which may have an effect upon some of your readers and at the same time illustrate the benefit of advertising. His first attempt at publishing was a chart called the 'World at one View,' which he obtained no sale for, till he was advised one day by a proprietor of the 'Sun,' newspaper, then a little seven by ten, to advertise it. He took the advice, as far as all others who are anxious to keep their names before the public should do, and the result was a sale of fifteen thousand, the profits arising from which gave Mr. Sears the first important start in life."

LATER FROM MEXICO.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 18, 1848.

The ship Cybele arrived at New Orleans on the 10th, with dates from Vera Cruz to the 30th ult.

An army train was on the point of starting for the Mexican capital when she left.

Dates are also received two days later from the city of Mexico.

General Cushing's brigade, with five pieces of artillery and eighty wagons, had marched, as was supposed, for San Angel.

The steamer J. R. Thompson arrived at New Orleans on the evening of the 11th inst. bringing dates from the Brazos to the 4th. She brings no news of importance from Gen. Wool's headquarters.

Orders had been issued recounting the forbearance hitherto exercised by the Americans towards the Mexicans in the prosecution of the war, which forbearance had been returned by persecution and abuse. The order goes on to say, that all who countenance guerillas in any way, or fail to give notice of their whereabouts, if known, or pay tribute to them, shall be punished with severity.

The brig P. Soule arrived at New Orleans on the 11th inst., with dates from Havana to 30th ult. The news is entirely unimportant.

PLAN FOR CONDUCTING THE WAR.—A telegraphic despatch to the New York papers, dated at Washington, on Monday, says:

"Mr. Secretary Walker has called upon many of the members of Congress for their views relative to the Mexican war, in writing. The result is a long and elaborate review of the whole question, in which it is understood they take high ground in favor of the conquest of the whole country."

Washington, Jan. 17—10½ o'clock, P. M.—Gen. Towson has not left Mexico. The difficulties in the army have been re-considered in Cabinet Council, and Gen. Scott has this day been suspended and ordered to Washington. Gen. Worth is released from arrest, by order of the President, and restored to his command as Major General in the army.

FROM SANTA FE.—Dates from Santa Fe, to Nov. 15, have been received at St. Louis. The insubordination and disorder in the Missouri regiment still continued. All the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, down to the 3d Corporal of Capt. Geis's company were under arrest. The detachment under Capt. McNair, is said to be under no discipline. A mutiny had occurred during their march south.

LATE FROM AFRICA.—The brig Hollander, at New York, from Monrovia, has brought dates to the 10th of November.

SLAVE VESSELS CAPTURED.—By H. M. sloop Hound, off Lagos, on the 20th of June, the Brazilian schooner Prince, with a cargo of slaves on board. By H. M. sloop Ferret, on the 24th of June, 150 miles off Cape Lopes, the Brazilian brigantine Ferret, fully equipped for the reception of 500 slaves. By H. M. sloop Albatross and steam vessel Grapier, on the 27th of June, the Brazilian schooner Emperador off Lagos, with 608 slaves on board, 105 of whom died on the passage to Sierra Leone. By H. M. sloop Hound, off Lagos, July 1, the Brazilian schooner Piesca, fully equipped for the slave trade. By H. M. sloop Wanderer, at sea, south of the Line, on the 2nd of July, a Brazilian brigantine, name unknown, with fifty slaves on board.

By H. M. frigate Acteon, at sea, south of the Line, on the 16th July, the Brazilian brigantine Emperor with 49 slaves on board. By H. M. sloop Contest, off Benguela, on the 30th of July, a Brazilian brigantine, name unknown, with 319 slaves on board. By H. M. sloop Sea Lark, on the 1st August, while on her passage to England, the Brazilian brigantine Juliana, with 198 slaves. She shipped them at Rio Pangus and was 600 miles clear of the coast when taken.

By H. M. sloop Repla and Waterwitch, on the 3d of August, at sea, south of the Line, a Brazilian vessel (name not stated) with a cargo of slaves, and while on her passage to Sierra Leone, the Brazilian tried to recapture her, and failed, with one killed and one jumped overboard. By H. M. sloop Mariner off Gallenas. 25 of August, a Brazilian schooner, fully equipped for the reception of 400 slaves.

The above captures are communicated to Rev. J. B. Benham by Wm. A. Parker, an officer of the British sloop of war Favourite. The officer adds:

There is intelligence from the South coast that the Fenhabe made three captures in a fortnight, and the French cruisers had taken a slaver with five hundred and odd; and that there had been at least ten slavers taken, and run on shore; most of those taken had been sent to St. Helena for adjudication since June 1st.

There was one slaver run on shore between Gallenas and Sherbo in July, by one of the French cruisers.

An unusual drouth has caused an almost total failure of the rice crop at Cape Palmas and vicinity, and very much injured the crops generally. Rice was selling at \$3 per bushel, double the usual price, and it was feared the natives would suffer unless they should succeed in obtaining supplies from other parts of the coast.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Postmaster at this point, states in a letter, dated Jan. 14th, that "The order of the Postmaster General, in relation to mail matter for the British Provinces, has by the department been construed to direct:—All mail matter for the Provinces, either paid or unpaid, is to be forwarded to the appropriate United States Post Office. The Postmaster at such office forwards the paid matter, and retains the unpaid matter until he shall receive the amount of the United States Postage, when he will forward it. If the postage should not be paid to him, he in the proper time will return the unpaid letters to the Post Office Department at Washington among his dead letters."

MONTREAL, Jan. 13.—The various ward elections had been held, and liberals were elected by a large majority in every ward in the city. There has been a formidable riot in that city. The mob hold possession of the place for two days. The weather was unusually cold, the thermometer being thirty degrees below zero.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—**Steamboat Accidents.**—By an explosion of the steamer Planter on the Illinois river three passengers and two deck hands were killed. The captain, clerk, engineer and several others were severely injured, some fatally it is feared. The steamboat Seventy-Six was burned near New Orleans. Loss about \$30,000.

FRESHET AT MONTREAL.—**GRIFFINTOWN INUNDATED.**—There has been a heavy freshet in the St. Lawrence, which flooded Griffintown and other parts of Montreal. A telegraphic despatch of the 15th inst. says:—

The ice opposite the city "shoved" this morning at 2 o'clock, with a tremendous crash, and the whole of Commissioner-street and a portion of McGill-street is inundated. The inhabitants of Griffintown are the worst sufferers on this side of the river; hundreds of families having been driven out of house and home. The village of Laprairie is supposed to be completely deluged, and signals of distress have been hoisted at the Church. The water has subsided 19 inches within the last three hours, and we have, therefore, every reason to hope that the damage will be less serious than at first apprehended.

INCENDIARISM.—The spirit of incendiarism appears to be rife in Philadelphia. We learn from the North American, that on Sunday night last, there were no less than five fires in the northern section of the city, one of which destroyed a cluster of frame buildings on the Ridge road and Calloway street.

POPULATION OF AUSTRIA.—This vast empire contains forty millions of inhabitants, including the military. It is quite as populous as France. Five millions of its subjects are Italian. More male than female children are born, yet there are 300,000 more females than males. It is computed that 550 persons are murdered yearly, yet the executions do not amount to more than 40.

POPE PIUS IX.—It is said that the Pope was not intended for the Church. He received a liberal education, and was for some years in the army, but after a time, being attacked with epileptic fits, his friends advised him to give up a military career and to enter the Church. This statement is made from the general report at Rome.

John Jacob Astor of New York, who is now ninety years of age, is said to be dangerously ill at his residence in that city.

COMMERCIAL.

COUNTRY MARKET.

St. John, Jan. 26, 1848.

Market pretty well supplied; no change in prices. We quote Beef, 2½d to 3d; Pork, 4d; Mutton, 3½d; Fowls, 2s 6d; Geese, 2s 9d; Turkey, 7d to 8d per lb; Potatoes, 5s per bushel.

COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE.

St. John, Jan. 26, 1848.

Business in all departments still dull, and likely to continue so for some time.

FLOUR.—Genesee, 40s; Philadelphia superfine, 38s 9d; Mill Flour, 38s 9d; Rye do, 30s; Corn Meal, 25s; Indian Corn, 4s 3d; Oats, 2s 6d to 3s. Market easy; small sales of rye flour have been made at 30s a 31s 3d.

TIMBER AND DEALS.—Timber, no sales to notice. Deals, £4 to £4 10s per M. Laths, 3s 9d to 4s per M. No sales of timber have been effected for some time, and the market is in a very depressed state. Some few sales of deals at quoted prices, but the demand is small. Laths quick at above prices.

SUGAR.—Good Bright, 36s 3d a 37s 6d; Middling, 33s 9d a 35s; Loaf Sugar, 8d a 8½d. The article is dull, with few sales, and principally for retail. Stock small, but equal to the demand.

TEA.—Congou 1s 4d a 1s 6d; Souchong, 1s 6d a 1s 8d; Young Hyson, 2s 6d a 3s 6d. Market is well supplied, with few sales.

MOLASSES.—1s 5d a 1s 6d. Stock small, with a very moderate demand; some few sales have been made for retail at prices quoted.

OILS.—Lined oil, 3s 3d; Raw, 3s. Pale Seal, 3s; Brown do, 2s 3d; Oil of Rosin, 2s 6d. The stock of Lined Oil is small, but equal to the demand. Seal Oil, large stock, with dull sales.

SALT.—Liverpool coarse, per bushel, 1s; do do per bag, 4s; do, fine, per bag, 5s 3d. Stock small; none afloat; a few cargoes would sell readily.

SOAP.—Liverpool Pale Yellow, 3d; domestic, 3d to 5d. Stock large, with few sales.

COALS.—22s 6d @ 25s from yard. Hull, afloat, 25s. A small supply with quick sales.

FISH.—Mackerel, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, 47s 6d, 26s 3d, and 20s; Shad, No. 1, 42s 6d; Herrings, No. 1, 15s a 16s 3d; Alewives, 16s 3d; Digby Herring, 3s 9d a 4s; Quaddy Scaled, 3s; do, No. 2, 1s 6d; Codfish, 14s. Demand small, with dull sales. Market fully supplied.

CANDLES.—Moulds, 8½d; Dipts, 7½d, domestic manufacture. Demand limited.

TOBACCO.—Cont. 16s, 4d to 6d, ditto 8s, 5d to 10d, ditto 5s, 5d to 8d, lb. lump, good, 10d to 1s. Stock large with dull sales.

FRUIT.—Raisins, Muscatel, per box, 10s; half box, 5s 6d; quarter box, 3s. Supply is large, with a limited demand.

COFFEE.—St. Domingo, 6d; Havana, 7d; Java, 8d. The market is well supplied; sales limited and hard to effect.

EXCHANGE.—The Banks are drawing to a limited extent on London, at 11 per cent. prem.; on New York, 2 per cent. prem.

FREIGHTS.—Dull; engagements have been made at £5 for Deals to London; for Irish ports we may quote from £4 10s to £5.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 20.—**FLOUR.**—Sales of Genesee at \$6 12½ @ \$6 25; and 2000 bbls. western at \$6 @ \$6 12½. Howard-street is selling at \$6 25. Sales 2000 bbls. Genesee, deliverable in March, at \$6 25. Corn is dull. Sales of new mixed at 66 @ 68c, and old at 72c @ bush. Oats are also dull: sales at 50c @ bush. Provisions—The market has a downward tendency for pork and other hog products. Sales of 200 bbls. lard at 8½c. In kegs it brings 8½c. Sales of 50 tierces of bacon at 4½c @ lb. The cotton market is steady.

BOSTON, Jan. 20.—We notice sales of common brands Genesee at \$6 50; Michigan and Troy at \$6 37 @ \$6 50; and Ohio via New Orleans, at \$6 @ \$6 25 @ bbl. For Corn the market is depressed, at 70 @ 72c for new yellow, and 67 @ 68c for white. Northern Oats are selling at 52c @ bushel.

MOLASSES.—The market is rather dull, and only small sales of new crop Cuba have been made at 25c, 6 mos.

PROVISIONS.—There is a fair demand for Pork at \$12 for mess, and \$14.50 for clear; mess Beef dull at \$9 @ 10, 4 mos; parcels of bbl and keg Lard at 7½ @ 8c, cash and 4 mos.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 18.—Flour and Meal—Flour having declined to \$6 25, has induced rather more inquiry in the market, and several sales were made for export; we notice in all 1500 bbls fair brands

at \$6 25, and 600 bbls extra, the exact price not public: about 500 bbls uninspected Western, via New Orleans, at 5 87½, and 500 bbls good brands New Orleans inspection, at about \$6 12½, for city use, good brands have been sold at \$6 37½, and extra and fancy lots, including Genesee, at \$6 75, @ \$7 25.

Freights to Liverpool, with a very moderate business doing, are steady at 2s 6d per barrel for flour and meal, a few cargoes of coal have been shipped to New York at \$1 25 per ton.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 11, (by Telegraph.)—The accounts by the Caledonia caused a decline of from an ¼ @ ½c in Cotton. In Sugar, demand active.—Prime Molasses 18c. Flour much depressed.—Freights, little doing; some cotton shipping to Liverpool.

Saint John Wholesale Prices Current.

Corrected Weekly, by the Chamber of Commerce.

SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY, Jan. 26.

Anchors, cwt.	30 6 @ 35
chain cables, cwt.	25 @ 35
Bacon, fresh, lb.	8 @ —
Barley, pot, cwt.	20 @ 25
" pearl, ("scarce")	33 9 @ — 6
Bread, pilot, bbl.	20 @ 22
" fine,	21 3 @ —
" navy,	20 @ —
" St. John, cwt.	20 @ —
" pilot,	22 6 @ 25
Beef, mess, } in bond, bbl.	60 @ 65
" prime,	50 @ 55 3
" fresh, lb.	2 @ —
Butter, firkin, lb.	1 @ 11
" roll,	1 @ —
Candles, London sperm, lb.	2 6 @ 3
" " wax, lb.	2 6 @ 3
" " tallow, lb.	10 @ —
" American sperm, lb.	1 6 @ 1 9
" " wax, lb.	2 3 @ —
" St. John moulds, lb.	8 ½ @ — 9
" " dipts, lb.	7 ½ @ — 8
Canvass, No. 1, Gourcock, yd.	18 @ 1 8 ½
" each No. down, ¾d less.	—
" No. 1, Navy,	1 5 @ 1 6
" each No. down, ¾d less.	—
" No. 1, Brown,	1 @ 1 2
Cheese, American, lb.	8 @ 8
" Nova Scotia,	5 @ 6
Coal, Orrel, & chald.	(none.)
Scotch, out of Yard, scarce,	22 6 @ —
" Common English,	25 0 @ —
Coffee, St. Domingo, lb.	6 @ —
" Laguayra, and Java, lb.	7 @ — 10
" Mocha, lb.	1 3 @ —
Cordage, tarred, cwt.	55 @ 57 6
" white, Manila, cwt.	62 6 @ 65
Cotton Warp, bundle, grey,	4 ½ @ 4 8
" " Indigo blue,	scarce, 7 @ 8
Copper, bar and bolt, lb.	1 2 @ 1 3 ½
Composition Nails, lb.	1 2 ½ @ 1 3
Dyewood, logwood, cwt.	4 6 @ 5 8
Flour, Genesee, bbl.	40 0 @ 41 3
" Philadelphia,	38 9 @ —
" Mill, superfine,	35 0 @ 36 3
" Rye,	30 @ —
" Corn Meal,	22 6 @ 23 9
" Oatmeal, cwt.	22 6 @ 25
Fish, Herrings, pickled, bbl.	13 9 @ 15
" Gasparaux, " bbl.	16 3 @ 17 6
" Dry Cod, cwt.	17 6 @ —
" Pollock, & qntl. scarce	12 6 @ —
" Shad, & bbl.	30 @ 40
Fruit, Raisins, bloom, box,	10 @ —
" " Muscatel, box,	12 6 @ —
" Oranges, box,	25 @ —
Hay, ton,	80 @ —
Iron, common, cwt.	15 @ 16 6
" refined, cwt.	17 6 @ 20
" nails, lb.	2 ½ @ — 4
" spikes, cwt.	23 9 @ 26 3
Indigo, lb.	3 9 @ 6
Lumber, Lathwood, cord,	17 6 @ 20
" boards, clear, gang sawed, & M120	@ —
" laths, & M.	4 @ —
" merchantable	80 @ —
" ship's refuse or W. In. g'ngsw'd	55 @ 60
" spruce flooring,	45 @ —
" " scantling,	30 @ —
" refuse, & M.	25 @ —
" deals, M. ft. deal measure, all	@ —
" round, for bright,	90 @ —
" " for dark,	75 @ —
" staves, ash, & 1200 pieces,	80 @ —
" " hardwood,	50 @ 60
Molasses, Clayed, gal.	1 5 @ 1 6
" Muscovado,	1 7 @ 1 10
Oils, Porpoise, gal.	@ —
" Pale Seal, gal.	3 3 @ —
" Lined, raw, gal.	3 3 @ —
" " boiled, gal.	3 4 @ 3 6
" Refined Whale, gal.	3 6 @ 3 9
" S. Elephant, gal.	4 @ 4 8
" Lard, gal.	4 @ 4 8
Pork, duty 6s 9d @ 7s @ bbl,	@ —
" mess, in bond,	90 @ —
" prime, in bond,	65 @ 70
Rice, cwt.	25 @ 26 3
Salt, in store, bush., by retail,	10 @ —
" fine in bags,	5 @ 5 6
Soap, Liverpool, common, lb.	3 ½ @ 3 ½
" brown, lb.	5 @ —
Sugar, bright, cwt. [duty paid,]	37 6 @ 38 8
" loaf, lb.	8 @ 8 ½
Tar, bbl. Wilmington,	15 @ 16 3
" coal, bbl.	15 @ 17 6
" pitch,	10 @ —
Timber, White Pine, cannot be sold at any price so	it would be useless to quote it.
" Red Pine,	7 6 @ 10
Teas, Congo, common, lb.	1 4 @ 1 6
" " fine, lb.	1 8 @ 2 3
" Fine Souchong, lb.	3 6 @ 5