...AY, DEC. 12, 1859.

...ND TELEGRAMS.

...Montreal, with remittance; ...al; P. M. Amherst ...

...T FROM EUROPE.

ITALY.

...ing is the text of Gen. Garibal...ation to the Italian people, ...the Avenir, of Nice:

...THE ITALIANS.

...that, by cunning devices and ...ts, the freedom of action inhe...rank in the army of Central Ita...tinued hampered—a freedom ...ve ever used for the object which ...Italian must wish to attain—i...military service.

...day when Victor Emmanuel shall ...upon his soldiers to fight for the ...of our country, I shall find an ...and or another, and a post by ...the companions in arms. ...st to this policy which ...the majestic march ...ge as more than ...loyal soldiers incapable ...numerous ...than ...gold and ...on for who...now as back into our ...J. GARIBALDI.'

...the 23rd, publishes the ...: 'The French Govern...the delegation of the ...Italy to M. Buoncompagni ...ce the questions which ...the approaching Con...on the adoption of the ...with regret. This impres...plified by the explanations ...Government of Sardinia, which ...maintenance of public order ...object and only aim of the ...ation to M. Buoncompagni, and ...ministration in his hands of the ...for Central Italy, had in no ...character of a virtual Regency. ...nce to this question the article ...by reminding the public that the ...is the only political organ of the ...ent.

...nitor contains a decree to insure ...ution of that clause of the treaty ...which wherein the giving up of the ...vessels captured during the late ...but not yet adjudged as prizes, is ...lated.

...Constitutionnel, in an article signed ...its chief editor, M. Granignion, says ...the declarations of the Cabinet of ...on the subject of the Regency of ...Buoncompagni, are of a nature to make ...arrangements possible which have ...nerally been considered as very difficult ...of execution. It is understood that if M. ...Buoncompagni exercises his Regency, it is ...the maintenance of order in Central ...Italian interests are in harmony ...European interests, in order to reserve ...the Congress the definitive regulation ...the situation of the Italian peninsular. ...King of Sardinia has issued a decree ...mediately applying a sum of four ...rities closed with firmness. The de...and for Money to-day was rather active, ...ney of the private Banks being apparent...short, and discounters are not very anx...to do business at 2½ per cent.

...The Daily News describes the sugar ...ket yesterday as firmer, and says that ...sales have terminated heavily.

...The Times City Article says: A favora...tone continues in the English funds, ...a slight advance has been established, ...day. There was a fair demand for dis...unt, to-day, and at the Banks the appli...tions were on a full average scale. In ...the Stock Exchange, also 2 per cent. was ...ven for loans on Government securities ...There were no bullion operations at the ...nk to-day. The Railway market con...ues to improve. In several English ...ptions an advance of ¼ has taken

...DEATH OF NANA SAHIB.

...of Oct. 13, con...ph, has been ...Dude corres...

CHINA.

SHANGHAI, Oct. 6.—The Chinese Govern...has repudiated its treaty with the United ...by refusing to open the ports of Swatow ...Wan. Negotiated by that treaty. ...unaccepted. European goods in ...demand for the North. Tea a shade low...prices. Silk unchanged. Exchange on ...London, 6s. 8d. Exchange for Bank bills, at ...months, 6s. 7d.

...e Very Latest (via Queenstown.)

Liverpool, Thursday, Nov. 24.

The Daily News City Article says: 'The ...unds have been again very firm to-day ...although animation was prevented by the ...ty delay is the convocation of the Con...gress. Late in the day an advance took ...place in answer to an improvement of a like ...amount on the Paris Bourse. All classes of ...securities closed with firmness. The de...mand for Money to-day was rather active, ...many of the private Banks being apparent...short, and discounters are not very anx...to do business at 2½ per cent.

The Daily News describes the sugar ...ket yesterday as firmer, and says that ...sales have terminated heavily.

The Times City Article says: A favora...tone continues in the English funds, ...a slight advance has been established, ...day. There was a fair demand for dis...unt, to-day, and at the Banks the appli...tions were on a full average scale. In ...the Stock Exchange, also ¼ per cent. was ...given for loans on Government securities ...There were no bullion operations at the ...nk to-day. The Railway market con...ues to improve. In several English ...ptions an advance of ¼ has taken

...Major General Gold, late Lieut. Col. of the 65th Regiment, stationed in New Zealand, has been appointed Governor of the country. Gen. Gold when in command of his Regiment, and while stationed at Kingston, married Miss Geddes of that city.

A ROYAL VISIT.

The news by the Anglo-Saxon, contains the pleasing intelligence that our gracious Sovereign has consented to allow either the Prince of Wales or his brother, Prince Arthur, to pay a visit to Canada at some period during next summer. Apart from all feelings of loyalty and devotion to our Sovereign, and her probable successors, we look upon the promised visit as of the greatest importance to our material interests. Nothing that is likely to occur would tend more to give to the world at large, as well as to our fellow subjects at home, an enlarged view of our true position, and of the magnitude of our resources, and to remove the many erroneous ideas which are prevalent with regard to the British American Colonies. It is not to be supposed that a prince of the blood, and especially the Prince of Wales, would come to this great Colony, as representing the Royal family of the Empire of which it forms a part, merely in the capacity of an ordinary visitor, for the gratification of personal curiosity, or the acquiring of personal information. His retinue would comprise men of large and extended views, capable of appreciating everything that can tend to the advancement of the Empire, and the means of information respecting this country which would be placed within their reach, would be widely diffused among those who would turn it to the best account for our future interests. Moreover, an event of such novelty would attract to this country shoals of tourists from all parts, not only of Great Britain, but also of the United States, and the knowledge of our capabilities which such persons would carry away with them could not fail to be extremely beneficial.

Nor is it to be imagined that a more intimate knowledge of this vast portion of the empire could fail to impress the mind of an intelligent prince with a higher view of his vast responsibilities. Could he fail to see that here, among his own countrymen and the loyal subjects of his august mother, was the true field for the development of the superabundant energies of the old country? Could he fail to be convinced that here are the materials for a great and powerful nation of British race and feeling, proud of their connection with the mother country, and anxious, above all else, to maintain that connection? It would be impossible that he would fail to be impressed with the great conviction that the old meaning of the word 'colony' was obsolete as applied to the four millions of British subjects who hold with a firm grasp one-half of the North American continent; and that this vast region, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, must, ere long, be either an independent State or ...fully as an integral portion of the ...ght see that the men who ...transatlantic portion ...Victoria were ...

...SHOT AT SIMCOE.—A specimen of ...of 12 to the pound weighing ...may be seen

...TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 13, 1859.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

J. D. S., Ottawa; F. & W., New York; C. DeG. & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

ATTACKS OF THE FRENCH PRESS, AND AN INVASION PANIC.

From the London Times, Nov. 22.

When we resolved to draw, in the most explicit and direct manner, the attention of the French Government to the manifestations of hostility on the part of the French nation and the French press, we did it after full consideration of the heavy responsibility we assumed. We knew that we should be accused of fomenting animosities already too prominent, and of seeking, under the pretence of deprecating hostility, to bring about the very evil we deprecated. But we thought that nothing was to be gained by a hypocritical reticence, and that the best service we could render to the cause of peace was to point out how manifestly everything tendered towards its interruption. We were not without hope that when it was made manifest to the Emperor Napoleon how entirely he was by opinion held responsible, from his absolute control over the press and his employes, for the sudden passion which he has agitated France, he would see the necessity of acquitting himself of that responsibility by exercising his power in the direction towards which all his avowed and official acts tend. We have been disappointed in neither expectations. We have received as much abuse as our loudest anticipations have led us to expect. One half of the French press has told us that our statesmen are false; the other half admitted them to be true, but has declared that the animosity of which we complain has been brought upon us by our misconduct, principally in not joining France in that very war to which the French nation itself before its commencement was so notoriously averse. But if we have been heartily abused, we have also been completely successful. The Emperor of the French has directed his Minister of the Interior to send to the Prefect of each department a confidential circular, in which attention is drawn to the violent and exaggerated language of the French press with regard to England—to the fact that such language being found in journals which cordially supported the imperial governments with attacks upon an allied and friendly Power; and that it is desirable for the dignity of the imperial government and the maintenance of peace that the Prefects should use their influence to put an end to the practice. No doubt, if we could prescribe the manner in which the evil we complain of should be put an end to, we should have rather seen another expedient. The whole importance of the attacks made by the French press on England lies in the absolute subjection of the press to the French government. It is because, as we have shown, by a system of the most rigid and absolute coercion, every editor of a French newspaper is obliged to perform the office of censor for the government that we attach such importance to whatever escapes that censor, and consider it, as we have every right to do, as an unofficial communication of the sentiments of the government. It is in vain for the French press to give itself airs of independence and say we write thus because we hold such and such opinions. The French press is not a free agent, it writes what it must, and therefore the responsibility for its writings is with the government which directs them. Once break this connection, once leave the press in France free to say what it will, and the whole political importance of its attacks vanishes. They no longer compromise the government, they no longer create a suspicion of ulterior design, they must stand upon their literary and political merits, and, whatever the former may be, we have little fear from the latter. Englishmen would read these hostile comments with the phlegmatic indifference of the nation or probably secure that indifference by not reading them at all. The Emperor of the French has not taken this step. A free press does not form a part of his scheme of government. We have no right to complain of that, nor to expect that to please us he will alter a fundamental law of his empire. But he has done the next best thing to disconnecting his government from the press; he has exerted the power he possesses over it, and placed England under the same protection with which he surrounds his own government. He has felt the glaring discrepancy between the unofficial language of his government and its avowed and official acts and words, and he has either rescinded an order of the Press to make England the object of attack, or else has put an end to the provocations which have existed and gathered strength from the tacit permission of the government. In either case it is a graceful and appropriate response to our remonstrance, and we should be churlish and unmanerly, indeed, if we did not receive it in the same spirit of conciliation in which it had been offered. We gladly seize the opportunity of assuring the Emperor of the French that this country has not the slightest ill-will towards himself or his dynasty. We have had cast upon us in turn the duty of recognizing and living on friendly terms with a succession of governments in France—Legitimist, Orleanist, Republican, Imperial; and each dynasty as it has fallen has imbibed, as it would seem, an unlying hatred of England for the readiness with which England has deferred to the will of the great French nation, and recognized each dynasty as it had established itself on the ruins of its predecessor. Legitimists cannot forgive us for having lived on the best terms with Louis Philippe, and Orleanists cannot forgive us for having lived on the best terms with Louis Napoleon. We have, therefore, no desire to see the throne of the present Emperor subverted to make room for any of his predecessors, who are never weary of showing an impotent animosity which might then become only too powerful. Still less have we any wish or any interest hostile to the honor and prosperity of France. Our feelings and policy are essentially pacific. The world is wide enough for both of us. We desire to take nothing that France possesses; we desire no exclusive rights or privileges by sea or land. The dominions left us as the legacy of a long series of wars, and in exchange for an enormous cost, we will preserve, but we have no wish to increase to them; nay, the course of opinion is to diminish them on every suitable opportunity:—The recent preparations are purely the result of a conviction that we cannot afford to exist upon sufferance, and that nations which are slow to defend their acquisitions will be quick to lose them. Most gladly would we acquiesce in any feasible scheme of mutual disarmament—most gladly would we relieve our industry from the many burdens which we have most unwillingly laid upon it. We are augmenting our expenditure by ten millions for the sake of defence. How much rather would we diminish our revenue by a repeal of the duties on French produce, if for that we could obtain the whole end and aim of our present policy—peace for the present and security for the future! Could ...the same hand which has just quieted ...warlike enthusiasm of the French press ...an end to those vast preparations for ...which, while they naturally excite the ...warlike spirit of the French, as naturally ...stimulate the suspicions of the English ...people?

...come, and neither trouble nor expense would be spared to render his visit, in the most distinguished way, a pleasure to himself, and his reception a mark of respect to his royal mother.—[Colonist.

THE LOSS OF THE INDIAN.

To the Editor of the Pilot.

SIR,—We cannot of course pretend to notice the vile lies continually in which the newspapers indulge, relative to the unfortunate loss of the Indian. Some of these are remarkable for anything rather than kindly feeling or knowledge of the subject, and are characterized more by an apparent desire to prejudge the case on unsealed evidence, than to ascertain the truth. We do not ask any indulgence in the matter; but surely it might have been expected, from the nature and importance of the province of the enterprise in which we are engaged, that no attempt would have been made to make this misfortune appear worse than it really is.

Not having yet seen Captain Smith, or received from him any details of the circumstances, we cannot offer any opinion as to the cause of the vessel getting on shore, nor as to his conduct afterwards. Both of these matters will be investigated in proper time. The interest of the public is our interest, and we have no greater anxiety than to get the best men to command our steamers, and to give general satisfaction. It would, however, be strange indeed if Captain Smith, who has sailed in the Indian ever since she was built for three years as first officer under Captain Jones, and by him strongly recommended for a command, and for the last year as Captain, making four successful voyages to the St. Lawrence, and who was generally liked by his passengers—should all at once have acted in the extraordinary manner which he is represented to have done.

Our present object, however, is not to defend him, but to notice an article in your paper of Saturday, which is calculated to produce an erroneous impression with regard to the construction of the Indian. You say—

'Both vessels, (the Royal Charter and the Indian) it appears, broke up at once, and completely, the first weakening of the frame being the signal for the general disruption of the whole fabric, and the entire mass of the material separating and disappearing with a celerity which gave little chance for the saving of life.'

This is altogether erroneous as regards the Indian, no such events having taken place, and it would have been well if you had ascertained the truth before publishing such a grave statement. The facts, as we understand them, are as follows:—

The vessel ran on shore just at the top of high water and rested by the middle on a rocky ridge, the fore and aft ends being to some extent water borne. When the tide fell the ends were of course unsupported, and their own weight, with about 900 tons of coals and cargo stowed in them, naturally tended to press them downwards. The forward coal bunker, which extends across the ship between the forebeams and the cargo, was nearly empty, the vessel having almost reached the end of her voyage, and the heavy swell on the reef, with the weight fore and aft and the centre nearly empty, caused the ship to break across just at the forward bunker. We doubt if there is any vessel, whether built of wood or iron, which, similarly situated, would not have gone the same way.

But it is not true that there was any general disruption of the whole fabric or that the vessel 'broke up at once and completely.' On the contrary, during the whole day of Monday and Tuesday, the after-half of the vessel was uninjured. It remained perfectly upright, and the deck was as level and dry as the floor of your office; indeed, we believe that until Tuesday night no water had come into the saloon, though we are not certain on that point. The forward portion of the ship was also unbroken,—and the heavy sea, raised by the storm on Wednesday, lifted both ends over the reef and sunk them in deep water, we think that so far from a general disruption, they are each complete to this day, and will probably remain so for some time to come.

No loss of life took place from the breaking across of the ship. We have not yet seen any one who can fairly explain this matter, but as far as we can learn at present, the loss of life was occasioned by the breaking of one of the tackles of a boat overcrowded by people while she hung at the davits, and before she was fairly lowered into the water. It is quite certain that if the people had remained in the ship till daylight, no life would have been lost; and so far from her 'separating and disappearing with celerity which gave little chance for the saving of life,' they might have continued on board in the greatest safety till next day and the next also. About 30 of the officers and crew of the ship, and two or three passengers were on board till three o'clock on Monday afternoon.

The Canadian and Indian, and all our steamers, are built of the best quality of marine plates—those of the two first cost £1s 10s. at a time when common plates were selling at £9 10s. to £10 10s. per ton.

We deeply lament the occurrence of this accident, and have done everything in our power to alleviate it. But we are heavy losers by it in many ways, and we think we are entitled to a fair statement of the truth.

We are, sir,
Your obedient servants,
EDMONSTONE, ALLAN & Co.

TWO MORE PORTRAITS BY MR. SAWYER.—There are two more portraits in oil on view at the City Book Store from the studio of Mr. Sawyer. They are, like all the others that we have seen, admirable likenesses, and highly deserving of that commendation we have ever given to that gentleman's handiwork. It is always refreshing to meet with a portrait by Mr. Sawyer, if it be but for the one great reason that it is sure to give satisfaction.

THE GOOD TEMPLARS.—The Lodge of Good Templars lately organized in this city is progressing as it deserves. It has been barely eight weeks in existence, and already numbers nearly eighty members, with a steady weekly increase. We wish the Lodge every continued success, and hope that it will accomplish an infinity of good, which, from present appearances, is likely to be the case. It is called 'The Frontenac Lodge, No. 63, British American Order of Good Templars,' and is but one of the many Temperance organizations which deserve the support and encouragement of the general public. This Lodge numbers among its members several of the most influential citizens of Kingston, and bids fair to be a most popular institution.

THE CANADIAN TRAGEDY.—During last month the Rev. Mr. Waddell, of Girvin, Scotland, read from his own pulpit a tragedy, of which he is the author, entitled 'King Saul,' illustrating the power of madness, superstition, and jealousy combined. It is a five act tragedy, adhering throughout to the narrative as it appeared in the Holy Writ. This tragedy was published first in Montreal. Whether the author resided in Canada or not we cannot say. It was criticised in the North British Review, and pronounced to be one of the most powerful Dramas in the English language.—[London (C.W.) Free Press.

*** We noticed the existence of this new Tragedy by Mr. Waddell a few days since in the British Whig, and also, a short time previously reviewed the Canadian 'Saul,' The Free Press simply confounds the two tragedies. They are quite distinct. The Canadian author (whose name we do not feel justified in making public, as he seems desirous of retaining his incognito) is now, and has been for many years, a resident of Montreal, and it is unpardonable in members of the Canadian press not being more conversant than they seem to be with the works ...

CANADA.

[From the Gait Reporter.]

Scotchmen, Swiss, and Tyrolese
May sing of mountains, glens, and braes,
Though Canada has few of these,
She has far more and better;
She has her forests spreading wide,
St. Lawrence's vast flowing tide,
And ocean lakes where fleets may ride,
Defying lee or fetter.

She has her fields of waving grain;
A brave and gallant race of men,
Who whipped invaders, and again
Will do it when it's wanted.
Her women good, her women fair—
Though woman's lovely everywhere—
The prize of beauty all declare
To Canada is granted.

Our Yankee friends across the line
Talk loud of liberty divine
Then buy and sell, like sheep or swine,
Three million fellow-creatures;
But let a slave once touch our shore,
Poor Jonathan has to deplore
His dollars lost for evermore,
Which rather 'riles' his nature.

Here's to our noble country,
Where white and black alike are free,
To think and speak whate'er may be
Their various opinions.
And here's unto our noble Queen,
The best of sovereigns e'er was seen,
And long and happy may she reign
O'er all her vast dominions.

THE GAUL vs. THE BRITON.

European journalists, and European correspondents of papers in this country, are pretty unanimous in prophesying a war between England and France, in case Spain should push her expedition against Morocco to the extent announced by the Spanish government. And nearly all these writers, except those in the British interest, confidently assert that the French would be victors, not only on the land, but likewise on the sea, where England has heretofore always overcome them. We must confess that we do not share in this belief. The fiery Gaul, with his frog soup and 'sense of honor,' is not a match for the sturdy Briton, with his roast beef and conscience. This fact has been proved on scores of battle-fields, and written deep with blood on nearly every land and every sea. The French are the most accomplished soldiers, but the British are the best men. The French marshals can out-manœuvre the British generals, but their superior science does not avail them when it comes to the tug of war. Then, British pluck and strength and endurance prove too much for French skill and dash and impetuosity. The scientific military authorities say that Napoleon utterly out-generalled Wellington at Waterloo, and ought to have won the battle; but the unscientific British soldiers out-fought the French, and did win the battle.

Had any other European troops been opposed to Napoleon on that bloody field they could not have withstood his magnificent manœuvres and the wild dash of his soldiers for an hour. And so on the occasion, the heavy calibre of the Briton has ever been, and probably always will be 'too much for his chivalric neighbor.' Laying his ship broadside to broadside with that his enemy, John Bull cries,

'Stand to your guns, my hearts of oak.'

And with his colors proudly streaming, and guns muzzle to muzzle, he hails an iron tempest on his foe, until one vessel or the other lies an unmanageable wreck upon the sea.—Against such calm courage and indefatigable endurance the French have nothing which they can successfully oppose.—[N. Y. Ledger.

FRONTENAC LODGE No. 63, B. A. O. OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

The Committee to whom was referred the history and state of the Order in this City, beg leave to report—

That in view of the existence of other Temperance Organizations in this City—This Lodge of Good Templars consider it alike due to themselves, and the friends of Temperance generally; that the reasons which have led to the establishment of a Lodge in connection with the British American Order of Good Templars, in this City should be given.—These are,

1st. The necessity existing to counteract a great evil.

2nd. The apparent supineness of Temperance men in this city.

3rd. The stimulus which is always given to any cause by promoting healthy rivalry.

4th. The securing of many persons who, from various causes, have kept aloof from actively engaging in other temperance organizations.

These are among the principal reasons given for our course.

We have but one object in view, that is the suppression of intemperance. And we believe we are justified in using all laudable and constitutional means in attaining this object.

We associate together on the principle that 'Union is strength,' and shall depend for success by religiously carrying out the principles of the Order, which are represented in the three great virtues—Faith, Hope, and Charity.

The B. A. O. of Good Templars is a new Temperance Organization, entirely British in its character and working, and unconnected with any foreign association.

It, of course, as might be expected, differs in many respects from other Orders, in its ritual and working. It also recognizes more fully the influence of women in admitting them to full membership on equal terms with males. It also provides for the admission of girls as well as boys, in the juvenile associations connected with the several lodges.

Since February last some seventy lodges have been opened by the Grand Lodge, and there is every prospect of the number rapidly increasing.

Our own Lodge, Frontenac No. 63, was organized October 21st, 1859, and twenty-six members initiated, since which time it has been steadily increasing, our number now being Seventy-four. We include among our membership all classes of our citizens, and shall hail with pleasure all who are disposed to cast in their lot amongst us.

A Lodge of juveniles, in connection with this Lodge and under its auspices, was recently opened with some forty members. We are desirous, as will be seen by this movement, to train, so far as temperance is concerned, the youth in the way they should go.

Such is our present position. We disclaim having any feelings other than good will towards sister temperance organizations. We are battling a common enemy, and though enrolled under different banners, we contend alike for the same cause, viz: emancipation from the tyranny of alcohol. Love to our fellowmen should incite us to effort. Thousands who glory in singing 'Britons never shall be slaves' are kept in thraldom, fatally unconscious of their position. Let it be ours to arouse, convince and rescue; and in proportion as we labor and succeed, will the blessings of the thousands who are ready to perish follow our pathway, and Heaven will resound with rejoicings at the restoration of many—'Clothed and in their right mind.'

T. A. CORBETT, D.G. W. C. P.
HENRY SKINNER, W. Secretary.
Frontenac Lodge No 63, B.A.O.G.T.
Kingston, Dec. 7th, 1859.

MARINE NEWS.

GOT OFF.—The tug G. H. Goddard was in here on Saturday, and reports having got off the schooner Ayr, ashore near Port Union, undamaged. She has gone to Port Dalhousie.

CANADIAN SCHOONERS IN OSWEGO, December 8.—Schooner Carlton, Belleville, 128 barrels ...; ... feet lumber; Hamilton, 4,500 bu...

...WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 14, 1859.

COUNTY COURT AND QUARTER SESSIONS.

This Court was opened at noon on Tuesday the 13th instant, before his honor Judge Mackenzie, chairman.

The Judge delivered an address to the Grand Jury which we shall be enabled to publish in full to-morrow. As the Grand Jury presented no bills during the afternoon, the Court was occupied in hearing cases of appeal.

HARRIET STORMS (Appellant) vs. EMMANUEL STORMS (Respondent).—This action was an appeal from a conviction of Harriet Storms, a young girl and sister of the respondent, by Ed. Sawyell, Esq., magistrate of Ernestown, for an alleged malicious injury to two cows on the 2nd Nov. last, by driving them out of the field of Jeremiah Storms and stoning, beating, and ill-using them on the highway. The magistrate fined the appellant in the case $1 as damages to be paid to Emmanuel Storms, and $8.43 as costs, in default of payment of which she was ordered to be committed to gaol for 30 days. Mr. Draper, for the respondent, contended that there was no conviction, inasmuch as the statute provided for only 14 days imprisonment in default of payment; he appealed for the conviction to be quashed. Mr. Snook appeared for the appellant. His honor quashed the conviction, and reserved his decision as to costs.

The Court adjourned at five o'clock until half-past nine on Wednesday morning.

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE.—We would draw particular attention to the advertisement of the New York Tribune in another column. It is beyond a doubt the leading Daily in the Union, and the Weekly and Semi-weekly are such papers as are rarely met with for the price at which they are placed.

Weekly British Whig

"Opifer per Orbem Deceor."

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 15, 1859.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 15, 1859.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS

B. of W., Quebec; P. M., Troy, N.Y.; W. E. E., Brockville; E. C., New York.

A Letter from the Seat of Government.

RUSSEL'S HOTEL,
Quebec, Dec. 12, 1859.

MY DEAR WHIG,—

Business having called me down to the Seat of Government, and that business having been dispatched, I hasten to avail myself of the short time which intervenes ere the Train starts for Montreal, to jot down a few observations that might escape my memory when I get back to you and labor.

On my way hither I spent one day in Montreal, which city, owing to fine weather and good sleighing, is as gay and lively as any Canadian city possibly can be.—The streets were positively crowded with carriages filled with well dressed ladies, and pedestrians of all sorts of conditions of men and women occupied the side walks. The new fashions have taken earlier root in Lower Canada than in Upper Canada, for the ladies' hoops are much reduced in size their dresses are a great deal shorter, well tucked up, displaying the smart red-striped petticoat. Those ladies still seen in long skirts looked horribly unfashionable. The prevailing covering for the head is still the turned-up hat, but in every hat is seen a cock's feather, thus showing that when a man shows the white feather, he is shunned by the ladies, but when a woman displays it, she wears it with admiration.—Judging from the quantity of hats, poor Chanticleer must have an awful time of it just now. Some of the ladies, when sleighing, wear the Rigolette, (if I spell it aright) a sort of winter Opera hood, and it becomes them very well, being warmer and more cosy than the bonnet or hat.

From what I gather, Montreal must have done exceedingly well all the past season, for every one wears a cheerful face, and no one talks despondingly. It is certainly a splendid city, and every time I visit it, I come away more and more pleased. I went down to Contin's Yard, partly to see Capt. Thos. Howard, and partly to see the old steamer 'Magnet.' Old 'Magnet!' She is to be made as new as a pin, or a bright brass saucepan. Being an iron boat, of the very best iron too, she is to have new beams, new topsides, and new saloons; her engines to be re-constructed, and her boilers enlarged; in fact she is to undergo as complete a renovation as that of the 'Passport,' which recently changed from an old steamboat into the finest vessel afloat on Lake Ontario. Such the 'Magnet' will be, but not on Lake Ontario, for the waters of Quebec and the Saguenay are her destined location. The Quebeckers want a large, handsome and safe steamer during the summer months of sea bathing and locomotion, and all these they will possess in the new 'Magnet' next season.

Montreal has become quite a manufacturing city for Sewing Machines; the local papers are filled with their makers' advertisements, and a good many establishments are open in Notre Dame and Gt. St. James streets for the retail. The price varies from $40 to $100, and they seem to be of all kinds manufactured and patented in the United States. I went with Mr. Nagle, the maker of 'Singer's' and 'Wheeler's' Sewing Machines, to visit his factory on the banks of the canal, where the immense water power at hand facilitates all descriptions of handicraft labor. He has a large establishment there, and employs a dozen or twenty men in fitting up his various machines, getting the heavy castings done at another place. Mr. Nagle is endeavoring, through the public press to introduce his Machines into general Canadian use, and judging from the pains he takes and, also the excellence of the manufacture, I have little doubt but he will very soon succeed. Sewing Machines have now become, not a luxury, but an absolute necessity of womankind, not only in factories, but in private families, an immense amount of sewing and stitching being done with them almost without labor.

While in Montreal, I stayed at Compain's new Cosmopolitan Hotel, for a special reason, to see the working in Canada of the European principle in hotel keeping. The Cosmopolitan Hotel is large, well furnished, and well located, being in the Place d'Armes. The bedrooms are spacious and excellent, and every thing is conducted ...the ease and comfort of a First ... Restaurant, paying for what they call for and no more. Parties who know one another can dine together, and order their own dinner. Touching the expense, that is about the same as at any other hotel, only when a gentleman dines out, he is not charged with his dinner at the hotel. I have no doubt whatever, but this European principle of hotel keeping will become quite common in Canada, and be as popular here as it is at Boston and New York, where 'Parker's' and 'French's' are always full, to suffocation. While on hotels, I may make mention, that the 'Donegana Hotel' is closed for the winter, but the 'St. Lawrence Hotel', in spite of the recent increase in the number of its rooms, is almost full, and quite as much patronized now, as it was in the height of the travelling season. Every one goes there, because there every one sees 'every' body. Besides which, Messrs. Hogan and Penn are gentlemen in every sense of the word.

Now for Quebec. The great excitement at present is the getting across the river from Point Levi, the terminus of the G. T. Railroad. The mighty St. Lawrence, here seen in its mightiest mood, is frozen over nightly, but the tide breaking up the ice daily, the river is full of floating blocks or cakes of ice, passing up or down the river as the tide ebbs or flows. The difficulty (there is really no danger) of crossing must be apparent, and is thus managed. Very large wooden canoes capable of holding 20 persons and their baggage, (there were 22 souls in the canoe in which I came over,) are manned by six paddle men and one steerer. In these canoes passengers sit in the bottom on their hinder ends, and away they are launched into the river from landings a mile below the terminus. The trouble or difficulty then is to force the canoe through the narrow lanes of water between the floating cakes of ice, and when that is impracticable, to haul the canoe out on the cake and shove it across into the next open water. The canoe men, all Lower Canadians, do all this and much more with great dexterity, jumping into the vessel so soon as she touches water; then by paddling to the next obstruction, overcome it in the same way, and so on ad infinitum, until the landing place at Quebec is reached. This usually takes an hour to accomplish though more time three hours are often thus occupied. The crossing is particularly grand and exciting, but there is absolutely no manner of danger, nor any sensation of fear experienced by the passengers. On the contrary, each one feels quite assured of his own safety, and laughs and jokes at the incidents of the passage, which are at times highly amusing. One gentleman, a fellow traveller from Upper Canada, seemed a little timed at getting into the canoe, but when I pointed out another canoe filled with laughing merry girls, enjoying as it were the fun of the thing, he recovered his equanimity, and became as bold as a ram. Taken as a whole, the scene is really pleasant and exciting, and it being moonlight when we crossed, I scarcely recollect any thing that afforded me more real delight. As the winter advances, and the weather becomes colder, the river becomes wholly frozen across, so hard as to prevent the tides from breaking it up, and then the ice bridge is formed and the crossing is by sleighs and carrioles, as usual, though many winters have occurred in which the ice did not take and hold at all.

All the Government officials are now well settled in Quebec, and public business is carried on with regularity and punctuality. The several departments are more centrally located than during either of their former terms of occupancy. All the Ministers in Canada are at their posts, and those absent are attending to duties of their offices in London. The city member, as usual, is accessible, and glad to see his Kingston friends, making them welcome at his small cottage on the St. Louis Road, where he lives 'en garçon.' The Parliamentary buildings are nearly ready for occupation. The inside is plastered, and painting is going on rapidly in all its several phases. The House of Assembly Hall and the Legislative Council Chamber are in the main building (intended for a post-office), and all the committee rooms and offices for the various clerks, etc., are in two long extended wings, quite in rear of the main building, with which they communicate. Judging from its present condition, I see nothing to prevent Parliament from meeting and doing business as usual in February, in the new Parliament Building.

There is a scarcity of good hotel accommodation in Quebec—only one really good hotel, and that of course is Russell's, one of the very best houses in America, always well kept, and abounding in the best of fare and attendance. Every one from Upper Canada and elsewhere, I think, stops at Russell's, simply because he'll do his business here half as quickly again as if he went elsewhere. There is another hotel open in the Upper Town, called the 'Clarendon' (formerly 'Sword's'), kept by a Mr. O'Neil, but I did not visit it, and therefore know nothing of its merits and demerits. Mr. Thomas Lamb, of Lamb's Hotel, Toronto, is refitting his old stand, near Russell's, and is preparing for doing a good business, more as a Restaurateur than as a Hotel keeper. And our Mr. L'Hoist is fitting up his new Restaurant for the accommodation of the fast men and youth of Quebec. He has taken a handsome house (part of Derbyshire & Desbarats' new building) in front of the English Cathedral, and quite in the immediate vicinity of everything and everybody. He cannot fail of doing well here, for his establishment will be the only complete thing of the kind in Quebec, and his patronage must be universal.

Quebec is lively if not gay. Business of course is at a stand-still; nevertheless there is continual traffic in the streets, and everybody seems on the move. The sleighing is excellent, but there is an immense difference between the gaiety out of doors and that of Montreal. And in the fashions the people appear a century behind the age. Walking about the Upper Town Market yesterday, I priced a great many of the necessaries of life, and found them all to be much higher than at good old Kingston. Very poor beef at $5 per hundred, and poultry at double what we pay for it. But the people do not complain, but say that the markets are very low. House rent is high, and houses are very hard to be had. One Cabinet Minister is ...at Russell's, because he cannot half will be at his disposal, under which hope he lives.

I hear nothing here about politics; getting out of the rail cars at Point Levi, I ceased to hear it spoken. I left Mr. George Brown busy at Montreal with the French Rouges and Mr. Holton, satisfying all that the ministry must be smashed, now that Malcolm Cameron and Lyle R. Gowan, with his son-in-law, have joined his party; but if the ministry are aware of their impending danger, they wisely keep all their fears to themselves. For my part, I anticipate no change, and am fully of belief that the great John A. will resist and overcome the threatened danger, as he has hitherto resisted and overcome all that has preceded it. I have great confidence in the Honorable John Alexander. But if politics are not talked here, great manœuvring for vacant government situations is going on. Six new Registrars of Counties and Ridings are immediately to be appointed (they have been proclaimed), and when this is done, ten other counties and cities are to be set off and proclaimed, and I did hear that Kingston is to be separated from Frontenac. Certainly, a gentleman, formerly of Kingston, is here, waiting on Providence, and I did hear also that he is to have the Registrarship of the city or county which the present incumbent may reject. The contracts for the Government buildings at Ottawa are definitely settled. Mr. McGreevey is the main contractor, but Mr. Ralph Jones, of Port Hope, has a large slice of the contracts. This I know to be a fact. Mr. McGreevey has already proceeded to Ottawa, and Mr. Baby, one of his sureties, is to follow him to-day. The works are to proceed immediately.

The weather has been very delightful ever since I left Kingston; not too cold, and yet cold enough to sustain the sleighing. Very little snow has fallen between Kingston and Montreal, and the coat of ice or frozen snow is very light, hardly enough to make the sleighing good, but in and near Quebec the fall of snow has been greater, and there is probably nine inches or a foot of snow on the ground. The double windows of all the houses here render the dwellings very warm, much warmer than with us, and it is only when you venture out of doors that anything like cold is experienced.

The travelling to Montreal is easy and expeditious. Only one train a day leaves or arrives at Quebec, but that is quite enough for the travel. The Lower Canadians don't gad about much. Leaving Quebec this morning at ten o'clock, and Point Levi at noon, I shall arrive at Montreal by half-past seven at night, and then by taking the nine o'clock train at Montreal, be in Kingston by half-past four in the morning. There are sleeping cars now placed on the Top to route, by which the traveller can get a good night's rest, and a wash in the morning, together with a soft seat all the day, the whole for the extra expense of half a dollar. I intend to invest that sum on Monday night, so as to be ready for work on Tuesday morning—a mighty convenience let me tell you.

And now, Mr. Whig, having finished my paper, and having no more to say, if I have said anything at all, let me subscribe myself

Yours, &c., &c.,
THE EDITOR.

St. Lawrence Hall, Montreal,
Monday Night.

P.S.—No one should reckon his chickens before they are hatched. Here I am, instead of being on the Train for Kingston, and glad I am to be here. The crossing at Quebec this morning was quite a different thing to what it was on Friday evening. All the romance of the thing has been knocked out of me. The morning was bitter cold, and it blew a gale of wind from the north-west, added to which the tide was running down at the rate of five miles an hour. This time I took a smaller canoe, with five men only, and there being but one other passenger, we had a light load. Still it took an hour and a half to get over, and the poor men had literally to draw the canoe over the blocks of ice more than half the distance, and though they went up the river a good piece, still they landed us two miles below the Terminus at Point Levi, barely in time to reach it as the train started. Such a getting up stairs I never did see. And at Montreal the trouble was still greater, for when the train reached Longueuil, the ferry steamer had gone into winter quarters, and there was no getting over at all, for the river was full of ice, and the Montreal canoemen would not venture across in the dark. So four of us, not liking the night's quarters at Longueuil, hired a calèche and away we started for St. Lambert, trusting to luck to get over over the Victoria Bridge. This, after some delay, we managed, obtaining, with the benefit of a good English tongue, a Pass for us four, and then with the aid of a couple of watchmen with lanterns, crossed the bridge in safety, no small achievement when its unfinished condition is considered. We all four, shouldering our baggage, then trudged into Montreal and took up our quarters at the St. Lawrence Hall, where with a good supper and a glass of hot toddy, we talked over the adventures of the day and night by flood, field and bridge. By the way, the Victoria Bridge is to be examined and tested this week by two eminent English Engineers, just arrived, and if found worthy, is to be opened permanently for traffic on Monday the 19th inst. Meanwhile, the empty cars from Portland continually return via the Bridge during the night time, mechanics and labourers being busy at work all day.

CITY COUNCIL.—A special meeting of the City Council was held last night, and was fully attended. Mr. A. H. Campbell, Alderman for St. Lawrence Ward, took his seat at the board after a long absence in Europe. The Mayor presided, and stated the object of the meeting; viz, to extend the time for the collection of taxes, the time for their collection expiring to-day the 14th instant. On motion the time for the collection of the municipal taxes was extended until the 14th March next. The annual by-law for the appointment of Returning Officers and polling-places in the different wards for the January elections was introduced and passed to its full stage. The appointments are as follows:—

CATARAQUI WARD.—Wm. Draper; Mr. Hawkins' house, head