General Business.

WINTER ANNOUNCEMENT!!

IMPORTANT TO ALL.

Furs! Furs!! Furs!!!

J. B SNOWBALL,

CHATHAM, MIR.,

Begs leave to announce that his Stock of FRESH AND FASHIONABLE FURS for this Season stands unrivalled in this Market in regard to QUANTITY QUALITY and PRICE.

THE STOCK CONSISTS PRINCIPALLY OF

Ladies' & Misses' Real & Imitation Seal Caps, the "Lorne" Shape (a Novelty and Very Stylish.)

LADIES' ENGLISH CONEY, BELGIUM SEAL, MINK

—AND—

South Sea Seal Muffs and Boas.

GENTS' CONEY, SEAL, BEAVER, & MINK CAPS,

(VARIOUS STYLES.)

GENTS' FUR GAUNTLET GLOVES.

RACCOON AND BUFFALO COATS,

VERY GOOD.

BUFFALO ROBES,

Lined & Unlined. (Prices Lower than for Years past.)

ALL FURS WILL BE OFFERED BY ME DURING THIS MONTH

At Remarkable Low Prices FOR CASH.

CHATHAM, 10th Dec. 1878.

BARGAINS OFFERED IN DRY GOODS.

A RARE CHANCE.

DRESS GOODS, FANCY GOODS, WOOL GOODS, MILLINERY, SACQUES, SHAWLS, CLOTHS, BLANKETS, QUILTS, RAIL'Y WRAPPERS.

READY-MADE CLOTHING. UNDER CLOTHING.

LADIES' FUR SETS, FUR CAPS, &C., &C.

The above, with the rest of our fine Stock at the very lowest prices possible for Cash only.

Chatham, Jan. 8th., 1879.

A. J. LOGGIE & CO.

Southwest Boom Company.

THE Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at the Waverly House, Newcastle, on the Thursday after the second Tuesday in January, next, being

THE 16TH DAY OF THE MONTH,

at two o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of choosing Directors for the ensuing year and transacting, such other business as may be deemed necessary. The Directors for the present year, will meet the same day, at the Secretary's Office, Newcastle, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to audit the Treasurer's accounts and wind up the business of the year.

J. B. SNOWBALL, President.

Chatham, 31st December, 1878.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL,

And Bargains in all Classes of

STAPLE & FANCY

DRY GOODS,

—AT—

W. B. HOWARD'S,

COMMERCIAL HOUSE,

CHATHAM.

NEILSON'S

Engine & Machine Works.

THE Subscriber is now prepared to make and execute all kinds of the undermentioned work, viz:—

MARINE AND STATIONARY

ENGINES,

with or without boiler, or fittings, from 5 to 100 horse power, for Mills, Mines or Steamboats.

SAW MILL WORK,

CRANK SHAFTS for WATER MILLS, GANG SHAFTS, GATE and LOG GATES, with power Down-holders, Saw Spindles of all kinds, of Cast Steel or Iron.

MILL SHAFTING of all sizes and lengths, from one inch to eight inch diameter.

GEARS AND PULLEYS of all sizes.

IRON TURNING AND BLACKSMITH'S WORK, and general repairing of Machinery of all kinds.

ACCIDENTAL BREAK-DOWNS of Machinery correctly and punctually attended to.

BRASS CASTINGS,

of the best quality at lowest prices.

I beg to call the attention of Millmen and Lumbermen to my new Machines, viz., my

COMPOUND EDGER AND SINGLE EDGER, AND MY RE-SAWING MACHINES

are got up expressly for the lumber business.

My Edgers have now been running in St John, and Miramichi for twelve months and have given every satisfaction desired and I feel pleased to be able to refer to any of the Mill owners who have them, including:—Messrs. Randolph and Baker, Long & Barnhill, Clark Bros.—Firms of such standings as are well able to advise intending purchasers as to what is best for their interests and in regard to the practical superiority of my machine over all others. My

COMPOUND OR DOUBLE MACHINE

will edge 10,000 feet per hour, if required. My SINGLE EDGER, which I am getting up expressly for Steam Mills of limited power, with a view to do the most work with the fewest hands, will be about half the weight of the Compound, and about half the price, will have only two saws and will run 40,000 feet per day of 10 hours. My RE-SAWING MACHINE is got up expressly for recutting deals and scantling from four inches down to ½ in. thick or deals into boards any thickness.

Plans, specifications and estimates furnished.

N. B. An experience of 40 years in all the branches in the above lines enables me to guarantee all work that may be entrusted to my care.

JAMES NEILSON.

Chatham, Miramichi.

MESS BEEF.

LANDING:—30 bbls. EXTRA MESS BEEF, the Kennedy Brand. For sale by

HARDING & HATHEWAY,
17 and 18 South Wharf, St. John.

Tobacco! Tobacco!!

I HAVE just received a large Stock of

W. C. McDONALD'S

TOBACCO,

which I will sell in Bond or Duty paid,

CHEAPER THAN CAN BE IMPORTED.

Call and see Samples and prices.

ISAAC HARRIS,

Water St., Chatham.

FOR SALE, ON CONSIGNMENT.

1,000 BUS. OATS;
400 Brls. POTATOES;
100 do., TURNIPS;
100 do., APPLES, "Baldwins," "Greenings," Choice Winter Fruit;
50 do., PORK;
100 do., LABRADOR HERRING;
100 Half, do., do.

GEO. ROBINSON, Chatham

CAUTION.

PERSONS Trespassing on any land belonging to the Subscriber, will be dealt with according to Law, and for information regarding trespassing or trespassers I will pay

A REWARD OF $20.00,

on conviction of the trespasser.

J. D. McCULLEY.

Chatham, 27th Dec., 1878. 8y25

DRY PINE LUMBER

1, 1½ AND 2 INCH.

WILLIAM MURRAY,
Argyle House

Chatham, June 26 1878 tf

Northwest Boom.

THE Annual Meeting of the NORTHWEST BOOM COMPANY, will be held in the office the of Secretary, in Newcastle, on

Thursday, the 16th Day of Jan.,

next, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Dated 28th Dec. 1878.

A. A. DAVIDSON, Secy.

Valuable Business Stand, FOR SALE OR TO LET.

THE New Building, corner of Water and Duke Streets, Chatham. Will be sold on easy terms. If not disposed of before February 1st., the stores and offices will be let for one or more years. Apply to

SIMON NEALIS,

Fredericton, N. B.

Vick's Floral Guide.

A beautiful work of 100 Pages, One Colored Flower Plate, and 300 Illustrations, with Descriptions of the best FLOWERS and Vegetables, and how to grow them. All for a FIVE CENT STAMP. In English or German.

The Flower and Vegetable Garden. 175 Pages, Six Colored Plates, and many hundred Engravings. For 50 cents in paper covers; $1.00 in elegant cloth. In German or English.

Vick's Illustrated Monthly Magazine—32 Pages, a Colored Plate in every number and many fine Engravings. Price $1 25 a year; Five Copies for $5.00. Specimen number sent for 10 cents.

Vick's Seeds are the best in the world. Send FIVE CENT STAMP for a FLORAL GUIDE, containing Lists and Prices, and plenty of information. Address,

JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, - - - - JANUARY 16, 1879.

The Central Railway.

It appears that the gentlemen interested in the Central Railway project are determined to push their claims forward vigorously and that they have entirely abandoned the notion of extending the line to Weldford. Their programme now is to take it from St. Mary's *via* Grand Lake, all the way to St. John. The public were informed a few weeks since, that the Provisional Directors of the Miramichi Valley Company had been in council with the promoters of the Central, and the *Advocate*, which appears to have information on the subject possessed by no other authority, stated that such arrangements had been entered into as gave assurance of the speedy construction of the Miramichi line. We do not wish to appear inquisitive, but, in the interest of the public, we think the nature of the understanding arrived at between the Miramichi Valley men and those of the Central line should be known. Valuable time is passing and when we find the promoters of one scheme hard at work, while those of the other are apparently doing nothing it seems as if those who have taken charge of our interests are jeopardising them by their inactivity. It is possible that Messrs. Call, Sadler, Swim, and the other gentlemen who were named as having secured the co-operation of Mr. Gibson and his associates, have succeeded in doing so, but a petition which is now being circulated by the latter gentlemen entirely ignores the Miramichi Valley Road and looks like everything else but assistance in promoting it. It is in order for these gentlemen to explain to the people of the Miramichi what their connection and arrangements are with the Central people. It is said that the report that there was a probability of the promoters of the two schemes agreeing had no foundation in fact, and that the whole design of the Central people was to ascertain the plan of action proposed by their rivals in order to facilitate their scheme and keep ours back. We would like to believe that such is not the case, but the course taken by Mr. Gibson and his associates gives color to the rumors which have reached us. The matter is one of public importance and the people concerned ought to know just how their interests have been handled by those who have taken charge of them.

VENNOR was not so far wrong, after all in his weather predictions for the Upper Provinces and United States. A Chicago despatch of 4th, says "A farmer's team was found obstructing the horse car track yesterday. An investigation disclosed that the farmer was frozen to death in his wagon. A team stopped at the stock yards last night, the driver was found in his wagon frozen dead."

A New York despatch of the same date says "an old man, supposed to be James McArthur, of this city, was found this morning in a snow bank in 89th street, frozen to death", and an Albany despatch says "Jacob Vanheuson, aged 62, went last night to dig a grave in Greenbush, and was found this morning in the cemetery frozen to death". On the same day Christopher Scott, newsboy, was frozen to death in Jersey City, and four tramps were frozen to death at Glasgow Junction, Tenn., on the same night. At Columbus, Ohio G. Corbett, driver, was frozen to death, and Edward Wood was frozen to death at Berkeley, Virginia, on 4th. We have, however, had comparatively mild winter weather in New Brunswick.

THE REASON:—"When the Intercolonial Railway was projected, even while it was building, did any one ever suppose that freight by it would go from the Miramichi to the Hudson via Montreal? Yet this is the way important through freight is carried! It was supposed that Halifax or St. John would get the principal advantage from the road. Instead of this one of its principal effects is to make us tributaries of New York!"—St. John *Globe*.

The freight referred to is, we presume, fresh fish. The reason for such freight going by the Northern, instead of the St. John route is because there is no railway bridge over the St. John river, and bulk would have to be broken, involving some deterioration of the fish and extra expense for handling. When St. John secures a railway bridge, or when the Miramichi Valley Road is built, so that through freight may cross the St. John at Woodstock, Miramichi freight will not go "to the Hudson via Montreal".

HEAVY WORK AHEAD:—If the action of the Dominion Government in dealing with the office of Official Assignee in Northumberland is based on its knowledge of what is in store for the business community we are to have hard times, instead of what we were promised under the "readjustment of the tariff." We always managed to get along with one Official Assignee, but the Government appears to believe we want two. In any case the Government's action is flattering to the late incumbent, as it is a presumptive fact that the course taken is based on the belief that he is capable of doing the work of an M. P. P., and a talented young lawyer. Indeed the M. P. P., won't face the work at all.

CORRESPONDENTS are informed that their favors must reach this office not later than Monday evening in order to assure their appearance in the ADVANCE of the following Thursday, which goes to press on Wednesday evening. News and editorial matter is about all our compositors can handle on Tuesday and Wednesday. We hope correspondents will make a note of this. News items if brief and to the point, are received up to the time of going to press.

THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL LETTER:—A Rome despatch of Saturday last says:—The Encyclical letter of the Pope appeals to the Governments to restore to the Church the degree of liberty which would enable her to efficaciously employ her influence in favor of society. The *Italia* says the Encyclical letter is the commencement of a crusade against modern institutions.

THE FISHERY MONEY:—The Toronto *Mail* states that the money for the Fishery award has been duly handed over; that Canada has received $4,387,500, and Newfoundland the sum of $975,000, the balance of $137,500 having been retained by the Imperial Government pending the settlement of the question of expenses.

THE "SQUIRES."—Some one who has the ear of the Local Government is doing everything possible to have the entire electorate of Northumberland appointed to the magistracy. It is cruel to keep any aspirants who may remain unappointed in suspense, and to save time and put them all out of their misery, an act should be passed providing that hereafter any elector who desires a commission of the Peace should receive it on application by postal card addressed to the Provincial Secretary, save in cases of persons who can neither read nor write, who shall merely be required to affirm before any member of the Legislature that he voted right and that he has not been drunk or guilty of assault or of using obscene language for the last twenty-four hours—to his knowledge.

REDUCING OPERATIONS.—A Quebec despatch of Friday last, says: "Most of our Timber Merchants are reducing their staff of employees for the coming season."

"What's up?"

A singular proceeding on the part of the Dominion Government is the recent change made in to the office of Official Assignee in this County. No more competent officer than John Ellis, Esq., who has been Official Assignee for a good while, could be named. Indeed he is admitted to be especially well qualified for the discharge of the duties. No complaints, that anyone in the community is aware of, have been made against him. The work to be done was but trifling and the emoluments of the position very small. Yet the Government has thought proper to appoint Thomas F. Gillespie, Esq., M. P. P., to one half of the office and Wm. A. Park, Esq., to the other half. Mr. Gillespie informs us that he declines to accept, as he does not want the berth, never asked for it and was never aware of any intention at Ottawa to make the change. What Mr. Park will do with his half we do not know, but we can hardly conceive of anybody wishing to be one-half of an Official Assignee here. There are different conjectures afloat in connection with the matter. One is that misrepresentations have been made to secure the office to Mr. Gillespie in the hope that he would accept in an unguarded moment and thereby disqualify himself as a member of the New Brunswick Assembly, in order to enable some other aspirant to legislative honors to secure the vacated seat. Another rumor is that it was known that Mr. Gillespie would reject his half of the office and the effect would be the transfer of it to the Shiretown from Chatham. Another, that the Dominion Government wished to bestow honor and reward upon Messrs. Gillespie and Park, commensurate with the effect of their personal labors in the late election and, knowing Mr. Ellis would not mind being deposed, divided his office in two in order to "kill two birds with one stone."

These rumors are probably all equally problematical, but when there is no apparent reason for anything that takes place people will supply the deficiency with conjectures which are often as absurd as the event under notice. Two weeks ago we had occasion to commend the Government for its dealing with a matter affecting a portion of our people and, with as much candor, we are obliged to say that its action in the Assignee business is so absurd as to make our people of all shades of politics ask, what next? We cannot think that Mr. Tilley was aware of what was being done, or he would, surely, have consulted Mr. Gillespie as to his view of the intended appointment. Had he done so he would, probably, have been advised to "let well enough alone."

THE GALLOWS.

FARRELL HANGED IN QUEBEC.

A Quebec despatch of Friday last, says: The last scene in the Farrell murder case was witnessed this morning in the jail-yard at 8.30 a. m., when in obedience to the demands of justice, Michael Farrell, the slayer of Francis Conway, jr., in August last, yielded up his life for that which he wantonly destroyed. No possible efforts were spared to obtain the commutation of his sentence. Fully 1,000 people were present, surrounding the jail, and on the Plains of Abraham in close proximity thereto. Only about 100 were admitted into the jail-yard and those had passes.

Fifteen minutes before the hour of execution the black flag was hoisted upon the jail. The hangman, an inmate of the jail, proved a stupid fellow, and one entirely ignorant of his business, as was subsequently proved. He was masked from head to foot. The scaffold had been so enclosed that nothing could be viewed of the proceedings except from the small enclosure to which visitors were admitted. The rope was attached to the beam of the scaffold before Farrell made his appearance. Farrell spent the last few hours of his life with his spiritual advisers, and did not manifest the least agitation when pinioned in his cell. The condemned man was led to the scaffold by the Rev. Fathers Wynn and Burke, walking apparently without hesitation. On reaching the scaffold all three knelt and the *Deo Profundis* was said by Father Wynn, all present uncovering their heads. The coroner, jailor and sheriff stood behind the party.

Farrell then shook hands with and wished each Father farewell, who in turn wispered a word of Christian fortitude in his ear. He then placed his hat again on his head and the condemned man took his stand on the fatal drop. The hangman adjusted the noose, but was a long time in letting go the drop. This seemed to agitate Farrell, who glancing anxiously around and in his excitement of terror, seeing the bolt withdrawn, he switched the rope, which having hung down too low from his neck, caught his pinioned arm. He uttered a piercing cry as he hung in this position between time and eternity with the work but partially accomplished. The scene was terrible as the wretched hangman shook the rope violently above Farrell's head, causing it to right itself. So badly was the work done that life was not extinct for over fifteen minutes after the drop fell. The body was then cut down and the usual inquest held.

Dowd Hanged — His Crime — His Last Confession.

The St. John *Globe* gives the following account of the execution of Thomas Dowd at St. Andrews on Tuesday morning last: The execution took place at 8.15 a.m., in the yard of the gaol. The condemned man would eat no supper nor breakfast. He got up at 6 o'clock, and carefully dressed himself in tweed pants, tweed vest, white shirt, and low shoes.

At 6.30 a.m. Father Doyle, his spiritual adviser, came to the Jail, and at once proceeded to hear the confession of the prisoner and to administer to him the Holy Eucharist. The condemned man felt perfectly resigned to his fate, and said he longed to be with his Maker. Immediately after this service followed thanksgiving and exhortation. The procession to the gallows was formed at 8 o'clock, and was as follows: Sheriff Paul, Revd. Father Doyle, the prisoner, Magistrates, Coroners, etc.

The prisoner carried in his hand a blessed candle lighted. While the procession passed to the gallows the Rev. Father Doyle, carrying a crucifix, recited the *Miserere*. On arriving at the scaffold the condemned man and Father Doyle knelt and the *De Profundis* was recited by the latter, after which the *Ordo Commendations Animæ* was recited. The prisoner recited an act of contrition and arose and went under the beam. Father Doyle here applied the crucifix to his lips, which the prisoner kissed five times. The prisoner's last words were that "he was thankful to Sheriff Paul, Mr. Hall and family. They showed him every kindness in their power," and he also thanked the people of St. Andrews, and said these words: "I wish you all well. God bless you all." He was then pinioned, during which trying ordeal he showed great firmness. The rope was then adjusted, and the priest went up to the prisoner and whispered some final words of consolation in his ear, which seemed to brighten up the countenance of the unfortunate man. In reply he said he was ready, and at 8.15 o'clock the black cap was pulled down over his face, the rope was cut, the beam ascended, and the body swung up in the air. Death was instantaneous. Not a sign of a muscle moving or twitching could be seen.

The last act of Dowd in his room was to sign a petition drawn up and read to him, to be presented to the Governor-General, asking that Mrs. Ward's sentence may be changed to a less period than seven years. He signed it with a firm, steady hand, indeed with a much steadier hand than the witnesses to the same signature. Immediately before the Sheriff tapped on the door to say the minute had come, he, with his spiritual adviser, were engaged in prayer, Dowd fervently repeating an act of contrition after the Priest.

Great coolness was displayed by Dowd throughout the whole proceedings. While the Jailor was pinioning his arms and legs the prisoner cast a glance at the beam of the gallows and seemingly having satisfied himself as to what kind of structure it was he lowered his eyes again, and as the cap was pulled down over his face he said, "Good bye, Mr. Hall."

The *News* gives the following particulars concerning the crime of which Dowd and his supposed accomplice, Mrs. Ward, were found guilty:—

That crime was the murder of Thomas Edward Ward, the husband of one of the prisoners, and it was the sequel to numerous domestic troubles and differences. Ward, a man of over 70 years of age, married to a wife much younger than himself, and a person whose moral character was none of the best, suspected her of being criminally intimate with the prisoner Dowd, who was a boarder in his house. This house was at one time used as an hotel and was known as the New River Hotel, but of late years it was seldom visited. The other inmates of the house, besides those named above, were Ward's two daughters, and a boarder named McCarthy. Quarrels were of frequent occurrence between the deceased and Dowd, and at one time Ward's daughter, Annie heard Dowd threaten her father. Bad feeling also existed between the father and daughter on account of her conduct, and finally the father ordered his daughter to leave his house, which she did, and McCarthy went with her, leaving at the house besides the prisoners and the deceased, only a little girl of about five years of age. Two days after McCarthy and Annie left the house, that is, on the 9th of September last, Ward left his house and went over to visit a neighbor named Mulherrin, who lived about a mile distant from his own house. He returned to his own house about eight o'clock, and soon after left it again, taking with him a scythe, and from that time until his dead and mangled body was found on the 21st in a gully, about a quarter of a mile distant, it was not known what had become of him. It was easily seen how his death had been occasioned, for his skull had been broken by the blows of an axe, any one of which would be quite sufficient to cause death. Dowd and Mrs. Ward were immediately arrested on the charge of having committed the murder, and were tried before Judge Weldon. The trial began on the 15th November and lasted four days, the jury, after an absence of only about twenty minutes, finding a verdict of "guilty" against both. The evidence laid before the jury was of course, mainly circumstantial, but it was of such a character as clearly to show their guilt. It was proved that the blows had been inflicted by an axe similar to one in Dowd's possession, that on this axe was found a hair corresponding in color with the hair of the murdered man, and on his trousers were discovered marks which were clearly proved by medical testimony to be blood stains Mrs Ward's conduct also seemed to show that she had a knowledge of the deed, and was working with Dowd, for she affected the utmost indifference in regard to search being made for her husband, and apparently made every effort to prevent its being done. But whatever doubt there might remain in a person's mind at the time the verdict was rendered with regard to the fact of Dowd's committing the deed, it was immediately removed by a confession of Dowd, in which he acknowledged that he killed Ward, although he subsequently endeavored to make it appear that he committed the deed purely in self-defence.

DOWD'S LAST CONFESSION.

The prisoner's final statement to his spiritual adviser regarding the dreadful crime for which he was condemned and executed was as follows:—

The day on which the terrible deed was committed, I accidentally met Ward coming from the meadow; asked where he was coming from, to which he replied he was coming from haying, but that he would never make any more hay. He asked me where I was coming from. I said from berrying, to which he replied, you will never go berrying again. Some words of dispute took place between us in reference to some evil thoughts McCarthy had put in Ward's mind respecting improper relations which he insinuated existed between me and Ward's wife, for which there was no foundation. Ward then struck at me with the pitchfork. I evaded the blow. He closed on me, and after a tussle I got him down and held him there until he was exhausted. He said, "for God's sake let me up; I was only in fun."

I let him up; we walked a short distance, disputing by the way. He again struck at me with the fork; I again evaded the blow. We got into "holts" and tussled again as before, until he was exhausted. He again begged to be relieved. We walked on a short distance, the dispute becoming hotter. He made more determined efforts to strike me. It was then I picked up McCarthy's axe, which he had, and struck him with it in self defence.

I thought, if I attempted to run from him he would, when my back was turned, have plunged the fork into me. I gave him one blow on the head and knocked him insensible. The blow did not kill him, as I saw his legs move.

I ran away a short distance. I did not know what I was doing. I was crazed,—I stopped, turned back, struck him two or three blows and finished him. I then hauled the body into the bushes and covered it with the moss and brush, as it afterwards was found. I buried the hat in the swamp. I went to the river to wash. The devil prompted me to drown myself, but then I thought if I did I would be lost forever. I never went back to where I hid the body until I was taken there. I most solemnly declare, in view of my approaching death, that Mrs. Ward is entirely innocent.

Prices Then and Now.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* prints a table of the wholesale prices of a long list of staple articles in that city on the first of January of each year since 1867. Flour, which in 1868 brought $9.50, $9.55 and $8,75 a barrel, brings now $3.60 and $3.10—a decline of almost two thirds. Oats in 1868 were 84 cents a bushel; to-day they are 34 cents. Corn was $1.40; to-day it is 47 cents. Cotton has gone from 16 cents to 9½ cents. Hay was $24 a ton, and is $9. Mess pork brought $21 a barrel in 1868, and $29.75 in 1870; in 1879 it is $7.05. Mess beef has gone from $32 to $14.50. Liverpool salt in 1869 brought $2.10 a sack; and to-day brings 70 cents. Butter goes from 45 cents in 1868 to 19 cents in 1879, and cheese from 19½ cents in 1869 to 8¾ cents in 1879. Molasses was 85 cents a gallon; to-day 37 cents. Sugar has gone from 16¾ cents for refined in 1868 to 8¾ cents in 1879. Petroleum, crude, brought 18 cents a gallon in 1869, and brings now 5½ cents. Layer raisins brought $3.80 a box in 1868, and $4.20 in 1870; in 1879 their price is $1.57½. Currants have gone from 12½ cents a pound to 3¾ cents; hops from 60 cents to 15; turpentine from 67 cents in 1872 to 27½ cents a gallon, and rosin from $3 a barrel in 1868 and $4.90 in 1872 to $1.35. In wool we find a fall from 70 cents in 1872-3 to 35 cents. Pig iron has gone from $50 a ton in 1873 to $17 a ton in 1879. Laths, $3.50 cents a thousand in 1872, can be bought for $1.45, and Rockland lime, $1.60 a barrel in 1869, can be got for 80 cents.

Correspondence.

Rev. Mr. Munro and the Violin.

MR. EDITOR:—It appears that my speech at a recent Dutcher meeting in Newcastle has been the means of exciting the criticising ability of editors and other "warm friends of temperance," but their criticisms fall harmless at my feet. *Amicus, Plato, amicus Socrates, sed magis amica veritas*, and I shall here defend it, notwithstanding all the criticism that can be brought to bear. On this account I employ my pen, and ask for a short space in the appreciated columns of the ADVANCE.

What I said on the occasion referred to I believe and hold to be *the truth*, and therefore I shall defend it as far as I am able to do so, both on the platform and through the press. I know that truth is a stubborn thing, and unpalatable to many, but it is bound to triumph at last. The position that I take with reference to the manner in which the Dutcher meetings should be conducted and the means to be used to advance the *cause* which the Club embraces, seems to be questionable in the minds of some, and has provoked already the censure of those especially whose ignorance may be their only fault.

The *Union Advocate* of Dec. 25th., subjoins an article to the programme of the Friday evening previous, in which the following occurs:

"The Rev. Mr. Munroe, in the course of his remarks, sharply criticised the manner in which the meetings were conducted and strongly condemned the use of the violin as being contrary to the principles of the gospel."

Here, let me observe, before I proceed further, that I am happy to be able to say that I am not alone in criticising the manner in which the meetings were conducted, for the editor of the *Advocate* and others in private conversations with me have gone even further in criticising the manner in which the meetings of the Dutcher Club were conducted than ever I did, either in public or in private.

Concerning the violin in our meetings, I do contend that it and nefarious songs should have no place. The thing *itself* does no harm, but the use to which it is appropriated. I say most positively it is against the principles of the gospel, and the cause embraced by the Club is not likely to advance by such means. In the same article occurs:—"The meetings even now are not at times as interesting as they should be, to attract outsiders, and if the violin and all associated with it be withdrawn, we are afraid that the meetings will be but slimly attended." Permit me to ask the *Advocate* and those "warm temperance friends and Christian men," do we meet in the Masonic hall, on every Friday evening for the gratification of our carnal desires, after social pleasures merely, or to *advance a cause*? I guess the answer very readily and prepare myself accordingly. Then, if to advance the work of temperance, which is the cause of the Bible, I say let us make use of the means which the Bible prescribes. Heaven does not require the violin and "secular" songs to extend and develope moral and religious principles. I do not wish to be understood as advocating the doing away of music. I have a great passion for music; but the right kind—Music upon which we can implore the Divine blessing. And if our meetings are not so well attended by those who come for nothing else, but for hilarity and to have a "good time," it may be that more good will be accomplished and "outsiders" will think the more of us in the end.

Again, I had a first rate time over the article which appeared in the ADVANCE of Jan. 1st., by some one who was afraid to come out over his own name, and no wonder, since the whole thing is false. I did not condemn the musical "portion of the programme," only in part. What I did condemn, then, was the use of the violin in "rendering" that which was *not* consistent with the course we were endeavoring to support and advance. As regards my "reasons" for taking such a stand, they are obvious and as for "propounding, very absurd and untenable doctrine," it is not the case. My doctrine is, the doctrine of the Bible, and therefore can be maintained. If this gentleman had studied his Bible more he would have displayed more of the essential element. I am fully prepared to explain my "reasons" and prove my doctrine to those gentlemen, whenever called upon. If I can do anything to enlighten him, I would be glad to do so.

Once more—the *Advocate* of Jan. 8th., contains an article from the pen of "Orpheus" a worshiper of the god of the the violin and "hunt-the-squirrel," and then to justify it, quotes Dr. Talmage. This is the first I knew that Dr. Talmage allows the use of the violin in his Church, to fiddle up the cause of religion and save souls. If it should be the case, I venture to say that "secular" songs do not compose the music. And if Dr. Guthrie could patronize and appreciate comic songs, I lose all respect for his piety, but, sir, this was not the case. The concerts referred to by "Orpheus," were strictly in keeping with religion and piety. I am happy to inform all your readers that I have music in my soul, but thank God I have not "Tompson Smiddy" there.

T. M. MUNROE.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

[We were not aware of the fact that "nefarious" songs formed a portion of the programme at the Dutcher Meetings in Newcastle, and we are inclined to the belief that, although Mr. Munro claims inferentally that they do, he is mistaken. We now ask him to give the name, or quote the words of any song rendered at those meetings to which he can justly apply the term.

Having, thus, inferentially asserted that wicked and infamous songs are a part of the programme, Mr. Munro, with an easy movement of the pen, attaches the violin to those songs and thinks his case against the abused instrument is established. He colors the facts, builds upon false premises, jumps at conclusions not warranted by "the truth," which he claims to respect, and hopes people will believe in the soundness of his position.

It appears to us, also, that he takes a most unwarranted liberty with the quotation made by him from the *Advocate*. That paper's remarks simply suggested the idea that the meetings ought to be made as attractive as possible to outsiders, and it hinted that the violin, as well as other musical adjuncts, assisted to secure attendance. Is Mr. Munro justified, then, in asking the far-fetched question in reference to people "meeting in the Masonic Hall for the gratification of their carnal desires?" It is evident that he is not looking at the sky or even over the smiling fields, but into the ditch,—though he manages to inform us that "Heaven does not require the violin and secular songs to help develop moral and religious principles." When we first read of Mr. Munro's utterances on the subject of music we were reminded that Heaven seemed to require means for "the development of moral truth" which, perhaps, would not square with any but a very narrow view of the fitness of things, and that gentleman may not, after all, be a good authority on Heaven's requirments in connection with the spread of temperance principles. It appears that the churches, which are admitted to be Heaven's chosen organizations for the proper regulation of humanity, have not succeeded in keeping down intemperance, and we find the clergymen of many of them admitting the fact by their presence and participation in the work of the Temperance societies—the Dutcher Societies, particularly. Now, if Mr. Munro and other clergymen have failed to make temperance people of all their congregations by prayer singing of hymns and preaching, in their churches, can they hope to succeed better by following the same programme in outside places? Clearly not. Then, let them try another; let them call in the harp and the psaltry, the dulcimer, the cornet, the organ and the violin, the flute and the piano, if by such means they can attract those who may be going to destruction, and soften their hearts. Addison says "Music is the only sensual gratification which mankind may indulge in to excess without injury to their moral or religious feelings;" Landon tells us that amid the golden gifts which Heaven has left like portions of its light on earth, none has such influence as music, and Luther styles it the art of the prophets, the only art that can calm the agitations of the soul—one of the most delightful presents God has given us. Why should the violin—the sweetest and most expressive of all instruments—be discriminated against? Pollok describes a man "who stole the livery of the court of heaven to serve the devil in" and bad men may use the violin for the same purpose. But as they can and do use the other instruments in the same way it is not just to absolutely condemn one without condemning all. Then let the musical instruments be used. They will attract those who might, but for them, be seeking pleasure in intoxication. When they are attracted and when their hearts are softened by the sweet chords, let Mr. Munro, and others impress upon him the beauties of temperance.

The whole trouble, according to Mr. Munro, is in the "nefarious songs." If such were sung, accompanied by the violin, it was the duty of Mr. Munro and every christian man and woman to hiss the performer or performers from the platform. If such songs were not sung and were not so accompanied, then Mr. Munro is simply in search of a means for airing an unreasonable and exceedingly narrow prejudice, which disproves his assertion that he is fond of music—unless it be some such music as the Chinaman made as related in the "Pacha of many Tales."

Mr. Munro chooses to say our remarks of Jan., 1st. were written "by some person who was afraid to come out over his own name." This is another characteristic assertion on the part of that gentleman. It is not customary for editorial remarks in a paper to be signed by the editor and if Mr. M. is not a much more terrible fellow than his utterances indicate he will have no difficulty in finding his "person who is afraid" by calling at the office of this paper.

Our authority in reference to what Mr. Munro said was the *Advocate* and, judging him from his letter, we do not think his sentiments were misrepresented. As to his assertion that his violin doctrine is "that of the Bible," we may answer it with the same kind of "argument," viz., assertion, and we say it is the densest prejudice, based on either undesirable associations connected with abuses of the instrument, or the most superficial realization of its capabilities for good, on the part of a gentleman who professes to "have music in his soul."

Mr. Munro deserves some credit for the deft manner in which he works in the musty old saying that the ignorance of those who differ from him is their only fault. His opponents ought to feel flattered by this testimony to their comparative faultlessness, for, after all, the importance of the violin, while it might be great to Mr. Munro and Ole Bull, is not so absorbing as to affect the human race to any appreciable extent; hence the compliment contained in the application of Mr. Munro's resurrected aphorism concerning his opponent's ignorance of the violin question.

We agree with him in his remarks concerning truth, but he has not, by any means settled "what is truth" in the violin question? His letter forcibly reminds us of the saying of Richter—"according to Democritus truth lies at the bottom of a well, the depth of which, alas, gives but little hope of release. To be sure, one advantage is derived from this, that the water serves for a mirror, in which truth may be reflected. I have heard, however, that some philosophers, in seeking for truth, to pay homage to her, have seen *their own image and adored it*, instead."—EDITOR.]

The Miscou Light Matter.

POKEMOUCHE, Jan., 1st, '79.

To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

SIR.—The *Advocate* of the first inst., published a few lines from a correspondent from Miscou in reference to the claims which "the M'Connells" think they have on the position of keeper of the Miscou lighthouse. What are really the facts of the case? Mr. George M'Connell kept the lighthouse for a number of years, and died in the fall of 1876. His place necessarily became vacant, and some other person had to be appointed as his successor. I am not aware that "the M'Connell's" were appointed. Then why leave the impression on the public that they held the post and were driven from it, and that by the means mentioned in the correspondence? Surely "the M'Connells," who now urge their claim before the public do not mean to identify themselves with Geo. M'Connell, who, alone, can be supposed to have had rights or claims in the matter under consideration! He, however, in all likelihood, lost his rights and gave up every claim when he died. They are, I presume, the sons of the defunct lightkeeper. But have the sons an heriditary right to the post he held! If so, then, indeed, a great injustice "has been committed by the "Grit Government" by depriving them of that right and, especially, by going so far as to appoint in the position" a man from Pokemouche who hardly ever seen the sea, much less a lighthouse." But I have yet to learn that Government bases appointments on the ground of heriditary rights, or acknowledges such rights, in the distribution of offices or positions. "The M'Connells," ought certainly to stand by their rights, even it would be only to establish a precedent in such matters, and *compel* the present Government to "reinstate them in their old place." The "man from Pokemouche" would not be in the least *put out* if they pleaded in justification of their claim that they hardly ever saw *anything else* but the sea and the Miscou lighthouse.

I admit that I was deprived, for a time, of the services of my engineer, but that was due to circumstances altogether beyond my control. But the assertion that the fog alarm was not sounded in thick and foggy weather during his absence, as well as before his absence, and after his return is untrue. The sworn statements of more than one party living in the vicinity of the lighthouse was readily obtained to show that the assertion is properly qualified. It follows, of course, that "the numerous complaints," if they have been made, were based on very airy foundation.

Is not the man "from Pokemouche" "a friend of Mr. Auglin's?" and was he not appointed on "a recomendation signed by several clergymen?" No matter how many others besides these appended their signature, whilst "the M'Connells" are deadly opposed to Auglin and strongly in favor of the present Government! Oh, yes; hence the "great injustice" that has been committed, as also the strong hope that the "appointment will shortly be cancelled." I am very much mistaken if the protest is not too thin to work its way through and produce the intended effect,

Yours,
THE MISCOU LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER.

The Permissive Act in Hardwick.

To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

DEAR SIR:—In accordance with the request of the parent Society of the Dutcher Reformers, Chatham, a special meeting of this Society was held on X'mas Eve for the appointment of delegates to attend and confer with the D. T. Convention held in Chatham on Friday the 27th Dec., respecting the adoption of the Canada Temperance Act for the County of Northumberland.

The meeting after appointing a Chairman proceeded to discuss the matter and determined to comply with the wishes of the Chatham friends. Whereupon it was resolved that the Rev. W. B. Thomas and Mr. Joseph Williston be appointed said Delegates and it was also resolved that Mr. Thomas H. Williston, Mr. Thomas McMaster and Mr. Daniel Lewis, be the three persons appointed by this Society to canvass the Parish of Hardwick in support of the measures to be hereafter adopted, when after a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting separated.

JOHN MILLS, Chairman.
CHARLES ANTHONY, Sec'y.

HARDWICK, 7th Jan., 1878.

[We regret that our correspondents did not forward the above in better season.—EDITOR.]

HARDWICK DUTCHERS.

Another letter says:—

DEAR SIR:—Our usual D. T. meeting took place according to appointment on New Year eve, and opened by the Choir singing "Meet beyond the River" and the Lord's prayer.

Mr. Joseph Williston reported the result of his attendance as one of the Delegates to the D. T. Convention at Chatham. The matter was further discussed and the papers signed by friends present, after which the following programme was gone through:—

Recitation—By Master J. Mills.
Solo—"Nina May" by Miss Katie Noble.
A Reading, by Miss Grace Mills.
Solo—"Sister, kiss Me" by Miss Robina Noble.
Address—By M