

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Standard.

SIR, The meeting of Shareholders in the St. Andrews & Quebec Railway has gone off so successfully and satisfactorily, that there appears little likelihood, at all events for some time to come, that a necessity will arise for any outward pressure to direct the administration of their affairs in the proper channel; and I cordially congratulate you and them on the brighter prospects for the future, which the action they have taken opens up; but at the same time I cannot help cautioning them against a relapse into their old supineness. It appears to me that there is yet much to be done before the transfer, which has been agreed to is complete. The Special Meeting was only the first preliminary step towards the attainment of the great object we have been advocating, and though I doubt not the new (perhaps I should say old) Directors, who have come again into office, will exert themselves to the utmost to carry the necessary Bills through the Legislature; I wish to suggest the propriety of the whole town of St. Andrews and surrounding country supporting them by petitioning the House of Assembly—for this is a matter which affects every inhabitant fully as much as it does the Shareholders themselves. It is more than likely that this struck others besides myself, and that it has already been acted on; if so, my suggestion is of course valueless; but let that pass; indeed I trust that it is so, for time is also an object at this period of the Session; and I would then, in conclusion, only request to be permitted to say—without any disrespect to the newly elected Board—that it still behoves the Shareholders to be watchful and vigilant until everything is finally arranged; for, notwithstanding that the present Directors may, as I believe is the case, have every disposition to execute the trust reposed in them, and obey the behests of their constituents; it must not be forgotten that they, as well as the rest of us, are but mortal, and liable to error; and therefore a gentle reminder now and then from you, that they will be called upon for a strict account of their stewardship will be rather beneficial than otherwise. I am, Sir, Your obed. Servt. C. V. S.

[For the Standard.]

MR. EDITOR,

I observe in the Fredericton Reporter a letter from a correspondent signed "O. P." headed "Abuse of Railway Proxies in England," with quotations from the Edinburgh Review, and Herapath's London Railway Journal—in which the writer states, "that the process of obtaining Proxies has been extensively practiced by a few gentlemen in league with the Agent of the London Board of the St. Andrews & Quebec Railway," and argues, "that if the London Board of the Class A Shareholders are allowed to collect Proxies in England representing 1,000 shares, and use them at the General and Special Meetings of the Company, a channel will be open for railway corruptions, so perfected in the Mother Country.

Now "O. P." knows, that at a Special Meeting of the Company, the holders of one-third of the whole stock must be represented in order to make the vote of the majority present binding, according to the Act of Incorporation under which such Meeting is held. It was therefore necessary that the Proxy of Class A should be used according to law. But it was not required, nor was it brought forward, to displace the late Board (of which I shrewdly suppose "O. P." was a Member)—nor in the election of the present Directors. His insinuations respecting the London Board, are of a piece with his concluding remarks, viz. "that the local Board so summarily and illegally displaced, were working for the Country and not for themselves—and this was the head and front of their offending." The "old ally" is "at his dirty work again"—misrepresenting—and endeavours to lead the Stockholders to a stupid admiration, blind reverence, and implicit submission, to the arrogant claims of the late Board. But his awful stratagems will fail; the Stockholders have no idea of being misled by his base delations, which would only bind them fast by the chains of error and false confidence, thereby smothering their last hope of having the Railroad built to Woodstock.

QUESTIONS.—Was an English Stockholder's (Mr. Finch's proxy) used according to his wishes? Yours, &c. Q. R. March 19, 1855.

CARLYLE. Friend Ayer.—In this age of quacks, charlatans, and mere windy gaseous pretenders to heal, who blow at every street corner, and in the face and ears of all men, their loud, blaring J-richo trumpets and other noisy boisterous wind instruments of marvellously twisted brass, in such a woefully shambled epoch as this, I say, it is comforting, nay, even cheering to the earnest well wisher of his race, to know, there has arisen in this world a genuine Physician—so light once more upon something besides mere Sangrals and Don Mercurial Jalaps, with their phlebotomies, poisons and warm water.

Your Cathartic Pills and Cherry Pectoral, carry us forward to Halcyon days—to medicinal Pharmascopeas, when Science, deep, diving down into the principles of things, shall, with infinite cunning, bring out the genuine Elixer Vitæ; for of a truth, there is, manifestly enough somewhat of that same Life Essence in your subtle vegetable distillations and compounds.

You realize to us the visions of those pain-fleest, smoke dried Alchemists—boodless seekers—dreamers among resorts and crucibles, touching the Quintessential hidden Virtue of the Universe, which should antidote distemper, and break for man the Wheel of Time.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1855.

CORRECTION.—Mistakes do occur in the best regulated families, even Printing Offices are not exempt, as may be known from the fact—that the name of Capt. THOS. MOSES, was accidentally omitted in the list of Railroad Directors. In the hurry of transcribing our notes of the Report of the special meeting there are some errors, we beg however to direct attention to the following:—After our first page was struck off we found that the compositor had by mistake taken our rough notes of the Statement, as given by the Sec'y, and set them up instead of the fairly written copy. By this mistake the monetary affairs of the Company are made a complete jumble—they should read:—

Total Expenditure of the Company, 113,000 sig. Class B, had paid on calls 24850 sig. of this sum the Earl Fitzwilliam had paid 21,000. The Province in Debentures and Cash £30,000, and Class A, about 277,500 Interest paid by Class A., for calls paid up in England, £8,000, for Locomotive, Tender and Rails, £5,300; Office Expenses, Secretary, Clerks, &c., £1,726; Directors fees, £1,959; Law Expenses, £1,175; Printing, £1,175; Advertising 2773; Mr. Bridges, former Secretary, £525—bills drawn by local Board, and amount paid Contractors about 258,000.

The importance which we attach to the Railroad, and the space we have for so many weeks past devoted to that subject, has caused us, most reluctantly to neglect making those remarks, and paying that attention to the politics and affairs of the Province generally, which they claim at our hands, and which we should otherwise have given to them. Now however that we have got a respite from the intermingling squabbles by which we have been so long surrounded, and the future fate of the Railroad,—so far at least as it depended on the Stockholders alone—is put upon a proper footing; we have leisure to turn our thoughts to other matters. Before we quit the subject however—which we now hope we may do for some time, with the exception perhaps of an occasional passing remark on the progress-making—we would remind our fellow-Stockholders, that in the revision of feeling, which they now experience, emerging from nearly blank despair to almost certain realization of their hopes and wishes—they must not become unreasonable in their expectations, and look for the performance of impossibilities.

These still are many difficulties to encounter, and others may arise, which it will require the exercise of their patience, as well as the utmost prudence and careful management on the part of the Directors to overcome; and though our respected correspondent "Civis" is doubtless right in the letter which we publish to-day, in saying that it is as well to let the Board feel that they are as amenable as their predecessors; to be called to account for their stewardship; still it ought to be remembered that they have come into office shackled with all the misdeeds, which are the fruits of the errors and mistakes of the former occupants of their seats; and that it is in a negative sense, rather than otherwise, in which we are to derive benefit from a change in the Board.

It may be found wanting, we shall be found ready to censure, notwithstanding the support we gave to place them where they are; but we hope for better things, and earnestly recommend that no factious opposition be offered to them in the discharge of the very difficult duties, with which they are entrusted; but that a cheering confidence be yielded, until, (as in the case of the old Board,) it is found and proved to be misplaced; and so we bid them "God speed" and "good luck attend them."

It was with sincerity and honesty, that we congratulated our readers on the change of Government, and predicted, that when the new members had got accustomed to their position, many measures fraught with great and enduring benefits to the Province, would be introduced and carried with little or no opposition, and so far with one exception have our expectations been realized, and in the "new Election Bill" as well as in the "Juror's Bill" we see that Government are determined to carry out such wise measures of reform, as will give the poor man as well as the rich some voice in the Government of his Country, and protect his personal interests when they are likely to be hurt by his being called on to perform public services.

This is as it should be, but it is not on this subject that we wish to descant on the present occasion: we have said there is one exception to the expectations we had formed of our new Government, and it is in the vexed question of the "Liquor Bill" recently brought in by the Provincial Secretary, and ordered to be laid on the table, and which is to prohibit the sale, manufacture, and importation of all intoxicating liquors.

We wish to view this question fairly and impartially without offending the feelings of those many excellent men forming the "Temperance Societies" and without truckling to (we believe) the larger body who differ from their tenets, and it is for several reasons, why we should regret to see such a measure as is now lying on the table of the House pass into law, and they are of equal cogency in our mind.

Should the importation and sale of all intoxicating liquors be prohibited, the revenue would be deprived of at least £30,000 a year now paid for duties, and licenses, and this sum would have to be made up by direct taxation, while no revenue force that we are in a position to employ could prevent the smuggling into the country and afterwards the illicit sale of every kind of liquor. Again how unjust we conceive would be a law to prohibit "the manufacture of all intoxicating liquors," and here we refer more particularly to malt liquors; when there are many men (and we have one in this Town) who have come to this country, invested considerable capital and erected large Breweries under the protection of and in the eye of the Law, and who would then be deprived of their trade, their connection and the hard result of many years study and application; and it is to be supposed that we shall ever gain such large numbers of emigrants and laborers wanted in our towns, in the construction of our Railroads, if by Law they are prevented from procuring what from habit and long descented usage has become to them a positive necessity of life?

But it is also on the broad principle of this proposed law that we desire to say a few words: we know the argument is used "the few must suffer for the many," "the weak must give way to the strong," but this reasoning, where it oppresses, nay, becomes perhaps the ruin of the few, can scarcely hold good, and surely it is the abuse rather than the use of intoxicating liquors, that Legislators are desirous of preventing and for which object "the Maine Law" was framed; but granting that it is against the use of all intoxicating liquors that a law is necessary, because some are liable to abuse them, then we maintain a law would be needed prohibiting the manufacture and sale of many other articles in daily use among us, because some are in the habit of abusing them.

There cannot be a doubt of the end desired by the Prohibitionists, but that "the end justifies the means" and that total abstinence should be enforced on all, because a few turn a good into an occasional evil can never be termed sound morality or even bear the faintest shadow of justice on its face.

C. C. GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—We notice that this seminary is rapidly growing in public favor; the number of Scholars is increasing, and the instruction received is such, that the pupil can be prepared for his collegiate course; as well as the lad, with the more common and necessary branches, who needs not the more refined acquirements, of Latin, Greek, or Mathematics. But where the tuition fees are almost nominal, it would be well that youth should embrace every opportunity in its power, (as the advantages in this school are open to all classes and denominations.)—Jay up a store of knowledge which is likely to be advantageous and certainly not burdensome. We are fast arriving at a time, when it will not be asked, who this or that person is, but, is he educated—is he a man destined to be useful to his country;—a man who is an addition to the community; when mind and its cultivated acquirements, and not such contingencies as birth, position or good fortune, will be the true standard of the man. We are hastily approaching to the period, when self-government will be generally adopted throughout the Province, and how much more requisite is it, that the people without exception should be enabled to adorn with competency, the stations in life which they may be called on to fill; how necessary that the youth of the present day, should look upon themselves as the future men, who perhaps may have to take a conspicuous part in the arena of life, and be able to vie with their fellows in knowledge and intellectual accomplishments.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills, an infallible Remedy for Blisters on the Skin.—Edgar Mortimer, aged 25, of Annapolis, N. S. was for five years a severe sufferer with Blisters on the skin, the whole of his face, neck, arms, and hands, being disfigured with them like small pox; he consulted several very clever medical men, who told him it was the predicating symptoms of some disease, which alarmed him exceedingly; however, he took Holloway's Pills immediately, and rubbed the Ointment on the parts affected, and in two weeks the whole of the blisters disappeared, and his health was considerably improved. These remedies will cure the most deeply-seated old wounds and ulcers, even of twenty years standing.

Trust.—May the Farmers perform more operations in the Field than the Surgeons.

Arrival of the 'Africa.'

The Steamship Africa arrived at Halifax on Thursday last, with Liverpool dates to the 31 of March.

There is nothing of importance from the Allied forces before Sebastopol. On the 13th Feb. the Russians made a sortie, in which the French had only five men killed. On the 14th, in another night sortie, the French lost 26 men. The weather was quite warm and spring like.

The condition of the French army is reported excellent. It is also reported that the north side of Sebastopol could be invested. On the 16th, nothing was done. On the 17th official details of the battle of Eupatoria were received. Admiral Bruat telegraphs the following:—

Montebello, Komusch, Feb. 20th.—On the 17th, the town of Eupatoria was attacked on the eastern side by 80 pieces of artillery, 6 regiments of cavalry, under Gen. Korff, and 12 regiments of infantry, about 25,000 men, under orders of Gen. Osten Sacken. The combat lasted from half past five till ten in the morning. The Russians were vigorously repulsed; their loss is estimated at 500 killed, and the wounded in proportion. The Turks had 88 killed, and 250 wounded, and lost 70 horses; Selim Pacha, Gen. of the Egyptian Division, and Col. Reslan Bey were killed. Eighteen French were killed or wounded on ship board. The attack has not been renewed by the Russians. The steamers at anchor in the roadstead contributed energetically to the defence of the town. Admirals Lyons and Bruat have sent six steamers to Eupatoria.

(Signed) BREAT.

Second Despatch.

Eupatoria, Feb. 21st. Since the affair, the Russians have not made any new attempt upon Eupatoria?—To-day columns of infantry and trains of waggons were seen leaving the vicinity of the town, and taking the direction of Simpheropol. Many villages are still in flames in the neighbourhood of Eupatoria. More guns have been landed and additional fortifications thrown up. The town is in a good state of defence.

(Signed) DEMONT LOUIS,

Commanding Steamer Velocis.

The letter states that the "battal" consisted mainly of a heavy force of Artillery, under cover of which the Russians made two or three attempts to carry the town by storm. The night after the battle the Russians bivouacked on the field without tents or fires—in intense cold—the next day they commenced retreating on Simpheropol.

Vienna Conference.

Lord John Russell had arrived at Berlin and immediately had audience of the King and Baron Maunfelt.

Prussia seems, at length, to be making attempts to come to an understanding with the Western Powers. Gen. Wedell, Minister at Paris, has himself gone to Berlin to explain the points at issue, and Lord John Russell's Mission is expected to conclude the desired arrangement.

An Official Editorial in the "Correspondence," of Vienna, says that the draft of a general treaty is already prepared, securing the integrity of Turkey, preventing future encroachments of Individual Powers, and guaranteeing will be considered at the Conference. All the Plenipotentiaries excepting Lord John Russell had arrived at Vienna.—The Conference meets March 5th. Hopes of peace are strongly entertained. Notwithstanding the Russian professions of peace, all accounts state that warlike preparations were never more active in Russia.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

LONDON, 20 March.—This evening in the House of Lords, Lord Clarendon rose and said—"My Lords: I think it my duty to communicate to your Lordships the contents of a telegraphic dispatch which I received half an hour ago from Her Majesty's Minister at the Hague, that the Emperor Nicholas died this morning at 1 o'clock, of pulmonary apoplexy, after an attack of influenza. I have also received a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Berlin, stating that the Emperor of Russia died at 12 o'clock this morning. An hour after this despatch arrived, I received accounts from Lord John Russell at Berlin, stating that the Emperor was at the point of death, and had already taken leave of his family. Although this event occurred so short a time ago as between 12 and 1 o'clock, there can be no doubt, under the circumstances, of the authority of it.

In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston made a similar statement.

BRITAIN.

Earl of Carlisle is appointed Lord Lieut. of Ireland.

The new Chancellor of the Exchequer is Mr. Lewis, an untried man.

Parliamentary proceedings were unimportant. The chief business was a debate on Lord Goderich's motion to increase the chances of military promotion from the ranks; the motion was negatived.

A debate occurred in the Lords on the subject of acknowledging the loyalty of Canada and other Colonies,—no action came to Roebuck's Committee proceeds vigorously, and have reported that the objects of enquiry will be best attained by making the committee a secret committee.

On March 1st, Mr. Roebuck appeared at the bar of the House of Lords with a Message from the Commons citing the Duke of Newcastle to give evidence before the committee.

Wednesday, 21st, is appointed for a National Fast for the success of the war. Meetings, deprecating the conduct of the

war, continue to be held throughout the country, with increase of work.

The Earl of Lucon publishes a convincing letter to Lord Raglan, exonerating himself from all blame in the celebrated cavalry charge at Balaklava.

Letters are appearing in English papers complaining of the non-return of goods sent to the N. York Exhibition.

Ship John Bannerman, of St. John, N. B., was ashore at Holyhead, total wreck.—Crew saved.

Bark Avon, from Cuba to Swansea, with copper ore, was totally lost in the British Channel. Crew saved.

Half a million sterling in gold had been received per Kent and Marco Polo from Melbourne. Dividends on Cuba Loans of 1834 and 7 are advertised for payment.

A report reached England, via Berlin, that the Czar was dangerously ill, and given over by his physicians, although it wanted confirmation.

Funds advanced.

The order prohibiting the export of wheat from Poland into Prussia came into effect on the 21st. German papers mention the capture by the Russians, of Schouabkapan, Schamy's strongest fortress, Tefik Pacha, Omar's son-in-law, had died of fever at Eupatoria.

There was much distress in England, owing to the unusually severe winter, and riots had occurred at Liverpool and London, in consequence, but the weather had moderated and a large number of ships had arrived giving employment to many of the sufferers.—The winter had ceased.

Rumour says that Roebuck's party will not rest satisfied without the impeachment of Lord Raglan, and one or more of the ex-ministers.

Rumour gives Lord Elgin a seat in the Cabinet as a member of the Board of Control. Russia has declared war on Sardinia.

Joseph Hume is dead; he was much respected and as much regretted.

Sir Charles Wood takes Sir James Graham's place as first Lord of the Admiralty.

On the 9th, the Royal Assent was given the North American Fishery Bill.

The convention between Great Britain and the Porte for the enlistment of Turkish contingents, had been signed, and an interesting debate occurred on going into committee on the Army estimates.

Lord Palmerston contends that the sufferings of the army in the Crimea arose from physical causes not in the power of man to control.—Those sufferings were not confined to the British army. The Russians had sick and wounded 33,000 men. He further urged that the debate in Parliament had created so much indignation on the continent that the Government had been prevented from putting the foreign enlistment Act into operation.

FRANCE.

The Emperor was at the camp of St. Omer. Nothing new respecting the proposed visit to the Crimea. There are rumours of some important arrests having been privately made in Paris for political causes. Persons of high position are implicated.

The Monitor announces the loss of a French frigate with troops in the straits of Korisafio—all perished—600 or upwards.

ITALY.

The Sardinian Chambers have voted the suppression of Monasteries. Nothing more of Tuscany or Naples' adherence to the allies.

BELGIUM.

Lord John Russell had an interview with King Leopold, on his way to Berlin.

CHINA.

Intelligence from China is important.—Dates from Hong-Kong are to Jan. 15th.

The insurgents hold Canton in a state of siege, and have command of the whole river, their fleet having gained several victories, several victories over the Imperial flotilla; consequently supplies being checked, provisions, especially rice, are rising rapidly.—A fight took place at Whampoa anchorage, in presence of the American and English ships of war, and the foreign shipping was considerably damaged by the guns of the belligerents.

The English and American Commissioners have drawn a line around the Factories, and no hostilities will be permitted within it. Difficulties had occurred between the insurgent authorities at Shanghai and the French, whereupon Admiral Leguerre, with the ships Jean d'Acre and Culbert, bombarded the City—ere this it has probably surrendered, or been stormed. The insurgents have met with reverses East of Peking.

On the line of railroad now building from Königsberg to the Cape of Constantine, over the Alps, there are thirteen tunnels and twenty-five viaducts. Thirteen thousand laborers and two thousand horses are continually employed upon it.

Wanted by the Shakspeare Society.—The Signet of the Swan of Avon.

MARRIAGES.

At Bocabee, on the 7th inst., by the Rev. William Millen, Mr. Stewart Kerr, to Miss Mary McMillen, both of the above place.

DEATHS.

On Friday the 21st inst., at his residence, in Milltown, James Allier, Esq., aged 69 years. The deceased was for many years a prominent and influential member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, in which communion he departed this life. Mr. Allier was also, for a long period of years, one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte.

In the Military Hospital, at Seaford, Capt. Henry Ullick Burke, of the 33d Regiment, and fourth son of the late Sir John Burke.