HARNESS.

THE Subscriber would respectfully inform his friends and customers, and the Public generally; that he has on hand and is prepared to manufacture **HARNESS** of every description; from the lightest driving to the heaviest team.

Also, on hand, a large assortment of COLLARS, WHIPS, BLANKETS, &c., which will be sold at prices to suit the times. ☞ Inspection Invited.

T. FINLAY, (Successor to R. & T. Finlay,)
CHARLOTTE STREET . . . . . SAINT JOHN

General Business.

FALL GOODS.

THE Subscriber begs to call attention to his supply of

STAPLE WINTER GOODS,
—IN—
BLANKETS,
FLANNELS,
TWEEDS,
WINCEYS,
COTTONS,
YARNS, &c. &c.

ALSO:—His usual well-assorted stock of

HARDWARE.

English & American Glassware,
—INCLUDING—
Lamps, in great variety, Decanters, Tumblers, Port, Sherry and Champagne Glasses.

A large Stock of IRON. Cut and Wrought Nails' Spring Blister and Cast Steel.

IMPROVED COOKING STOVES,
to burn wood or coal.
HALL AND PARLOR STOVES.

FOR BUILDERS,
A quantity of
SEASONED PINE LUMBER,
Spruce and Hemlock Boards,
Birch Plank, from 1 to 5 ins. thick.
No. 1 & No. 2 Sawed and Split
Pine and Cedar SHINGLES.

F. J. LETSON,
WATER STREET.
Chatham, 22nd Nov., 1876

NEW STORE.

THE Subscriber would beg leave to intimate to the inhabitants of Chatham that he has opened a shop in the place lately occupied by C. O. Ericson, where he will keep constantly on hand—

Dry and Pickled Fish,
Corned and Fresh Pork,
Corned and Fresh Beef.

GROCERIES—in Tea, Sugar, Soap, Tobacco, etc.

And having imported a Sausage Mill from the U. States, I am prepared to fill orders for

SAUSAGES,

in large or small quantities, at the lowest possible rate.

STEPHEN WHITE.

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the Legislature of this Province, at the next meeting for an Act authorizing the erection of a Boom and maintenance of the same at the Mouth of Barnaby River, in the Parish of Nelson, in the County of Northumberland, for securing and rafting of lumber brought down said River, and levying and collecting fees for booming and rafting such lumber.

RICHARD HUTCHISON.
Douglastown, 3rd January, 1877. 6 y 25.

HURRAH FOR HOLIDAYS!

Oranges and Apples.

(Per Steamer to Halifax.)

Cases and Boxes Valencia RAISINS and FIGS.
Oranges, Wholesale, $6.00.
Also—3 doz. Copper Sleds, for Boys;
5 " Assorted Sleds, for Children;
1 " Upholstered Sleds for young ladies;
Also, low for Cash during X'mas Holidays.

100 Bbls. APPLES;
50 Bags, 50 lb. each, Pastry Flour;
Graham Flour (retail);

50 brls. Spring Extra Flour,
(Assorted Brands.)
10 " OATMEAL;
20 " CORNMEAL;
20 Boxes and half-boxes Raisins;
10 " " Valencias & Seedless do.;
1 Brl. Currants
10 Bxs. Candied Lemon, Orange and Citron Peels;

Glasgow Apothecary Company's Extracts,
in Lemon, Citron, Nutmeg, Rose, Celery, Peach, Cinnamon, Vanilla, Peppermint, Orange, Cloves.

SPICES.
in Cloves, Mace, Nutmegs, Carraway, Allspice.

SAUCES:
in Worcestershire, Tomato, Mushroom & Anchovie.

ALSO:—
Ground Rice
Tapioca,
Sago, Cocoa,
Chocolate,
Corn Starch,
Almond Nuts,
Hazel Nuts,
Scotch Confectionery,
Crocks,
Preserved Ginger,
Dundee Marmalade.

Canned Mackerel, Lobsters and Oysters.

PICKLES,—in Chow Chow, Walnut and Mixed. Cayenne Pepper, Mustard, White Pepper.

Chests & Half-Chests TEA,
(In Black and Green.)
CRUSHED AND PULVERIZED SUGARS.
Allow for Cash.

Chatham, Dec. 3, 1876. **WM. WYSE.**

BUTTER,
Groceries, Provisions,
MILL SUPPLIES, &C.
ROBERTSON & McANDREWS,
Water Street, Chatham.

Glasgow House.

THE Subscriber has in Stock, a full and complete assortment of

STAPLE AND FANCY
DRY GOODS,

Embracing some Lots which are worthy the attention of close cash purchasers.

—ALSO IN STORE—

A Large Stock of English TEAS,
(different grades.)
TOBACCO,
(different brands.)
FLOUR,
FISH,
MOLASSES,
PORK,
LARD, &c. &c.

All of which are offered at low rates.

WILLIAM MURRAY.
Chatham, Nov. 15th, 1876.

1, 1½ and 2 Inch
Seasoned Pine Lumber,
FOR SALE.
WM. MURRAY

WANTED.
Oats, Homespun, Country Socks and Mitts.
WM. MURRAY.

General Business.

Anchor Line.

Steam Communication between Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Halifax and Saint John.

WE have now the pleasure to inform the Patrons of the "Anchor" Line, as well as the Public generally, that the Spring Sailings of this splendid Line of Steamships have been arranged as follows, viz:—

FROM GLASGOW. FROM LIVERPOOL.
"SIDONIAN,"
Saturday, 10th March. | Wednesday, 14th March
"ALEXANDRIA,"
Saturday, 24th March. | Wednesday, 28th March

To be followed by first-class Steamers throughout the season.

From London—"DORIAN,"—Friday, March 9.
(unless prevented by unforeseen circumstances)

The above Steamers being well known in the trade, and considerable care having been taken in fixing the sailing dates, we beg to solicit from Importers their undivided support.

Through Bills of Lading granted to all the principal points in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Freight taken upon as favorable terms as by any other first-class Trans-Atlantic S. S. Line.

No Bill of Lading will be signed for a less sum than half a guinea.

☞ Parties desirous of bringing out their friends should make application to the Subscribers, who will grant Certificates of Passage from any place in England, Ireland or Scotland to St. John, N. B., which are good for twelve months.—Drafts issued payable on presentation in sums of £1 upwards.

RATES OF PASSAGE:
Cabin, 13 guineas. —— Steerage, 30 dollars.

For plans of Cabins, Passage Tickets, Drafts, or any further information, apply to or address Henderson Brothers, 49 Union street, Glasgow; 17 Water Street, Liverpool; 19 Leadenhall street, London, E. C.; T. A. S. DeWolf & Son, Halifax; or in Saint John to Scammell Brothers, 19 Smyth Street.

D. G. SMITH, Agent, Chatham.

Jan. 16th, 1877.

Fall Produce, &c,

The Subscriber has now on hand
50 quintals Halifax Codfish, (large)
50 barrels No. 1 Herring;
20 barrels Real Winter Apples;
50 boxes Raisins;
20 boxes Digby Smoked Herring.
—ALSO—
Flour,
Fresh Pork,
Lard, Butter,
Potatoes,
Salt Pork,
Oysters,
and other articles for Household use.

E. A. STRANG,
Snowball's Wharf

London House,

CHATHAM, N. B.

The Balance of my

Fall and Winter Stock

of Dress Goods, Prints, Cottons, Flannels, Tweeds, Gents' L W Underclothing, Hosiery, Scarfs, Clouds, English and Canadian Tweeds, selling at a reduction on former prices.

Also — HARDWARE, Cutlery, GROCERIES, Canned Peaches, Tomatoes, Oysters, Peas and Beans, Sardines, Pickles, Sauces, Spices, etc., etc.

WHOLESALE:

Flour, Corn and Oat Meal, Tea, in chests, hf.-chests and quarter boxes, Granulated Sugar, Tobacco, Soap, Paper Bags and Wrapping Paper. A choice lot of Fancy Toilet Soap; at low prices for Cash.

R. HOCKEN.

Chatham, 25th Jan., 877.

Just Received.

LADIES NEW FALL HATS,
LEATHER, SCALE and ELASTIC BELTS,
BALL KNITTING COTTON—
White, Drab & Brown.
BLACK AND COLORED SILK
DRESS BUTTONS.
Cashmere and Wool Shawls
IN GREAT VARIETY.
New Fall Dress Goods---with Trimmings to Match.
LADIES' LINEN AND LACE
COLLARS AND CUFFS,
Tooth Brushes,
Combs,
Braids,
Switches
and Pads.
THE LATEST NOVELTY IN PAPER COLLARS, DONE UP IN TIN PAILS.
☞ Call and Examine! ☜
W. B. HOWARD,
COMMERCIAL HOUSE.
Chatham, Aug. 30. 1876.

ARGYLE HOUSE.

OWING to a proposed change in our business, all parties having accounts with us will oblige by settling the same before

THE 1st OF MARCH.

NIDDRIE & WILSON.

DENTISTRY.

DR. D. A. BAXTER, Dentist,
will be in Chatham
FOR ONE MONTH,
From January 14th.
☞ Those wishing work done will please call early

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,
Ottawa, Jan. 30, 1877.

AUTHORIZED Discount on American Invoices until further notice, 8 per cent.

J. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Customs.

LATE WORKS
JUST RECEIVED AT THE
Miramichi Bookstore.

HAROLD, Tennyson's Dramatic Poem;
Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay—by his nephew, George Otto Trevelyan, M. P.
Ten Years of My Life—by the Princess Felix Salm Salm, (the Canadian Princess).
A Mad World—by an Amateur Lunatic.
My Little Girl—by the Authors of "Ready-money Mortiboy."
The Queen of the Regiment—by Catherine King.
D. G. SMITH.
Chatham, Jan. 31, '77.

Land Sale.

THE Subscriber offers for sale his property on the Richibucto Road, about ten Miles from Chatham, known as the Brophy Farm, containing fifty acres, more or less, fifteen of which are under cultivation. There is also a good Barn on the premises.

For further particulars apply to
JAMES KERR, (Bartibogue)
411 CHATHAM.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N. B., every THURSDAY morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day.

It is sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher) for $1.50 A YEAR, or 75 CTS. FOR 6 MON.—the money, in all cases, to accompany the order for the paper.

Advertising.

The advertisements in this paper are placed under classified headings.

TRANSIENT RATES.

$1 per square, or inch, for 1st insertion,
35cts. per square, each time, for all insertions after the first.

LOCAL COLUMN, or reading matter advertisements 20% more than above rates.

LOCAL, COMMERCIAL AND YEARLY RATES.

In order to secure the advertising patronage of business men and others on the North Shore—and to give them the benefit of a large circulation in the Counties of Northumberland, Kent, Gloucester and Restigouche, Bonaventure and Gaspe, their advertisements will, on arrangements being made therefor, be taken at CONTRACT SCALE RATES, which are as low as those of other weekly papers in the Province.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers very superior inducements to advertisers.

Address
Editor "Miramichi Advance," Chatham, N B.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8. 1877

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Correspondents wishing to communicate with the Editor personally will, during the session of the Legislature, please address him at Fredericton. Ordinary business and other correspondence may be addressed, as usual, to this office and will receive prompt attention.

A few Words in Season.

It should be a source of gratification to the fishermen to know that notwithstanding the strange mixture of truth and error which has been officially communicated to Ottawa, the Fisheries Department has hesitated to act hastily and has been swayed, to an extent that could hardly be expected, under the circumstances, by every consideration for the interests involved. We have good reason to know that it has felt embarrassed to no small degree by considerations which, we heartily wish, actuated its Inspector for this Province and some of the officers under his direction. One of the latter has, we learn, within a few days been informed of the principles on which the Department desires to act in such cases as those which have formed the subject of considerable newspaper controversy. They now, doubtless, understand that interference with any mode of fishing, however objectionable, actually in progress, upon which a great number of persons depend and which competes with other local modes of conducting the same fishery by parties who, depending more or less on this pursuit—both perhaps having some capital and labor, invested—is always liable to be considered a hardship if not indeed, in some cases, an injustice. This is especially apt to be the case where any new prohibitory or restrictive regulation is required to be sprung upon the fishermen, or any instruction given to suddenly stop a prevailing practice which is much the same in its practical effect as a new regulation.

This hardship is very much aggravated by any distinction being suggested between neighboring districts—such as abolishing in one county the same fishing engines or appliances as are allowed in another. There may possibly be sufficient reasons for the difference, but such reasons ought to be very strongly established in fact and not rest either on positive assertions or partial considerations. The Department, we believe, admits that it might be possible and, perhaps, wise to allow smelt fishing with nets, under judicious restrictions without making any invidious exceptions as to locality. That might also depend on the situation and local peculiarities as well as on the precise condition of the fishery and the specific abuses which threaten its injury or depletion. If, for example, nets were authorized of proper size and the mesh was sufficiently large to admit of the escape of young fish, regulations as to proper distance apart were carefully observed and a portion of the spawning time made a close season, there ought to be no serious objection to their use on the ground of decimating or destroying this fishery. The Department is not yet made aware whether these conditions could be practically fulfilled by bag-nets, and it entertains an idea that perhaps scoop-nets might be used with profit to the fishermen and without injury to the fisheries.

Holding this very fair position in the matter we are not surprised to find that the Department recognizes the fact that the right time to consider all these things is before the fishing season commences. It is impressed with the importance of the point, as developed in the reports of the officers, both at Chatham and Bathurst, that the very bag-nets which are illegal and have been represented by Messieurs Venning and Hickson as so destructive, and about which all the excitement has arisen, have actually been in use in Gloucester and Northumberland ever since last winter, and have, this season, been operated with since 1st December; and yet no intimation of the fact reached the Department at Ottawa until quite recently, when the Minister was suddenly informed that the very existence of the smelt fishery was threatened and that the supply of bait fishes for the larger kinds of coast fishes was in imminent danger of being permanently injured, for which reasons the Department was called upon to promptly interfere and stop all netting for smelts in Gloucester, but to allow it to go on without alteration in Northumberland. The Department could not but remember that, under the Fisheries Act, the nets were subject to seizure and summary confiscation and that those who operated them were also liable to be fined, but after the tacit permission and absence of warning or remonstrance by the local fishery officers, any such exercise of executive power would appear to the persons, whose property and pursuits were thus affected most arbitrary and unjust. The Minister naturally hesitated to take advantage of the situation by stringent measures, in view of the fact that any responsibility or culpability for the introduction and use of the nets was shared between the fishery officers and the fishermen, and that the Department had been called upon to interfere only when their employment proved to be troublesome, threatened injury and had excited local opposition.

It was in the face of these difficulties that the Minister considered it proper to make an effort to lessen the reputed injurious effects, which were so strongly asserted to be caused through the use of bag-nets, by applying certain restrictions, without enforcing any prohibitory authority, and he preferred that the officers should take a little extra trouble, and was willing to incur additional expense to assist them in meeting difficulties which though represented by them to be so critical, they had themselves, to a certain extent, occasioned. In consequence of this view of the matter, the local officers at Bathurst and Chatham were telegraphed to from Ottawa and instructed to see that young and unmarketable fishes were put back alive into the holes. The Chatham officer assured the Department that seventy-five per cent of such fish could be returned alive to the water, while the Bathurst officer, after several days' trial reported that the abuses which he had already reported still continued to exist and that there was no possibility of avoiding ruination to the smelt fishery except by prohibiting the use of bag-nets entirely. The same positive and urgent representations were sent to the Department from other quarters, also, and the Minister saw no practical way out of the difficulty but through the prohibition of the bag-nets in Gloucester. The action of the Department, under the circumstances was, it will be admitted, unavoidable, and although it is responsible, according to the letter of the law of public opinion for an injustice which has been wrought upon those who were engaged in an important industry which has practically been crushed, yet the moral responsibility rests upon those through whose misrepresentations of the facts the Department was forced to act, even—as we firmly believe—against its convictions. The Department, we believe, is not yet satisfied that the extreme course taken was necessary and after receiving the Petition published in the ADVANCE last week—a brief and perhaps crude document setting forth in honest terms the signers' sense of the injustice done by the invidious and discriminating treatment of the Bathurst fishermen—it has, we hear, asked the local officer to reconsider the matter and inform it if he still is of opinion that smelt fishing there should be restricted to hooks and lines. That officer has thus an opportunity afforded him to remedy an injustice which he has aided in working upon the community in which he lives and it is to be hoped that it will turn out that he is equal to the duties of the delicate position.

The Incorporation Question.

Our report of the Incorporation meeting on Saturday evening last shows that some of those who took part in the proceedings entertain rather peculiar ideas of personal courtesy, to say nothing of matters of greater moment, which should have due weight with every citizen who values the reputation of the community in which he lives. At a meeting held, we think, in November last, the question of incorporating the Town was discussed and a committee of citizens was appointed to obtain and lay information on the subject before an adjourned meeting. The adjourned meeting was held in December, and facts and figures having been submitted to it, a new Committee was chosen to prepare a bill of incorporation to be laid before the meeting, which was still further adjourned to meet at the call of the Committee. Two prominent members of the Committee were called abroad by business, but as the work to be done, though laborious, was mainly clerical, and the general features of the document to be prepared were all agreed upon, they deputed their powers to their associates. Another member of the Committee did not assist in the work, for reasons which appear to be quite sufficient, but were not based on any want of "energy" on his part. The other members of the Committee entered upon and performed the duties assigned to them, some, however, working harder than others, on the ground that as they had allowed their fellow-citizens to place them in a position where certain work was expected of them, they were bound to do that work faithfully, as a matter of duty, even at a sacrifice of their own personal and business interests. The adjourned meeting having convened on Saturday night, according to its own choice, viz., at the call of its Committee, it was to be expected that the gentlemen who got up the bill and were ready to place it entirely at the disposal of those who had asked them to prepare it, would, if not thanked for the time and attention they had given to the work, have been spared from insults and inuendoes with which they were met by two or three persons who seemed to have prepared themselves for the purpose. Mr. Lawler, who took very little interest in the Committee's work and to meet whose carping convenience an extra meeting was specially held, owed the same courtesy to his fellow-committee-men before the public meeting that was accorded to him in their private meetings, and in view of his conduct on Saturday night it is probable that it will be difficult to get at least some of the gentlemen who served on the Committee with him to allow themselves to again be placed in a like humiliating position. We do not believe that any member of the Committee had any desire that the bill should be unduly pressed upon the Ratepayers. We know that some of them were in favor of incorporation, while others were against it, but those who really did the work felt that they were only performing a public duty entrusted to them and they carefully abstained from departing from the understood wishes of those who appointed them. That one of their number should endeavor to create a different impression is to be regretted for many reasons, but chiefly because it appeared to give rise to expressions, at the meeting of Saturday night, which were both rude and uncharitable. These could not but have the effect of wounding the feelings of those against whom they were directed, and awakening, on all sides, sentiments which every Christian and good citizen should strive to frown down in the community with which his lot is cast.

The "Freeman" and the Fishery Inspector.

If the *Freeman* imagines that its neglect of the Fishery interests of Bathurst—which is all the more to be wondered at, considering the fact that its editor owes his present high political position to Gloucester county—will be condoned by its unworthy expressions respecting this paper and its editor, it will discover its mistake when too late. The *Freeman* is known, however, only as a publication devoted to the interests of a man who, being endowed by the Creator with good natural abilities, shows his gratitude for it by turning his hand against all his fellow-creatures and all human institutions, excepting such as he may be enabled to use to further his own advancement. In private life he may, and we hope he does atone, by the exercise of charity and a display of some of the better attributes of our humanity, for the persistent and cold-blooded malice with which he turns his hand against everything that he cannot turn to personal account, and if this paper and its interests are included in the programme of the *Freeman*, as objects of the malevolence of its editor, we will endeavor to "accept the situation" with as good grace as possible, feeling that its enmity, if it sometimes interferes with our efforts to benefit those by whom we are surrounded, is almost equivalent to a certificate of our good character. The *Freeman* endeavors to assist the Inspector of Fisheries in the Smelt controversy, not because he cares very much for either that gentleman or the people of Gloucester, whose interests are being injured, but because the Inspector has been endeavoring to show that the editor of the ADVANCE is an alloy of knave and fool. The Inspector, after acknowledging the honor which the mention of his letters in the *Freeman* confers upon him says:—

You think I have devoted too much attention to the *Advance* and its Editor. Were his paper published in St. John, where he is well known, your remark would be correct, but he is disseminating his erroneous opinions among the fishermen of the north, and assuring them that neither myself nor our oldest and most experienced officers understand our duties, nor the facts connected with an intelligent performance of them. Hence I felt called upon to deal at some length with him and his crude opinions, in order to prevent his errors from misleading his readers. I am glad to inform you that my efforts are having the effect intended, and that I am almost daily in receipt of letters from fishermen whose opinions fully sustain my own absolute knowledge.

You think my description of the manner in which our officers are treated is too sweeping, and that probably I did not mean that my charges should be so general. I regret to say, that as regards Northumberland County, to which they are confined, they are only too true and that the picture drawn, so far from being exaggerated, is not sufficiently highly colored. From the mouth of the Miramichi River to its source, the fishermen are all leagued against the officers, and resort to every possible mode of evading their vigilance and resisting them in the performance of their unpleasant duties. And I very much regret that the editor of the *Advance*, from motives best known to himself is pursuing a course calculated to encourage them in their hostility to laws made for their own ultimate benefit.

Respecting the second sentence in the above it may be quite as well for the person who wrote it to abandon that kind of effort to weaken the arguments we have used in showing that his course in the matters we have been discussing with him has not been right. The gentleman to whom he alludes has quite as honorable a record in St. John as has W. H. Venning, Esq. Inspector of Fisheries for New Brunswick, whether it be on account or personal or professional character, and Mr. Venning is warned that a continuation on his part of such allusions as the above to the editor of this paper will only result in developing the fact that a knowledge of the habits of fish is by no means the limit of our information on matters which may have caused the Inspector quite as much trouble to master as that interesting study.

The Inspector refers to letters which he receives almost daily from fishermen at the North, and says they sustain his course. We will confess to having miscalculated both the sentiment and knowledge of the more intelligent fishermen of the North Shore, if they do so and notwithstanding the Inspector's assertion, we venture to say that he has not letters from such fishermen contradicting us on the points which we have made against him. We, last week, published letters sent us by fishermen who are well known on the Miramichi, giving their names and their flat contradictions to the "absolute knowledge" of the Inspector. Can he contradict us in a similar manner on any material point? We challenge him to do so. Let us have the letters and the names.

Respecting the latter paragraph of the above quoted extract from the Inspector's letter we have to say that our personal knowledge of, at least, some of the fishermen of the Miramichi River would justify language in contradiction which we do not care to use. Such charges, we tell the Inspector, are not borne out by the facts and unless the Department, which they reflect no credit upon, investigates them, together with other statements equally malicious or unfounded, published and communicated to Ottawa, by the Inspector, it cannot be expected that the fishermen will feel as they should towards the Department so long as he continues in a position to slander them and misrepresent their interests under the protection of his office. We ask any reasonable person whether Mr. Venning's statements, which bear their character on their face, are likely to conciliate the fishermen, or render them better disposed than he represents them to be towards the officers? We believe few men would allow themselves to either act or write as he has done in dealing with questions such as those affecting our important fisheries, which require calm and just judgment and not the violence and partizan spirit which the Inspector has, of late, developed.

Fish Statistics.

We took occasion when publishing our compilation of fish statistics a few weeks ago to suggest that the Government should undertake similar work at all Railway stations and make such arrangements as would ensure more correct exhibits of shipments by water than can now be obtained at the Custom Houses of the different ports. We observe that *Forest and Stream*, the leading Fish and Game journal of the United States closes an article on the ADVANCE'S figures as follows;—

To those interested in the fish trade the statistics given in the *Advance* are most valuable, and it is a little surprising that the Government which is equally interested, should have left so important a portion of its labors to be performed by a single individual. It is not too late, however, to take advantage of Mr. Smith's enterprise and example, as there is no good reason why similar statistics should not be officially compiled at every station.

Moreover, we are aware that few statistics of the kind are published in the United States. Some months ago we were waited upon by a scientific deputation from Germany in search of commercial statistics relating to the sea and inland fisheries of the United States. Only meagre figures should be obtained. The matter of collection and publication ought to be placed in charge of the U. S. Fish Commission, with an appropriation sufficient to defray expenses. And each State Fish Commission should be required to collect such information within its own jurisdiction, to be published in connection with the annual reports. In some States—Connecticut, for instance—the fishermen are furnished with blank forms which they are required to fill up, but we have not heard whether the attempt has been productive of tangible results.

We feel quite justified in saying that the fishery returns, which go directly from the fishermen through the fishery officers to the Department at Ottawa are not adequate. They do not show the real value of the industry or touch such points as distribution, mode of handling and others of importance to commercial men. The Governments of Canada and the United States will doubtless soon recognize the necessity of improving the statistical information now furnished by them in connection with the industry under notice, and that of Canada will find the work comparatively easy in the Maritime Provinces, where it controls the railway which does a very large proportion of the fish traffic by land carriage.

THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT is to assemble at Ottawa to-day and the session promises to be an interesting one, the question of protection vs free trade and necessary measures to meet the revenue deficit growing out of the general business depression affording excellent prospects for the exercise of party strategy.

THE INSPECTOR.—The *News* contains a letter from the Inspector of Fisheries addressed to the Editor of the ADVANCE, which we shall reply to in good time. In the meantime we protest against the Inspector's misrepresentations of facts so far as they may affect the action of the Department at Ottawa, which he says he is about to visit. If the Department is not sufficiently warned against his prejudices it is not our fault, but we have every hope that it will do what is right even though some of its own officers in this locality appear to have conspired to mislead it.

THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE is to meet to-day. We believe the Departmental Reports are all in a forward state and that the most important of them will be submitted earlier in the Session than usual. That being the case it may be expected that the Session will not be so long as those of the past three years. It is expected that the bill for consolidating the Provincial statutes, a portion of which was passed last Session, will be the chief of the Government measures to be dealt with this Session, while the gentlemen of the Opposition will, doubtless, perform their functions with their usual willingness and vivacity, whenever opportunity presents itself.

Correspondence.

[We invite correspondence on all local subjects, and will be glad to publish anything that will advance the interests of our readers, individually, or of the communities in which they live Local News Items, Notices of Improvements—either moral or physical—Reports of Meetings, Agricultural, Lumbering, Fishing, Mechanical and other Industrial notes are especially welcome We do not expect that all who desire to assist us in the above way are good writers, but that should not deter them from sending along their favors. We want the news and will see that it goes into the paper in proper shape]

The Shippagan Breakwater.

To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

SIR:—We have seen nothing of any account in the papers of late concerning our Breakwater. It is now built about one third of its proposed length, but it is only right, in the interest of all concerned, to state that the prospect of it being completed, as things are going, is very remote. There is no material on hand with which to carry on the work—no brush, no stone, no piles—and, although the winter is well advanced there is no sign of any being hauled. The reason is due to the contractors' peculiar mode of doing business and their delay in meeting the expectations of those who have worked for them. I know this is a delicate subject to refer to in a newspaper, but the work is a public one; it was to be built for the benefit of a large number of people in this section of the country, and while I regret the necessity for asking you to call public attention to the manner in which the contractors are proceeding, I feel more than justified in doing so by the facts and the public interests involved.

What is built of the Breakwater has done us a great deal of good; we have about two feet more water in the channel than before, and should it at any time be all completed it will greatly help us for the *Fishing*, as the boats will be able to come in at all times of tide night and day. The brush dam is pretty nearly all finished and so far has stood well. It will require a few stones and brush in the spring. We have no ice in the Gully this season for the tide being rendered so strong by the structure, it has kept the channel open all winter. A.

Shippegan, Feb. 1st 1877.

From The Northwest River.

To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

NORTH ESK, Miramichi, N. B.

DEAR SIR:—As your columns appear to be "fishly" inclined just now, I dare say it would be no harm to present you with a little more scaly matter towards which of course you must use your discretion as to whether or not it shall appear in print,

On this River (North West) bass fishing is the main industry at present and although the striped creatures are scarce in comparison to other winters, it is giving a large number of men employment, who but for bass-fishing would have nothing to do.

The Regulations are very stringent and necessarily clog this important work very much. I will endeavor as plainly as possible to show you what I mean. I fish a lawfully registered five inch mesh net, suppose I catch a hundred or two of fish and am in the act of taking more, my Irish is up, I am in a hurry to catch all I can, knowing they are scarce and that perhaps I will not get such a chance again this winter, is it fair or reasonable to expect me to overhaul each lot of fish, in the dark of night, as they come out of the aperture in the ice, to find the smallest ones and, according to Regulations, place them again in the water; how am I to decide whether a bass is less than two lbs. or not, without steelyards, lanterns, or any such things? And yet, if the Overseer finds small bass amongst my fish the whole lot is liable to seizure and I am liable to be fined. Again. It often happens that the tide suits to catch fish on Saturday night from dark till eight or nine o'clock, yet the law-abiding men will not attempt such a thing because the Regulations forbid it. Some of the black sheep however who do not seem amenable to laws of any kind, especially those pertinent to fishing, do prosecute their calling on Saturday nights as well as any other night in the week and they are not particular whether they use their own or other people's nets, thus placing in the power of the Overseer, and in fact, almost compelling him to seize nets belonging to fishermen who do not go near the ice on Saturday or Sunday nights at all. Now the Overseer is a good square man and when used rightly, is more apt to be lenient than severe and it is to be regretted that he is sometimes unable to trace misdemeanors to their proper source.

I am not framing this as a complaint, but am in hope, that if my imperfect scrawl should reach his eye it may afford him some aid, however slight, in his work, as I honestly believe he tries to do the best he can.

So long for the present,
Your obedient servant,
TOMMY COD.

Kent County Notes.

PERSONAL.

Henry O'Leary, Esq., M. P. P., is expected home in about a fortnight. He was to leave England on his return trip on Saturday. George McLeod, Esq., M. P., will leave England about the 13th inst., for New Brunswick.

SALE OF A TROTTING HORSE.

Mr. Robert Ferguson, of Kingston, has disposed of his trotting horse "Herbert" to Dr. R. A. D'Olloqui of the same place. "Herbert" trotted in the County Race on the Kingston Park in September last and made a very creditable record—in the vicinity of three minutes.

LEGAL.

Mr. Henry Foster, Attorney-at-Law, has opened an office at Richibucto in part of the building occupied by J. A. James, Esq., Barrister. Mr. F. is a native of this County, and his peculiar abilities enable him to look around intricate cases with great facility.

CLOSING AN ESTATE IN PROBATE.

The accounts of the estate of the late Hon. William S. Caie were passed in the Probate Court at Richibucto on Tuesday of last week, preparatory to the final wind up of the estate. The total liabilities were shown to be in the vicinity of $23,000, on which a dividend of forty cents on the dollar will be paid. The administrator intimated that he was prepared to pay the dividend forthwith.

POSTAL.

Hon. John McMillan, Post Office Inspector, visited Richibucto last week and the result is a change in the hours for the arrival and departure of the mails, which now leave Richibucto at 5 p. m. and are due at 8.30 a. m. This change was made to connect with the trains to and from the north. Under the old *regime* mails to and from the north were delayed at Weldford nearly 24 hours. It required two months time to convince the Inspector of the necessity for a change.

THE BALL AT RICHIBUCTO.

The Ball at the Kent Hotel, Richibucto on Wednesday night of last week did not meet with the patronage anticipated by the getters-up. The attendance numbered thirty six ladies and thirty one gentlemen (the committee included in the latter). The dresses worn by the fair sex on the occasion were highly spoken of by those who had the pleasure of witnessing the grand spectacle. The music was execrable so a well-informed critic has affirmed. The supper was of that class expected from the landlady of the "Kent" and deserves more than a passing notice. In their anxiety to close the hotel the managers thereof turned down the greater portion of the lights while several ladies were waiting for sleighs to convey them to their homes; and one of the committee went so far as to prevent these ladies and their gentlemen escorts from singing "God save the Queen,"—on a plea that bore on its face a want of regard for the "essential element." The projectors of the ball realised, when too late, that the affair, pecuniarily, did not pay. The committee consisted of two doctors, two lawyers, and a hotel clerk whose *coup de main* for acquiring popularity has in this particular, been "nipped in the bud."

ILLEGAL FISHING.

A complaint was made before James Harnett, Esq., J. P., against Andrew Dale for illegally fishing bass on the Richibucto River. The complainant in the case was Mr. John Sutherland, Fishery Overseer, and the magistrate before whom the case was tried is a Fishery Warden. As there are not any nets registered for bass fishing on the Richibucto River, the magistrate, after some days deliberation, decided to fine Dale $1.00 and costs. Mr. Sayre appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Richardson for the defence. A heavy case truly.

Notes from Kouchibouguac.

THE SHIP.

Mr. McLeod's vessel is nearly in frame there being only the bow and stern to fill in. She will register over 800 tons, and a finer frame would be hard to find. In her model, carrying capacity seems to have been considered more than beauty or speed though she is far from ranking as a "tub." It is calculated to launch her early in the summer.

THE TIMES.

Without any special claim to the term, lively, the times here may be considered very fair. All who want work can get it—that is, the resident population—and the man who has a medium family can live in comfort. Whether Mr. McLeod considers the case of the poor or not he certainly deserves credit for his enterprise and fair-dealing with his employees.

LUMBER.

Some 3,000,000 ft., or over, will be floated down the river the ensuing spring. This with the quantity in the pond will be amply sufficient to keep the mill (two gangs) running as long as the water will last. The greater part of this lumber is taken out by small parties. The men who worked all summer in the mill are furnished employment in this way by the establishment fitting up a couple of camps and sending in teams.

THE LOTTERY.

McKnight's Lottery came off on the 1st, as per postponement. The disappointed will, of course, be many but they will have the satisfaction of knowing that the "draw" was a square one. Only one of the prizes—the watch—was drawn around here. It was won by Mr. McKnight who took chances on the unsold tickets. All the agents not having made returns the other winning numbers are not yet announced, for obvious reasons.

OUR RECREATIONS.

We are thrown completely on our own resources for amusement or profit. The lecturing man has not, so far, put in an appearance; the singing man has scattered his notes on too barren a surface ever to try it again, and the inevitable "party", with its plays of "Old Maid" "Bachelor" "Forfeits" and cracked singing is worn as bare as my coat. Under these circumstances "what's an unmarried man going to do?" "He might get married" you'll say, of course, not having a knowledge of the fact that an all but universal fit of this kind seized the marriageable portion of this community last summer. This has had the effect of raising female charms at least 10 per cent in the market causing the members of that persuasion to assume a dignity and distance which has the same effect on a bashful man as a bucket of cold water poured down his back. More anon.

BOB SHARP.

K'guac, Feb. 6th, 1877.

Moody and Sankey.

OPENING MEETING OF THE EVANGELISTS IN BOSTON—IMMENSE CROWDS IN ATTENDANCE—BOSTON TO BE SHAKEN AS A MOTHER SHAKES A CHILD.

BOSTON, January 28.—Rarely, if ever has there been witnessed such a scene of inspired Christian enthusiasm and sincere devotion as was manifested at the opening meetings of Moody and Sankey at the Boston Tabernacle this afternoon and evening It seemed as if the whole community had turned out to listen to the great evangelists, and it was specially notable that all through the services there was apparent the most devout feeling. Certainly Mr. Moody never commenced a series of revival meetings in this country under more favorable auspices, and the popular anticipations are greatly in error if the evangelist's predictions do not prove true, that what he has accomplished in other cities will be nothing compared with what he will do in Boston.

THE GATHERING CROWDS.

The Grand Tabernacle, erected at the expense of over $50,000 and with a seating capacity for 6,000, could not accommodate more than a quarter of those who came to both afternoon and evening meetings. Indeed, so large were the crowds who came that outside meetings were opened in a couple of neighboring churches, and the limits of these were inadequate to the demands made upon them. The Grand Tabernacle was filled in a very few moments after the doors were thrown open, the aisles, however, being kept clear by an ample police force, to admit of a speedy exit in case of fire or accident. The audiences, both afternoon and evening were of a miscellaneous character comprising men and women of all creeds of the prominent and middling classes, and evidently many whose ears were strangers to the Gospel in any form.

The first and second services were commenced with commendable promptness, the first at three and the latter at a quarter to seven o'clock. A variety of hymns were sung by a large and selected choir, under the direction of Professor Tourjee, while the audience was being seated, and immediately thereafter the choir and congregation united in chanting—

Nearer my God, to Thee.

Then, after a brief pause, the choir sang:—

Come thou fount of every blessing.

And, while this was in progress, Mr. Moody and Mr. Sankey appeared in view. Their presence was the occasion of a visible sensation in the audience, and, if it had been in keeping with the solemnities of the time, there would have been a hearty demonstration of welcome. Mr. Sankey sat down at the small organ, which he uses as an accompaniment in singing, and Mr. Moody seated himself near by. After a few moments of silent prayer there was another hymn by the choir, when Rev. Dr. Webb invoked the Divine blessing upon the revival now commenced and from which so much was hoped, concluding with an earnest supplication that God would move the hearts of those assembled to embrace the faith this very day and at this very time and place. The prayer, though brief, was very affecting and eloquent, and many hearers were visibly moved.

MR. MOODY'S SERMON.

Mr. Sankey now sang, "Ninety and Nine," after which the choir sang "Rock of Ages,"