

The Standard,

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FREDERICTON, 26th Feb, 1842.

MR. EDITOR,
The business of the Session is now proceed-
ing at such a rate, that my weekly letter can-
not keep pace with it. Every day is now a
field day in the House, and every proposition
is discussed with unusual energy and ability.
Rumour with her thousand tongues represents
a large portion of the people as being exceed-
ingly alarmed at the present appearance of
things, and many of the members blame the
Governor, in very severe terms, for endeavor-
ing to force on a set of measures of such im-
mense magnitude and of such doubtful char-
acter, as regards their application to the state
and condition of the Province. I must not
attempt to give more than a brief outline of
the proceedings of the week. I have taken
notes of most of the speeches, but were I to
write them out, and you to print them, they
would cover both sides of the Standard.

In my last I mentioned something of the
financial difficulties; since that time four of
the members of the Finance Committee met,
in order to draw up a report. After discuss-
ing the subject they reported to the House,
that they could not agree. A day was then
appointed to take into consideration the state
of the Province—to enquire into the cause of
the present commercial distress—to discuss
the financial matters, and to decide whether a
sum of money should be borrowed or not.
Upon this a motion was made to discharge
the Finance Committee. This motion was
overruled, and a new member added.

The House, after much debate, formed it-
self into a Committee of Supply, and voted
various sums of money, including £300 for the
Province Agent in England, and £105 for the
contingencies of the Secretary's office; these
two items were violently opposed on the
ground, that £100 was ample remuneration
for the services of the Agent, and that the
Secretary, having an enormous salary, could
well afford to pay for the contingencies of his
office out of it. These two items were both
carried by a majority of one. Upon this a
motion was made to break up the Committee,
which being carried by a bare majority, the
Chairman reported progress. The next morn-
ing the opposition mustered all their forces,
made a desperate attack upon the doings of
the preceding day, and at one single dash
swept the whole of them from the journals,
into oblivion.

The Finance Committee at length brought
in a report, setting forth the debts due to and
from the Province, and showing about £35,
000 for appropriations in supply this present
Session, making all due allowances for had
debts, and had times. The Committee recom-
mended that no money should be borrowed,
or additional duties laid on. This brought on
a short debate between the Chairman of the
Committee and one of the members who
had refused to sign the report.

The report of the Committee of Trade was
discussed, and the subject of the duty on
flour, as usual, gave rise to an animated
debate, in which all our Charlotte members
heavily joined. Mr. Boyd, in particular,
handled the subject remarkably well. They
succeeded in getting the House to agree to
apply for a repeal of the duties, and in lieu
thereof to lay a Provincial duty of half a dol-
lar a barrel. This is what they call a half
way measure, or, as the adage goes—"half
a loaf is better than no bread."

Then came the appointed Committee of the
whole House on the state of the Province.
The debate was opened by the Speaker, who
pointed out the causes and described the em-
barrassments and distresses existing, espe-
cially at Saint John. He made a very pathetic
appeal on behalf of the sufferers. He was
followed by Mr. Partlow, who, in a very
forcible manner, pointed out the existing dis-
tress—examined and reviewed the Finance
report, and maintained that the state and con-
dition of the country required the borrowing
of £100,000, and the circulation of the same
for present relief. Mr. Brown alleged that
the facilities for obtaining credit had caused
overtrading, and that much of the present
distress had been brought on by folly and
extravagance. He proposed, as a remedy, to
abolish imprisonment for debt, to collect what
could be got of the £110,000 now due to the
Province, and to confine the votes in supply
to the estimated revenue of the current year.
Mr. Gilbert would borrow none, but retrench
as much as possible. Mr. Weldon reviewed
the Finance and Commercial relations of the
Province—would set one claim against an-
other—borrow no money, and use a little eco-
nomy. Mr. Johnston maintained, that unless
a sum of money were borrowed for present
relief, the business of the country must come
to a stand. Mr. Jordan expressed the same
opinion. Mr. Hannington ascribed the dis-
tress to overtrading, and thought the evil
would ultimately work its own cure. Mr.
Woodward and Mr. End spoke at great
length in favor of a loan, and were opposed by
Messrs. Beardsley, Fisher, Barberie, M. Al-
len, and L. A. Wilmot, and on a division,
the motion to borrow money was negatived by
more than two-thirds of the members.

The Bill was taken up for vacating the
seats of those who might, during the time of
their being members of the House, accept
any place of honor or emolument under the
Government. This Bill was ably discuss-
ed and supported by a large majority, as I un-
derstood, for there was no division on its
main principles. It was opposed by Messrs.
Johnston, Partlow, Wilson and Barberie, as
unnecessary, and tending to injure rather than
advance the public good.

The most animated discussion of all arose
upon the Government Bill for the establish-
ment of Municipal Authorities. The case
of this Bill was assumed in Committee by
the Speaker, as the only member of the Ex-
ecutive Government remaining in the House.
This Bill takes from the Justices of the Peace
every authority but their judicial powers
alone;—abolishes the General Sessions of the
Peace, and puts all the powers hitherto vested
in the General and Special Sessions, into
the hands of a Council, to be elected by the
people. This Council to have the power of making
rules for the management of the County
Roads, Bridges, and public Buildings. The
selling and buying of property for public use
—the management of the schools, and in fact
the whole superintendance of County mat-
ters. The opponents of this Bill regarded it
as a *fre-brand* thrown into the midst of a
hitherto quiet and well-ordered community,
by a reckless experimentalist. They predicted
from its operation the most direful conse-
quences, and aethro unheard of calamities; but
as I have not room left for even a bare skele-
ton of the speeches, I must refer you to the
Mirror and *Sentinel*, where, I expect, they
will appear at full length. It was ably sup-
ported by Messrs. Speaker, Johnston, Fisher,
Brown, Beardsley, Owen, Wilmot, Hill and
Woodward; and as ably opposed by Messrs.
Johnston, End, Partlow, Gilbert, Barberie,
Allen, Hannington and Wilson. These were
the principal speakers. On a division there
appeared a majority of one in its favour, and
there is just one section of it passed after a
most animated debate of two long days. The
Bill contains sixty odd sections.

There is to be a great day in the Legisla-
tive Council on Monday. They are muster-
ing their forces from all parts of the Province.
I am ignorant of the subject to be discussed,
and of the cause of the muster. I am in hopes
to obtain a ticket of admission from Col.
Wyer—if I do, I shall try, in my next, to give
you some account of the proceedings.

Your's &c.

JACK ROBINSON.

"ROTATION" OR "ALTERNATE" HUSBANDRY.

MR. EDITOR,—
The "rotation" or "alternate" system of
husbandry was first introduced from Belgium
and practiced in various parts of Ireland with
much success, particularly at the National
Model Farm near Dublin. The object of it
is of all good husbandry ought to be, to make
the land produce good crops, and keep it in
the best possible order. Long experience has
proved that the growth of annual plants is
rendered imperfect by cultivating them in suc-
cession on the same soil; certain plants, as
peas, clover and flax, thrive on the same soil
after a number of years; other plants, such
as *hemp, rye, and oats*, may be cultivated in
close succession when proper manures are
used. The renovating or green crop shift
are, *fallow, turnips, cabbage, beets, barley,*
rye, and oats. The exhausting are the grain
crops, such as *wheat, hops, hemp, flax*. The
produce from the grain crops will, in a great
measure, be assisted by proper ploughing and
harrowing; the vertex of the angle of the sod
must be an angle of 45° or a right angle,
isosceles triangle; it can be mathematically
proved that by having the angle in this form,
the greatest quantity of soil is exposed to the
atmosphere. The following propositions are
laid down in Reed's practical chemistry, for
the direction of the husbandman in the rota-
tion of crops—1st, that all plants have a ten-
dency to exhaust the soil,—2d, that some
plants exhaust it more than others,—3d, that
all plants restore to the soil an excrementi-
ous principle,—4th, that all plants do not
restore to the soil its vegetable excrement,—
5th, that two plants of different sorts may grow
together and mutually benefit each other.—
Now let us draw some useful corollaries from
these 5 propositions,—1st, that a continued
succession of the same crop must exhaust the
soil,—2d, that crops injure the soil in prop-
tion to the quantity of nutritious matter
they extract from the soil,—3d, that crops of
the same kind should not return too frequ-
ently in succession,—4th, that plants which di-
rect their roots perpendicularly, and horizon-
tally, should succeed each other,—5th, that
two plants equally favorable for the growth of
weeds, should not succeed one another. The
rotation can be varied to any extent, pro-
vided the 5th corollary be attended to. The
most profitable rotation is the 4th crop shift,
which will answer best on a pretty heavy clay
soil, suppose, for instance, I have a farm of
10 acres, which will be divided into four
crop shifts of 2½ acres each, we will have, 1st,
potatoes and turnips, both in drills—2d, bar-
ley or oats, sown with grasses—3d, grass for

cutting—4th, oats; then if you think proper
operation of No. 1 may be sown with clover.
If you want to graze one or two years after
the rotation with your barley or oats in
No. 2 the "per annum" grass, which will
be followed by oats. In the 5th crop shift
you will have, 1st, potatoes or turnips, 2d,
barley or oats, sown with grasses, 3d, grass
for cutting, 4th, grass for cutting or grazing,
and 5th, oats. In the 6th crop shift, 1st,
potatoes or turnips, 2d, barley or oats sown
with grasses, 3d, grass for cutting, 4th and 5th,
grass for cutting or grazing, and 6th, oats.—
I have not mentioned any crops of wheat or
beans, for I have some reason for thinking it
will take some time before we can, in this
part of the Province, produce any such crops,
which might remunerate the farmer for his
trouble and expence. Any farmer can, with
as much ease, follow any of the above rota-
tions as he can his old system, and by much
more considerable gain, both in the number
of stock he can well support, and the quantity
of manure he will make, by horse feeding his
cattle the most of the year round; and when
his cow is run short in milk, if he thinks pro-
per he can sell her with advantage to the but-
cher. The great object in all rotations are
food for man, food for animals, and food for
the soils; and every farmer who would wish
to succeed, in his rotations, must observe eco-
nomy, management, and system, in the col-
lection, composition and preservation of his
manures, and ever bear in mind the sayings
of Poor Richard.

"He who by the plough would thrive,
Himself must either hold or drive."
Yours, &c.

AGRICOLAE.

March 7, 1842.

Extracts from Dr. Gesner's Fourth Report on the
Geology of New Brunswick.

SCHOODIC AND CHEPUTNETICOOK
RIVERS.

Having examined all the country situated
between Fredericton and the Bay of Fundy,
and that part of the Coal Field discovered
south of the Saint John, it was deemed
necessary to explore the whole line of country
from the entrance of the Schoodic, in the
County of Charlotte, to the monument; and
from thence to Woodstock, along the line
which has been supposed to separate the Pro-
vince from the State of Maine. The strata
between the monument and Woodstock are
intersected by the Saint John, and therefore
a better opportunity is afforded for their ex-
amination along the sides of the river, than
can be found by pursuing a line through the
forest.

As the shores of the Schoodic above Saint
Stephens, the Cheputneticook River and
Lakes—with Eel River, and its Lakes, are
uninhabited, the only facilities for geological
operations are offered along their margins;
and as the tributaries entering into them, are
numerous and extensive, I was enabled to ex-
amine the general features of a large tract of
country. An accurate survey of the bound-
aries of each formation, and the examina-
tion of the minerals contained in them, can-
not be made in the present wilderness state
of the country, and unaccompanied by a
geographical survey. The limits of the dif-
ferent divisions of rocks, notwithstanding,
have been ascertained, and the geological map
of the Province. But there are situations where
the lakes, bays and meadows of the wilderness,
as to render a knowledge of the lines where
they meet uncertain. It is only on the sides
of the lakes, rivers and ravines, where the
strata are exposed; and even in such situa-
tions, they are frequently concealed to great
distances. Remote from the streams, a rock
in situ can scarcely be found over an area
of many miles in extent. Under all these dis-
advantageous circumstances, I have laid
down each formation as correctly as the op-
portunities afforded would allow; leaving it
for future explorers, to correct any errors that
may exist, when the country becomes cleared,
and greater facilities are offered for geologi-
cal inquiries.

Having procured three expert Indians with
canoes, and being accompanied by my son
and Mr. Charles Ketchum, a volunteer—with
a sufficient quantity of provisions and the re-
quisites for encampment, a portage of 12 miles
was made from Saint Stephen to the Upper
Schoodic, or Grand Falls. These Falls are
situated directly below the bifurcation of the
river, where one branch, called the Schoodic;
or Saint Croix, comes in from the westward,
and another called the Cheputneticook de-
scends from the northward. The rocks along
this portage are chiefly varieties of the grey-
wacke and slate, already described. The
strata vary in their courses from N. E. to N.
N. E. being highly inclined. About five
miles from Saint Stephen, we crossed a nar-
row ridge of sienite, which extends some dis-
tance in an east and west direction, and crosses
the Saint Croix between the "Upper
Mills" and the Falls. This rock is composed
of hornblende and felspar, and frequently

resembles granite. At the above places, and
in the neighbourhood of Saint Stephen, it is
remarkably ferruginous, being impregnated
with the oxides of iron. These oxides appear
to have been produced by the decomposition
of pyrites contained in the rock, where it is
exposed to the operations of the atmosphere
and moisture. The surface of this sienite is
almost sterile, and it produces only a few
stunted alders and white birch. The slate,
from being more readily acted upon by meta-
orphic agents, affords a fine argillaceous soil, well
adapted for potatoes and different kinds of
grain.

(To be continued.)

A NIGHT AMONG THE WOLVES.

The early settlers of New England were
not unfrequently incommoded by the num-
bers and ferocity of the wolves which prowled
around their rude settlements. The hunter
easily overpowered them, and with one
discharge of his musket scattered them from
about his dwelling. They fled even from
the timid child in the day—but in the night,
far away from the dwelling of men, they were
terrible, from their fiendish and ferocious
appetite for blood.

The following fearful story is from the lips
of one of the oldest settlers of Vermont.—
"It was a night of January, in the year '27.
We had been to a quilting party about two
miles from a settlement of four or five log
houses—'twas rather late. There was no
moon—and a dull, grey shadowy haze hung
all around the horizon, while over head a
few pale and sickly looking stars gave us
but their dull light. There were six of us in
company, Harry Mason and myself, and four
as pretty girls as ever grew up this side of
the Green Mountains. They were my two
sisters, Harry's sister, and his sweetheart, the
daughter of our neighbour, named Caroline
Allen—she was pleasant and kind hearted,
gentle and sweet spoken, and so intelligent
that every body loved her. No wonder that
Harry Mason loved her, boy though he was,
for we had neither of us seen our seventeenth
summer.

Our path lay through a thick forest of
oak, with here and there a tall pine raising
its dark shadow against the sky, with an out-
line rendered indistinct by the darkness.
The snow was deep; but the surface was
frozen strong enough to bear our weight, and we
hurried on over the white pathway with rapid
steps.

We had not proceeded far, before a long
howl came on our ears. We all knew in a
moment, and I could feel a shuddering thrill-
ing the arms that were folded close to my
own, as a sudden cry burst from the lips of
all of us, "the wolves, the wolves!"

Did you ever see a wild wolf?—not one of
the caged, broken down show animals which
are exhibited for sapsence a sight—but a
ferce, half starved ranger of the forest, hur-
rying and howling over the barren snow,
actually mad with hunger! There is no one
of God's creatures which has such a frightful,
fiendish look as this animal.

Another, and another howl—and then we
could hear distinctly the quick patter of feet
behind us. We turned right about, and
looked in the direction of the sound. "They
are after us," says Mason, pointing to a line
of dark glistening bodies—and so in fact they
were a whole troop of them, howling like so
many Indians in a bow-wow. We had no
weapons of any kind; and we knew enough
of the nature of the wild creatures who fol-
lowed us, to feel that it would be useless to
contend with them. There was not a mo-
ment to lose—the savage beasts were close
upon us. To attempt a flight would have
been a hopeless affair. There was but one
chance of escape, and we instantly seized
upon it.—"To the tree!—let us climb this
tree!"—I cried, springing forward toward a
low boughed and gnarled oak, which I saw
at a glance, might be easily climbed into.
Harry sprang lightly into the tree, and aided
in placing the terrified girls in a place of com-
parative security among the thick boughs—
I was the last on the ground, and the whole
troop were yelling at my heels before I reach-
ed the rest of the company. There was one
moment of hard breathing and low exclaima-
tion among us, and then a feeling of calm
thankfulness for escape. The night was cold
—and we soon began to shiver and shake—
but there was no murmur—no complaining
among us, for we could see distinctly the at-
tenuated bodies of the wolves beneath us, and
every now and then we could see great glow-
ing eyes staring up in the tree where we were
seated. And their yells were long and terri-
ble.

I know not how long we remained in this
situation, for we had no means of ascertain-
ing the time when I heard a limb of the tree
cracking, as if breaking down beneath the
weight of us; and a moment after a shriek
went through my ears, like the peering of a
knife. A light form went through the
branches, and fell with a dull and heavy sound
on the stiff snow.

"O my God, I am gone!"
It was the voice of Caroline Allen. The
poor girl never spoke again! There was a
horrid dizziness and confusion in my brain,

and I spoke not—and I stirred not, for the
whole was at that time like an ugly, unreal
dream. I only remember that there were
cries and shuddering around me, perhaps I
joined with them—and that there were an-
other groans and dreadful howls underneath!
It was all over in a moment. Poor Caroline
—she was actually eaten up alive.—The
wolves had a frightful feast, and then they
became raving mad with the taste of blood.

When I came fully to myself—when the
horrible dream went off—and it lasted but a
moment—I struggled to shake off the arms
of my sisters, which were clinging around
me, and could I have cleared myself, I should
have jumped down among the raging animals.
But when a second thought came over me, I
knew that any attempt to rescue would be
useless. As for poor Mason, he was wild
with horror. He had tried to follow poor
Caroline when she fell, but he could not
shake off the grasp of his terrified sister.

His youth and weak constitution and frame
were unable to withstand the dreadful trial;
and he stood close by my side; with his hands
firmly clenched, and teeth set closely, gazing
down upon the dark wrangling creatures be-
low, with a fixed stare, of the maniac.—"A-
round us was the thick cold night, and below,
the ravenous, wild beasts were lapping their
bloody jaws, and howling for another victim.
The morning broke at last, and our frightful
enemies fled at the first advance of day-
light, like so many cowardly murderers.
We waited until the sun had risen before we
ventured to crawl down from our resting
place. We were chilled through; every
limb was numbed with cold and terror; and
poor Mason was delirious, raving wildly
about the things he had witnessed.—There
were bloody stains all around the tree; and
two or three long locks of dark hair were
trampled in the snow.

We had gone but a little distance when we
were met by our friends from the settlement,
who had become alarmed at our absence.
They were shocked at our wild and frightful
appearance—and my brothers have often
times told me that at first view we all seemed
like so many crazed and brain-stricken crea-
tures. They assisted us to reach our homes;
but Henry Mason never recovered fully from
the dreadful trial.

A *Louisville Belle*.—A few nights ago, one
of the most accomplished belles of this city,
while sleeping in the same apartment with
Mrs. Charles W. Thurston, who is in feeble
health, was suddenly roused by a slight noise.
Looking round her, she saw a ruffian, evi-
dently a robber, at a window in the act of
raising it. Leaping up, she had him de-
ported. He hesitated a moment; but, seeing that
the two ladies were alone in the room, he pro-
ceeded with a terrific frown in affecting his
entrance. Thereupon the young lady in-
stantly seized a large pistol that chanced to
be in the apartment, cocked it, presented it
at him, and declared her determination to
blow his brains out if he did not instantly fly.
He knew from her countenance that she
would be as good as her word, and, snatching
some small article of dress from a chair
within arm's length of the window, he fled
with precipitation. We are told that the
young heroine would have fired if she had
known that the pistol was certainly loaded;
but she feared that it was empty, and a ser-
vant would betray her defencelessness.—*Louisville
Journal*.

An *Honest Report*.—A Duch member of
the Pennsylvania Assembly, having returned
home from a session, was asked by 5 neigh-
bour what had been done by the Legislature?
"I don't know what others have done," re-
plied he, "but I have cleared one hundred
dollars for mine self."

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

February 21.

The Bill to establish the line of Road from
Oak Bay, to the mouth of Eel River, as one
of the Great Roads, passed the Council.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

February 22.

Mr. Miller, Master in Chancery, informed
the House that the Council had agreed to the
Bill to establish the Line of Road from Oak
Bay, in the County of Charlotte, to the mouth
of Eel River, in the County of York, as one
of the Great Roads of Communication in this
Province.

A Bill relating to the appointment of Fire-
wards, and the better extinguishment of Fires
in a part of the Parish of Saint Stephen, in
the County of Charlotte, therein mentioned,
passed the House.

A Bill to amend an Act, intitled An Act
to repeal all the Acts regulating Tavern
Keepers and Retailers, and to make other
provisions in lieu thereof, after expunging 23
section passed the House.

February 23.

A Bill to authorize Her Majesty's Justices
of the Peace for the County of Charlotte to
levy an assessment to pay off the County Debt,
passed the House.

Original issues in Poor Condition
Best copy available