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The Standard,

OR RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL RECORD.

E variis sumendum est optimum.--Cic.

No. 14 SAINT ANDREWS, N. B., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1854. [Vol. 21

LAW RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS

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COMMUNICATIONS.

Fredericton, 31st March, 1854.

MR. EDITOR,

Winter in all its severity still continues. An immense body of snow on the ground, and vast masses of ice on the River. A sudden change—rain and warm sunshine—might be productive of most disastrous results, such as carrying away of Bridges—sweeping over island and interval lands, or even flooding the city. But we hope for better things.

So far, the Legislative Session has been a most laborious one the principal business, the revision and consolidation of the laws, a task now nearly finished. The members of the Assembly average seven hours a day in their Hall, besides all the necessary correspondence reading, and preparation, connected with the service. They do not eat the bread of idleness, though they have been accused of eating and drinking too, at the public expence. The Legislative Council average about four hours a day, their principal business being to review and approve, amend or reject, such Bills, Resolutions, and other matters, as are sent up to them from the Assembly. The rest of their time is chiefly employed in listening to the discussions in the lower House, by which they are the better enabled to form a correct estimate of those measures which they are finally called upon, either to sanction or reject.

The session will probably last a month longer, a great deal of unfinished business being yet on hand. All the miscellaneous money appropriations are yet to be made, the distribution of the large sum of £51000 on the Roads, and other appropriations amounting to another very large sum, for all manner of purposes having the shadow of a claim on the public Treasury. The Orange and Liquor Bills are still undisposed of. Whatever of sound principle and sincerity may exist among the movers and agitators of those measures, it is evident that both will to some extent, be made available as political engines at the coming Election—with what success time will tell. Some think the Orange Bill will pass in the Assembly and then be rejected in the Council, others imagine it will never reach the Council. Its fate is therefore doubtful, and it will be recollected that it was rejected in the Assembly last year, by the casting vote of the speaker. The Liquor Bill has been printed, and is in strict accordance with the petitions in its favour, as it prohibits the importation, manufacture, and sale, of all intoxicating drinks. Its fate like that of the Orange Bill is doubtful. It seems to have gained friends lately, and may pass. Should it be rejected, it is thought that the present law will be so amended that it can be more easily put in force. A Bill similar to the one before our House, has passed the Assembly of Nova Scotia. The Bill for the amendment of the Election Law, introduced into the Legislative Council and then discussed, was finally defeated, and all attempts to induce the members of the Assembly to bring similar Bill into the House, have failed, so that there is reason to fear, that the evils attending the last General Election, and something like the ruinous scrutinies which followed, may occur again. This sin of omission, fairly chargeable to the members of the Assembly, is, in my opinion, the greatest of all their political offences.

Rev. Mr. Shore closed the course of lectures for the season, at the Temperance Hall last Tuesday evening. His discourse abounded with magnanimous, noble, and liberal sentiments, expressed in most appropriate language and was, so far as I can judge, the best one to which I have listened. Judge, Wilmot, on the previous Tuesday evening delivered a long and most interesting lecture on "*Russia and the Russians*" in the off-hand, eloquent manner, for which he is remarkable; and Mr Shore briefly received this and all the other lectures of the course, devoting a portion of the time to the subject of Books, and ancient and modern Libraries, and winding up with an eloquent appeal for the establishment of a free Library in Fredericton, to be placed in charge of the City Corporation.

"Please excuse haste, and make some allowance for blunders."

Your's,

JACK ROBINSON.

A. W. SMITH, ESQ.,
STANDARD, St. Andrews.

St. Andrews, April 10.

MR. EDITOR,—

I observe that the Government intend enrolling the Militia immediately; if such be the case, I should strongly advise their adopting the system followed by the French National Guard, viz:—allowing the men drawn for Service to elect their own officers.

By following the above method the men will have officers in whom they have confidence, and the officers knowing they have the confidence of the men will be able to carry on their commands with greater efficiency

Who can read without emotion, the reply of the Emperor Napoleon to the Legislative Council, when presenting him an address and granting supplies to carry on the War

"I feel gratified by the enthusiasm you have displayed in agreeing to the Bill. How could I do otherwise than reckon on your support? We have all the same sentiments; all the same interests, you as well as myself owe our positions, to the only legitimate right, The voice of the Nation.

I remain,
Mr. Editor,
"A FRIEND TO THE COUNTRY"

From London Times.

The Christian Population of Turkey.

The concluding words of Lord Clarendon's speech on Friday evening were, that 'neither this country nor other Christian Power would properly fulfil the great duties now devolving on them, nor consult the interests of the Sultan himself, if they did not take this opportunity to secure equal rights and equal justice to the Christian civilization will effect in that empire" These we are happy to think, are the deliberate opinions and resolutions of the British Government, and of the Christian Powers united with ourselves in relation to the affairs of the East; and, however anxiously we may desire to wrest from the aggressive policy of Russia those provinces which she has wrongfully siezed, and to secure the independence of Eastern Europe from Northern invasion, we are not less concerned to obtain for the Christian populations of the East that equality of rights to which, as the most numerous and civilized portion of the subjects of the Porte, they are entitled.

If anything could defeat these intentions and frustrate the policy which we believe to be essential to the welfare and tranquility of the East, it is, that at the very moment when the Western Powers are sending large military and naval forces to give effect to their intervention, the Christian populations should rise in insurrection and give the signal of fresh perturbations. At no former time has there been so positive an engagement of the Christian Powers,—who have set their alliance with the Porte at this price, that the condition of its Christian subjects should be ameliorated and their grievances redressed. In ordinary cases we may be little disposed to interfere between a Sovereign Power and its subjects, but when from other causes of policy we have been led to interfere, it is impossible for England and France to remain insensible to the wrongs and injustice endured for the sake of their faith by those who profess the religion of Christ; and, whatever the nature of our interference may be, it would be a novel and unheard of event for us to allow the strength we have lent to the Turkish Government to be converted into a fresh instrument of oppression. Russia may have aided Austria to subdue the Maygars, France may have restored by her arms the Papal Government of Rome; but if England consented to use her power *against* the rights of a Christian people struggling for the cause of toleration and civil justice, no intervention and no act of despotic authority could henceforth want a precedent or an apology. Such an intervention is not to be thought of on the part of the British Government, for it would be at once be a blunder and a crime.

But, strongly interested as we are for the welfare of the Eastern Christians, and convinced as we are that the events now happening in those parts of Europe must eventually turn to their advantage, we are entitled to remonstrate in the strongest language against the violent and precipitate measures which the Greek patriotic party have taken at the present time. Our readers are aware that we are not taken by surprise by the occurrences, and that more than two months ago we alluded to the existence of an extensive conspiracy in the very parts of Albania and Epirus where these disturbances have since broken out. The accounts last received from that country give us great reason to believe that these anticipations have been fulfilled to the letter. Arta has been taken by a band of insurgents under young Kariskasis; Prevesa is threatened; the Suliotes have once more raised the standard of the cross; and the Christian forces are advancing on Janina. The Turkish authorities have fled in many places, for want of troops, and Servia, as well as Montenegro, threatens to join the movement.

At Salonica the disturbance was suppressed; but it is said that active preparations for joining the rising are going on in Negropont, though that forms a portion of the kingdom of Greece, and no insurrection against Turkey can have occurred there. The Greek Government is entirely without the means of resisting the excitement; and even the schools of Amens are closed because the students have rushed eagerly to the gathering of the chiefs in the mountains. It is impossible to forget that these populations have a cause which has once before commanded the sympathies of Europe, and repudiate the shortsighted policy which refuses to recognize the claims they possess to the favorable consideration of the Christian Powers; and which would, if carried into execution, fling them entirely into the arms of Russia.

But the more satisfied we are that the Western States of Europe cannot be insensible to their present condition, or indifferent to their future welfare, the more we are convinced that this insurrection is in every respect ill-timed and injurious to all their best interests. It mixes up their particular cause with a war in which all the most powerful and civilized States are combined to support the Ottoman empire against Russia. It makes the Christians of the East appear tools of Russia, and this at a time when the hope of effectual support from that Power is delusive. It will condemn them to share her reverses, and alienate from the Greeks a large portion of the good will of Europe. Never was there a moment when they had more to lose and less to gain by staking their national progress on the doubtful issue of an insurrection, which has been accelerated by the deceptive promises of Russian emissaries.

The true interest of the Greeks, and in general of the Christian subjects of Turkey, in the present state or affairs, is to place their cause in the hands of the Western Powers, we have assumed a position that enables them to deal with it. The condition of several parts of the Turkish empire which have already obtained by firmans and treaties the complete internal administration of their affairs, while they continue to recognize the sovereignty of the Porte, is a precedent which may be extended without prejudice to either side, and which would perhaps afford the best means of providing for these provinces in their present state No one, even of the Greeks themselves, can desire to extend the authority of King Otho and the Government of Athens over a wider territory. No one can reasonably imagine that the Greeks are now in a condition to reconstitute the Empire of the East. To sink into more vassals and slaves of Russia would be no improvement of their condition. Their real interest is to gain time for improvement, and for the development of their own resources, so as to have a stronger claim on the respect and confidence of Europe. A mere insurrectionary outbreak is at once denounced by France and condemned by Austria, as a revolutionary movement which those Powers are resolved to put down; it does, in fact, incalculable injury to their cause. We trust therefore that the maritime Powers may still be able to interpose their conciliatory influence before this struggle has assumed a general character, and that, if any of our forces are sent to Greece or the Greek frontier, it will be for the purpose of preventing a collision.

European Intelligence.

NEW YORK, APRIL 4th 1854.

The Steamship Baltic arrived at New York at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Admiral Napier's fleet arrived at Wingo Sound on the 15th ult.

The Allied fleets remained at Bricos Bay, would soon re-enter the Black Sea.

The official final refusal of Czar to evacuate the Principalities at demand of England and France was hourly expected. It is already known he refuses the demand—when official refusal arrives it will be communicated to both Houses of Parliament and war will be formally proclaimed.

No engagement reported in Europe either by land or sea. On the Danube positions remained unchanged—report of capture of Russian treasure convoy had reached Constantinople. There is continued activity manifested in England in preparing for war.

The first division French troops left marseills for Turkey. Sir Charles Napier arrived at Copenhagen 20th, The Austerlitz 100 guns and 3 other French ships sailed to the Baltic to join English fleet.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.—Cotton is depressed flour not materially changed, demand limited. Wheat dull declined 6d Corn 3d. to 4d. Provisions quiet Consols 89⅝.

THE WAVERLEY NOVELS.—Happy the author whom the wise honour and children love! As yet, the Waverley novels stand alone; surpassing their predecessors as much in beauty of narrative and masterly completeness of invention as in purity and morality of tone, they are scarcely less disssimilar to the present school. We are too deeply immersed in schisms and controversies, and the fierce Life and death struggle of this "Latter-day" to produce an author with a genius equal to Walter Scott's, who would be content to devote it (even supposing, what is very problematical, that it would pay) to the production of volume after volume, with no other object but that of affording simple amusement, unspiced by satire and unflavored by passion; intended only to produce that happy rational, and placid kind of enjoyment which we feel in the works of the great Scotch novellist.—*Westminster Review.*

"I TELL YOU I SAW IT MYSELF."

When any one uses this expression, regarding some wonderful thing, adding or not adding "with my own eyes," he is understood to mean that the thing, however incredible it may have previously appeared, is certain; he can admit no further dispute about it. It is strange how so many sensible persons should be prepared thus to assume the sense of sight is incapable of being deceived when we all know how the sight of two or three hundred persons will be deceived over and over again, in a single evening, by a common conjuror. There appears to be an almost universal ignorance of a principle which affects all so-called evidence of the senses—namely, that while we think we are in good faith reporting what we have witnessed or come to the knowledge of by these means, we are only perhaps stating a prepossession of our minds or false hypothesis, regarding the things so witnessed or observed. Suppose, for instance that a clown comes home from an exhibition of the Wizard of the North relating that he saw a man making pancakes in the crown of a hat, all his intelligent auditors would feel assured that he had only seen certain operations performed which *seemed* to result in that phenomenon, and was labouring under a false hypothesis as to these operations, the pancakes having been in reality cooked in another room in the usual way His seeing the pancakes brought out of the hat after some eggs and meal had been put in, was in short, no proof that he had seen the pancakes cooked there: *that* was only a false hypothesis regarding the actual facts witnessed.

He has in the language of Mr. John Stuart Mill, "mistaken for perception what was only inference." Some of the mystic wonders which have of late years been attracting so much attention, afford in their history from first to last, lively illustrations of the moderate value to be placed on what is thought to be direct evidence of the senses. A man of tolerable judgment, but ignorant of the philosophy of evidence—perhaps one who has distinguished himself by professions of "disbelief in everything" beforehand—goes to see some experiments and is at once convinced that tables do move without human agency. "It is true because he has *seen* it." Now what he has seen is only this—that a group of his friends sat round a table with their hands placed upon it, all declaring that they neither pressed or pushed He has not ascertained that they did not press or push. He only *infers* from their declarations that they did not do so the fact being, as we all know from Professor Faraday's ingenious test, that they did use muscular force, albeit it be unconsciously. So our sensible and previously sceptical observer has only been forming or sanctioning an *hypothesis*, when he thought he was reporting a clear and indubitable *fact*.

Where there is any inclination to believe in marvellous or extraordinary things, it is surprising how easily one comes to allow himself to be deluded into the conviction that he has *witnessed* an alleged fact. It is quite a recognized principle among legal men who have occasion to sift evidence professionally, that most witnesses relate not what they saw or heard the greater part of what they say being inference, while they fully believe it to be a matter of fact "The simplest narrative," says Dugald Stewart, "of the most illiterative observer, involves more or less of hopothesis; nay, in general, it will be found that in proportion to his ignorance, the greater is the number of conjectural principles involved in his statements. A village apothecary (and, if possible, in a still greater degree, an experienced nurse,) is seldom able to describe the plainest case, without employing a phraseology of which every word is a theory; whereas a simple and genuine specification of the phenomena which mark a particular disease—a specification unsophistocated by fancy or by preconceived opinions—may be regarged as unequivocal evidence of a mind trained by long and successful study to the most difficult of all arts,—that of the faithful interpretation of nature.—[Chamber's Journal.

DEATH OF SIR THOMAS N. TALFOURD.—The English papers bring intelligence of the sudden death of Mr. Justice Talfourd, distinguished for his literary productions, which rank among the most interesting portions of modern literature. He died of apoplexy, at the Stafford Assizes, while addressing the Grand Jury on the 13th. The intelligence created a very painful sensation in the literary and legal circles of Great Britain.

IN Connecticut they do something besides whittling out wooden nutmegs. They raise a good deal of tobacco. In order to promote its culture, a company has been formed in Hartford, with a capital of $25,000, for the purpose of opening a tobacco inspection warehouse.

In San Jose, an artesian well has been sunk with a six inch auger, and pure soft water found at a depth of eighty feet, which runs with a force sufficient to turn a mill.

The Poor Typo.—"I pay the printer," said my uncle Toby.

"He's a poor creature," rejoined Trim.

"How so?" said my uncle.

"Because, in the first place," continued the corporal, looking full upon my uncle; "because he must endeavour to please everybody. In the negligence of a moment, perhaps, a small paragraph is inserted, and he is ruined."

"Too much the case, Trim" said my uncle with a deep sigh.

"And please your honour," continued Trim "this is not the whole"

"Go on, Trim," said my uncle feelingly.

"The printer, sometimes," pursued the corporal, "hits upon a piece that pleases him mightily; he thinks it cannot but go down with his subscribers. But alas! sir, who can calculate the human mind? He inserts it. They forgive others, but they cannot forgive the printer He has a host to print for, and every one sets up for a critic. This pretty Miss exclaims, 'why don't you give us more poetry; marriages, and *bon mots*!—away with these stale pieces.'

The politician clasps his specs over his nose, and reads it over in search of a violent invective; he finds none, takes his specs off, folds them, sticks them into his pocket—declares the paper good for nothing but to burn. So it goes. Every one thinks it ought to be printed for himself, as he is a subscriber; and yet, after all this complaining, would you believe it, sir," said the corporal, clasping his hands beseechingly, "would you believe it, sir, there are some subscribers who do not hesitate to cheat the poor printer out of his pay! Our army swore terribly in Flanders, but they never did anything so *bad* as that."—[Evansville Enquirer.

An Extraordinary Tree.—A great coniferous tree has been discovered in California, 300 feet high, on the elevated slopes of the Sierra Nevada, near the Stanislaus and San Antonia rivers, in lat 38 N., long. 120. 6,000 feet above the level of the sea. From 80 to 90 trees exist, all within the circuit of one mile—some are solitary, some are in pairs, and some stand three or four together. A tree recently felled was 320 feet in length, and 29 feet 2 inches in diameter at five feet from the ground; at 18 feet from the ground it was 14 feet 6 inches in diameter, and at 200 feet high it was 5 feet 5 inches in diameter. Judging from its concentric rings, it is above 3,000 years old; and one of them, when hollowed, formed a spacious room, which, on one occasion, admitted 140 children without inconvenience. It grows not more than two inches in 20 years, and this proves its age, and that it must have been in existence when Sampson was slaying the Philistines, and when the pious Æneas carrying off his father Anchises on his shoulders from the ruins of Troy.

In a lenten pastoral addressed to the archdiocess of Westminster, after alluding to the impending convulsion Cardinal Wiseman says—"Wherefore we further enjoin that, as soon as war shall be publicly announced (should the Divine mercy not avert it) there shall be inserted in the prayer recited after mass on Sundays for Her Majesty the Queen the clause, for forty years omitted, *hostess superare*, that she may conquer her enemies."

A LARGE PROFIT.—Owing to the very small supply of Russia hemp in this market, and the small amount coming forward, prices have generally advanced. We see it stated that a leading house in this city, some time since, purchased in Russia about $25,000 worth, which will soon arrive at this port, for which they have been offered $100,000, leaving them a profit of nearly seventy five thousand dollars.—[Boston Chronicle.

CULTURE OF HEMP.—The New Haven Courier says that hemp can be very successfully cultivated in Connecticut and asks—"Why will not our farmers raise it more extensively? The Russian war will ensure high prices for the coming and perhaps subsequent years."

We think that if farmers in New Brunswick would turn their attention to the culture of hemp, they would find it to be a most profitable article of commerce.—[New Brunswicker.

AMERICAN CLIPPERS. The new clipper ship Red Jacket, built in Rockland, has been purchased in Liverpool, Messrs. Pilkington & Wilson, for £30,000, and will sail for Australia about the same time as the American built clipper ship Lightning. These vessels made most remarkable passages to Liverpool and their performance on the long voyage to Australia will be watched with much interest.

The British war steamer Devastation arrived at Havana on the 16th.

Six hundred slaves, landed near Trinidad, had been siezed by the government.

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