

## TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA

The steamship Crescent City arrived at New York on Tuesday last, with dates from San Francisco to the 24 of March.

The Crescent City passengers made the first trip over the Panama Railroad. All the passengers on the Isthmus were taken off by the Northern and Oregon.

The town of Downville was destroyed by fire on the night of the 21st ult.; loss over \$200,000.

Several defalcations have recently come to light. The Treasurer of Collier County has absconded with \$30,000, and the Treasurer of Sacramento with large amounts.

The yield of gold from the mines is somewhat diminished, owing to scarcity of water. Very little rain has fallen since the last season.

Crime is on the increase, particularly burglaries and robberies.

Later accounts from the Downville fire represent the loss as \$750,000.

A great project is on foot for organizing a company to turn the South Fork of the American River.

A series of Indian atrocities have been committed on Feather River, and some hundred miners had executed summary justice upon as many of the criminals as could be discovered.

The steamer Ohio arrived at San Francisco on the 23d, with the unfortunate passengers from the steamer McKim, previously reported at San Diego. Some of her passengers had subsisted on but one biscuit per day.

Two Sidney men supposed to be connected with a daring set of villains who had committed robberies at the Calaveras county diggings, were arrested by the people and executed on the spot.

The accounts from Utah are to the 15th of November. A severe hail storm had visited San Isabel; the hail was one foot in depth.

The news from the Isthmus of Panama is not of special importance. The most important articles appear relative to the late ticket swindling operation.

Our papers from the Sandwich Islands are down to Feb. 7. Business was very dull and discouraging.

A curious phenomenon occurred at Honolulu on the latter part of Jan. The sea rose to such a height as to submerge several houses and plantations. The incident is attributed to submarine volcanic agency.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.—The general appearance of the market is better. Agricultural implements were active; flour in consequence of large supplies, has declined; Hides and Shoes improving.

Bricks scarce and active. Leather dull. Lumber of ordinary quality is lower. Provisions generally firmer.

FROM NEWFOUNDLAND.—We have papers from this island to the 22d ult. The Patriot says that the weather was adverse to the success of the intrepid sailing voyagers.

The electric telegraph has been established between St. John's and Conception Bay, much to the wonder and gratification of the people.

SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS.—The Patriot of the 22d, contains the following statement:—

We beg to report, for the especial benefit of our supporting friends of Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, that several articles of consumption range just now excessively high here, and are very scarce in the market. Cattle are 12s. per hoghead; Fresh Beef from 10s. to 1s. per lb.; pork, mutton, veal, &c., all ranging at the same enormous prices. Beans and cattle of all kinds, have not been so scarce for many years. Potatoes are 10s. per barrel, and with all other vegetables are not easily to be obtained at that. We could not invite our neighbours to visit us at a season in which more remunerating sales of cargoes of these necessities could be obtained. Come on, then, as speedily as possible with your coals, your Cattle, and your Potatoes! We have prognostications of fine weather and an open coast, and no doubt of profitable sales.

We regret to learn of the loss in the neighbourhood of Trepassy on the 8th inst., of the Halifax schooner Harriet, Capt. Collins, from Halifax bound to this port. Crew saved.

RECIPROCAL TRADE WITH CANADA.—A meeting of the Buffalo Board of Trade was held on Monday, when the following (among others) resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved.—That we regard with satisfaction the efforts being made in Congress and elsewhere, to secure the advantages of a reciprocal trade with Canada. That, in the opinion of this Board, a system of commercial exchanges may be adopted which will be beneficial to both parties, and contribute in the highest degree to promote that freedom of intercourse and good neighbourhood which are the best securities against national prejudices and the strongest barrier against hostile collisions.

Resolved.—That while we do not expect the one Government to depart from its fixed policy of imposing duties upon importations for revenue, we believe that many articles of commerce may be made free to both countries on the northern frontier without materially affecting the revenues of either, and at the same time to save the labor and expense of distant and circuitous transportation, and exempt our citizens from an indefinite amount of personal annoyance, and remedy all the evils of a contraband trade.

Resolved.—That, in the opinion of this Board, the list of articles to be made free should be such that the average value of a number of years of those going from the States to Canada, should be near as possible equal to those coming from Canada to the States during the same period, and that it

would not be difficult to make such a list from the statistics of the trade between the two countries.

## COMMUNICATION

For the Standard  
Distressed, away up in the Woods,  
March 31, 1852.

Well, Mr. Smith—I could tell you in my last, that old Squire Dodge was expected next day to leave for New York, and Larry Mehan, again the Municipal Corporation bill. Now the squire is a fine old gentleman in his own way, chuck full of humanity, a sensible, good natured, and full of every thing that constitutes a good man, barring that he is of the old school of fifty years standing, and so far from any improvement or reform in our social or political affairs, that the very mention of such throws him into spasms; in fact, like all the old residents, he is so antiquated, and thinks that any thing that would go to enlarging the liberty and freedom of the mass of the people, should be tolerated, as it is an innovation on old standard rules and customs. But here is the old gentleman; let him speak for himself. Good morning, Biddy; how is Biddy and the children?

Bedad, your honour, we're all well, giving you thanks; how is it with yourself, the mistress, the boys and cooless the girls? I mean your honour?—Hearty as a back, Miles, only I can't jump so high, and as the old proverb says, "all alive and kicking," but Miles, I'm over here on special business, and expected Larry Mehan here before me; he is not yet come, your honour, but stop in a minute, and rest you; if Larry promised to meet you here he's not the man to break his word. I'm sorry, squire, I can't give you a drop after your walk, but you must know since I joined the sons of Temperance, a taste has entered my door. Come, hurry round, Biddy, and get the squire something to eat, it will help to take the wind off his stomach after his walk. It's all very well, Miles, for those who cannot use a thing without abusing it, to join the temperance movement, but some how I don't think that these innovations on old customs and habits are any benefit to the country; I often heard my father and grandfather say that the old way was the best and surest; these new-fashioned ways are always attended with much hubbub and turmoil that people get bewildered and don't know what they are doing half the time, and it is for that very reason I am here to-day; you know that of the 22d of April the Sheriff has called a meeting in St. Andrews to see if there will be a majority to accept the bill; and you must be aware, Miles, that if the bill is accepted, and the county incorporated, it will entail an enormous amount of taxation, so that the inhabitants will not be able to bear it; besides, where will there be men got for Councilmen; we have had work to get four men to make Representatives of, and if the bill is carried, there must be two Councilmen selected for each Parish; and, on my word and honour, I do not know where they are to be got; therefore, I came over here to-day to get you and Larry Mehan to go to St. Andrews and vote against the bill; I fear your honour has went to a great deal of unnecessary trouble, unless you can produce better arguments than you have, for so far I will vote right again you; and for the bill, what's that you say, Miles Muldoon, you understand you right, I fear you can't your honour, that I will go the whole hog for the bill, and so will Larry Mehan, and the blessing of God, so that is safely fixed on that score. I am aware, squire, that not only you, but every understrapper from the sheriff down who holds the most petty office has set his face against the bill to cry it down, least he should be displaced, and a better man put in his place; you also know that the whole cry is, that we are to be taxed to an enormous amount, and this is done to prop up the old rotten system which has been practised on the people for years. Wud you, or any other man, cram it down my throat that we cannot get good men in each and every Parish to do our business without having it done by the Magistrates in their old irresponsible and bungling manner. If they don't do right we can put them out and put others in their place, and keep displacing them until we get men who will do right. You cannot get them, Miles; they are not in the country, they have not the learning, they are not ripe for the bill, they cannot govern themselves, they don't know what self government is; therefore, it is a waste of time and money, and the county will go to ruin if the County is incorporated. Could it go to the dogs worse than it has for years gone by, when the Magistrates audited their own accounts, and assessed the people, and done whatever suited themselves; but with the assessment, they were glorious times, squire, and maybe it was no easy matter to get it broke up, but it is in a great measure broke up as the Grand Jury audit the accounts now, or as many of them as they can in the short space of time they have to sit. "I cannot see that they do it as well as the Magistrates after all, Miles." Do it, or do it not, they give better satisfaction, squire. But here is Larry Mehan; he knows more about it than I do; so we will have his opinion of the matter.

Your's, MILES MULDOON.

[We are obliged to omit Larry's opinion, from want of room, until our next.]

The steamship Niagara left Halifax on Friday last for Liverpool. Among her passengers is the Hon. Mr. Chandler, from this Province, who goes home for the purpose of obtaining the money for the construction of the Halifax and Quebec Railway.

It is stated that the Hon. Mr. Howe will follow in the next steamer from Halifax—New Brunswick.

## NEW-BRUNSWICK. PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

Thursday, April 1.—The House referred the decision of the Scrutiny case back to the Committee by a majority of one. Several propositions were made, such as to declare the seat vacant, &c. &c., but none of them were adopted.

The House in Supply passed nearly all the grants to officers in Saint John, Light House, appropriations, and various others.

The Hucanack Bill has been again rejected by the Council.

It is said the House will be prorogued on Thursday next.—Messrs. Needham and Johnson have obtained leave of absence.

Friday, April 2.—A bill for appropriate £2500 for cutting Grandis Canal was lost.

An address to appropriate this amount out of money voted for the improvement of the River was proposed—consideration postponed.

House in supply; much time was spent in consideration of grants to the Fish Wardens in Charlotte—£100 was voted for the erection of a Marine Hospital in Richmond—no other appropriation of consequence.

The Scrutiny (Charlotte County) was adjourned till next session.

A bill to suspend the Saw Dust Law, Saint John, was introduced at a later hour by Mr. Taylor. Mr. Gray raised some objection, much was said about the laudability of its introduction, and a first time.

In reply to Mr. Montgomery relative to reciprocity and the bill before the Congress, the Attorney General replied that the Government of this Province had not last night of his important subject—correspondence between His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and the Governor-General upon the subject had been going on during the winter, and the moment the rumour of a bill to effect reciprocal trade with Canada being before Congress reached this place, a communication with the Governor-General was made.

The Governor-General's communication was a long one, and contained many valuable suggestions, which the Government of this Province had no power of making official communication with the Authorities at Washington, this could only be done through the Governor-General or the British Government, and also these suggestions for reciprocal trade by the lower Province would have to be based upon very different principles from those of Canada.

As the communications from Lower Province to the American Government, were widely and justly known, and were not only known, but were also known by the British Government, which might make distinct bills necessary in Congress. The Government however, having official information of any bill upon the subject, being yet introduced into Congress.

An address passed, inquiring into the condition of the Westmorland County Register. It is announced that the House will be prorogued on Wednesday next.

## THE STANDARD.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1852.

ELECTION OF PARISH OFFICERS.—A meeting for the election of Town and Parish Officers, was held yesterday in the Town Hall. S. H. Whitlock, Esq. was chosen to fill the Chair. We have seldom witnessed an assembly among whom more interest was manifested in the choice of Officers; indeed it was equal to some elections for Legislative Representatives. Much delay might have been avoided by adopting the ballot system, and we were pleased to observe, that, by a resolution introduced and passed unanimously, all Parish Officers will be elected by ballot, in future.

We are gratified to learn, that the House of Assembly on the 3d inst. passed a grant of £50 to D. W. Jack, Esq., Deputy Treasurer, at this Port, for services last year, in addition to the £200 paid him by law. Mr. Jack's duties are onerous, and he has been doing double duty for some time, for which he is entitled to £100 additional at least, and will no doubt receive it when the Government are acquainted with the facts.

THE SCRUTINIES.—The Charlotte Scrutiny is "hung up" until next Session. The Westmorland Scrutiny has been brought to a close by the House. Mr. Chapman, the sitting Member's seat, has been declared void, and a new election is to take place. It is ridiculous that the time of Committees in the Assembly, should have been taken up with these scrutinies for two years, attended with great expense, and now put off the one, and order a new election for the other. A registry of voters would save all this loss of time and expense to the Country.

THE HON. THOMAS BAILLIE.—We understand this gentleman, after a residence in this Country of twenty seven years, is preparing to take his departure for England. Mr. Baillie will carry with him the warm regards of a large majority of the people of this Province and their earnest wishes for his welfare. We should regret his departure did we not believe he will live happier in England than he could here, and did we not believe that he will always entertain a sincere desire for the prosperity of this country, and will be enabled effectively to serve the interests of the Colonists through his numerous friends in England, some of whom are now connected with the Ministry. We trust that the members of

our Executive Government will endeavour so to arrange any matters now in dispute, as to secure a continuance of Mr. Baillie's friendship.—Loyalist.

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH PREDICTED.—At a banquet given on the occasion of the opening of the submarine telegraph between England and France, Mr. John Brett stated that it was over a cup of tea, early in 1845, that his brother and he first discussed the project, the successful completion of which they were then celebrating; and in the month of July, in the same year, they drew up a plan for not only uniting England and France, but Ireland, and the most distant colonies in India. Some of the most eminent engineers, he said, regarded the scheme as "impracticable," but the fact of yesterday was the fact of to-day. Mr. Brett mentioned the remarkable fact, that in 1666 one Gilbert published a book, in which he said that the day was not far distant, when men would be able to communicate from one end of the world to the other by means of electricity. This prediction may now be said to be in course of realization, if not actually realized; and Mr. Brett believes that "not only Paris and Vienna, but Constantinople, Calcutta, Peking and America, will, in a few years, be our next door neighbors."—Boston Journal.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF TREMONT TEMPLE FIRE.—On Wednesday morning last, a fire broke out in the Tremont Temple, Boston, which was entirely destroyed, notwithstanding the almost super-human efforts of the firemen. A number of persons were severely injured by the falling of the walls, and a fireman named Esty, and another man named Hall lost their lives. The loss by this conflagration is estimated at \$200,000.—There was insurance on the building to the amount of \$25,000. The Post says:—

Many of the front side and upper rooms were occupied by artists, whose works were entirely destroyed. Mr. King, the sculptor, was one of the sufferers. From the Tremont House opposite, the flames could be seen playing round his great bust of Mr. Webster for sometime. Of the splendid collection of paintings, owned by Thomas Thompson, Esq., and occupying a suite of ten rooms, not a vestige is left. It embraced many chief-deuvres of the old masters, and could not have cost less than 50,000 dollars.

The fire originated in an upper room in the north-west corner of the building. If the first hose carried up had been a few feet longer the fire could have been confined to that room.

During the height of the fire the sight was truly magnificent, the large body of flame illuminating the whole city and surrounding towns.

## THE MINIE RIFLE.

This recently invented weapon, which is likely to be generally adopted in the British service, is thus described in our valuable exchange, "The Army and Navy Register & Woolwich Gazette," of the 16th ult. says:—

The Minie-musket, or rifle, most approved and ordered to be generally introduced into the Service, is a remarkably well finished article, and lighter and more easily used than the previous percussion muskets.

The Minie rifle has four grooves inside, and the mode of loading it is first to bite off the (rotated) waste paper at the end of the cartridge, put in the powder at the mouth of the barrel, and by a turn of the thumb and finger, forcing the cartridge, reverse the ball that the conical point may be upwards. The paper of the cartridge is subsequently drawn off the ball and thrown away, no wadding of any kind being used. The ramrod is then drawn and reversed, and the head being caught in the groove, it has a good purchase, and does not require a second or subsequent ramming. The piece is then fixed with great ease, and is said to be capable of carrying the ball 1200 yards, and with correct aim up to 900 yards, the aim for all distances from 300 to 900 yards being taken correctly by a parallel frame marked with the respective distances it is wished the ball should be carried when directed at an object, a slide in the frame being raised or lowered to take the "sight." The "sight" in day was excellently adapted for the purpose, and in very thick weather of the night, the "sight" is very little affected. The N. C. says that the rifle appears much pleased with the new arm, and its simplicity, and light yet efficient appearance. The conical ball has a hard metal cup of nearly half its diameter inserted at the base, and on firing the metal spreads out and expands the lead into the grooves of the rifle, which gives the ball a true direction towards the target or object desired to be struck with it.

The orange trees of Florida, which it was feared had been injured by late severe frosts, will be benefited by the cold weather the orange insect being destroyed in large numbers.

## MARRIAGES.

At B. Cabot's, on the 1st inst. by the Rev. John Ross, Mr. James Stevenson of Oak Bay, to Agnes, sixth daughter of the late Rev. John Cassilis.

## SHIPPING JOURNAL.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

ARRIVED.—

April 1st.—Packer Sprat, Baltimore, St. John's, merchant.

4th.—Packer, Fane, Cole, St. John's, merchant.

6th.—Packer, Fane, Cole, St. John's, merchant.

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## FLOUR, SUGAR &c., BY AUCTION.

On Saturday next 10th instant, at 11 o'clock, at the Subscriber's Auction Room, will be sold as follows:

- 20 Bbls Canada extra superfine Flour,
- 5 " Rye Flour,
- 2 Tierces " Muscovado Sugar,
- 6 Bbls " Souchong Tea,
- 5 Chests " Souchong Tea,
- 10 Boxes Yellow Soap,
- 10 " Mould and Dip Candles,
- 6 Cases 1 doz. each, fine pale Holland,
- 2 Bbls Cider Vinegar,
- 3 Crates Earthenware, assorted.
- One Hhd Molasses, &c. &c.

April 6th, 1852. J. W. STREET.

## For Sale or to Let,

THE HOUSE and PREMISES, on Frederick street, now occupied by the Rev. John Ross, and possession to be given on the 1st day of next, or perhaps earlier, if required.

D. W. JACK.

## ST. JOHN NURSERY.

J. HARRIS has just received from London, via Boston, a good collection of

GARDEN SEEDS.

Farmers and Gardeners would do well to have these seeds, as they are excellent samples, and many of the kinds are of new and improved qualities. At this Nursery the variety of TREES, PLANTS, SHRUBS, ROOTS, SEEDS, &c. are extensive, particularly the DAHLIAS, of these J. H. has about 20 new kinds of a novel character, blended with perfection—a desideratum gained after 25 years' incessant perseverance.

Every thing suitable for the Kitchen, Fruit, and Flower Garden, will be sent to order. Chipman's Hill, St. John, April 2, 1852.—1

## NEW PACKET.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the Public, that he will commence running his schooner, the "SUSAN," as a Packet between

St. Stephen, St. Andrews and St. John, about the 15th April. His vessel is well adapted for passengers and freight, and he trusts by attention and despatch, to merit a share of public patronage.

WM. J. LORD.

## STEAM SAW MILL FOR

FOR SALE.

THE STEAM SAW MILL situated in the Town of St. Andrews with the privileges appertaining thereto. The Mill drives two gangs Saws with Ewing and Trimming Machines, and is in good order and built of the best materials; there is also a Lath Machine in the Mill, and the Machinery is so constructed, as to admit of a Gig Mill being attached at a moderate expense. For terms, which will be liberal and further particulars, apply to

J. W. STREET or WM. WHITLOCK.

St. Andrews, 6th April, 1852.

## TO LET.

Possession given 1st May next.

That STORE occupied by J. W. Street, Esq. Apply on the Premises.

April 6, 1852.

## For Sale or to Let,

From 1st May next.

THE HOUSE and PREMISES, with a Garden Lot and good Well, at the top of Queen street, at present in the occupation of Mr. Paisly, at the Commissioners' Department.

Apply to J. W. STREET April 3, 1852.

## ST. ANDREWS & QUEBEC RAILROAD.

NOTICE OF CALL.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Shareholders in the above Company, that a

THIRD CALL OF TEN PER CENT. ON THEIR SUBSCRIBED STOCK,

has been made by a Resolution of the Board of Directors, by virtue and under the authority of the power vested in them by the Act of Incorporation, and that such Call is payable on or before the 7th day of July next ensuing, at either of the following Banks, viz.—Charlotte County Bank, St. Andrews; British North American Bank, St. John, Fredericton, and Woodstock.

By Order of the Board, S. H. WHITLOCK, Secretary.

Railroad Rooms, St. Andrews, March 30th, 1852.

[Royal Gazette, and New Brunswick.]

## ST. ANDREWS & QUEBEC RAILROAD COMPANY.

NOTICE is hereby given, that in pursuance of the Act of Incorporation, the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company, will be held at a Town Hall, in Saint Andrews, on the FIRST TUESDAY IN MAY NEXT AT FOUR O'CLOCK, for the purpose of choosing Directors and for the transaction of other business.

Dated Saint Andrews, March 24, 1852. JOHN WILSON, President. S. H. WHITLOCK, Secretary.

## FLOUR & SUGAR.

MARCH 29th, 1852.

JUST ARRIVED, per the Ulrica from Boston.

50 Bbls Canada S. fine FLOUR, 5 Hds Prime Muscovado SUGAR, Which will be sold low from the wharf.

J. W. STREET.