PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA

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The Head Quarters.

COMMUNICATION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEAD QUARTERS]

SIR,—I felt inclined, at first, to allow the Communication in the last *Reporter*, signed "*An Episcopalian*," to pass without notice; partly because the writer has in several places, so horribly mutilated the Queen's English, as to render it utterly impossible to comprehend his meaning; and partly, because even its intelligible passages appeared to me little better than clumsy evasions of the points really at issue. Lest, however, my silence should be misinterpreted, I have on further consideration, resolved to trouble your readers with a few words in reply.

The greater portion of his first paragraph I confess myself unable to understand. What, for example, can possibly be the meaning of "participations in an Apostolic command?" and what is it to "share these participations?" Unless some explanation be given, my "conscience" cannot "decide" upon the point submitted to it; nor can his readers ascertain what that is, which he affirms, "will easily be conceded or denied."

With matchless prudence he forbears to offer any reply to the inquiry made in my former letter, respecting the grounds on which the petitioners were desirous of interfering with the Bishop's arrangements. He ought not, however, to have shown less regard to truth than to policy, by insinuating, that "I wished to deprive them of the free exercise of the right of petitioning." Not a single sentence escaped me, which could fairly be thus interpreted. My only desire was, that the right should be *judiciously* exercised. I could see in the present instance, many reasons why the Parishioners should remain silent; but I was at a loss to discover any which should induce them to petition. If this writer is in possession of the secret, he doubtless sees cause sufficient for keeping it to himself. Any candid person, who has read "*An Episcopalian's*" communication, must have remarked, that he makes no attempt to disprove any of my statements, or to overturn, by so much as the shadow of an argument, any of my conclusions. From the strain in which he writes, none can doubt his *willingness* to do both; but from his manifest perversions and evasions of my meaning, I am fully warranted in questioning his *ability* to do either. His chief aim appears to be, to fasten upon me the charge of having violated the principles of Christian charity; and this he endeavours to effect, not by adducing proof, but by reiterating the accusation. He evidently needs to be informed, that to tell the truth plainly and faithfully, even when most painful to the feelings of those to whom it is addressed, is not only perfectly consistent with the law of "brotherly love;" but is often the best and strongest expression of that love. Keeping this important principle in view, he will be able to understand much, which appears to be at present, quite beyond his comprehension.

In what, with surpassing elegance, he styles their "twiddle-twaddle conversations," he admits that some of those, whose cause he advocates, may "*apparently*" have objected to certain doctrines of their reverend teacher—and yet these same persons, he informs us, committed the "solemn act" of signing, (whether *apparently* or really is not stated,) a petition in favour of that gentleman; which petition, be it observed, expressed the fullest approval of his whole career. Now I ask, does not "*An Episcopalian*," by these concessions, give, however reluctantly, his decisive testimony, in support of that very charge of "inconsistency," for bringing which he accuses me of manifesting an unchristian spirit? Unquestionably he does. He endeavours, however, to weaken the force of this testimony, by insinuating that it is a matter of little or no importance, whether or not our deeds in public correspond with our words in private. In our "twiddle-twaddle conversations" we may freely express our objections to certain opinions; and then, by a "solemn" public act, we may, without deserving censure, declare our hearty assent to them! What a detestable principle is this! and to what fearful consequences must it lead if legitimately carried out! Yet, this is the morality which a writer, calling himself a member of the Church of England, and standing forth as the champion of a "large majority" of her sons in this City, has the hardihood to defend in the face of a christian community! I would fain, however, indulge the hope that he errs through ignorance, and that when more fully instructed, he will come to a better mind.

Passing over his singular application of the term "*Evangelical*," his "*Christian oil*," and his "*Vinegar bottle*," as also that extraordinary thing, called "*a cap-sheef of Christian forbearance*," and which he affirms possesss the remarkable faculty of performing a wonder never before known, namely, that of "silencing all sober reflection;" that is to say, of silencing that which cannot be otherwise than silent:—passing over all this, I come to that part of his communication in which he gravely charges me with having imputed to my "fellow christians" the guilt of a "*premeditated fraud*." Now let it be understood that, what I advanced in my first letter, I still maintain without qualification, or evasion; but that the deception there alluded to was deliberate or "*premeditated*," I never asserted, nor did I ever believe. On the contrary, it was my firm conviction, from the first, that there had been, not only in this particular, but in the whole transaction, a deplorable *want* of "premeditation," and that this was in fact the true cause of the monstrous anomalies which our eyes have witnessed.

The precept from the Gospel to which this writer seems to refer, and which he accuses me of having perverted, he will find, on a closer examination, relates altogether to matters of private grievance or wrong, and is therefore totally inapplicable to the present case. Offences of a public character demand a different kind of treatment.

I had ventured to recommend to such persons as had signed the address under erroneous impressions, and who therefore had done that, which with a perfect knowledge of the whole matter, they would have refrained from doing, to erase their names. As they had taken a false step, it appeared to me that, on every ground, the sooner they retraced it the better. This "*Episcopalian*," however, if I rightly understand his closing paragraph, is of quite a different opinion. It seems to be more in accordance with his system of morals, stubbornly to persist in an error, than frankly to acknowledge it. Such a regard for consistency, misplaced as it is, must strike your readers as singularly at variance with his attempt to extenuate the fault of those, who, from some sudden and unaccountable impulse, had acted in direct opposition to the sentiments, which he admits, they had previously expressed.

As for his little attempts to be facetious at my expense, I should be sorry to deprive so weak an antagonist of any advantage they are capable of affording him. Let not my forbearance, however, encourage his presumption. He would do well to exhibit, hereafter, as much prudence in this respect as he has already learned to exercise in evading the point of an argument, lest perchance he should fall into the hands of those who would not allow "limping wit" to escape with impunity.

And now, before I conclude, I will avail myself of the privilege, which his example has afforded me, of offering him a little friendly counsel. It may indeed be altogether palatable, but it is one which his most intelligent friends will acknowledge he peculiarly needs. Let me then entreat him most rigidly, in future, his strictures on passing events, to the "twiddle-twaddle" of his "private conversations;" and not rashly to hazard his reputation, by committing them to the press, till he has acquired some little skill in the art of reasoning, as well as a competent knowledge of his mother tongue. Should he, however, be unable to repress his desire to appear in print, let him on no account, neglect to place his manuscript in the hands of some able and judicious friend, who knowing his sentiments, would kindly undertake to elucidate its obscure passages, or to translate them into language intelligible to Her Majesty's subjects. Finally, I would recommend him in all seriousness, to apply himself with increased diligence and humility, to the study of those Holy Scriptures, which he at present quotes to so little purpose; they will teach him the principles of a charity more enlightened and comprehensive, as well as of a morality purer and safer, than seem as yet to characterize *his* philosophy. And by learning from them "not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think," he will be preserved from meddling with subjects, which he evidently cannot master, and be induced to resign his controversial pen into more skilful and experienced hands.

Here I take my leave, both of "*An Episcopalian*" and of the subject.

I am, Your's, &c.

A CHURCHMAN.

Fredericton, 9th Sept., 1845.

Bank of British North America.

FREDERICTON BRANCH.

GEORGE TAYLOR, Esq.—MANAGER.

DISCOUNT DAYS, *Wednesday and Saturday.*

Bills intended for Discount must be left at the Office on Tuesdays and Fridays.

N. B.—The NOTES of this Branch are redeemed *at par*, at all the Branches and Agencies of the *Bank of British North America* in CANADA.

Central Bank of New Brunswick.

W. J. BEDELL, - - - *President.*
SAM. W. BABBIT, - - *Cashier.*

DISCOUNT DAYS, *Tuesdays and Fridays.*

Bills or Notes for Discount must be left at the Bank on Mondays and Thursdays.

☞ The NOTES of this Bank are redeemed at the CITY BANK, Quebec, at par.

Central Fire Insurance Company of N. Brunswick

MONTHLY COMMITTEES.

DIRECTORS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1845.—*Chas. McPherson and J. Willot.*

The Head Quarters.

Fredericton, Wednesday, September 17, 1845.

RAIL-ROAD FROM HALIFAX TO QUEBEC.

This magnificent, and to the people of this Province most important measure, seems now to be seriously taken up by the best informed portion of the Commercial community in this Province, as well as by others, whose standing and means of information entitle their opinions to have more than ordinary consideration.

We cannot tell how far the arguments which are said to be used in favor of the Route, via "Indian Point, Fredericton and Woodstock," may weigh with Capitalists in England, but we hope that the judgment of commercial men will have some weight in determining the matter, and we think they will give their opinion for the route which will pay the best.

On the 14th of last December when attempting to urge on the people of this Province the importance of the commerce of the valley of the St. John above Fredericton, and the necessity of increased communication, by improving the navigation of the Saint John River, we took some pains to ascertain the amount in *bulk*, of merchandise which had been transported by the present slow, and unsafe means the previous summer. We are willing to admit, that to make a Rail Road, or any other rapid communication *pays*, it must be placed in such a situation as will in all probability secure the transport of a majority of passengers likely to visit its extreme ends; but we also believe that the *way* passengers cannot be very few through a district which is acknowledged to be a fine agricultural country, and which requires only to be better known to be more highly appreciated. We copy below the article which appeared in the last St. John *Courier* on this subject, and append the estimates to which we have already referred—

"The attention of the Chamber of Commerce of this City having been called by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to the subject of this contemplated Railroad, a Committee of the Chamber was appointed to draw up a Report respecting the same, which was submitted to a full meeting, held last Saturday, and unanimously adopted. The Report has since been engrossed and forward to the head of the Government, and we understand, will shortly be published at length.—It first lays down the absolute necessity, in order to the accomplishment of the undertaking, of obtaining the co-operation of capitalists in England, which can only be effected by making it appear evident that they will receive a fair remuneration for the capital invested, and with this view, proceeds to exhibit the nature, distances, and advantages of the two routes already spoken of, viz: that from Halifax round the head of the Bay of Fundy to the Grand Falls, and thence to Quebec, and that from Halifax to Bridgetown, thence to Indian Point, in Digby Strait; thence by steamer to Saint John; thence through Fredericton and Woodstock to the Grand Falls, and thence to Quebec, the whole distance of the latter being five hundred and sixty miles, which it is estimated could be travelled in twenty four hours. We hope to be able to give the Report at length in our next number.

The route round the head of the Bay is clearly deficient in many of the requisites necessary for the support of any railway which might be constructed there, while that through the valley of the Saint John, even at the present time, offers no visionary field for public or private enterprise. On one portion of the line particulary, (from Fredericton to the Grand Falls) as we were informed by the report, the freight of goods and passage money in one year amounts to about forty thousand pounds; and the great advantage of connecting the eastern and western coasts of Nova Scotia, and the Commercial City of Saint John with the thriving inland towns of Fredericton, Woodstock and Grand Falls, and the probable increase of travel between these places, cannot be lost sight of in the selection of a safe, easy, and proutable route.

It is gratifying to observe the enthusiasm with which the contemplated railroad is received by all classes in New Brunswick,—and we have no doubt that the most ample encouragement in the power of the Legislature will be extended by that body to a project which promises so many social, commercial, and political advantages.

We are pleased to learn that a numerously signed requisition was forwarded this morning by the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting His Excellency to call a public meeting of the inhabitants of the Province, to be held at an early day, for the purpose of giving a general expression of opinion in favour of this highly important undertaking."

Estimated amount of freight charged on Merchandise carried from St. John to Fredericton, during the Summer of 1844, by Steamboats and other Vessels, 60,000 Barrels bulk, at 9d. £2,250

Estimated amount of Freight charged on Merchandise carried from Fredericton to Woodstock, exclusive of cartage and expense of trans-shipping, 6,000 bbls. bulk, at 5s. during the above period, . 1,500

Estimated amount of Freight charged on merchandise carried from Fredericton to the Grand Falls, 10,000 bbls. at 10s. per. Brl. during the aforesaid period, . 5,000

£8,750

From the above estimate it appears that 16,000 barrels' bulk of Goods which costs *only* £600 freight from St. John to Fredericton would cost at Woodstock £4,600, and at the Grand Falls no less a sum than £8,600, besides cartage, storage, and other incidental expenses, which it is impossible to estimate.

We, to-day publish the communication of a "Churchman" who feels himself precluded from replying to an *Episcopalian*, in the quarter where the first article appeared. We have determined to have nothing to do with the dispute, further than to afford the means of defence to "A Churchman" for the cause already mentioned.

PLEASURE PARTY.—To-morrow morning, the steamer *Newbrunswick* leaves here with a party of pleasure, on a visit to St. John. If the day is fine there is no doubt but CAPT. WYLIE will take a goodly number of passengers to see the Regatta and visit their Saint John friends.

THEATRICALS.—The Company, which have for the last week been enlivening the lovers of the Drama, will, we understand, have the support of Mr. Freer for a few nights longer. Those who have seen him perform, can judge of his superior powers as a Tradgedian. He is second to none we have seen here.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA.—The Halifax *Sun* says, that it is rumoured that Lord Cathcart, who now commands the Troops in Canada, is likely soon to assume the Government of Nova Scotia. There are so many rumours afloat without much foundation, that it is very difficult to give credence to anything until it has actually happened,—particularly in these lower Provinces.

FIRES AND LOSS OF LIFE IN PHILADELPHIA.—On the 6th inst., a fire broke out in a Sugar Refinery, near the Mount Vernon House, which destroyed property to the amount of $25,000; and another, in the rear of Clark's Hotel, near the corner of Broadway and Cherry Streets, which is said to have consumed property to the amount of $300,000. During the progress of the first mentioned fire the other broke out, and one man was removed from the ruins dead, and several others belonging to the Fire Companies were severely injured.

☞ The last *Loyalist* contains an article about the "size of one's hand and nearly as flat"—saying, that to talk of incorporating Fredericton, is so "insulting to common sense, that if persisted in," he will do—mercy knows what—tell us all about "two or three lawyers" who sensibly influence this paper. Let the *Loyalist* name them—make comments which will not be agreable in a "certain quarter,"—name the "quarter" and give comments, for the days of Blue Beard and Raw Bones are gone by. The Editor of the Head Quarters *knows* the first lawyer who ably, and in his opinion, conscientiously advocated the incorporation of what is now, the city of Fredericton; but that was some time before the *Loyalist* had pronounced such notions "insulting to common sense." When our cotemporary gets through with his *expose* of the two or three legal gentleman, whose "influence has always been so sensibly felt," and his *unpleasant comments*, we may expect that he will furnish some reasonable estimate of the expense of the incorporation of Fredericton, according to his notions.

We take the following from an editorial article which appears in the *Newfoundland Courier* of the 3rd inst. So far as the Courier's remarks relate to the advantage of a knowledge of modern languages to those engaged in extensive mercantile pursuits, few will be prepared to deny their truth. A defect, which has, we believe, been felt and complained of in the Educational arrangements of King's College in this Province, has been obviated by the appointment of a Professor of modern Languages, who has lately arrived—

"EDUCATION.—No subject more important than that of Education can be brought under the notice of the community. The facilities the rising generation have hitherto enjoyed of acquiring an ordinary education were, certainly, not few. We have had good teachers and apt scholars; but we do not hesitate to say, that the subject has not met that universal attention, among all classes, to which it is pre-eminently entitled. Though the thirst for knowledge has been pretty general, yet it has not been so general as we could wish to have seen it. This may have arisen from a want of means among some, and from apathy among others. In the intelligent, however, we think, there can be none found, who do not fully appreciate the blessings which increased knowledge confers on their species; and they have consequently availed themselves of all the means our community has afforded of imparting a useful education to their children.

If we have, hitherto, not had Classical Academies, perhaps we were not so much in want of them, as now. The object of all Education being happiness, a Classical Education was not judged necessary for those whose pursuits in after life were purely mercantile.—Now the case is somewhat different. Our commerce has extended, and we perceive that the promotion of our trade requires a knowledge of the living languages—the French and Spanish—to pursue it with advantage. Our wealth has increased, and there are many among us who can well afford to spend a few pounds, for imparting to their sons, not only a business, but also a Classical course. Whether it may be their lot to turn the latter portion to advantage in after life will depend upon circumstances. If they should have to fill a station requiring an intimacy with the dead or living foreign languages, it will be satisfactory to know that they will be qualified in this respect for it.—Classical lore gives a polish to the mind, an elevation to thought, and an ample field for fancy to roam in, when at a loss for innate resources. Hence, it can be no burden to carry through life; and on a sensible mind it will never produce pedantic effects.

We omit the latter part of the following article from the *Montreal Gazette*, as it appears to bear with more than ordinary severity on Irishmen of all parties—

The citizens of Montreal where startled from their propriety on Sunday afternoon between three and four o'clock, by the assembling of a large crowd of persons, probably 2,000 or 3,000, on the wharf opposite the Custom House. It appears that a general expectation was entertained, that the absurd fanatic Burns, whom we have formerly mentioned, as causing disturbance by his preaching in the streets, intended to hold forth on the Custom House steps at the hour mentioned, and that a vast number of Orangemen, (a class wholly unheard of here until about eighteen months ago,) were determined to protect him from the Roman Catholic Irish who had insulted him on previous occasions.

Although the determination was so general, and agreed to some days before, the inhabitants of the City, exclusive of the parties engaged, knew nothing of it whatever. But fortunately Mr. Ferrier, the Mayor, and Col. Ermatinger, Police Magistrate being perfectly acquainted with the motions and designs of both parties, had taken the necessary precautions on Saturday for preventing the anticipated breach of the peace on Sunday afternoon. The City Police were ready at the Station House, and a body of the Mounted Police were also quietly brought into the neighbourhood.

About three o'clock, a dense body of Orangemen and Catholic Irish were on the ground, when the Mayor came up. Seeing the temper of these wicked and senseless madmen to be threatening, and that they only wanted an excuse for perpetrating here the shameful outrages which have disgraced portions of their native country, in the eyes of the civilized world, the Mayor sent for the police, but before they arrived a slight disturbance was begun, which however, their presence quelled.

The aspect of the two parties becoming more alarming, the Mayor immediately went for the military to prevent the bloodshed which was evidently meditated, leaving Col. Ermatinger to act as emergency might dictate. There was occasional rushing and noise after this, and detached cases of assult, which were put down very gallantly by the Police, some prisoners being taken. But the speedy appearance of the troops prevented all further danger of tumult, and the crowds gradually diminished. The troops piled their arms and lounged in the Custom House Square, until all dispersed.

(From the Royal Gazette of 6th September.)

NEW REGULATIONS

For the disposal of Timber and Lumber, under the 7th Victoria, cap. 35.

1st.—All applications shall be made by Petition, which shall describe the situation of the ground, and specify the number of square miles required by the applicant; no Petition to be for more than Ten nor less than Two square miles.

2nd.—From and after the 15th day of October next, applications will be received daily, during office hours, and shall have priority according to the day on which they are received in the office.

3rd.—Every applicant upon filing his Petition, shall deposit with the Receiver General the sum of Ten Shillings upon each square mile applied for; and if no other application be presented on the same day for the Berth so applied for, a receipt shall be given for the money paid, describing the ground applied for, which receipt shall be a sufficient authority to the Deputy, to Survey and lay off the ground for the applicant at his expense where necessary, and the Licence may be forthwith issued to the applicant, or where Survey is judged necessary, then as soon as the return of such Survey is received. But in case that two or more applications for the same ground are presented on the same day, the first applicant only shall pay the deposit, and should the party so depositing become the Purchaser, such deposit shall be applied towards the payment of the purchase money. And in case the ground so applied for should not be purchased by the depositor, or some other of the applicants, at the time advertised for the sale thereof, the deposit so made shall be forfeited; and in case some other applicant than the depositor shall become the Purchaser, and comply with the terms of sale, the amount so deposited shall be forthwith refunded to the party who may have paid the same.

4th.—All Berths applied for by two or more persons on the same day, shall, if vacant, be immediately advertised in the Royal Gazette, and fourteen days notice of sale given; and unless the whole of the Purchase money be paid by the Purchaser to the Receiver General at the time of sale, such sale shall be void; and the ground be forthwith put up again for competition between the remaining applicants; the upset price being in all cases Ten Shillings per Square mile.

5th.—No Timber, Logs or other Lumber shall under any pretence whatsoever, be cut upon the ground applied for until the Licence shall have been issued; and no License will be issued until the ground shall have been first Surveyed, and the expense thereof paid, unless the limits and bounds of the Berth applied for can be clearly described or identified either by a previous Survey or by known and established boundaries.

6th.—All Timber, Logs or other Lumber cut upon unlicenced Crown Lands, or which may be cut by any person beyond the limits of his own Berth, shall be seized and forfeited to the use of the Crown.

7th.—That the old regulation, giving one third of the proceeds of Timber seized and condemned, to the person or persons upon whose information and evidence such conviction may be obtained, be and is hereby rescined.

8th.—All persons having Licence to cut Timber on Crown Lands, and who may apply for their old ground before the previous Licence expires, shall have a preference of a renewel of Licence for such Blocks of their old ground, at the discretion of the Government, by private sale, at Ten Shillings per square mile, as he or they may make it appear they actually occupied and worked on the preceding year.

By His Excellency's Command

JOHN S. SAUNDERS.

Secretary's Office, 6th Sept. 1845.

THE FISHERIES.—We are much gratified to learn that our fishermen have been very successful in prosecuting their labours in the vicinity of Grand Manan during the last six weeks, and that they have been enabled to do so without any material molestation from the people of the Island—the visit of H. M. S. *Scylla*, Commander Sharpe, and the explanations made by that Officer having had the desired effect, for a time at least, of preventing the annoyance and destruction of property which the fishermen from St. John have been subjected to for some years past, by a number of lawless characters at Grand Manan.

It is reported—and the rumour will give much satisfaction to the Fishermen of the Provinces and the Inhabitants generally—that the representations of some influential Colonists, at present in England have had the effect of preventing the Home Government from making any further concessions on our coasts to Foreign fishermen, which the grasping cupidity of our Western neighbours had well nigh managed to obtain from the Home Government.—*Courier.*

GAS WORKS.—We are pleased to be able to announce that the erection of the Chimney of the Gas Company's establishment in this City, was commenced on Wednesday last, and that no time will now be lost in completing the necessary works and providing the requisite apparatus for lighting the City with gas.—*Ib.*

A VIEW OF KING'S SQUARE.—We saw last week a pretty view of King's Square, lately taken by Mr. George N. Smith, in water colours. It includes the Square, the Roman Catholic Chapel, Free Presbyterian Church, National School, &c., and reflects great credit on the gentleman whose pencil has procuced it. We learn it is intended for Mr. Sears, of New York, for his private collection.—*Herald.*

REGATTA.—We learn that the coming Regatta on the 19th inst., will be equal in every respect, if not of more interest than any that has hitherto taken place in this harbour, and measures are taking by the committee, to even surpass every thing of the kind that has occurred. We trust that the liberality of our citizens will not be withheld on this occasion, and that the exertions of the committee will be well seconded by the public in contributing to so interesting a piece of sport and amusement.—*Chronicle.*

LANDING OF THE ADMIRAL.—Yesterday morning at half past nine o'clock Admiral Sir FRANCIS AUSTEN, family, and suite, were landed from the *Vesuvius* Steamer at Reed's Point. The landing was effected quite privately and without any demonstration. We understand that his visit is to confer with our Government on matters of importance affecting the fisheries. He proceeded to Fredericton immediately in the Steamer New Brunswick.—*Herald.*

We regret to state that Mr. Reade, who accompanied his Excellency to the Falls, became so seriously indisposed on his return to Woodstock, as to be unable to proceed on his journey. He was obliged to remain at Mrs. Glover's, where he will be treated with the utmost kindness and attention. We understand when going to press, that, he has so far recovered, as to proceed to-day on his journey.—*Woodstock Telegraph.*

We are happy to learn, that Mr. Reade continues convalescent.

We have just been informed that the last company of troops stationed at Houlton left that place on Tuesday last *en route* for Texas.—*Ib.*

AGRICULTURE.—We have seen a specimen of WHEAT, grown this season on the Farm of Noah Disbrow, Esq. at Loch Lomond, which affords a most favourable testimony to the congeniality of our soil and climate for the production of the "Staff of life." Although the *ear* (in the specimen sent us) is small, yet the *grain* is full-bodied, firm and sweet, and of good colour; while, happily, it is also entirely free from weevil or rot. We congratulate Mr. Disbrow on this successful experiment, (and especially, as the summer of 1845 has by no means been a brilliant one); as it satisfactorily proves, that there is no physical impediment to the raising and ripening of wheat, in ordinary seasons, in this section of the province; and we hope it will be the means of stimulating our farmers, in general, to the cultivation of this most important and valuable article of food. There can be no reason why we should continue to send out of the country so large an amount of Cash, in purchase of one of the first necessaries of life, when we can and ought to raise it in abundance on our own soil.—*Observer.*

We regret to learn during the last week of further failures of the Potatoe crop in this neighbourhood. On several farms, it is feared, they will not be fit to use at all. During former seasons a disease of a similar kind has passed over the United States and Canada, affecting the Potatoes so much that the use of them caused death to men and cattle. The Harvesting of grain has been much retarded by wet and cold.—*Pictou Chronicle.*

EXTENSIVE ROBBERY.—A robbery of Tens to the extent, it is said, of nearly one hundred packages, was a few days since discovered to have taken place at the warehouse of Messrs. Charman and Co., since which every exertion has been making by Mr. Charman to detect the parties who committed the robbery. The result has been the arrest and committal of three persons on Thursday night, under very strong suspicions.—*Halifax Journal.*

IMPORTANT EROM THE SOCIETY ISLANDS.—The following is an extract of a letter published in the Hartford (U. S) Times, dated OAHITA, March 15:

"There is a war going on here between the French and natives. There was an engagement between them a few days since, in which the French lost 400 men, and the natives about 80.—There is now an army of natives, 8000 strong, in sight. They are waiting for some movements of the English and Americans, when they will attack the town now in possession of the French. It is thought that the French, who are much to be blamed for coming here and starving the peaceable natives, driving them from their towns, will get the worst of it. I was on shore yesterday, and saw a great many of the French soldiers, who were wounded in the last battle. Queen Pomare has left the isle and gone to another. She restrains the natives of the other isles for the sake of peace, but they will soon rebel against her orders; they are strong, and will assist their brethren to rid their islands of the French usurped authority. The Brandywine and two English frigates are daily expected. The French have a frigate and steamer here; and the English have one steamer, but the Frenchmen will not let her depart, because she will not salute their flag. They have threatened to fire into her if she does not. Some music is expected between the English and French, when an additional English force arrives.

On Thursday afternoon last, the 28th ult., the steam-mill at Yamaska was nearly destroyed by the bursting of the boiler; such was the explosion, that one piece of iron, of about a ton weight, was carried upwards of a hundred and fifty feet in the air, together with several others of great weight; timber, brickwork, &c., and the carding mill was also literally crushed dow; five of the workmen were severely injured, two of whom are so scalded as to render their recovery very doubtful, another had his spine and right arm much injured by pieces of iron and wood.—*Montreal Gazette.*

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