For the Union Advocate.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In the last issue of the "Advance," I observed an editorial stating, (apparently on the authority of the Post Office Inspector) that advertisements would shortly be published, calling for tenders, to run a tri-weekly mail to Caraquet, via Tracadie, and giving the P. O. Inspector high praise for his efficiency and zeal, in looking after the postal arrangements throughout the province; and granting increased accommodation wherever necessary, but refrained from alluding to the fact, that accommodation had been curtailed on the Newcastle and Fredericton route, without even a ghost of a cause for so doing. Now I do not think that the editor of the "Advance" could have been ignorant of this fact, but perhaps he expects to make something out of those advertisements above referred to. He probably thinks more of that than he does of the wrong inflicted upon the inhabitants of the Miramichi Valley, by the curtailment of their regular postal accommodation. The statement that the amount of correspondence on this route did not warrant the running of three mails a week, since the Fredericton mails were carried via St. John, is fallacious. There is more correspondence now, than there was when the tri-weekly was first established. Also if my memory serves me right and I think it does, the "Tri-weekly" was not put on to accommodate Fredericton, but in response to a petition asking for it, and signed by the inhabitants residing along this route from Boiestown to Newcastle.

Yours &c., L.

Blackville, May 1st 1876.

The Union Advocate.

Established 1867.

NEWCASTLE, MIRAMICHI, N. B.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1876.

A DIGNIFIED STAND.

In the Winslow matter the United States authorities refuse to give a guarantee that Winslow shall be tried only for the offence for which extradition is asked, and England therefore stands boldly by the exact wording and meaning of the extradition treaty, and refuses to give him up. Some American papers are very harsh in their censures regarding the action of Great Britain in this matter. The Americans must not think that they can hoodwink the English people on any and every occasion. We have had several practical illustrations of the extent to which American cunning can be carried, by the overreaching interpretations put upon treaty obligations in any way favorable to Canada, as exemplified by the American authorities in excluding British Columbia from participating in any benefits to be derived from the Treaty of Washington, and also in imposing a tax on the cans containing fish which, under the treaty, is admitted free of duty.

These unjustifiable and illiberal acts, which have been generally condemned, are defended by some as being according to the letter of the law, but they certainly are not in accordance with the spirit of the law. In view of these proceedings we are not surprised to find that the Dominion Government have withdrawn the permission hitherto granted to American steamers, of carrying cargoes and passengers between port and port in Canada. This may be what is called diamond cut diamond, but it is no more than what our neighbours might expect. And they certainly have no cause for complaint if England takes a dignified stand, and refuses even to deliver up a criminal unless the terms of the treaty shall be adhered to, to the very letter. In doing so, she is only pursuing the course for which the precedent has been established by the Americans themselves, one which will be approved by all British subjects and men untainted by anti-Britishism in every portion of the globe.

The Fisheries Report.

We copy from the report of the Commissioner of Fisheries, some information respecting the fish breeding establishments in the North.

"REPORT UPON THE MIRAMICHI FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

Miramichi, N. B., 31st December, 1875.

To the Honorable A. J. Smith, Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

SIR,—In my last annual report upon this establishment, which included its operations up to 31st December, 1874, I informed your Department that there was at that time about 1,500,000 ova in the hatching troughs; and that Mr. Sheasgreen, who was in charge during my absence, informed me they presented a healthy and promising appearance. On my return from Gaspe on the 1st of March I found that the loss to that date had not exceeded 10 per cent, and the greatest care and attention had been given them. The embryo in a few instances was just visible, and appearances warranted me in entertaining the most sanguine expectations of hatching a large percentage.

This satisfactory state of the ova continued until the 6th of May, by which time about 100,000 had thrown off the shell, and the hatching was going on rapidly, when I noticed the beginning of the heavy loss I subsequently met with. The first sign of addling which presented itself was on the under side of those eggs which were laying on and actually in contact with the zinc floors of the hatching trays; and when first noticed, was confined to two or three particular troughs. In three days it had spread through the whole building to such an extent that my stock was reduced in that short time to 150,000 fry and 100,000 eggs; the latter also died during the following week. The entire loss occurred while yet in the egg stage, none having died after becoming free of the shell. Attributing the cause of addling to the poisonous action of the zinc, as soon as observed I removed all the eggs off the hatching trays and placed them in the bottoms of the troughs; this did not have the desired effect. A principal cause for the loss was the insufficient supply and sluggishness of the water passing through the hatching troughs allowing some deleterious substance to accumulate to such an extent as to injure the eggs. Had the current been more rapid the loss might not have taken place.

The plan on which this establishment was arranged, as well as the treatment of the ova, was precisely that adopted and introduced by Mr. Samuel Wilmot at Newcastle, Ontario, but I find that on this particular stream for various reasons considerable modification is required.

The improvements I have considered necessary I have effected during the past summer, they are as follows:—The construction of a new and more serviceable supply-pond, the increasing of the supply of water entering the reservoir by laying down two additional three-inch bored conducting pipes. I have [illegible] the rapidity of the current in [illegible] troughs by giving each trough a [illegible] and three quarter inches in [illegible] an additional descent of [illegible] inch. In consequence of [illegible] this stream I consider a [illegible] This would be required [illegible] side of the hatching room in [illegible] to receive all the water from the conducting pipes, which after being forced through a series of tanks filled with gravel and sand would be relieved of all foul and deleterious matter it might contain before passing over the ova.

After removing all the dead and injured ova from the troughs, I found I had 150,000 strong and healthy fry left. When these had attained the age of five weeks they were distributed among the tributaries of the Miramichi. The instructions received from your Department concerning the proportions allotted to each river were, as far as possible, carried out.

My efforts towards obtaining a supply of ova for this establishment last autumn were very unsuccessful. The means usually adopted for securing the parent fish was the setting of bar-nets across the northwest Miramichi at a point immediately above head of tide, and in past years no difficulty was experienced in taking all the fish required.—These nets were placed in the river this season ten days earlier than in former years; they remained down twelve days, and during that time forty fish were caught. The heavy freshets now coming on, it was found impossible to use bar-nets any longer. The salmon already taken were transferred to the reception pond, from which they subsequently escaped during a freshet which carried away a portion of the dam. As the spawning season was close at hand, I found it necessary to adopt some strenuous measures to secure a sufficient number of parent fish. I accordingly equipped four different parties with seines and drift-nets. One was placed on the northwest branch, one on the southwest, one on Sabbis River and one which I accompanied on Cains' River. These parties were instructed to ascend the rivers as far as possible, and spare no efforts towards taking salmon. Each party was supplied with a proper box for transporting the salmon down the river to the ponds I had prepared for their reception. For some days after reaching their respective rivers nothing was done, as the extreme height of the waters rendered it impossible to cast a net; as soon as the flood had somewhat subsided fishing commenced, but resulted in a lamentable failure. The number of fish taken by all parties did not exceed fifty, only twelve of which still retained their ova. These fish being a portion of a run which entered the river early in September had spawned three weeks earlier than in previous seasons. The runs upon which I have heretofore depended for my supply have usually entered during the month of October and beginning of November; these fish did not enter the river at all this season, and I am satisfied from my own observation (having been on the rivers continually for three weeks) that no run of fish took place after the 20th of September, at which time the freshet was at its height. Finding that all my efforts were availing nothing, I dismissed all parties except that on the northwest branch, which continued seining at intervals for the purpose of ascertaining whether any fish were coming into the river. Up to the 8th November (on which date I left for Bedford) none had been taken, and I understand a subsequent attempt was made by Mr. Venning and Mr. Hogan, but with similar success.

On the 15th October the twelve fish mentioned above were ready for spawning (over 150 salmon were spawned after the 15th November, 1874) and I collected from them 60,000 ova, which is the total number laid down in the establishment this season.—These, Mr. Sheasgreen informs me, are looking well. The loss so far not having exceeded 1,000. He states that the embryo is now visible in the egg.

The establishment in all particulars was in the best working condition possible when I left for Bedford, and had I been able to obtain a full supply of ova I could have warranted a most successful issue.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
A. B. WILMOT.

Concerning the disaster by which nearly all the eggs deposited in the establishment in the fall of 1874 were destroyed, the Commissioner says that "some slight amount of credence may be attached to the statement that injurious matter might possibly be produced by certain chemical substances which may have prevailed in the water there coming in contact with the perforated zinc plates upon which the eggs were placed; but it must be very doubtful, indeed, in this case, from the fact that ova had remained upon the trays between five and six months without receiving any previous injury. Moreover, these same zinc plates were prepared with two coatings of paraffine varnish which made them quite impervious to the action of the water; and again precisely similar trays were used at all the other fish-breeding establishments without causing any loss or injury to the eggs laid upon them."

The officer is accused of a certain amount of inattention at a critical period when the utmost care and watchfulness was the more indispensably necessary, both on account of the evident scarcity of water, and the too-thickly laid numbers of eggs upon the breeding trays. It is to be hoped that there will be no such losses in connection with this establishment in the future. We are constantly being told of the large amounts of money expended in this section by the Government, and it is used as an argument against the fishermen as a reason why they should cheerfully pay the tax when the Government is doing so much to advance their interests. The truth is that up to the present this establishment has been of very little benefit to the river, owing to the bungling which has hitherto characterized many of the operations in connection therewith.

John Mowat, Esq., who has charge of the Restigouche establishment, makes the following report:

"Dee Side, Restigouche, 31st December, 1875.

The work of building a new spile dam, a short distance above the reception house, in order to have a greater command of water as well as to obtain more accommodation for holding parent fish, was completed last August and proved perfectly tight.

So soon as the angling season closed I obtained the services of Alex. Duncan to take parent fish, by constructing pounds of small mesh nets in order to take them without injury. Unfortunately a flood came on just as the nets were set, causing a loss of stakes as well as tearing the nets. Again on the 12th September, the nets were set with the same result; the whole season was continuous with rains and only three fish were taken. Salmon also were scarce in the river after the middle of August, there seeming to be no second run of fish as usual. This combined with continual high water caused the fish to ascend higher than usual. I have no doubt sufficient fish could have been taken in July, when they were plenty in the river and the water moderate. But afraid, from former experience, of the long confinement and not at that time ready to capture them, and also depending as usual on the fall supply, I did not do so, finding therefore on the 1st October that I was likely to get few fish at the breeding-house, I took men and canoes, going fifty miles to Kedgwick River and fourteen miles up Main River, and although troubled with continual rises of water, so much so that no bottom could be seen in our usually clear water, I succeeded in capturing sixty fish, placing them in temporary cribs when taken, transferring them afterwards in a large floating crib and conveying them to the breeding-house. I had to ease the fish of a portion of the ova before reaching the house to the extent of 90,000 eggs, not being able to spare a man and canoe to take them in perforated tin pails, keeping them constantly immersed in the river and on the journey down, suspended them in the floating cribs, but had I done so they would have frozen, as well as it being impossible to attend them, on this lot there will be a loss of 15 per cent. which I attribute to the extra motion.

On arriving at the house the fish and crib gave 120,000 eggs in fine order, although from over ripeness I have no doubt some were lost before arriving. On this lot there is not yet one per cent. of loss.

Three men and myself were thus occupied from 1st to 26th October, after that date no fish were got with any eggs in them.

Before leaving I ordered my two sons to get help if necessary, and get all the fish possible near Dee Side, providing them with large buoys to use as cribs to place fish when taken, and on my arrival home was pleased to find they had nearly 100,000 ova laid down in house in good order, and which continues so.

As the form of the fish in the eggs is now discernable, and I cannot detect an unfertilised egg in the house, I expect to turn out fully 300,000 young fry for next spring.

I feel much disappointed in not being able to fill my breeding-house this season; this has taught me a lesson not to trust fall fishing. A large percentage of the parent fish should be taken in July, and I have no doubt if they are not injured in catching and have proper space and good water they will turn out all right in the fall. At all events our large rivers are not to be trusted to for a fall supply.

As the lessees seem to appreciate the benefits of fish breeding, I do not apprehend any objection will be made in taking the necessary fish during the angling season, if such should occur those objections should be removed by your Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
JOHN MOWAT,
Fishery Overseer,
Restigouche Division.

To the Hon. A. J. Smith,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa."

Turning again to the 8th Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, we find that the total amount expended on the various branches of the public service administered by this Department, including salaries, during the fiscal year ended 30th June last, was $919,885.58, while the total amount voted was $1,045,692.95. The number of persons engaged in the outside service of this Department on the 31st December last was 1,511.

Light House Service.

The total number of light stations in the Dominion on the 31st December last was 378, and of lights shown 444; number of steam fog whistles 22, number of light-keepers, engineers of fog whistles and their assistants 467.

NEW BRUNSWICK DIVISION.—This division embraces all the light houses, fog whistles, buoys and beacons on the coast of the Province of New Brunswick, and is under the charge of Mr. J. H. Harding, Agent of the Department, at St. John, N. B. In this Division there were, at the close of navigation last season, 62 lights, requiring the attendance of 50 light-keepers, and seven steam fog whistles, five of which are situated in the Bay of Fundy and two in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Reference was made in the Report of last year to the new light-house in course of construction at Goose Lake, Miscou Island. This light house has been completed and was put in operation on the 1st April, 1875. The light is a revolving white light, on the catoptric principle, elevated 40 feet above high water, and showing a flash every minute, the lighting apparatus having two faces and making a complete revolution every two minutes. The light can be seen, in clear weather, upwards of 10 miles. The tower is a square wooden building, 28 feet high, with dwelling attached, and painted white. The total cost of the construction of this light-house, including iron lantern and revolving apparatus, amounted to $3,742.43. Mr. Dositee J. B. Robicheaux was appointed keeper of this light-house at a salary of $200 per annum.

The new light-house on Heron Island, Bay of Chaleurs, to which reference was made in a previous Report, has also been completed, and was put into operation on the 1st April, 1875. This is a fixed white light, on the catoptric principle, is elevated 66 feet above high water, is visible from all points seaward, and in clear weather can be seen at a distance of 12 miles. The tower is a square wooden building, 20 feet high, and painted white. Mr. John Dutch was appointed keeper of this light-house on the 7th May, 1875, at a salary of $200 per annum. The cost of this light-house amounted to $1,019.39.

Three beacon light-houses have been also erected during the past season at Tabusintac, Tracadie and Neguac Gullies, on the north shore of New Brunswick, and the lights were shown for the first time on the 25th August last. These lights are all fixed white lights, on the catoptric principle, and range with the lights formerly erected, and serve as guides to vessels and boats entering the gullies. The lights are in charge of the keepers of the light houses. Two beacon lights have also been erected during the past season on the wharf at Point du Chene, Shediac Harbour, and have been found to obviate the necessity for a light-ship, for which an appropriation was made by Parliament at the session of 1874. The lights are fixed white, on the catoptric principle.

A light-house has also been constructed at Pokemouche Gully, Gloucester County, which will be put in operation on the opening of navigation this season.

Reference was made in the Report of last year to the erection of a steam fog whistle on Miscou Island, near the entrance to the Bay des Chaleurs.—This whistle was put in operation in the month of June last. It is situated 320 feet east of the light-house, and is sounded twice in each minute during fogs and thick weather, making a blast of five seconds, with an interval of 25 seconds between each blast. The total cost of the construction of this whistle amounted to $6,054.62.

The fog-whistle at Point Escuminac, at the entrance to Miramichi Bay, was in successful operation during the past season. The sum of $168.50 was expended on it during the last fiscal year, making the total cost of this whistle to amount to $4,871.13.

The keeper's dwelling at Portage Island was destroyed by fire in the month of February last, but a new dwelling has been erected at a cost of $1,000. The frame was prepared last winter by Mr. Geo. Brown, who recently went down with the material and a number of hands to erect the dwelling, which is now nearly ready for occupation.

By Order in Council of the 23rd January last, Mr. William Morrison was appointed keeper of the light-house at Neguac on the north shore, in the place of Mr. H. F. Letson, deceased, at a salary of $150 per annum.

By Order in Council of the 23rd July last, Mr. Hugh Murray was appointed keeper of the light-house at Portage Island, Miramichi Bay, at a salary of $200 per annum, in the place of Mr. Geo. Davidson, superseded; and Mr. D. M'Ewan, keeper of the light-house at Middle Island, Miramichi River, at a salary of $300 per annum, in place of Mr. Alexander Jessamin, superseded.

The oil required for the use of the light-houses is being supplied by Messrs. F. A. Fitzgerald & Co., of the Union Petroleum Company, London, Ont., whose contract to supply for 3 years commenced last season. The oil is required to be double distilled standard white extra refined, non-explosive at a vapour heat of 125° Fahrenheit, and to burn brilliantly without discoloring the wick. The price ranges from 24½ cents to 28¼ cents per gallon, according to place of delivery.

Dominion Steamers.

The steamers under the control of this Department consist of the screw steamer "Napoleon III;" "Druid," paddle-wheel; the "Lady Head," screw; the "Sir James Douglas," paddle-screw; the "Richelieu," paddle-wheel; the "Newfield," screw; the "Glendon," screw; and two small river police steamers "Dolphin" and "Adele," employed in connection with the River Police at Quebec, and in taking the Harbour-master of Quebec in his daily visits around the harbour. The total amount expended on these steamers for the fiscal year ended 30th June last, was $143,833.06.

Improvement of Harbours.

Under the provisions of the Act 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 40, a tax of ten cents per ton has been imposed, for the improvement of harbours, on all vessels arriving at the Ports of Bathurst and Richibucto, N. B., and Amherst, House Harbour and Chatte, Quebec, which Ports have been proclaimed under the operation of the Act.

The amount collected at the Ports mentioned for the year ended 30th June, 1875, was as follows:—

Bathurst	5,536 tons	$ 553 60
Richibucto,	18,335 "	1,833 50
Amherst,	2,727 "	272 70
House Harbour,	410 "	41 00
Cape Chatte, Gaspe,	111 "	11 10
Total,	27,119 "	$2,711 90

The amount collected for the year ended 30th June, 1874, was $2,769 90.

As referred to in last year's report, numerous improvements have been effected at the Port of Richibucto, and a new breakwater, which will probably prove of great service, has been completed. During the year ended 30th June last, the sum of $16,077.50 was expended on the breakwater by the Department of Public Works, and in addition to this, a subsidy of $2,500 was paid for the services of a steam tug by that Department, for the purpose of assisting vessels out and into harbour.

At the Port of Bathurst, a sum of $3,876.43 was expended in dredging. No improvements appear to have been made during the last fiscal year at the other ports mentioned.

The total expenditure by the Department of Public Works for improvements on harbours under this Act, during the last fiscal year, including the amount paid for tug-service at Richibucto, amounted to, $22,453.93, and the receipts for the same period amounted to $2,711.90, being an excess of expenditure over receipts of $19,742.03.

With reference to the harbour of Richibucto we understand that the steam tug has been withdrawn.—The *Gladiator* was a powerful boat, and did good work in the harbour, and it is much to be regretted that Richibucto has lost the services of so suitable a steamer. If it is on account of the withdrawal of the subsidy we hope the Government will again make a similar grant, as an inducement to some enterprising person to place a good boat on the harbour this season. The people of Richibucto are not very favorably situated as regards railway connection, being over twenty miles from the Intercolonial—and as regards communication by water, the nature of the channel is at present such as to hinder the Gulf Ports Co. steamers from calling—the people are also deprived of the accommodation previously afforded by the occasional calls of the steamer subsidized by the Local Government — and taken altogether their position is not an enviable one. It is to be hoped that the Government will not be backward in taking such steps as will advance the prosperity of the leading port and harbour of Kent, and one of the most important in the North.

School Examinations.

The school taught by Miss Jane Tait in district No. 8, Upper Little South West, was examined on the 15th ult. Very satisfactory progress was exhibited, the proficiency of the pupils being very gratifying to the trustees and visitors, and creditable alike to the children and their teacher, who evidently takes a deep interest in her important work, judging from a letter we have received from one of the rate payers. The school house in this district was destroyed by fire in Dec. last. A new school building has been erected this spring, which will be ready for occupation in a few days.

The examination of the school taught by Miss M'Queen, district No. 12, Parish of North Esk, took place on Friday, April 29th, in presence of the trustees and a number of parents of the pupils. The principal branches in which the pupils were examined by the teacher were reading, spelling, arithmetic, geography, English and Canadian history, algebra and geometry. The reading was very good. In arithmetic they were very expert.—In geography the answers were prompt and correct, and several of the young children pointed out on the map the principal places, bays, rivers and islands of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Their thorough knowledge of British and Canadian history reflects great credit on the teacher.—In algebra they have made considerable progress. In geometry the exercises gave evidence of careful instruction, the names of geometrical angles being given with exactness.—The copy-books showed very good samples of penmanship. Several recitations were given by the pupils, several by very young children. A dialogue by two of the boys was very good. At the conclusion, Mr. Menzies one of the trustees, addressed the school, and in a few remarks congratulated the pupils on the praiseworthy manner in which they had conducted themselves in all the exercises, and thanked the teacher for the very satisfactory manner in which the school was conducted, and the progress made by the pupils under her care. Another gentleman made a few complimentary remarks, when the examination was brought to a close, the happy parents of the children being well pleased, all speaking highly of the satisfactory manner in which the teacher had performed the duties of her responsible position.—*Com.*

From the Trustees of District No. 11, Whitney Settlement, we have received the following account of the examination of the school in this District taught by Miss Wilkinson, a graduate of M'Gill Normal School, which came off on the 28th April, and was creditable to both teacher and pupils, being witnessed by the Trustees and a number of visitors. The number on the Register was 48, 29 of whom were present. The branches in which they were examined were Reading, Spelling, Dictation, Writing, British and Canadian History, Grammar, Geography and Arithmetic. Recitations and Reading of Composition followed; in all the branches a decided improvement being observed. Short addresses being made in favor of the teacher and pupils, and the result of their past six months study, they adjourned, wishing the teacher success for the next term.

On the 28th ult., the usual half yearly examination of the school in District No. 2, Tide Head, Restigouche, was held, and was attended by a number of the parents and friends of the pupils, and by others who take a warm interest in the welfare of the school. All the Trustees were present and materially assisted the teacher, Mr. Wm. Firth, in conducting the examination, and one of their number, Adam Ferguson, Esq., took an active part in examining the various classes. The proficiency of the pupils was really remarkable in English Grammar, History and Geography; the Writing and Arithmetic were good, and the other branches taught were fair and in the way of still further improvement. Quite a number of books, apparently carefully selected, were given as prizes, among which were some really valuable and instructive works. By these means the pupils are not only encouraged in their studies, but they are furnished with mental food otherwise not easily obtained. A pleasing and kindly feature of the examination was the presentation, by the trustees, of a book to the teacher, as a mark of their appreciation of his services.—Mr. Ferguson, on making the presentation, stated the somewhat remarkable fact that Mr. Firth, though residing about four miles from the schoolhouse, on the rear lots, had not been absent from his duties a single day during the past exceptionally severe winter. Refreshments in the shape of dried fruit, biscuits, confectionery &c., were handed round, shortly after which the proceedings terminated.

The total number of rate payers in this progressive district is only fifty, yet they assess themselves annually about $350 for school purposes. To understand the extent of this self-imposed burden, it may be stated that the above assessment amounted last year to four per cent. of the total property valuation of the district. The present schoolhouse stands on a lot of land 1¼ acres in extent, this lot being certainly much more extensive than school lots usually are. The whole is nicely fenced in and contains neat and commodious outbuildings. Although the present schoolhouse is equal to the average of such buildings, the trustees, with the concurrence of the ratepayers, are about to erect a new schoolhouse, 33½ feet by 24½ feet, according to the plans of the Board of Education, with new improvements for ventilation and heating. The action of the Head of the Tide people is certainly encouraging to the friends of education, and it is to be trusted our county is entering on a new era, when churches and schools, those great aids to moral and material progress, will be yet more generously supported than in the past. It is certainly possible to amass wealth without correspondingly attaining the respect of our fellow men, and it is certainly equally possible to earn and retain their esteem and affection by aiding, by precept and example, all wise measures conducive to good ends.

The Campbellton people have also two schools in operation, both well provided for and attended by a large number of pupils. The ratepayers of this district have assessed themselves, the present year, between $600 and $700 for the maintenance of their schools, thus showing their appreciation of the benefits of Education.

Railway Meeting.

A meeting of the Directors of the Miramichi Valley Railway was held at the Waverley Hotel, Newcastle, on Friday last, at 10 a. m., the following Directors being present:—R. R. Call, Esq., president, Hon. Wm. Muirhead, Geo. Burchill, Esq., Allan Ritchie, Esq., Scott Fairley, Esq., Robt. Swim, Esq., and Jno. C. Miller, Esq.

The following gentlemen were present by invitation of the Directors:—J. B. Snowball, Esq., Allan A. Davidson, Esq., M. P. P., L. J. Tweedie, Esq., M. P. P., Edward Jack, Esq., of Fredericton, and Chas. A. Boardman, Esq., of St. Stephen. The secretary M. Adams, Esq., being absent, L. J. Tweedie was appointed secretary *pro tem.*

The president stated that the meeting was called in order to take into consideration the advisability of obtaining the assistance of capitalists in the southern portions of the Province, and having their co-operation in building the Valley Road.

Mr. Boardman stated that if the Provincial subsidy of $5000 per mile was given to the road, and the rails furnished by the Dominion Government, he had no doubt a company could easily be formed who would undertake to and guarantee to build, equip and run the road for the subsidy and rails.

Mr. Snowball thought action ought to be taken immediately by those interested in the road. The promoters of the Central line were losing no time in pushing their claims. He thought that if we applied to the Dominion Government for the rails we would be asked for a guarantee that the road would be built, but considered that we would have more trouble in obtaining the subsidy of $5000 per mile from the Local Government. He deemed it very advisable to have the assistance and influence of leading men on the other side of the Province.

Hon. Mr. Muirhead thought the Dominion Government would not require a guarantee from the company that the road would be built before they gave the rails; and at all events, if we have the subsidy we can give the guarantee if that would be all they required before they furnished the rails.

Mr. Swim brought to the notice of the president the vacancy caused in the Board by the death of one of their number, Miles M'Millan, Esq., and moved that C. L. Todd, Esq., of St. Stephen, be appointed a director of the said company, to fill the said vacancy, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Burchill agreed with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Snowball and other gentlemen as to the necessity of obtaining the interest and influence of leading men in other parts of the Province, and therefore would move the following resolution:—

"Whereas it is desirable to have the co-operation of parties in Fredericton, Saint Stephen, and other southern portions of the Province in constructing the Miramichi Valley Railway—

Be it therefore Resolved, That the president of the said company be requested to communicate with the leading men of these places on this subject and submit the answers to such communications to the Directors at their next meeting.

And further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to C. F. Todd, Esq., St. Stephen, and that he be requested to obtain the co-operation of capitalists in having the interests of the said road represented in the southern portions of the Province."

Carried unanimously.

Messrs. Boardman and Jack having to leave by train for St. John, the meeting was then adjourned.

MACHINERY.—Parties in want of almost any kind of wood and iron working machinery are referred to the advertisement of Goldie & M'Culloch, proprietors of extensive machine works at Galt, Ontario. The agent for the Lower Provinces, Mr. B. Wilkinson, is a practical machinist, of many years experience, and he has therefore many advantages over agents of other companies who are not practical men. This firm has equipped many of the large manufacturing establishments in Canada since 1844, and has established an excellent reputation. The object of the proprietors is to introduce first class machinery, got up as regards style and cheapness, second to no other establishment in the country, and satisfaction is guaranteed to every purchaser. For a description of the machinery manufactured see their advertisement.

Those Vessels.

A correspondent writes from Escuminac on the 5th inst., as follows:—

"I see by the "Advance" of the 28th inst., that two square rigged vessels were seen off Neguac, and by your paper that there were two reported off Fox Island which was clear of ice. I have a good chance to see vessels if they come into the bay and I have not seen any vessels off here since last fall—excepting the Brigantines "St. Michel" and "New Hennessy," which have been ashore near here since then, and which are probably the ones meant. The ice has not gone off the shore yet this spring and it is impossible to see open water in any direction as far as the eye can reach with the aid of a glass, from the top of Escuminac Light-house, excepting where the sun has melted holes in the ice here and there. There has been so much strong Easterly winds this spring the ice is piled on the reefs and bars outside, the field ice has had no chance to go off but to-day's good sun is making it look bad, and if the wind be from the West to-morrow it's likely it will go and so let the river ice have a chance to come out. There has been good duck shooting here the past week, two of our sportsmen having bagged 50 birds in a few hours on Tuesday, and others from 12 to 20 head, but their ammunition having given out they had to desist. Wild ducks are selling here at present for 80 cents per dozen for preserving, and Messrs. Lloyd and Stewart, who put them up, seem to be kept pretty busy, there were a great many geese killed around here during the month of April but they are beginning to slack off being bound further North.

Temperance.

During the past week Mr. George Fuller, of London, England, has delivered temperance addresses in Newcastle and vicinity. The first address was delivered in the Hall here, on Thursday evening last. On Friday afternoon Mr. F. addressed a number of children in the Hall at Douglastown, and delivered a lecture in the same building in the evening, which was well attended. On Saturday afternoon Mr. Fuller met about 300 children in the Newcastle Temperance Hall. His address on that occasion was such as to rivet the undivided attention of the juveniles, who listened with eager interest as he drew from his storehouse of knowledge things new and old in reference to the Cause he has evidently so deeply at heart.—This meeting, notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather, was a great success, and was deeply enjoyed by all who attended it. A lecture was delivered on Saturday evening, which was poorly attended, owing to the wet weather. A very satisfactory meeting was held at Derby on Monday evening. Mr. Fuller is a fair speaker, rather above the average. His capital consists of plain logical arguments, an array of facts in support of his statements, interspersed with anecdotes illustrative of the various arguments set forth. He does not indulge in violent denunciation of those who engage in the liquor traffic, a course sometimes adopted, but which always fails to bring about the desired results. We have seldom listened to a temperance speaker in whom we felt a deeper interest. Mr. F. left yesterday for Northern towns, where we hope he will be cordially received by the brethren of the various organizations. He will likely remain here a short time when he returns. Should he do so, we feel assured he will receive a cordial welcome.

Postal.

The business men of Derby, owing to the change in the conveyance of mails between Newcastle and Fredericton, do most of their postal business with the office at Newcastle.—The scant postal accommodation along this route is not in keeping with the business requirements of the present day, and a return to the three trips per week should be made without delay. Will Inspector M'Millan kindly take this matter in hand, and urge the Postmaster General to make the change desired by the people. The treatment they have received is not at all flattering to the P. O. Department, and their complaints are well grounded. To reduce the postal accommodation along the South West was not only unjust, but to say the least, absurd, in the face of increased accommodation being granted to sections by no means more important. The postal authorities are to be commended for their action in giving increased postal facilities to the people residing along the coast line between Miramichi and Bathurst, simply because this step in advance was an actual necessity. The people along the South West were contented with the postal accommodation they enjoyed, and consequently did not ask for an increase, and now they find themselves, in this advanced age, when nearly every place enjoys the privilege of a daily mail, restricted to two mails per week.—In this matter the Department has made a mistake, which should be rectified without delay.

WANTS TO KNOW.—With his usual display of ignorance, the Manager of the *Advance* says—"We cannot make out how the *New Era* being a boat several years old, could make a *trial* trip, or if she did so, how she could take a lot of passengers and freight and leave "for Chatham by the 4 p. m. train from St. John.'" In the first place the questioner is informed that it is customary to take the machinery of these steamers apart in the fall; in the spring it is again set up, and the first trip for the season is always called by the owners a *trial* trip, during which the movements of the machinery are closely watched, in order to see that all is right. We did *not* state that the steamer left for Chatham by the 4 p. m. train from St. John; it is therefore unnecessary to make any further reference to this portion of the enquiry. The Manager is a curious creature, always wrestling with something, accomplishing nothing, and courting defeat. At one time he measures his strength with that of a local journal and gets worsted. At another he boastfully talks of his skill as a wrestler, grips an able bodied citizen of Chatham, and while lying on his back in the mud reflects seriously upon the uncertainties of wrestling. 'Tis surely time the Manager ceased these childish exhibitions.

THE HARBOUR.—The buoys have been placed in the river as far down as Oak Point, and the others will be placed as soon as the ice leaves the Horse Shoe bar. The steam tug *Sultan* went down river on Monday, (a number of persons being on board by invitation of Captain Bell) and managed to reach within a mile of the Horse Shoe. Between that point and Portage Island, it is estimated that the ice was jammed for six or eight miles. It is thought the ice will be out to-day.

A schooner left Chatham last week, loaded with lumber for P. E. Island, the Captain thinking there might be a possibility of getting out. The vessel was lying off Oak Point on Monday.

☞ The mill owned by John Flett, Esq., at Nelson, has been considerably improved during the last few weeks. A new chimney has also been erected, which is about 90 feet high, and is somewhat peculiarly constructed, being a double chimney, the inside being round and the outside square. The circular chimney was first built, after which the outer walls were erected. The bricks used in its construction were made on the premises in a kiln owned by Mr. Flett. It is expected that the mill will start to-day. We understand that Mr. Flett has also enlarged his store, and has now in course of erection a large, two story dwelling, which will be ready for occupation in the course of a month or so.

☞ An establishment is about commencing work at Chatham, for the manufacture of soda water, ginger beer, ginger ale, and other temperate drinks. The proprietor has purchased some expensive machinery for carrying on the business, and we have no doubt that he will work up a lucrative trade in the North. The drinks he intends to make have hitherto been imported from St. John in large quantities, and we are therefore pleased to see a move being made to keep in our own section the money which formerly found its way to other places for the purchase of the thirst alleviators referred to.

☞ We see by the *Borderer*, that six Richibucto pilots have purchased the schooner *Chatham Head*, so well and favorably known in the carrying trade between that place and Shediac, and also between Miramichi and Shediac. They intend to cruise about in search of inward bound vessels, and after the spring fleet is in, to engage in fishing. The schooner was formerly owned by Mr. Henry Forester, and was purchased by the pilots for $700.

ACCIDENT.—Mr. John Knox, night engineer in Hon. W. Muirhead's saw mill, was a passenger in the *New Era* from Newcastle to Chatham, on Monday afternoon. He went into the engine room, and while in the act of stepping over the frame where the crank works, the heavy piece of machinery caught his heel, nearly tearing it from the foot. The sufferer was attended at Chatham by Drs. Lewin and Pallen, who sewed up the fearful wound, and rendered all the aid that medical skill could devise.—It is thought the heel will be saved.

LEGAL FIRM.—The *Watchman* says that Messrs. W. W. Allan and C. H. Masters, of St. John, students from the law office of C. A. Stockton, Esq., having recently passed very creditable examinations, have formed a professional co-partnership as "Allan and Masters," and taken offices at No. 1 Bayard's building, Prince William Street. Mr. Allan resided for some time in Miramichi, performing important work in educating the young. His many friends here learn of his success as a student of Blackstone, with feelings of pleasure, and earnestly wish him a prosperous career.

DR. J. H. ARNOLD, of Berlin, Prussia, will be in Chatham, at "Bowser's Hotel," on 6th May, and will remain until the 20th. The Dr. makes specialities of diseases of the Eye and Ear, and the cure of Cancer without the use of the knife. He can also be consulted on all diseases free of charge. The Dr. can be consulted by letter, at the "Victoria Hotel," St. John. adv.

☞ A correspondent, writing from Caraquet on the 4th inst., says that there is very little appearance of spring in that locality as yet, there being no open water and very little bare ground at the time of writing.—He winds up a business letter by saying "Three feet of snow in the woods, provisions and fodder scarce, and hard times generally is the only news I have to give you."

TO FISH SHIPPERS.—Parties engaged in the exportation of fresh fish are referred to Mr. Geo. Sparrow's advertisement in another column.—Mr. S. has made the necessary preparations for carrying on an extensive re-packing business, and guarantees that orders entrusted to him shall receive the very best attention. The references to which the notice of those in the trade is directed represent some of the leading firms of St. John.—adv.

JOHN HARPER, Esq., at one time Principal of the Harkins' Academy, now Principal of the Victoria and High Schools, St. John, has written and had published a volume entitled "The History of New Brunswick and the other Maritime Provinces." This work, it is expected, will be adopted by the Board of Education for use in the schools of New Brunswick.

☞ Professor Spinney's Variety Company will give an Entertainment in the Temperance Hall here this evening, for the particulars of which the reader is referred to the advertisement in this paper, and posters and programmes. We were informed yesterday that the Professor's Concert in Chatham on Monday night was quite a success.

☞ Read the Time Table of the steamers *New Era* and *Andover*.—Parties who have not one of the large time tables would do well to cut out the advertisement and stick it up in some convenient place for reference. These steamers are a very great convenience, and should be largely patronized.

MEN HURT.—A despatch to the *Telegraph* says that on the afternoon of Monday, the frame of the snow shed two hundred yards from the Mill Stream fell while the men were working underneath it. Five men were badly hurt, one had his leg broken.

☞ The Prince of Wales left Lisbon for England on the 8th.