

Chignecto Post.

Sackville, N. B., July 24, 1879.

The Wealth of the North West.

Mr. Munro, in his late work, says, that, "but little reliance can be placed in many of the statements with regard to British North America. It is now obvious that this immense region, with the exception of a few isolated and comparatively limited areas, is not fit for settlement," and he declares he is therefore obliged to abandon his belief that this country is capable of being formed into a nation, able to sustain National obligations. He presents many facts to support his contention that the lands north of the Laurentian Mountains are entirely unfit for settlement and that unfortunately for the development of Ontario and Quebec, this range extends from Labrador to the westward nearly two thousand miles, leaving only a fertile area of 10,000 square miles between Ottawa and the United States borders, and another plain in the western peninsula of Ontario, also of 10,000 square miles, in all 20,000 square miles of land fit for settlement, while the rest of the whole country covered by this range—some 200,000 square miles—is outside of the food producing region. Going west from Ottawa to the Red River Valley, distance of 1,100 miles, covered by the Laurentian system, is a mountainous country, embracing extensive swamps, hundreds of lakes and lacustrine streams of every conceivable size and shape. Lakes Huron, Superior, Nipigon, and the Lake of the Woods belong to this region. Except in isolated spots, as near Lake Nipissing and in the Valley of the Red River, this immense tract, Mr. Munro concludes, is not cultivable, as well from the character of the soil as from the northern aspect and great elevation of the land.

From the Lake of the Woods, where the Laurentian Mountains terminate, and which is 60 miles east of Manitoba, to the Rocky Mountains is about 800 miles. This tract embraces the plains of the great North West. The 49° parallel of latitude, which forms the International boundary, follows the watershed of the Continent; the territory south of the boundary discharging its waters into the Mississippi and its tributaries, and the waters on the North flowing into Hudson's Bay or the Arctic Ocean. Following the boundary West, the country rises into three steps or planes. The first one—the Valley of the Red River, is 900 feet above the sea, 52 miles broad and is divided from the second step by the Pembina Mountains. The second step is 250 miles broad and 1600 ft. high; the third step, which commences at the Great Coteau Hills, extends to the Rocky Mountains and is 465 miles broad and 3000 feet high. The two latter steps are unfit for cultivation. There is, however, a belt fringing the Eastern side of the Rocky Mountains, which in the government maps is 50 miles wide at the boundary and widens into 120 miles 15° further North, making a superior grain growing country of over 21 millions of acres. Mr. Munro takes issue with the statements made by the Dominion Land Office, and considers this belt does not contain a moiety of this area.

These two steps, which are a portion of the great American desert extend north of the boundary 250 miles to the fertile lands bordering the North Saskatchewan. They have an area of 200,000 square miles. They are treeless and prairie hay is the only plant seen growing on their soil. A narrow border of alluvial soil marks their water courses. This prairie hay is very nourishing, and although Mr. Munro dilates on the horrors of winter in those high latitudes, he does not fail to mention that cattle live and thrive there in the open air throughout the winter on no other feed. These steps are the home of the buffalo.

The great river of the North West is the Saskatchewan, which, draining the Rocky Mountains flows easterly 800 miles and empties into Lake Winnipeg. Its South branch waters the treeless desert. Its North branch, which the Pacific Railway skirts for a long distance, borders a fertile region, 400 miles long and from 70 to 100 wide. North of the Saskatchewan and East of the Rocky Mountains is an immense region, embracing the country of the Peace and Athabasca rivers, that is represented on the government maps as possessing excellent soil with abundance of wood and water and admirably adapted for the growth of cereals, especially wheat. Mr. Munro disputes the claims of the Peace River country as one for settlement as follows: "It is 'elevated from 1500 to 2000 feet above the sea, lies between 55° and 60° North latitude and we shall leave the question of its adaptation for settlement to the consideration of hypothetical geographers.' Mr. Munro throughout his work lays great stress on the high latitude of the North West, as forming a barrier to future settlement, apparently losing sight of the fact that the isothermal lines there do not follow the parallel of latitude, but on the contrary trend far to the North. The County of Westmorland is situated five degrees South of Land's End, England; it is in about the same parallel as Bordeaux, Tientsin, Venice; while Switzerland, Germany and Austria, and nearly all France, are situated North of us. If Mr. Munro's logic was irrefragable, the people of this locality ought to enjoy the climate of any Venice. But do we? The Gulf Stream pours an almost tropical heat on the continent of Europe modifies the climate rendering it warm and genial. So, a corresponding ocean current in the Pacific rushes along the coast of British Columbia, rendering the climate milder by many degrees than

on the Atlantic coast, solving the mystery as to the raising of wheat in the Peace River district, ten degrees North of our latitude. The great stretches of country in the North West, devoid of wood, which forms only a fringe on the steams and rivers in the great plains, the Southern limits of the true forests being far North except on the Assiniboine, is regarded by Mr. Munro as another almost insuperable obstacle to settlement. The fuel question is, of course, a serious one, but has not prevented the pioneers of the United States from being settled and it will not prevent ours.

The Winnipeg correspondent of the Toronto Globe, (which cannot be accused of any disposition to magnify the North West and thereby help along Sir Charles Tupper's Pacific Scheme) writes as follows:

"It is the testimony of all here that as settlers advance westward the reports of the quality of the land become more favourable. Large tracts already have been preempted which were marked by the first explorers as almost valueless. There is little reason to doubt that this improvement upon the first explorations will continue as civilization advances westward. It is not wonderful that wandering travellers, or even engineers or surveyors, after passing through a territory of extraordinary richness, when they arrive at something less valuable should set it down as nearly worthless; yet the land which seems poor compared with the soil of the Red River valley, would be held to be fair in any one of the Eastern Provinces. The fact that the land is found with outgrowth of grass or trees has been too generally accepted as a proof that it is barren. The idea has been exploded in many parts within the American territory. Excellent wheat and other crops have been grown on soil which was at first passed by as utterly valueless. Similar instances have been recorded in the early settlement of Ontario. It is said that even the alkali lands of the North-West have their worst features removed by cultivation. The use of the word 'barren' as applied to any portion of the country seems to be a misnomer. The word is to be found on the map as applied to a region immediately north of the boundary, and stretching 150 miles northward by several hundred miles from east to west. Very considerable portions of this land are known to be stony, but there are also large portions of it upon which grass grows, and it is not improbable that a sufficiently large proportion of land will be found even in this region so well fitted for cultivation as to render the term 'barren' a misnomer. All reports from the northern country are very favourable. The Peace River region is described to be as rich as the Red River valley, and the Athabasca country is also most favourably reported upon. Altogether there is reason to believe that two hundred millions of acres of land in the North-West are fit for cultivation. Only the grossest mismanagement can make this country a burden to the Dominion if the land is sold to actual settlers. Not only will there be a direct return in cash, but the railway, looked upon by many in the old Provinces as a load too heavy to bear, will be found, if not built too fast, a fair investment. It is supposed that during the present season from 10,000 to 15,000 people will settle in the North-West. This is much below the sanguine expectations of some persons, but there is much reason for preferring that settlers should hasten slowly into the country. When the railway from Thun Bay is opened, the necessity for delay will cease to exist, for then the settler with his animals and implements can be brought from Ontario at a moderate price. At present the American railway rates are prohibitory, except to a few comparatively wealthy, who desire to be in their choice of lands. Some persons return from Manitoba disappointed with the result of their explorations. This year they have been perhaps more numerous than usual, because the land is more wet in previous seasons and the difficulties of explorations are greater, but 406,255 acres of land have been entered as homesteads, during the present season as compared with 143,540 last year during the same number of months. Altogether since the work commenced."

Mr. SCHREIBER has signified his recent visit to the Maritime Provinces by doing a most unjustifiable and contemptible act, viz: dismissing Mr. Frost, a copying clerk in the St. John-Stanton. How much longer will the Conservatives of the Maritime Provinces be called upon to blush for the acts of their political rulers? Mr. Frost is 73 years of age, and while he is fit and unable to commence the world again, was well qualified for his position as copying clerk.

The Inland Inspectional Districts of New Brunswick are proclaimed as follows:

Kings.—To comprise the Counties of Kings, Albert, Westmorland, Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche.

St. John.—To comprise the City of St. John, and Counties of St. John, Queens and Charlotte.

Fredericton.—To comprise the City of Fredericton and Counties of York, Sunbury, Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska.

HAD SIR S. L. TILLEY placed his late loan on the market at a fixed rate of 91, as Sir Richard Cartwright did, instead of asking for tenders, the loss to Canada would have been over half a million dollars. Sir S. L. Tilley obtained over 4 per cent. better terms than Sir Richard Cartwright.

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT has placed 240,000 acres of lands in the market to settlers at \$1 per acre. It is situated within two days journey of Toronto.

Mr. Letellier's Fate.

The Government of Sir John A. Macdonald keeps its secrets well. For weeks and months, Grit politicians and Grit newspapers have been held in a torture of suspense, unable to divine Sir John's purpose, and endeavoring to draw the truth by concocting and spreading a multitude of false reports; at one time asserting that the home government's decision was adverse to dismissal, then that it had merely recommended, and Letellier be not dismissed, then that Sir John dare not advise his dismissal, then that there was a split in the Cabinet, then that the Governor-General had refused to dismiss him, &c., &c., &c.

Throughout all this clamor, the Government has maintained a dignified silence, not deigning to notice either the taunts or falsehoods showered about them, but pressing firmly forward in the policy they had adopted, enjoying a grim satisfaction in prolonging the stay of their enemies on the ragged edge.

Let the Grit press be content with this: when Sir John is ready, Mr. Letellier will walk.

An Ocean Steamer Lost.

The State of Virginia Wrecked off Sable Island—Nine Lives Lost.

HALIFAX, N. S., July 17.—John W. Robeson, purser, and John D. Black, third officer, with nine of the crew of the steamship State of Virginia, arrived here to-night from Port Pinkerton, a small place on the Atlantic coast via Sherbrooke and New Glasgow. They report their vessel ran ashore on Cape Sable at 8 o'clock on Saturday night last. The State of Virginia is 2,500 tons, owned by the State Steamship Company of Glasgow. She left New York on the 10th inst. with 200 passengers, a cargo of 102 cattle and assorted American produce in charge of Capt. Moody, bound for Glasgow. Everything went well until Friday, the 11th, when a dense fog set in, which continued until Saturday night when at 3 p. m. the ship grounded on a sand bank on the eastern end of Sable Island. The sea was comparatively calm, but all efforts to get her off failed, and on Sunday morning we commenced to throw over cargo and lighten the ship. This was unavoidable, and we fired minute guns, which very soon brought the governor of the Island, Mr. Macdonald, and party to our rescue. They sent off in a surf boat and took off eleven women and children, the purser, four officers and the doctor. These all landed safely, although there was a heavy surf. The boat then returned and took off eighteen more passengers and crew. When about fifty feet from shore the boat capsize, and hands were thrown into the water, where a terrible scene occurred, women and children shrieking for help, which it was impossible to render. It was four minutes before the boat righted, and those who had clung tenaciously to her life got in again, but already nine had met a watery grave. Their names were: Marie G. Monton, aged 14 years; Alice Wilson, 4; Mrs. Mary Widdell, 13; Mrs. McGilvray, Miss Coleman, and Mrs. Walker. Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Walker's bodies were afterwards recovered and buried, but none of the others had been recovered when we left. No further attempt was made to land until two o'clock in the afternoon, when the ship's boats were launched, and two filled with passengers, but the surf was too strong to get ashore with safety, and the people in the boats were taken on board again, where they remained the Sunday night. In the meantime the ship had settled down in the sand bed, and was quite easy. There were 33 fathoms of water on the port side and 4½ on the starboard. By six on Monday morning, the surf having considerably subsided, we determined to land; boats were lowered, and all hands got into them, the last boat leaving at 6.30, all landing in safety on the beach opposite Governor Macdonald's house.

Personals.

Rev. Principal Paisley arrived here on Monday.

Rev. Mr. Longley left Sackville for the West on Thursday.

Thos. Babcock, Esq., and wife have returned after a holiday trip to the South.

Rumored that Sheriff Gilmour is to be made Inspector of Inland Revenue for Kings, and T. W. Bliss, Esq., is to succeed him as Sheriff of Kent.

The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher is to pay another visit to St. John, and is to give two lectures in the Institute, on Saturday, Aug. 2nd, and Monday Aug. 4th.

Hon. Mr. Key, Postmaster-General of the United States, with a large party, is on a visit to St. John, and is to give two lectures in the Institute, on Saturday, Aug. 2nd, and Monday Aug. 4th.

Bishop Latane of the Reformed Episcopal Church, confirmed nine persons at Moncton on Tuesday night.

Oliver Logan of Talmage's first appearance in London, says: "There was a good deal of amusement at the fact he gave the prayers which were instruction and information to the Deity, but outside of this and a few small jokes, the effect was disappointing."

The Visit of the Marquis.

The Governor-General has announced that the Princess and himself will leave Quebec, on Tuesday, 5th August, for St. John.

A large reception committee has been formed at St. John. It is proposed to have a procession of the various societies and organizations, which will embrace about all the demonstrations on the part of the City.

THE TRIENNIAL COUNCIL of Orangemen of the world met yesterday at Ottawa. There is an immense gathering of Orangemen there; a monster procession, reception, &c.

About Bad Spelling.

For the Post.

It is natural that the Anglo-Saxon race, who have been the instructors of the human family in so many departments of useful knowledge, should cherish a flattering hope that one day the English language shall be the first and standard idiom of the world, the universal language.

But it is making rather too free and easy and liberal a request of the great majority of the human tongue, to ask them to accept a new tongue, which, granting all its beauties and excellencies, is in one respect loaded with relics of barbarism and blundering awkwardness, similar to those of the language of the white settlers of Zululand, where "E-kowe" is said to be pronounced at least "E-kought-Skoke," if not more so.

Many excellent worthy people of conservative tendencies have solemnly vowed for the purity, as they call it, of our language, whereas, the truth is, they are cherishing its impurities, imperfections and absurdities. The fact is, our system of spelling is not only unworthy of an intelligent literary people, but it is an expensive outrage and a serious drawback and obstacle in the way of general education.

The old adage, applied to all wrongs and abuses, "it will last my time well enough," is an expression of utter ignorance by the people, as they are. Can we never raise a committee or academy of sensible people qualified and authorized to undertake an intelligent reform of our Heathen-Chinese-hieroglyphical mode of spelling and writing?

Our ancestors had not so much employment for their letters as we busy mortals of today. So they were more liberal, and after wedging into every word as many letters as it would hold, they used to throw in a few extra ones here and there, and at the end, by way of ornament, thus: Schyppie for Ship. This language has been very slowly dropping a few of its redundant useless letters, but it is not likely this world will last long enough for us to effect any thing like a reformation, even if the hope of the most sanguine asserters of the immortality of this globe should be verified.

The only use of the letters of this alphabet is, to properly denote the sound or expression of words; of what use then are silent letters? or double ones, when one is sufficient? or to make a C spell S, and an O spell U, and Ph sound F, and to use G for J? What use to have a system of spelling under which no man can find positive authority to decide how a doubtful word should be spelled?

The French use about two bushels of type to spell the words that one bushel would fully and properly express; but they have one advantage over us, they have fixed rules of pronunciation, so that who once learns how to call a word that has a lobster's tail of silent letters at the end of it, he may be sure that every other word with similar fins and similar tail is subject to the same rule. Thus one is sure in French that for instance, double o's, *laub* in one word and *maubert* in another, whereas, a Frenchman, or other foreigners learning English, could never hope to attain such a comforting assurance. The French have long had an ambition to do better than the English of the world, and may succeed, if we continue to persecute strangers with our torturing paradoxical spelling. The people of Mexico and South America consider it "the style" to learn French rather than English.

The Germans talk very confidently too of making their *dy-track* and *spitter-web* language that of the world, but we have nothing to fear from a tongue that takes four lines of a newspaper and ninety-two seconds of time to say "horse-car" in its vernacular. The Spaniards do not use a language all hobbled over with useless silent letters, but they have reformed it almost to perfection; no silent letters except h and no arbitrary sounds in any letter or syllable. An academy has regulated and fixed their language, and it is an inflexible standard of authority. Poes in Spanish for all the purposes of our *fi* and *fl*, and the spelling is made so easy that one of us having learned to correctly say the alphabet and a few simple reading lessons, would be able to spell any and every Spanish word correctly by pronouncing in his hearing, because only one set of letters will spell it and they will not spell any thing else; the only exception to this is the silent h alluded to.

Why should our language be almost if not quite as much simplified, and some standard authority, jointly English and American, established as a guide to purify it and keep it pure and uniform, and preserve it from being split up into a number of dialects as appears to be its present tendency? Is it not a matter of some import that not one in ten of the adult foreigners who try to learn English by books, even persevere beyond a few lessons? That about one in a hundred of the children of our own land spend at school is utterly wasted in fooling over a wicked and lying spelling book that tells them that c o w spells cow and not as it is the truth, for it sounds bow and now and now quite as man as it does cow. There is only one of hundreds of like inconsistencies the poor children have imposed upon them; is it any wonder some people lie who have studied those utterly unprincipled spelling books? Have we any right to call ourselves an educated civilized people, when there is not probably a man or woman in any of our schools or colleges but can be spelled down in a spelling book? Ought not something to be done when not one man in some hundreds can write an ordinary business letter without a misspelled word? Do not legislators waste much time on matters vastly less important than would be the initiation of such a reform?

INCORPORATED.

New Advertisements.

TO OUR FRIENDS

CUSTOMERS.

WE HAVE IN STOCK and are now receiving large amount of Goods of first quality, viz:

Staple and Fancy Dry Goods.

Groceries, Builders' Material, Shell Hardware, Cutlery, Iron, Steel, Agricultural Implements, Flour, Meal, Paints, Oils, Varnish, &c.

In short, all description of Goods for all classes of persons, which we will sell from 25% down at exceedingly

Low Prices for Cash

Or payment by produce. Indefinite and good credit will be granted for a time.

J. L. Black.

FLOUR! FLOUR!

JUST RECEIVED:

100 Barrels Flour,

"Bangor," "White Rose," &c.

Remember—Cheap for Cash.

J. L. Black.

DRY GOODS!

5 Cases and Bales,

Containing a General Assorted Stock.

100 Bundles WHITE WARP;

25 Bundles BLUE WARP;

1 Case GENTS' HATS;

1 Bale CARRIAGE DUST WRAPS;

Carpets—Assorted Stocks.

Now is the time to buy low.

J. L. Black.

Sugar, Molasses, &c.

4 CRACKS Best Quality SUGAR;

5 Casks Barbadoes Molasses;

15 chests Choice Tea;

5 kegs Baking Soda;

5 bags Rice;

5 barrels Dry Apples.

FOR SALE LOW.

J. L. Black.

Agricultural Implements.

15 DOZEN HAND RAKES, Cheap;

5 dozen Scythes;

15 dozen Forks, 3 and 5 Prong;

5 dozen Hoes.

FOR SALE AT LOWEST PRICES.

J. L. Black.

Tobacco and Tea.

JUST RECEIVED:

80 CADDIES BLACK HAWK TOBACCO;

5 Caddies Little Sergeant Tobacco;

8 Boxes Challenge Tobacco;

10 Half-chests Extra Tea;

10 Caddies Superior Tea, for family use.

Dry Apples, Raisins, &c.

For Sale Low.

J. L. Black.

GLASS, NAILS, &c.

JUST RECEIVED:

100 BOXES GLASS—all sizes—

75 kegs Nails, assorted sizes;

10 boxes Clinch Nails;

1 cask Putty;

Locks, Hinges, Screws;

Copper Rivets;

Carriage Match Irons;

Paints, Oils, Turpentine, &c.

And all Builders' Material at very low prices.

J. L. Black.

SUMMER STOCK!

WE ARE NOW OPENING OUR

USUAL STOCK

Seasonable Goods.

In Staple and Fancy Linens,

And now offer our customers a full and well Assorted Stock to select from.

Prices very low for prompt payment.

J. L. Black.

DRESS SILK!

We beg to call attention to a Lot of

Colored Dress Silks,

Which we will sell at greatly Reduced Prices.

Black Dress Silk

Very Cheap.

J. L. Black.

New Advertisements.

Haying Tools.

IN STORE:

3 DOZ. Best Silver Steel SCYTHES;

3 and 3 Time Hay Forks;

Scythe Seathes;

Scythe Stones, &c.

All at lowest rates.

July 23 J. F. ALLISON.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

LADIES' and MISSES' KID BOOTS;

Ladies' and Misses' Leather Boots;

Ladies' and Misses' Serge Boots;

Gent's Summer Shoes;

In good Styles and at low prices. Inspection invited.

June 25 J. F. ALLISON.

CROCKERYWARE.

A GOOD STOCK OF

CROCKERYWARE

All bought before the increase in duty, which will give customers the benefit of Good Stock.

Butter Crocks and Milk Pans.

June 25 J. F. ALLISON.

Shingles and Pine Lumber.

ON HAND:

50 M. Sawn and Split Shingles;

5 M. Feet Seasonable Pine Lumber.

July 2 J. F. ALLISON.

Nails.

JUST RECEIVED:

1 TON OF NAILS

At Lowest Prices.

June 25 J. F. ALLISON.

WOODENWARE.

NESTS, TUBS, PAILS, BROOMS

&c. Also 100 good Butter Tubs and

Firkins.

June 25 J. F. ALLISON.

NEW BLACK

ALL-WOOL CASHMERE,

Black Satin, Silk, Fringe,

Buttons, Valises, Corsets,

&c.

AT—

C. A. BOWSER'S,

And all at his usual low Prices.

For Ninety in the Shade.

DRESS LINENS, very cheap, at

W. D. MAIN & CO.

BLACK GRENADES, very cheap, at

W. D. MAIN & CO.

FANS, Excellent Fans for 12c. and 25c. at

W. D. MAIN & CO.

Receiving Additions Weekly

Millinery Department.

JUST OPENED:

1 Case Old Ladies' Blk Lace Caps.

do. Widows' Caps.

Nottingham Lace Curtains, Lambrequins,

Boys' Straw Hats, Men's Hard Hats,

Fish Hats, Ladies' Sun Hats and

Sun Shades—very low.

A few of the 50c. CORSETS, worth \$1

and \$1.25, still left.

One Price Black GRENADE, slightly

damaged, worth 40c. offered at 30c. per

yard to clear.

Remnants of PRINTS and DRESS

GOODS, very cheap.

W. D. MAIN & CO.

AMHERST, N. S.

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SACKVILLE.

Saturday Ev'g. July 26.