

Letter from a German Statesman of the Highest Position.

A private letter just received from a German statesman of the highest position throws a very curious and instructive light upon the present and the future of the Eastern Question. This letter deals chiefly with the extreme excitement caused in France by the recent speech of Von Moltke. It says:—

"The good people of Paris and their fugitives of Versailles cannot get it out of their heads that we in Germany are always thinking of them, simply because they are always thinking of us. As a matter of fact, in this present question, it is Russia which most preoccupies us. We understand perfectly well that Russia is our next and most formidable enemy, and we also understand perfectly well how a czar and a paralytic her. The present emperor of Russia is a sentimental simpleton, with out self-praise and without moral courage. He has been driven into this war with Turkey by the pressure of Russian feeling. We in Germany have permitted him to engage in it, but we are not such children as to permit him to emerge from it either with honor or recollections of strength. If he is terrified by the attitude of England and Austria into making peace, he will probably end very suddenly—perhaps by suicide, perhaps in the usual way in which Russian public opinion vindicates itself against incompetent emperors." If he persists in making war, he will be humiliated, and Russia with him, by certain defeat, as nothing can be more clear than it is our interest to allow Austria, at the critical moment to fall upon his armies and obliterate all recollections of the Austro-Russian alliance of 1849-50. Peace or defeat equally will mean the accession to the Russian throne, under a cloud of popular discontent and a crushing weight of financial burdens, of a prince who is known to be our special enemy, the Czarowitz. This is equivalent to a complete nullification of Russia, for a generation to come, in the affairs of Europe; and what can ever hold out any hope to France of the recovery of Lorraine and Alsace except an alliance with Russia."

It must be admitted that this is a very cold and cynical view of the affairs of Europe, but it is an ominously practical view of them; and the rulers of Germany have shown themselves of late years to be the most practical of men.

Austria and England Leagued Against Russia.

There is great alarm in diplomatic circles to day because of the belief that Lord Beaconsfield is resolved to go to war with Russia on behalf of Turkey. The indications all point to an early declaration of war with Russia. It is rumored that there is a secret alliance between England and Austria, and that a special courier has left for Vienna with sealed despatches within the past twenty-four hours. It is understood that in case of England's declaring war, Austria will immediately fall on the flank of the Russian army in Rumania. It is held by Austria that the blockade of the Danube by Russia is a menace to her, and a violation of the pledges made to Count Andrassy by Gortchakoff last year. Despatches from Vienna state that there is great popular excitement there at the conduct of Russia, especially among the Hungarians. "Prodigious activity is displayed in all English arsenals, and military stores are being rapidly forwarded to Malta. The markets are unsettled, and the indications point to immediate war."

**CHURCH DISESTABLISHMENT.**—A circular, signed by the official representatives of the London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow Committees of the Liberation Society, has been issued, announcing that "opinion in favor of Disestablishment is so ripening in Scotland" as to be commenced, "having in view Parliamentary and electoral action of a more decided kind than has yet been adopted." It is therefore proposed to form a Scottish Council of the Society to co-operate with the Executive Committee in London, and this proposal will be submitted to a meeting in Glasgow during the sittings of the United Presbyterian Synod.

The regulations for the Annual Drill have been published. They provide for a twelve days' drill of twenty thousand men at the several corps headquarters. The officers are to receive one dollar, and the non-commissioned officers and men fifty cents per day. Corps that did not drill last year are to have the preference this year; but all others are to be decided by drawing lots.

The outlook for a good crop this season is propitious, although it is as yet early to estimate amount of harvest, the grass never looked better, starting at least twenty days earlier than last year, and with frequent rains, has come along surprisingly. By the last of June farmers will strike into the waving fields, and if a week of sunshine to make hay is vouchsafed, the barns will groan with the burden.

FOR MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS.  
T. T. Odell,  
Robert Stevenson.

The St. Andrews Standard.

Saint Andrews, May 23, 1877.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION which is to be held on Tuesday next is the general topic, not only in this County, but in every rural Parish in the Province; indeed there is more interest felt, than in parliamentary contests; and in some cases, a degree acrimony and feeling indulged in, with misrepresentation of facts, which is productive of unpleasantness, and answers no worthy purpose. These elections are to take place annually, and surely a canvas can be conducted without a resort to false issues and abuse. Men of understanding and experience, who are large taxpayers and acquainted with County affairs, are proper persons to be elected. St. Andrews we are assured from the tone of public opinion, will return Messrs. Odell and Stevenson, to represent its interest in the County Council.

**BURNED TO DEATH.**—On Sunday last a telegram was received here, of the burning of C. F. Clench & Son's store at Musquash, during Saturday night, and that Mr. Berton Clench had perished in the flames. The greatest sympathy is expressed by the family's friends in St. Andrews in their sudden bereavement. Berton was a young man deservedly respected and liked in this community, and his numerous companions deeply regret his unexpected and shocking death.

**VOTERS for Municipal Councillors** should be careful to have the names of the two Candidates for whom they may vote, written or printed on white paper. Any envelope of a name will result in the ballot being thrown out.

**St. John papers of Saturday** state that the schooner *Clarity*, King, from St. Andrews for St. John, when off Musquash, on Monday evening the 14th instant, was struck by a squall and thrown on her beam ends. Capt. King and his man, clung to the vessel for nearly three quarters of an hour, when the gale having abated, they were rescued by some fishermen from Pictouco. As soon as possible the captain went to St. John, hired tug boat and started in search of his vessel, which they found next morning. She was towed up to the city on Tuesday night, and is very little the worse of the accident. The captain's portly presence in his pocket, will probably be seen here in a few days.

**DEATHS.**—During the past week, two of St. John's old citizens passed away. Mr. A. C. O. Treutowsky, died on Friday last, aged 79. Many here will remember that he married a daughter of the late Mr. Wm. Babcock, of this town. He was formerly engaged in commercial pursuits, and for several years Prussian Consul at St. John. Mr. Henry Card, well-known as an accomplished organist and music teacher, died on Thursday last, in the 70th year of his age.

**Circus.**—Howe's London Circus and Bannan's Great Show, are to visit the Maritime Provinces during the summer.

The grand musical event of the season was inaugurated in Music Hall, Boston, on Wednesday evening in the opening exercises of the fourth triennial festival of the Handel and Haydn Society. It is but simple justice to denominate the occasion as a magnificent success in every respect. The vast edifice was filled with one of the largest and most cultured and fashionable audiences ever assembled in that city. The festival orchestra numbered sixty-six musicians, under Carl Zerrhau as conductor, and the historic "big organ" was presided over by Mr. Lang.

**THE CENTENNIAL MEDAL FOR PARKS' COTTON YARNS.**—The medal for Cotton Yarns, awarded by the British, Japanese, and Messrs. Wm. Parks & Son, at the Centennial Exhibition, is one of which the recipients have good reason to feel proud, as

the goods which they sent there, and for which the medal was awarded, were not specially prepared for the purpose of exhibiting them. Messrs. Parks were induced at the last moment to do so in order to help the display made by New Brunswick. Consequently the goods they sent were taken from the stock which they supplying daily to their customers, and it is very satisfactory to them to find that these goods were considered the best of their kind sent from Canada.

ANOTHER CONFLAGRATION.

The greater portion of the Business Locality of Woodstock Destroyed.

Woodstock has been scorched by fire. At about 2 o'clock on Thursday morning 17th, the alarm was given, it was found that Mr. Richard Clark's harness shop, on Main street, was on fire. Everything was dry, and a fresh breeze was blowing. The flame spread with rapidity among the highly combustible material surrounding it, and by the time the citizens and engines reached the scene, destructive conflagration was imminent. Onward still sweeping irresistibly the flames went in every direction from the point of starting. Down Main to Water street and up to Regent, east of Main toward the river to Wellington and Richmond streets; across Main, and laying everything low from the creek up to Chapel street; Connell's brick block, Brown's new brick building and the "Cable House" appearing to present no obstacle to the onward flow of fire, and west up Water street through the entire blocks from the Creek to Connell street.

The following are the amounts for which the Insurance Companies are liable, and will have to pay:

North British Insurance,	\$28,140
Strathcona,	11,500
Western of Toronto,	5,200
Royal Canadian,	4,500
The Queen,	\$49,740
Melville, N. J.,	\$6,900
Commercial, N. Y.,	1,600
	1,250
National,	\$9,750
Imperial,	\$2,500
Hartford,	10,000
Etna,	6,000
	10,000
Canada Fire and Marine,	\$28,500
Citizen's,	\$2,500
Provincial Insurance Company,	9,500
Royal,	\$24,450
	8,000

Making a total of all risks, including those on only partially damaged stock of \$129,440. In St. Stephen the amount of insurance was \$119,000.

The Fire at St. Stephen.

We briefly alluded to the fire at St. Stephen, in our last issue, but having since visited the scene, and witnessed the great destruction, we avail ourselves of the graphic description of the loss given by the *Journal*. The people, nothing daunted, are making preparations to build again. The *Courier*, we learn as arrangements now in progress are perfected, and we shall welcome its weekly visits to our sanctum.

The following is a list of the principal buildings burned:—On the north side of Water Street, the Ross building, the basement occupied at the time of the fire by Ross Bros. Jewellers, and Huntley, Bates & Co. Confectioners, the upper flat being used as a dwelling; the "Courier" Building, basement occupied by Taylor & Mitchell, Grocers, the upper flat, *Courier* Office; the Marks building, in the lower flat the Ganong Bros. confectioners, and T. Gregory, Grocer, over head, Marks' Hall; the Bixby building owned by N. Marks in the lower flat J. P. Bixby, Grocer, up stairs Cleland's paint shop; Boone & Westcott's Meat market, building owned by John Connors; the Watson House, occupied by D. McCormick as a hotel; in the same building were G. S. Wall's book store, Cross & Maxwell's oyster saloon, S. Nesbitt's Auction Room, a sample shop, Smith & Harmon's drug store, the Railway office, and Telegraph office; on the west side of King street in addition to the Watson House, R. Kelley's building, four buildings on the Abbott estate, including Hayman's and Bartlett's grocery stores; the Egan building, in the rear of these Abbott house, Mr. Shank's house, and a large number of barns and out houses, were totally destroyed.

On the south side of Water Street there succumbed to the flames, T. M. Bay's building, occupied by him as a store, and dwelling; Brook's tin shop, Carter's Meat Market; F. H. Todd and Son's large store; the Chipman building, basement occupied by E. P. Barnard as a grocery store, and W. B. Wetmore's wholesale liquor establishment, over head the Town Council Room, Chipman's office, Erb's Photographic Saloon, &c on the opposite side of the Public Landing were destroyed, the

three railway buildings including Smith & Hamilton's tin-shop & factory, also the Railway Depot, Lovejoy's office and iron-clad Mill, all the buildings on the south side of Water Street as far east as the Repair shop, twelve wharves on the bank of the river with over a million feet of lumber on them, and a small schooner, belonging to it is said to a Mr. Thompson Deer Island.

On the east side of King street, were reduced to ashes, Breen's building, occupied by Mr. Breen, as a store and hotel, and Mr. Carroll, as a saloon and dwelling house; W. Johnson's two buildings; Mrs. Quinn's two buildings; Mr. Kane's livery stable; the lock up; Mr. Fraser's, Mr. Kelly's and Mr. Cleland's houses on the south side of Water street, below Mr. Breen's, Mr. Foster's livery stable, the Reform, Club Room Young's Furniture store, the F. Murchie buildings; Mr. McWhitty's blacksmith shop, the old Bixby house, the houses of Messrs. McWhitty's, Youden, Wm. Cone, P. Branniff's house, and 17 tenement houses in Branniff's Row, and the Railway Repair shop. Altogether at least 100 buildings were burned down. Between 80 and 90 families, about 200 people, were turned out of house and home, and a large quantity of goods and other property destroyed. The district burned comprises about 12 acres in extent.

Correspondence.

(FOR THE STANDARD.)

MR. EDITOR.—An extraordinary production over the signature of "Vox Populi" appeared in the *St. Stephen Journal*, which reminds me of the old fable—"the mountain was in labor and brought forth a mouse." Its paternity is attributed to a worthy trio, who have shown themselves entitled to the designation of "signing demagogues," which they design to attempt to fasten upon the two candidates did not apply or intend to fasten upon them any such epithet. As members of the community, I respect them, but with many others prefer supporting men who have experience in the conduct of County affairs, and who have been residents for upwards of a quarter of a century; the voters in this Parish entertain the opinion that they are well qualified to represent them at the Council Board, and also to inaugurate the important change.

It is not my purpose, Sir, to reply to the scurrilous production, or to dispute its glaring inaccuracies; nor will I condescend to answer its impertinent interrogatories, as they will receive a crushing reply at the Nomination. The community in which Mr. Stevenson has resided from his youth, knows full well that he is composed of sterner stuff than to be "led by the nose" by any man. It also knows that Mr. Odell has aided all legitimate enterprises in St. Andrews, and expended large sums in erection of buildings and the purchase of property, and in other ways benefited the town. I will abstain from further remarks at present as I have no desire to prejudice any one against the candidates whom "Vox Populi" delights to honor; they may well exclaim "save us from our friends," as his letter has been an injury to them. Before closing I can state from reliable authority, that no one knows better than the reputed author of "Vox Populi" who it was that had "an axe to grind," or the *commission* to be received, that Mr. Gore's building been purchased. There is "a rod in pickle" for him which will keep until after the election. Yours, A. TAYLOR.

Mrs. Bayl, mother of John Bayl Esq. St. John, died suddenly on Saturday morning.

Mr. Wm. Lawrence, son of I. W. Lawrence Esq., of the same city, was drowned in the Bath room of the M. C. Hall on Saturday evening. He was subject to fits, and while in one met his death.

A Miss Dixon, fell through a hatchway in a store on King Street, and received fatal injuries. She was up in the fifth story, and while one foot was on the floor, and the other on the elevator, a young girl thoughtlessly pulled the rope, which led to the accident.

A letter from St. Peterburg in the Vienna *Tazblatt* says that the distress among the lower classes in Russia is daily increasing. The commercial crisis, which caused the failures of numerous banks and mercantile houses, has been followed by an industrial crisis; some of the largest factories have been closed, and thousands of men and women are out of work. In St. Peterburg and its vicinity no fewer than 90,000 artisans depend on the government or private benevolence for the means of existence; and at Moscow, the centre of Russian industry, 40,000 workmen have been reduced to beggary—to say nothing of the multitude of clerks who have lost their employment in consequence of the closing of banks and merchants' offices. The distress has been much increased by the inundations which occurred in various parts of the empire last month.

BALLOU'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR JUNE. The June number of Ballou's Magazine is already issued, and will command the attention of the whole reading public, for it is full of nice engravings, the best of stories, the choicest of poetry, and three pages of M. Quind's fun and humorous matter, expressly for Ballou's Magazine, and to be found nowhere else.

There are no dry articles in the book, and that is why it is such a favorite. Published by Thomas & Talbot, 23 Hawley Street, Boston price \$1.50 per year, postpaid.

Ship News.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

ARRIVED.

May 10.—Odessa Hooper, Boston, ballast. Nellie Clark, Clark Newburyport ballast. Matilda, Silfson, St. Stephen, gen. Cargo. Daisy, Simpson, Boston, four J. R. Bradford. 15.—Julia Clench, Maloney, Ports mouth, ballast. Jane, Craig, Boston, ballast. Mary Ellen, Ross, Boston, ballast. 16.—Edith, M. Jones, Boston, ballast. 18.—A. McHolt, Hain, New York, 57 tons coal, J. Berton.

CLEARED.

May 14.—Odessa Hooper, St. John, ballast. Harold, Hanson, Eastport, ballast. 15.—Mary Ellen, Ross, St. George, ballast. 21.—Daisy, Williamson, St. George, ballast. Odessa, Hooper, Boston, 25 00 sheep, J. St. Leighton.

Parks' Cotton Yarns.

AWARD OF THE ONLY MEDAL given for COTTON YARNS of Canadian Manufacture, at the

CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

Nos. 5 to 10 1/2.

WHITE, BLUE, RED, O. ANOR, & GREEN. Warned for length and weight.

Cotton Carpet Warp.

Nos. 12 to 4 ply in all Colors.

Warranted fast. WM. PARKS & SON, New Brunswick Cotton Mills, St. John, N. B.



WELLAND CANAL ENLARGEMENT.

Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the under signed, and endorsed "Tender for the Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Eastern and Western mails on (HOLIDAY) the 31st day of July next, for the formation of a new line of canal from Market's Pond, at Thorold, to Alburgh, including the construction of a lift lock, and lock, several locks, and piers and abutments for swing bridges, &c. Also, the enlargement of about two miles of the canal, from a location downward, together with the construction of an Aqueduct over the Chippawa River, a lock between the canal and the river at Welland, piers and abutments for bridges, &c. And the enlargement of the canal from Roney's bend to Port Colborne, including the construction of a guard lock, weir, and supply race, &c. The works will be in sections of a length suited to circumstances, and the locality. Maps of the different localities, together with plans and specifications of the work can be seen at this office on and after Monday, the 29th day of June next, where printed forms of tender can be obtained. A list of information relative to the work north of Alburgh, can be seen at the resident Engineer's office, THOROLD; and for work south of Port Robinson, plans, &c., may be seen at the resident Engineer's office, Welland. Contractors are requested to bear in mind that Tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and—in the case of firms—except there are attached the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque or other acceptable security for the sum of one to five thousand dollars, according to the extent of work on the sections, must accompany each Tender, which shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works at the rates stated in the offer submitted. The amount required in each case will be stated on the form of Tender. The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned to the respective contractors whose Tenders are not accepted. For the due fulfillment of the contract, satisfactory security will be required, by the deposit of work the amount of five per cent. On the bulk of the Contract, of which the sum sent in with the Tender will be considered a part. Ninety per cent. only of the progress estimate will be paid, until the completion of the work. To each Tender must be attached the actual signatures of two responsible and solvent persons residents of the Dominion, willing to become sureties for the carrying out of these conditions, as well as the due performance of the works embraced in the contract. This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender. By Order, F. BRAUN, Secretary, Department of Public Works, Ottawa, 14th May, 1877.

Blanks of Every Description Printed at this Office