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The Standard,

OR RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL RECORD.

E parvis sumendum est optimum.—Cic.

No 3] SAINT ANDREWS, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1851. [Vol. 18

Counting-House ALMANAC 1851.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
JAN.	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
FEB.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
MARCH	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
APRIL	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
JUNE	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
JULY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
AUGUST	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SEPT.	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
OCT.	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
NOV.	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
DEC.	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

COMMUNICATION

Sir,—As it is best to come out with the whole truth in all public matters, I shall, in the first part of this letter, acknowledge the great change which has arisen in my mind within the last four years, regarding the tendency of our Public institutions, and admit the evil effects which our contracted system has produced upon the Province.

Those persons who came to this Colony at the peace of 1783, were men of stout hearts and determined minds. Many of them left happy homes and a fine climate, to settle a wilderness; regarding the privations and sufferings resulting from such a step as of little consideration, when contrasted with what they believed a sacred duty—their motives were generous and exalted, but many of them lived in doubt; at least, the prudence of such removal, and very many of their children now feel such doubt more pointedly than did their Fathers. I am one of these.

The hostile manner in which liberal views respecting self Government have heretofore been treated in this Province, until of late, have had the effect of crushing every tendency towards their introduction; and the full state of such abuse as bitter prejudice could cast upon any attempt to change the public views, has been unparalytically awarded to the moderate of power which shall be given, in all Governments, to the people, is now the universal theme—it occupies Europe, and is much considered and commented upon, in all the Colonies of Great Britain in America—This Colony is now, at length, engaged in the conflict—we feel that by confining power to the few, we have neither advantaged those few, nor the Country at large—the system has been bad from the first; unfit for a young and poor Colony it certainly has been, and the universal voice seems now to have pronounced its doom. The people are drawing contrasts between their own condition, and that of those who perform like services elsewhere; they begin to find that they remain powerless, having neither such institutions as must make their voices of importance, even in spending the money exacted from them for County expenditure, or in selecting officers. With many, hope even has died, and every prospect of a favorable change, until of late, seems to have been destined to flicker for a short time, and then expire. I think the more approaches. Public meetings are being called in various parts of the Province, and resolutions passed in favour of self Government. Let this Country do the like; let every man who values the growth, prosperity, and education, of his neighbors, boldly step forward and claim his just inheritance. The place holders in the Legislature last session, feeling that they must concede something, passed an Act which they were pleased to call a Municipal Corporation act. What is it, why it is an act authorizing the people to nominate parties to fill such offices as High-reeves, Fence viewers, and the like—to fill such offices, in short, as the magistrates have much difficulty in finding persons to accept; but the appointment to every such office as confers honor, or, to any material extent, gives reward, is strictly kept from the nomination of those best able to judge of the qualifications of parties seeking office, and best entitled to such guidance, by being the parties who have to pay the taxes. Let the Legislature take back such a mockery, let them yield Municipal Corporations in full—or deny giving any. May the people reject with contempt, the paltry, insincere, and miserable boon offered, nor ever exercise the powers it so grudgingly yields. Let each county select its own officers, high and low, let worth and talent have a fair claim in the race of life, and worth and talent can wish for no more, nor should they accept less. Give like powers to the people here, as have at length been yielded to the Canadians, and like results will follow, wealth will then be fairly taxed, which it is not now, and even those who have to contribute largely to the education of all around them, would soon become sensible, that what they so give, will be returned ten fold by the increased value of their property. Land will not then be hoarded up; and kept waste, for the purpose of allowing the industry of others to create a value for it; no, such land owners must either be taxed, sell to avoid taxation, or must do what so few holding large tracts of land have done—they must work it, so as to make it productive, and thus enable them to pay such necessary taxation.

If Municipal Corporations are introduced, we will soon cease to hear of fast property having fallen 50 to 75 per cent. in value, and of thousands of the inhabitants leaving the country; we will hear no more of annexation, or of the want of work for such as are inclined to labour; and property would soon be duly estimated, and the youth of the country would speedily become anxious to exert themselves—aware, that by so doing, they would not only be made wealthy, but of more importance in their respective Counties.

Who supposes that the possession of wealth is all young men aspire to, is guilty

of a libel against his species; give man a fair education, place him in a position to be able, yearly, to add in electing or rejecting the officers of his County, and rest assured he will soon rise in the scale of society; his acquisitions will act as a stimulus to others near him, and mind, being thus created, will act upon and enhance the value of all property in its vicinity. Had the State of Maine, when it separated from Massachusetts a few years since, a greater population than that of New-Brunswick—Has it a better climate—has it an equal soil, or a greater extent of land—has it finer rivers, or a better in-land navigation—has it equal fisheries of lumber—has it more plaster, grindstones, mines or minerals—has it, for a long course of years, had a highly protected trade both with the West Indies and the Mother Country? yet has Maine now thrice the inhabitants of this Province, and her inhabitants are educated, and, consequently, energetic and ambitious.

Are the people of this Province inferior to their neighbours? Let the speedy rise of such of our youth as go to the States, answer in the negative. It is our system that is in fault, and which has kept the Country behind, and has introduced ideas, and a style of living, which we must get rid of. We must learn to forget much; and the first lesson, which will soon be forced on us, that we are, as yet, a poor Country, but one in which the desire to appear rich is very powerful. What good has resulted from the large, the preposterous salaries given to our Provincial Officers? Has not poverty, generally, been the fate of their families; and the result of living upon, and in very many instances far beyond, even the large and criminal amounts allowed them.

Mr. Editor, I could go much further, in many respects, but will, for the present, pause, and call upon you, to give this a place in your paper; and if you do so, and thereby show your general approval of the sentiments it contains, I urge you to call a loan upon the County to have Public Meetings, so that the Legislature may see their wishes; follow the example so nobly set by the Editors and the people upon the Gulf Shore. Shake sloth from our shoulders, and despondency from our minds, and so do the best towards staying the downward tendency of our Country, and the ruin of our private property. Municipal Corporations, in addition to what is before stated, will at once render the collection of one half of the present revenue unnecessary, and by the removal of all the injurious taxes, being relief to all parts of the Province, and, in an especial degree, advantage this County.

As the Royal sanction was given to the Canadian Act, so will it at once be yielded to any Municipal Act passed in this Province; the evil has rested with ourselves, and if it is our deep reproach—let it be so no more.

Yours, A. B.
 St. George, Jan. 1851.

counting the cost of stones prefer going to the site-work four or five miles distant, and pay at the rate of 23s per 1000 for tiles and 20s for the pipe-tiles, which I believe are preferred by intelligent drainers, and ought to be more generally used.

The expense of cutting the drains depends greatly upon the hardness of the subsoil, and the depth of the drain to be cut, the common price is from 5s. to 8s. per rod for cutting and filling the drains. It may be questioned whether improving the soil in such a manner in New-Brunswick can pay. I think it will—provided that we have a tile-work established in the County, and I trust there will be one before long. Tiles must be much cheaper than stones for draining, especially in New-Brunswick, where the price of labour is so high. For instance, the difference of the cost of handling and cartage of both kinds of materials, that one cart-load of tiles and soles, each 14 inches in length, will lay upwards of 100 yards of drain, whereas one cart-load of stones will only fill from 19 to 18 feet of a drain to a depth of 12 to 16 inches; so that any person will readily perceive that the saving of labour by using tiles instead of stones must be very considerable; they besides make a much more efficient and more durable drain than stones. In 1849 (which was an uncommonly dry season) I had an excellent crop of turneps, and the season not at all favorable for them, which I attributed entirely to the previous draining, and nothing that I have experienced in farming has brought such thorough conviction to my mind, as that draining followed by subsoil-ploughing is one of the greatest practical improvements in cultivation. I have been particularly impressed by the way in which green crops, grain, and grass, stand out after this operation in dry, burning weather, which can only be accounted for by the destruction of pan and the greatly increased depth obtained for the roots—the expense no doubt is a serious matter, and probably no one would feel disposed to incur the expense of draining so extensively as farmers do in this country; but a farmer, even in New Brunswick might always manage to get a bit of his land drained and subsoil ploughed if he likes, once convinced of the advantages. The loss of rich soil and prime manure by surface currents on undrained retentive land, is very great. The portions of soil most thoroughly pulverized, those which possess the highest intermixtures of ammonia, potash, and other food of plants, are precisely the portions which rain and surface currents sweep away. Now thorough draining, in all instances, prevents by the greater part of this very serious loss, and when the land has been sufficiently drained and subsoiled, the water percolates freely but slowly into the drains, and every particle of the loss prevented. That draining is necessary, on almost every acre of land in Charlotte County, there can be no question. The water which is retained in the soil lying on impervious layers of clay and till, is very injurious to vegetation. While the ground is soaked with water, manure however abundantly applied, can impart no fertility to the soil. It is remarkable with what ease and freedom the plough passes through subsoil-drained land, and where ordinary sized stones are in its way the plough can easily dislodge them.

It would be a great advantage to the New-Brunswick farmer to have his land thoroughly drained; he could get his crops put in two or three weeks earlier in the Spring, and the labour of tillage would be greatly facilitated and easier for the teams. I have been told by experienced farmers, that land, after it has been drained, ploughs easier with two horses than it formerly did with four. The saving of horse labour however, will require to be expended by the farmer in the new direction of cartage from increase of crops; but this is a consequence which every farmer will very cordially welcome.

Yours, truly,
 Joux M. DONALD.
 To the Editor of the Standard,
 St. Andrews, N. B.

CALIFORNIA ITEMS.—A San Francisco correspondent says, that several passengers in the last steamer carried home from \$15,000 to \$25,000 each also, that a party of three, of whom Mr. McIntire, an Unitarian clergyman, was one, recently arrived from Yuba river, with \$70,000, the result of their summer's work.

A letter says, that business at San Francisco was dull, and prices of nearly all kinds of commodities had greatly declined within a fortnight. Real estate would not bring a quarter part what it would a year ago. The cholera had carried off a large number of Indians.

There was a destructive fire at Sacramento City on the 9th of November, which occasioned a loss of \$45,000.

Two Whaling Ships supposed to be Lost.—Capt. Roys reports, that on the 1st of Sept., while his ship was lying in a Bay upon the West Coast of Behring's Straits, an Indian chief came on board, and by signs made known that two whale ships went ashore, and all hands were lost. As near as he could understand, the fatal spot must have been N. W. from Unga East, on the Asiatic Coast. For four or five days previous, there had been a heavy gale from the N. E.

RETURN OF H. B. MAJESTY'S SHIP HERALD.—This ship returned to this port on the 10th inst. from the Arctic Ocean, having been unsuccessful in her search for Sir John Franklin.

LAW RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS.

Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

If Subscribers order the discontinuance of the papers, the publisher may continue to send them till all arrears are paid.

If Subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office, which they are directed, they are held responsible till they have settled their Bills, and ordered their papers to be discontinued.

If Subscribers remove to other places, without informing the publisher, and the papers are sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.

THE SONG OF THE RAILROAD.

By C. J. WOLFE.

Through the mould and through the clay,
 Through the corn and through the hay,
 By the margin of the lake,
 O'er the river through the brake,
 O'er the bleak and dreary moor,
 On we lie with screech and roar!
 Splashing! dashing!
 Crashing! dashing!

Over ridges,
 Gullies, bridges,
 By the smoking rail,
 And mill—
 Highways,
 Hollow hill—
 Jumping—bumping—
 Rocking—roaring—
 Like 40,000 giants snoring!

By the lonely hut and mansion,
 By the ocean's wide expansion,
 Where the factory chimneys smoke,
 Where the foundry bellows croak—
 Dash along!
 Dash along!
 Dash along!
 'On' 'on' with a jump,
 And a bump,
 And a roll!
 Hiss the fire-bell to its destined goal.

O'er the aqueduct and trestle log,
 On we fly with ceaseless jog,
 Every instant something new,
 Every instant lost to view,
 Now a tavern—now a steuple—
 Now a crowd of gaping people—
 Now a hollow—now a ridge—
 Now a cross-way—now a bridge—

Glimble—stumble—
 Ramble—tumble—
 Fretting—getting in a stew,
 Church and steuple, gaping people—
 Quick as thought are test to view,
 Everything that eye can survey,
 Turns hasty—hurry, thump—turry!
 Each passenger is thumped and shaken,
 As physics is when to be taken.

By the foundry, past the forge,
 Through the plain and mountain gorge,
 Where cathedral rears its head,
 Where repose the silent dead!
 Mountains amid the grass!
 Fit like spectres as you pass!
 If to had a friend inclined,
 Which! which! ka-wash!—he's left behind!
 Rumble, tumble, all the day—
 Thus we pass the hours away.

The Editor of the St. John Colonial Watchman, thus discourses on the prospects of the European and United States Railroad.

THE RAILROAD.

Just as we predicted the subscription for the Railroad at a stand still. Where are all the paraded plans of the Maritime-News and others. Not a word now do we hear of them. It is not even decided whether this Railway will be built by a company or by the government, nor of course whether a subscription in New Brunswick be of importance at all or not.

We doubt much, even if Mr. Howe succeeds to his wish, and this is still uncertain, whether the British Government will guarantee a loan to construct the great Western line. That they would do so for the great Trunk line, Halifax to Quebec; or for its whole length, granting their yield to Nova Scotia in their portion, we have little fear, but it is quite another question to guarantee a loan to construct a Railway to open up a communication with a foreign country, instead of one which would form a military road through British dominions—a road necessary, as things are now conducted, to preserve Canada in case of war with the United States.

And who will dare venture to assert that such a war is improbable. Suppose an attempt of Southern States to form a separate confederacy, it is so much the interest of the British people to support such an effort on the part of these Southern States, that we have little doubt they have no trifling reliance on their aid in case of need, and if such an event should occur, Quebec would be in no small danger. In fact the military diversion would necessarily be in quarter.

We may be laughed at for making any supposition of this nature, but we care not. We have seen too many changes in our day to doubt that one will, at no distant period take place here. It is not possible that the free states of the Union can long stultify themselves and outrage their consciences by being connected with human slavery while pretending to unlimited freedom, and condemning slavery in the abstract, and it is as little probable that the Southern States accede to it will give slavery up to suit their Northern neighbours. The precursors of a storm appear from time to time and it will one day break out in thunder over the land.

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The Atlantic Steamers.

The undernoted Vessels are appointed to sail as follows:

FROM LIVERPOOL.	Saturday	30th Nov.
America for Boston	Saturday	21st Dec.
Africa for New York	Saturday	27th Dec.
Canada for Boston	Saturday	21st Dec.

FROM AMERICA.	Wednesday	18th Dec.
Asia from New York	Wednesday	18th Dec.
America from Boston	Wednesday	25th Dec.
Africa from New York	Wednesday	1st Jan.
Canada from Boston	Wednesday	15th Jan.

I. J. F. ROGER'S FASHIONABLE TAILOR, LATELY FROM NEW YORK.

HAS the honor to announce to the Inhabitants of St. George, and its vicinity, that he has commenced business in the house formerly occupied by Mr. Wm. Armstrong, fronting the Public Building, where he is prepared to execute all orders in his line, in the most fashionable style, with neatness and promptitude. Having just arrived from the United States, where he has been employed in some of the most celebrated Establishments in Philadelphia, New York and Boston, trusts that his long experience, knowledge, and superior workmanship, with a desire to please, will entitle him to public patronage. Garments warranted to fit, before leaving his shop. The Fashions received Quarterly from New York.

St. George.