

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Standard.

SIR, While reading the works of a popular author a few days ago, I met with the following passage, which struck me as singularly applicable to the present state of our Railway Board. She says—"trees that are hollow are the most unbending, but their inflexibility is the product and proof of unsoundness rather than of strength"—and I decidedly think, that the obstinate and unyielding deafness which the Board display towards public opinion, which has been so forcibly expressed throughout this whole community, is certainly indicative of their unsoundness.

In former letters, I have pointed out the inconvenience and danger to the general interests of the Railroad, and to the security of the Class A Shareholders by the prolonged existence of the Board of Directors in this Province, and if further proof were wanting beyond what has already been adduced, of their unfitness for office, it may now be found in their tenacious adherence to a system of policy which the most casual observer must perceive is based far more upon a determination to uphold private interests, at any cost; rather than upon a desire of being faithful stewards of a public trust.

The Delegate from the Class A shareholders, who, it turns out, was specially invited by the local Board to come over for the purpose of consultation; has now been in this country upwards of a month, but from all I can learn of the treatment he has received in the matter of business, he has little to be thankful to the Board; and I which to be thankful to the Board; and I should think that, by this time, he must perfectly see through the shallow artifices by which they have been, and are, striving to hide their incapacity. Unless he is ready to take the bull by the horns, and is prepared to assume the reins on behalf of class A and dictate terms to the Board, he has no business here. I think he might just as well have been the happiness of eating his Christmas dinner with his own family at home, and been spared the dangers of the two dreadful calamities by steamboat and railroad, which, I understand, he has witnessed.

A month, Sir, a whole month has gone by, and with the exception of one act, which had much better have been left undone, viz.—the appointment of two St. Stephens men as Directors—nothing, absolutely nothing has been done. Mr. Byrne has been left to kick his heels about St. Andrews uncarefully, almost unrecognized of course I mean officially, and studiously kept profoundly in the dark, while intrigues have been carried on and caucus Board meetings held in sly corners and even in distant Parishes.

It cannot be necessary to recall Mr. Wilson's assertion at the last General Meeting of Shareholders—"that unless he had the control and management of the road and its funds, he would rather be without the line at all"—in order to account for the extreme delatation and reluctance which is manifested to adopt the only course by which the Road can possibly be built; nor is it requisite in order to show the mischievous consequences which may be anticipated from further pretexts of postponement, to go again through all the arguments which have been used to prove, that there is but one way—and only one—by which our hopes can be realized.

Sir, in this country we are all pretty well familiar with the "idiocy-racism" nature which Chamcock bantlings display soon after they have been hatched; and the extraordinary brood which has been produced within the last six months, may certainly challenge the whole world, including the far-famed Baron Munchausen—who gave birth to a large family of monstrosities—to produce their equals. What a nice little story book a la "Old Mother Hubbard" might be made from our experience of the last half year, to help Papas' and Mamas' in teaching their little flocks the A, B, C.—Thus:

A Was St. Andrews, a nice little town,
B Was a Banker, self thought of renown;
C Was a Chandler who got loaves & fishes
D Was a Doctor who risked all his riches;
E Was an Engine which was seized by the Crown.

F Was a fry cooked deliciously brown,
I am afraid you would not find space for the whole alphabet, so will only give you a couple more quotations:—

J Was a Junius who every one knew,
K Is a King who dismissed all his crew;
L Is a light, which is not very bright,
M Is a "Master," in sorrowful plight.

The next I think is not bad—

Q Is a Question, what mischief is brewing?
R Is a Railroad which is fast going to ruin.
S Is St. Stephen to prep up its downfall,
And T is a Tomfool unstable to crown all.

If you would like to publish it all as a book I will send you the whole manuscript, and I doubt not, if nicely illustrated, there would be almost as large a demand for it as for "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

I am, Sir,
Your obdt. serv't,
C. V. I. S.

The people of Canada, says the "Portland State of Maine," are fast fitting themselves for democratic institutions. At the election, in one county, the polls outnumbered by about one hundred, the whole population, men, women and children.

Distress at the Lake Fishing Stations.—The Detroit Advertiser states, that great distress prevails among the fishermen on the coast of Lake Huron, in consequence of the non arrival of their usual winter supplies of provisions, &c.; and it is feared

that some will actually perish from hunger and starvation.

The Standard.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1855.

Latest from Europe.

Steamship Atlantic arrived at New York on Sunday last, with London dates to the 16th ult.

The news from the seat of war is unimportant. The allies were unable to work their heavy battery guns, the trenches being filled with water.

A report from Sebastopol states that 5,000 Russians had retreated from their second line of defence.

Parliament was opened on the 12th by the Queen in person. The speech relates principally to the war. The conclusion of a treaty of alliance between England, France and Austria is announced—and large reinforcements are called for, that the war may be prosecuted with vigor. The conclusion of a treaty with the United States settling numerous questions of interest, is alluded to.

Breadstuffs quiet, with some advance on wheat and flour. Consols 92.

THE RAILROAD.

The decision of the Board of Directors of the St. Andrews & Quebec Railway Company, which was come to at the Meeting yesterday, only came to our ears this morning, and therefore it is impossible to make any comment in our present impression; but we deem it right to inform the Public without delay, that Mr. Byrne, on behalf of class A, has offered to take the road, with all its liabilities, &c., and build it—making his own arrangements with Government—and that the Board have actually refused this glorious offer.

THE ELECTION.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Sheriff's Court was opened on Tuesday, at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of declaring the successful candidate. A great concourse of Electors, from all parts of the County, was present in the Court House, anxious to hear the two competitors for the vacant seat, return thanks for the support they had received. The High Sheriff announced that before he should proclaim the name of the successful candidate, he would seize that opportunity of thanking the Gentlemen who had acted as presiding officers, and clerks, at the different Polling places, for the able and efficient manner in which they had discharged their respective duties. He also briefly thanked the Electors, and congratulated them on the peaceable conduct, good humor, and good feeling, they had displayed at the Election, notwithstanding the efforts that had been made to revive ancient feuds and religious animosities, the recollection of which, every good subject wished buried in oblivion. He then proclaimed that James Brown, or rather the Hon. James Brown, the Surveyor General, was duly elected a member of the General Assembly of the Province, by a majority of 566 votes.

The Surveyor General, then rose, and amidst great cheers and clapping of hands with much feeling, expressed the gratitude he felt for the large support he had received—a support which far exceeded his most sanguine expectations. He modestly disclaimed possessing any particular abilities, and ascribed the popularity he possessed, solely to the consciousness of having endeavored by faithful services to merit it. He could say what no other man in the county could, that he had been returned seven times, a member of the General Assembly. He observed it was to the people, altogether that he owed the situations he had held—after serving for years in the House, he had retired to the Upper House and from thence he had been called by the people again to represent them, and now he was invited by the people, to accept the situation of Surveyor General an office, which he had never had the ambition to aspire to. He almost viewed the whole as an interposition of Providence in his favor.—The old government which he had been so severely animadverted on for assisting to overturn, had fallen, with very little assistance from him. His doom was sealed before he was consulted—his alliance with the progress movement of the new house, accelerated what must have happened. The old government reminded him of Nebuchadnezzar's statue of old—it was composed part of brass, part of iron, and part of clay, and the blow of a pebble had shattered it to atoms! He took no credit individually to himself, for this occurrence though he was glad it had happened. They had neglected to keep sufficient pace with the times, and lagged when they should have been nimble and alert. Among other omissions the not attempting to amend the Election Law, had mainly contributed to this catastrophe. He repudiated the notion of having sought for office. He had never asked but for one situation in the County, from the Government, and that he had been denied, it was the Inspectorship of Schools in this county. It was an office which he thought himself well qualified to fill, on account of the attention he had paid to educational matters, and

he flattered himself that he could have made himself useful in it, all the other offices had been given to him unasked for.

He alluded to the course the new Government would pursue with regard to religious denominations, which was based on perfect impartiality to all sects. He would consider any denomination that possessed a clergyman, properly educated and inducted, was as much entitled to the consideration of the Government as any other. He disclaimed the aspersions which had been industriously circulated by parties he had not expected such treatment from; he had been called an A. theist, a Deist, and many other names, but he asserted afterwards, when challenged, to do himself as much of a Christian as any one present. That in the course of the canvass, he had received every courtesy from his opponent Mr. Thompson, who had behaved with the most perfect gentlemanliness towards him—but that some of his friends had pursued a course towards him which he considered highly reprehensible. He had been supported, he said, by the majority of the intelligent and independent electors of the County, and it had been cast up to him, in consequence, that he was anxious to become an aristocrat—he, who had always prided himself on belonging to the peasant class.—It was there, and in the bosom of his own family, that he found and took the most comfort and happiness; he could mix in all the diversions of the farm house, and happily for him, he had from circumstances been compelled to mingle also with the higher classes, where he behaved as well as he knew how. But it was to the former class he looked for his proper associates—bred, himself, to the plough, it was his intention that his children should do the same; he had a number of boys who were from honest labour as rough fisted as set of fellows as any in the County, and his daughters, of whom he had several, had been reared to becoming female rural affairs, and he had no notion of their marrying into the gentry class. It had been also thrown up to him, that he was the advocate of low official salaries, and that he had said, which was true, that he thought £300 was sufficient for any official, and that he himself now, did not despise £200. He will never, said he, have a salary of more than £200, and when a movement should be made to reduce all the salaries to that amount, he would go heart and soul for it. He concluded a long address, by again thanking his friends for the unparalled support they had given him, a support yielding a majority of nearly two to one—demonstrating to every one how much the Public approved of the line of policy pursued by the new House in overturning the old Government.

Mr. Thompson then came forward amidst much cheer, and addressed the assembly with more than his usual eloquence. Indeed we never heard, we think, a more powerful, nor a more happy speech delivered by him. He said he did not come before the electors, it was true, as a successful candidate, but he was not as a candidate of the position which he held. He had been supported by 677 voters, [turning to the black board on which the statement of the Poll was written.] 677 honest, intelligent, and independent men, which made him as proud of his position as the Surveyor General was of his; that the number in his favor would have been much greater had improper and undue influence not been used. He had been brought up from a boy amongst them, and every one knew him; that he had depended solely on his own standing, and had brought no foreign influence to bear on his election; he had not the Government influence on his side, nor the strong lumbering interests, as could be seen by Mr. McAdam, who was a host of himself, being opposed to him. All kinds of persons were pelted at one place—Americans were brought from the other side, and Mr. Ritchie was present in Pennfield. (Here it was observed by some one, Mr. Wilmut, also.) He expatiated on the policy of the old Government, and said every one was aware that he was opposed to them; he was so, because they had not carried out responsible government in all its purity. The members of the old House were to blame in not bringing forward a vote of want of confidence before, and had consigned at their shirking. (Mr. H., the member for York, who happened to be in the crowd, exclaimed, "The Members did their duty.") How was it, they had not concurred on a vote of want of confidence before, then? Before the expiration of four years, many changes no doubt would take place, he and many there might be removed by the sleep of death from this fretful scene, and therefore he would not say, whether he should come before them again, to ask for their suffrages, but nothing like fear or intimidation should deter him from doing so, if he thought it expedient. Before questioning the Surveyor General's creed, he avowed his own staunch Protestantism; and denied being an Orangeman, but acknowledged that he considered the Orange body entitled to be a Corporate body as much as the Temperance Society, and others. He sincerely deprecated the conduct which some of his friends had pursued, if true, as alleged by Sur. Genl, and gave full credit to the honorable cause the Surveyor General himself had followed, and paid a just tribute to his talents. He expressed himself warmly in favor of general education, and was indignant at the reports circulated, that he was hostile to the poor man's being instructed.—He very properly, and strongly spurned at such a contemptible want of sense and liberality. He expressed in beautiful language, his sympathies for the poor, and said one instance of their recollection of him, was more grateful to his feelings, than the votes of a dozen more partisans.

He said in conclusion, that he had been actuated in this canvass by no personal hostility to the hon. Surveyor General, but merely by a desire, to obtain the honor of being one of the members to represent his own County in the General Assembly of the Province.

He then gracefully took his leave of the audience. The Court was then adjourned "sine die."

IMPERIAL CUSTOMS.—Instructors were received by the Controller of Customs, and Navigation Laws at this port, by last Mail from the Honorable Commissioners of Customs, London, acquainting him that Her Majesty's Government had directed that the services of the Imperial Customs Officers in New Brunswick next, after which period the duties performed by the Provincial Customs Officers, without any expense to the British Government. The Imperial Officers have also been directed, in the mean time, to instruct the Provincial Officers as to the nature of their duties and the manner of compiling the accounts of Trade required by the Imperial Government.

We have much pleasure in stating that our popular Controller, Mr. Grant, has been placed on the retired list by the Lords of the Treasury, on full pay, after having completed fifty years in the service. For the last quarter of a century Mr. Grant has been stationed in this country, first as warehouse-keeper at this port, afterwards as Collector at St. Andrews, and finally as Controller at this port; in addition to which he was frequently employed to act as Surveyor General at other ports, on special service. Mr. G. has retired to his residence at St. Andrews, where we wish him long life and happiness, in which we feel confident we are joined by every member of the mercantile community who may have had occasion to do business with him.

Messrs. William Ellman and William Squith, the other Imperial Officers stationed at this port, have been placed on the compensation list of the Department, with retiring allowances for life, in proportion to their length of service.—*Courier.*

[We learn that similar instructions have been received by the Controller at this Port, Wm. Whiteside, Esq.,—who, we are happy to learn, has also been placed on the retired list with a compensation. Mr. Whiteside while filling the office of Controller at this Port, gave much satisfaction to all who had business with the Customs, from his obliging and attentive manners and his thorough knowledge with the duties of his office.

THE SPIRIT TRAFFIC.—We learn from the Miramichi Gleaner that the enormous quantity of thirty two thousand gallons of wine and spirituous liquors were imported into that port during the past season. For a population of about 16,000, the Gleaner considers that they have had their share, and it is no wonder that drunkenness and disorder prevailed in the community, and distress is heard of among that class, operatives who reaped nearly all the advantages—in enhanced wages—from the brief period of prosperity in trade which the Province enjoyed.

The following from the Daily News correspondent at the Crimea:—"Long before this letter reaches you, you will know more than we do of what here is generally spoken of as 'the row of the Duke of Cambridge.' His Royal Highness is now on board ship, bound for Constantinople, and, as some say, for England.—It is asserted that he quarrelled with the Commander in Chief in consequence of the battle of the 5th. The Duke resented the manner in which the Guards were cut up and it is asserted he said some very smart words to Lord Raglan about the manner in which the Guards and second division were left exposed to the assault of the Russian army. What Lord Raglan replied is not known; but the end of it was, (thus it is whispered in the camp,) that the Duke went off in high dudgeon, intending to proceed to England and tell them all 'about Lord Raglan and the army.' As for the position which the Russians attacked, the Commander in Chief has already confessed his fault, and made amende honorable in the face of the whole army. On the very next morning after the battle, in obedience to orders received from head quarters, the engineers commenced fortifying the position, and this afternoon the redoubt thrown up by them was mounted with two 68-pounders, two 22-pounders, and four eight inch long guns.

The political differences in Newfoundlad are still unsettled, or rather they are widening. The Assembly wishes a general election immediately—the Government refuse to issue the writ till May. The House by a series of resolutions denounces the Administration and votes for its removal. Mr. Little is delegated to England to represent the Assembly and advocate its views at the Colonial office.

DEEP SNOW!—Never since the winters of 1841-2, have we had so great a depth of snow, and not in forty years, has so much snow fallen in this section of Canada, in one short week, and that the first week in December. This has not only occurred here, it extends from Erie to Huron, from Gaspe to St. Clair, and as much farther as the sun of South America will permit it. Here in London township, where not drifted, it lies to the depth of thirty-six inches, in the woods of London to seek out the poor and destitute. Wood is unprecedently high, and the weather cold.—*Canada Paper.*

The following Table shows the state of the Poll its close, in the several Parishes.

PARISHES.	BROWN	THOMPSON	Majority for Brown
Saint Andrews	136	107	29
Saint Stephen	327	107	220
St. James, B. Settlement	42	37	5
Do. Kirk	63	45	18
Saint David	144	43	101
S. Patrick, Rolling Dam	64	46	12
Do. Mills	72	78	6
Saint George	144	101	43
Pennfield, McGowan's	98	31	67
Do. E. Church	55	30	25
West Isles	55	23	32
Grand Manan	43	29	14
	1243	677	566

THE NEWS BOY'S ADDRESS, TO THE PATRONS OF THE STANDARD.

January 1, 1855.

"A happy New-Year" to friends far and near, Including my kind patrons too, Thus the News-Boy's address, from his "old shanty" Conveys his best wishes to you. (ky press)

Old Christmas has gone, and has left to each one A lock of his hoar-frosted hair, With him, in the rear has fled the Old Year And Time votes the New "in the chair."

Then back on the past our eyes let us cast, And trace the Old Year from its birth, Did it come as peace? or did it increase "Good will towards man" on this earth?

I fear if we look into History's book The last, that is but twelve months old, We therein can trace that God's noble race In carnage and bloodshed have rolled.

How War's pestilence this year did commence Through Nations defending the right, How England and France their fight did enhance And united in one cause to fight.

Death, destruction and woe, unto their common foe And to death their great Heroes were sent, Aye nobly to die, yet the heart grieves they lie "In one great blood-red burial blent."

Who's not read with delight—of Alma's proud Where the Allies their prowess began, (height) Of the field Balaklava, where blood flowed in red lava And strewn down to the vile Inkerennan.

These victories ours, won by Allied powers Their Armies and Navies combined, May such a great union ever act in communion And in both be created one mind.

And may Russia relent, 'oh! may Russia repent, Such repentance would not come too late; Or Sebastopol falls! within whose granite walls Her Army must meet with a deathlier fate.

But the Czar is self-willed, and the cup he has With the blood of the dying and dead, (filled) The drops he must drink, and his brain reel to think That their Widows and Orphans want bread.

But the Widows' distress, and the poor fatherless Have true-hearted claims on our hearts, And England has shown, here are not made of And France her abundance imparts. (stone,

Then it must not be said, we're to Charity dead Though New Brunswick has granted her mite, Let her whole Christian tribe, to their utmost subscribe, And the "Battle of Life" aid to fight.

Let every State, the same emulate, And the promise of ONE keep in view— For, as long as ye live,— For as much as ye give, The same shall He give unto you.

Let us now draw the veil, o'er the battle-field's war, Though the death-cry be still in our ear, Let us look to our home,—from which we did roam— For the blessings which marked the old year.

A harvest redundant—with crops most abundant, Have blessed us at home and abroad, Day free!—'tis a fact, by the Reciprocal Act A measure which all must applaud.

Another great blessing, which needs our confession, That the journey of life we survive; Then to Him be the praise, in whose hand our life lays, And may Peace crown the year "FIFTY-FIVE."

Female Complaints effectually Cured by Holloway's Pills.—Mrs. Mary Pearson, of High Street, Dartford, Kent, (aged 45) about two years ago, was thrown on a bed of sickness for several weeks, her arms and legs became much swollen, and it appeared to the medical men whom she consulted, at this period of life, that she was dropsical. She gradually grew worse, until all hope of her being cured was abandoned by her husband and friends. At this crisis Mr. Pearson persuaded her to have recourse to Holloway's Pills, and by persevering with them for six weeks, she was perfectly well. They are an excellent medicine for young females, with obstructions in their health entering into womanhood.