

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR :

SIR,—As you have been called upon to divulge the author of the letter signed "Tax Payer," which appeared in the SPECTATOR of the 28th ultimo, I publicly acknowledge the writing it, and beg to disclaim either personal or malicious intent in so doing; and, further, to say that I was solely prompted in the matter by information received.

Yours obediently, *Thos. D. King.*
March 12th, 188c.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR :

SIR,—In the article which appeared in the SPECTATOR of last week, entitled "Food as a Brain-power," there was one sentence in particular which very much amused and surprised the writer of this letter, and, no doubt, a great many other readers of your paper. This is the sentence: "The Irishman is volatile, careless and combative on potatoes and whiskey."

Now, the idea of speaking of *whiskey* as an important part of the "food" of a nation seems to me simply absurd. Why did the learned essayist single out Ireland? Why did he not speak of whiskey as forming a portion of the Scotsman's diet also, if he wished to be sarcastic? I think it is pretty well agreed that there is more of the liquor in question drunk in Scotland than in Ireland in proportion to the population.

My opinion is (and I think most people who have read the article will agree with me) that the sentence above quoted is not only an insult to Irishmen, but also strongly indicative of prejudice or ignorance. It would have been more in keeping with the nature of the essay if the writer of it had argued that *Ireland being a country abounding with fish, this might partly account for some of the powerful intellects which that country has produced.*

I do not wish it to be thought that this is written by an Irishman. It is not. It is written by a Canadian, a reader of the SPECTATOR, and one who does not like to see its columns disfigured by fallacious nonsense.

London, Ont., March 9th, 188c. *F. H. T.*

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—In these days when crude correspondents continue to discuss the merits or demerits of oil paintings I have maintained a discreet silence and for no other reason than that I am utterly incompetent to say anything that might tend to allay the apparently endless discord. I have only one unassuming engraving in my possession, and that fitly represents my old Professor, the Rev. Dr. Chalmers.

Yesterday I was absent from church—my venerable buggy had broken down some days previously, when two of my sons were on their way to Huntingdon for supplies. But the day was not unprofitably spent, at least that portion of it which was taken up in reading a discourse by the Rev. A. J. Bray, on "Church Debts and Difficulties." If the author be in difficulties of any amount or pressure, I know not one clerical gentleman in the Dominion of Canada who can sooner emancipate himself and his flock.

From my standpoint, however, I am not surprised to see an able man encompassed and all but overwhelmed with difficulties who struggles to maintain his ground in opposition to the blighting influences of voluntaryism pure and simple. Carping, groundless, ill-conditioned gossip will continue to prevail and cramp the best energies of a clergyman, so long as he is destitute of extraneous support and depending upon what is called the spontaneous liberality of the Christian people. The purse-strings being in their possession, they can starve him into obedience. Let his incumbency be long or short, he is made to feel that he speaks and looks by sufferance.

I am unhappily but too well aware that it is absolutely meaningless even to allude to the Scriptural principle of a church establishment in this Canada of ours, but while this is so I cannot be blamed for maintaining the conviction created and fostered by the most powerful advocate of church establishments the world has ever seen. Even Canning, the accomplished statesman, in his day, exclaimed, after he had listened one day to an eloquent appeal from Chalmers, "the Northman beats us hollow."

It was my privilege in by-gone days to enjoy the friendship of the great "Northman," and I know that, when from a variety of untoward circumstances, he was forced into the position of a dissenter, his spirit succumbed under the unexpected and unnatural pressure. Nor did he stand alone in his advocacy. In the year 1834, when the ten years' conflict had begun, the House of Commons appointed a Committee to consider the law of patronage. On that Committee sat Sir Robert Peel, Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Lord Dunfermline and Lord Dalmeny. The following sentence formed a part of their report:—"No institution has ever existed, which, at so little cost, has accomplished so much good." Even now the disposition to maintain the establishment in Scotland, at least, is as strong as ever among not a few of the leading spirits in the Free Church there. Hear what the Rev. George Smeaton, D.D., Professor of Exegetical Theology in the Free Church College says, in a letter to me, of recent date:—"I am convinced by Scripture, by history and experience, that religion will not flourish in a country, unless Church and State, God's ordinances, are in harmonious co-operation."
Hugh Niven.

P.S.—An exposé of grammatical blunders from various quarters must be held in *retentis* until another occasion.
H. N.

TRADE—FINANCE—STATISTICS.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

COMPANY.	188c.			1879.		Week's Traffic.		Aggregate.		
	Period.	Pass. Mails & Express	Freight.	Total.	Total.	Incr'se	Decr'se	Period.	Incr'se	Decr'se
*Grand Trunk.....	Mar. 13	47,500	147,606	190,106	179,752	10,354	.....	11 w'ks	159,288	.....
Great Western.....	" "	32,862	61,149	94,011	86,617	7,394	.....	9 "	57,301	.....
Northern & H. & N.W.	" "	6,173	14,019	20,192	15,958	4,234	.....	9 "	15,268	.....
Toronto & Nipissing..	" "	1,589	1,994	3,583	2,854	729	.....	8 "	5,821	.....
Midland.....	Feb. 28	1,640	2,693	4,333	3,304	1,029	.....	8 "	4,405	.....
St. Lawrence & Ottawa	Mar. 1	1,519	1,082	2,601	2,907	306	.....	fm Jan. 1	2,305	.....
Whitby, Pt Perry & L.	" "	603	1,071	1,674	1,439	235	.....	" "	3,345	.....
Canada Central.....	" "	2,219	2,206	4,425	4,214	211	.....	9 w'ks	5,795	.....
Toronto, Grey & Bruce	Feb. 27	2,101	3,381	5,482	2,875	2,607	.....	8 "	8,687	.....
Q. M. O. & O. West. D.	" "	2,637	2,547	5,184	4,079	1,105	.....	8 "	4,755	.....
" " " East. D.	" "	3,196	3,412	6,608	.....	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
Intercolonial.....	Month Feb.	9,020	23,559	32,559	19,535	13,024	.....	2 m'nths	46,071	.....

*NOTE TO GRAND TRUNK.—The River du Loup receipts are included in 1879, not in 188c; omitting them the week's increase is \$34,214, aggregate increase \$190,134 for 10 weeks.

BANKS.

BANK.	Shares par value.	Capital Subscribed.	Capital Paid up	Rest.	Price per \$100 March 17, 188c.	Price per \$100 March 17, 1879.	Two last 1/2-yearly Dividends.	Equivalent of Dividend based on price of Stock.
Montreal.....	\$200	\$12,000,000	\$11,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$141	\$138	10	7
Ontario.....	40	3,000,000	2,996,000	100,000	78	61	6	7 1/2
Molsons.....	50	2,000,000	1,999,095	100,000	79 1/2	77	6	7 1/2
Toronto.....	100	2,000,000	2,000,000	.....	127	115	7	5 1/2
Jacques Cartier.....	25	500,000	500,000	55,000	70	133	5 1/2	7 1/2
Merchants.....	100	5,798,267	5,511,040	475,000	95 1/2	79	6	6 1/2
Eastern Townships.....	50	1,469,600	1,381,980	200,000	98 1/2	96	7	7
Quebec.....	100	2,500,000	2,500,000	425,000	.....	.....	6	.....
Commerce.....	50	6,000,000	6,000,000	1,400,000	119	100 1/2	8	6 1/2
Exchange.....	100	1,000,000	1,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Montreal Telegraph Co.....	40	2,000,000	2,000,000	171,432	93	104 1/2	7	7 1/2
R. & O. N. Co.....	100	1,565,000	1,565,000	.....	39	39 1/2	4 1/2	11 1/2
City Passenger Railway.....	50	.....	600,000	163,000	93 1/2	74	5	5 1/2
New City Gas Co.....	40	2,000,000	1,880,000	.....	121	110	10	8 1/2

*Contingent Fund. †Reconstruction Reserve Fund.

STATISTICS OF IMMIGRATION.

UNITED STATES.

There arrived at the port of New York during the month of February, 188c, 8,328 immigrants; in 1879 the number of arrivals were 2,818.

The arrivals at the port of New York during the twelve months ended February 29th, 188c, as compared with the twelve months ended February 28th, 1879, were as follows:—

	188c.	1879.
Immigrants.....	147,963	82,454
Citizens of the United States returned.....	31,869	34,859
Sojourners.....	5,970	6,127
Total.....	185,802	123,440

CANADA.

The following are the details of immigration showing the routes of immigrants to Canada:—

	1878	1879.
Via the St. Lawrence.....	10,295	17,251
Via the Suspension Bridge and inland ports, including Manitoba.....	15,814	30,771
Maritime Provinces, including Portland.....	2,488	3,955
Entered at Custom Houses with settlers' good.....	11,435	9,775
Total.....	40,032	61,752

The arrivals increased from 57,873 in 1867 to 99,109 in 1873, and decreased up to 1877, when they were 35,285.

*Summary of exports for week ending February 21st, 188c:—

From—	Flour, brls.	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Oats, bush.	Rye, bush.	Pease, bush.
New York*.....	64,318	883,285	774,653	2,528	90,585	19,602
Boston.....	14,685	7,050	286,019	86	.....	.....
Portland†.....	7,091	63,456	.....	4,500	.....	43,784
Montreal.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Philadelphia.....	6,237	102,334	471,388	134	.....	.....
Baltimore.....	5,375	252,304	846,299	.....	.....	.....
Total per week.....	97,706	1,308,429	2,378,359	7,248	90,585	63,386
Corresponding week of '79.....	103,113	1,414,849	1,361,810	7,581	116,051	10,647

*13,783 bushels Barley. †43,147 bushels Barley.

*The receipts of Live Stock at New York for the last four weeks have been as follows:—

	Beeves.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep.	Swine.
March 8.....	10,965	265	1,000	25,366	32,165
March 1.....	9,564	158	822	22,302	29,522
February 23.....	9,592	166	770	22,636	25,626
February 16.....	11,122	213	800	25,626	36,627
Total 4 weeks.....	41,243	802	3,392	95,931	124,240
Corresponding 4 weeks 1879.....	38,963	374	3,548	88,889	133,116
Corresponding week 1879.....	8,407	141	1,087	22,134	26,516
Weekly average, 1879.....	10,933	142	2,998	29,005	33,089
Corresponding week 1878.....	6,831	83	870	19,839	27,803

*From New York Produce Exchange.