

The staff at this Station has been reduced to some extent by changes and the employment of more competent men.

The Auditor did not visit this Station, because he had not time to do so, and because he was satisfied from the audit at Headquarters, that the accounts were in the main correct.

On the dismissal of the Station Master at Point Du Chene, I gave Mr. Pick charge of that Station, the duties of which he has since performed in a satisfactory manner.

No person has been appointed to fill the place vacated by him at St. John, where the work is well conducted.

In relation to the balances at Stations, I beg to say that although the amounts in a few cases have been large, yet, it is difficult at all times, to avoid having balances, which are in most cases, remitted shortly after they appear.

The Station Masters and Freight Agents as a rule, remit daily and especially, each Saturday, and the last day of every month. These remittances are sent by an early train, so that the Cashier may get them the same day.

The station accounts are made up to Saturday evening, and the evening of the last day of the month, so that all monies received between the time the remittance was sent in the morning and the close of the day, must appear in the balance.

To adopt any other course, would enable an agent to use the current receipts to pay arrearages and thus commit a fraud.

In order to check any undue retention of Railway money, I have given instructions to the Station Masters, when showing the balance at any given time, also to show their receipts after their last remittance.

The services of the Travelling Auditor, will also now be available to check matters of this kind.

I have now to refer to the agency at Point Du Chene, where the Station Master did not appear to good advantage, on the occasion of Mr. Brydges' visit.

The Freight accommodation at Point Du Chene, until the present year, has always been so limited, that during the shipping season, the greatest confusion prevailed.

The pressure from this cause was so great, that it was difficult to do the work, and it has been a matter of surprise to many, that the agent got through with it.

When the improvements which had been in progress at that place since 1872, were