General News.

The Dublin *Freeman* thus comments on Italy's refusal to join England against Russia:—

Italy refuses to take any part in the complications of the Eastern question. The King is too busy with the Roman difficulty. He is engaged in persuading Europe that he has made a most equitable arrangement with his Holiness the Pope. That a King of yesterday should fraudulently and by force seize upon the dominion of the most venerable Sovereign in the world, is an outrage on the morality of nations, and an insult to the religion of three hundred millions of Catholics. England entered no word of protest against the robbery. Now she is disappointed at the ingraditude of Victor Emmanuel. She connived at the downfall of the King of Naples, and openly encouraged the scheme of unification. For these services she deserved a better return than Victor Emmanuel has thought fit to make. But the royal burglar has possibly committed a grave mistake. Ireland has demanded from the English Cabinet diplomatic interference on behalf of the Sovereign of their religious affections, and the hostility of the King of Italy, so insolently expressed at the very moment of England's difficulty, may win for Ireland's claim a generous consideration. The speeches at the great meetings in Kilkenny, and in Maryborough and Galway, proclaim the demand of the country on this all-important question. They were delivered by men of position and character. They are argumentative and conclusive. They call on the British Cabinet to do justice in this matter. The King of Italy, in the pride of impunity, has supplied just occasion for the interference of England. A proverb, as true for nations as for men, tell us that when rogues fall out honest men come by their own. Should the partners to the robbery of the Sovereign Pontiff come to quarrel, Victor Emmanuel may come to grief. The map of Europe will probably be changed considerably after the Franco-German war; and should England be worsted by Russia she won't forgive the Power that refused to aid her. Even if there be no war, she has had a sample of the gratitude of the Italian King, and may crush the puppet as readily as she raised him. In such a course, pursued from whatever motive, whether from a sense of justice or the resentment of indignation, she will have the warm support of the Irish people. By demanding the restoration of the Sovereign Pontiff, she will heal the wounds which have rankled deep in the heart of Ireland, and will inaugurate a union between the two countries firmer and happier than the cold embrace of power, and more beneficent than the iron grasp of coercion.

There was quite a scene on the 26th ult., in the North-German Reichstag. Herr Bebel resisted the demand of the Government for a credit of 100,000,000 thalers. He urged that the country did not really desire the continuance of the war, pointing to the fact that of the 100,000,000 thalers last granted as a credit, only 68 millions had been realized whereas in France the required sum had been realized at once. On taunting the war party with the immense difference between enthusiastic talk and action, Herr Bebel, amidst great excitement and cries of "Turn him out,' was sternly interupted by the President, who said he had hitherto shown the hon. member so much courtesy only because the party he represented was so small. Herr Liebknecht spoke in the same sense as Herr Bebel, and was even more severely dealt with by the President. "Had peace been concluded," said Herr Liebknecht, "when the Imperial Government fell, Germany would have been united, and very differently from the way in which union can now be brought about." "In your expressions," interrupted the President, "you go beyond the most extreme allowed limits. Be sure that next time you offend, I shall withdraw your leave to speak. Herr Liebknecht was roused by this reply, "that is your famous freedom of discussion! The Opposition in Paris were never treated like schoolboys. They were interupted, but at least they were allowed to speak." He was at once called to order, and concluded by protesting that he believed the aim of the government was to restore Louis Bonaparte. At all events Count Bismarck had never denied that he had ever entered into negotiations with the Empress Eugenie.

POPULAR INDIGNATION IN BRITAIN.—A London despatch of December 8th says—"Much indignation is felt by all classes at the ignominious retreat of the British Government from the position taken in Granville's first note. It is understood that Granville's surrender was secured by the personal influence of the Queen, who is unwilling to give her endorsement to a policy so unfavorable to Russia in the present crisis." Thus it will be all through the chapter. Britain backs down before Russia on the Eastern question: allows france to be humiliated by Prussia; expresses her willingness that Prussia should annex Luxembourg, will doubtless allow both Belgium and Holland to be gobbled up in order that "German unity" may be secured; and when Prussian victorious arms are turned against Britain herself, without an ally she will be compelled to succumb; and Russia will take the opportunity of settling the Eastern question to suit herself to the weakening of Britain's prestige and influence in Asia. Not much wonder the people should feel indignant at the coming national humiliation.

In the almanack published in London by Zadkiel, the Astrologer, there is a prediction in the calendar for October, that "about this time the Princess Louise will meet with an accident." Sure enough, she has. The amiable Princess—who in February is to become Mrs. Campbell—sprained her knee so severely a fortnight ago that she has ever since been unable to walk. If "Dr. Cumming, of Scotland," now, could make such a hit as this, his reputation—which is at present very much dilapidated—would be materially improved.

GERMAN LOSSES.—An estimate which has been carefully made by a high medical authority, who has had ample opportunities of observation, puts down the present aggregate mortality of the German armies in France at 2,000 men per day. I am assured that this death-roll is far from being exaggerated, and that it is in a large degree attributable to bad sanitary arrangements and to the neglect of the sick and wounded. The Germans appear to sacrifice everything to ensure the vigour and efficiency of the men who have to do the fighting, and as they now invariably send their best men to the front, it is the opinion of some military authorities here that they have adopted the true method of carrying on a short successful war. If the war is of brief duration, this policy will doubtless be justified by the result; but if hostilities are prolonged, so great a sacrifice must sensibly diminish the fighting power of the German hosts. It is a remarkable thing that people here who are in communication with the French, never appear to lose confidence in the ability of the latter to repair their evil fortune. It would be difficult to discover any ground for this hope, except in the fact that the Germans being encamped in a hostile country, cannot long continue without serious embarrassment to fill up the gaps which are made by those who perish or are disabled by disease. It is, however, more than doubtful whether the theory that French obstinacy is able to wear out German persistence will be borne out by the events of the next few weeks. Opinions may differ on this point, but the facts I have stated at all events show that the French are influenced by calculations which are not wholly illusory.

LETTER OF LOUIS VEUILLOT TO GEN. TROCHU.

[Translated for the N. Y. "Tablet."]

The following letter of the eminent journalist, Louis Veuillot, to Gen. Trochu, is well worthy of attention at this juncture of affairs. It is from the Paris *Univers* of November 3d:—

TO GENERAL TROCHU, GOVERNOR OF PARIS, PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE:

General:

To-morrow I am going to vote to keep you at the head of the Government, and to keep the government with you. I shall say YES.

But I confess, General,—and my conscience, when interrogated, must needs make its confession public,—I confess that in voting for the maintenance of the Republic, in doing my utmost to swell the majority, I act not from love for your colleagues, nor even with entire confidence in you, although I honor you. Forgive me the expression, and allow me to say: "You are not my man."

You are taunted with being "clerical." It is very unjust to you. If my opinion were of any account I would add to those who accuse you of being as clerical as I am are also unjust to me.

Although you may be one of the most honest men in the world, and a good and firm Christian as regards yourself—willing, I doubt not, to die rather then abjure the faith of Christ, you have not, in my opinion, the quality or quantity of social faith which we all owe to the Gospel. You have what the world tolerates of it, but not what society wants. If I am mistaken, so much the better for you and for us. But I say as I think, and I think as I see.

I see nothing at all in your public actions to convince me that the Gospel is for you the faith of public, as well as of private safety. You believe that it is allowable, and even expedient, to be a Christian in private life only.

This is the essence of the revolutionary poison; by it the revolution manages to mislead minds and deceive consciences that would be horrified at its other maxims; this is the poison that is killing society. It is paralyzing the hearts and the arms that might save it. It is taking from good men the vigorous meaning of *just* and *unjust*; it weakens in them the generous majesty of the law; it debars them from greatness; it reduces them to the uncertainty, the compromises, to all the petty subterfuges of poor human reason, so mean and profoundly irrational when it extinguishes the lamp that God gave it. Of that poison you have drunk. You have connected youself with men who could not see the light and whom you will not permit to blindfold you. They have with base cowardice abandoned the Pope. You doubtless feared then to see France crumble away, and yet you remained with them, without, at least, imposing on them the silence which was perhaps justified by our own misfortune. They would persecute the Church, or connive at her being persecuted. You, also, connived at it. They allowed those same men whom you know, to insult the crucifix in the schools; they allowed these same men to force declarations of apostacy from the miserable teachers to whom they would entrust the education of the people's children; your conscience has doubtless told you that God would demand these souls of you, and He will; but policy again intervened, and you again yielded.

They have renewed that supid and insolent farce, the last legacy of the Empire before Sedan: emphasizing blasphemy, they have dragged their Voltaire into a place more worthy of him. And you are there, General: there shall history behold you! And you are likewise in Garibaldi's commission, making him a French general when Pius IX. is the King of Piedimont's prisoner. And you are on still others of their documents. You are,—not before God, I hope,—but before posterity, of the number of those men who, keeping guard on France in her agony allow her to be nailed to the cross of the bad thief, over the corpse of the Vicar of Christ.

All that is not "clerical."

Hitherto I have not felt myself protected by you, as I ought to be, in my rights and in my honor as a Christian and a citizen. I have felt on my head and on my heart the foul feet of the mob, and I have despaired of the honor of my country's last days.

The day before yesterday, when you told that disgraceful crowd that you had made Paris impregnable, I did not believe that you spoke the truth, because you had not fulfilled the duty of making yourself impregnable.

Nevertheless, General, I will vote for you, because your words to-day are better, and show, at least, a resolution too long looked for in vain. In those words I see neither the Christian, nor the "clerical," who would on no account abandon the Church; but I perceive in them at least the general and the brave man who will not give up his country.

Retain power, then, or, rather, receive it, and henceforth command boldly. Be *the man* for France, save her honor. Hold out to the last mouthful of bread, to the last cartridge, to the last drop of blood. We no longer ask you for victory; God will give it, if He pleases; we ask only honor. The honor of devotion and sacrifice is ever in the hand that seeks to save it, and if the enemy digs our grave, honor can well make it a cradle.

The Herald.

Wednesday, December 28, 1870.

THE "HERALD" FOR 1871.

SCARCELY two months have elapsed since the HERALD appeared in its new form; and the increase of our friends and patrons has more than come up to our expectations. This has taken place while our arrangements for exchanges and correspondence were still incomplete. These are, however, now nearly terminated, and our selections from foreign journals and correspondents, will place ere long, at our command, ample material wherewith to make our journal still more attractive.

The detailed debates in the forthcoming session of the Legislative Assembly will not be published in the HERALD; but when any question of great public interest is brought forward, we shall produce a summary of the debate, sufficient to convey to our readers its spirit and scope.

Neither trouble nor expense will be spared to procure the latest information on public events. The market prices here and in the provinces, will be faithfully and minutely quoted; and the shipping from the different ports of the Island given, so as to make the HERALD a journal to which our readers may, with confidence, refer for commercial intelligence.

Political events will be discussed fairly on their own merits, without party bias.

The approbation already bestowed on the HERALD by the public, encourages the proprietors to hope that the circle of their friends and patrons will be yet further widened. They, on their part, pledge themselves faithfully so to discharge their duties in the management of their journal, that it may redound to their own credit and the benefit of the public.

If the number of our supporters throughout 1871 increase as it has increased during the last two months, we shall be enabled to present our readers next year, with a HERALD double the present size.

THE YEAR 1870.

The year now approaching its close has been one fraught with important events. At its dawn, there was sitting in the Vatican one of the greatest Œcumenical Councils ever assembled in the Catholic Church. The sittings of this august assembly were continued into the summer months. Its most important decree was the definition of the doctrine of Papal infallibility, as an article of faith. It was expected that the Council's deliberations would be resumed in November last, but the course taken by events in Europe has prevented this, and rendered necessary a further prorogation.

Mr. Gladstone's government took last session another very decided step towards the removal of Ireland's grievances. The disgraceful anomaly of the Irish Church Establishment had been removed in 1869, and 1870 saw brought in a measure to diminish at least some of the hardships which surrounded the land tenures. It is not all that the friends of Ireland could wish, but it is at all events an instalment of justice, and may be taken as an earnest of wiser legislation, than hitherto has fallen to the lot of that ill-governed country.

In the first weeks of the present year M. Emile Ollivier was busy in the construction of a "homogeneous Cabinet," to use the words of the late Emperor, "in order to carry out in the letter as well as in the spirit the Senatus Consultum of the 8th of Sept." This was what occupied the attention of the Emperor of the French only twelve months ago. "I rely," he wrote to his Minister, "upon you to aid me in the task I have undertaken to bring into regular working a constitutional system." In strange contrast to this peaceful occupation, are the words written last September from Sedan:—"Unable to die at the head of my army, I lay my sword at your Majesty's feet."

After long and varied solicitations, Spain has at length succeeded in obtaining a Prince willing to ascend her vacant throne. The young king will not find Spain a more peaceful habitation than his native Italy. The country is distracted and divided between Carlists and Republicans, and everywhere in a state of semi-insurrection.

The history of Italy during the last twelve months presents an appalling spectacle of irreligion, tyranny, and disorder. The bombardment of Rome, and the imprisonment of Pius the Ninth, are acts which have roused the indignation of all Christendom. The excommunicated king shrinks from taking possession of the stolen capital; but he has been told the alternative: if he goes not there, the Republic will.

Until lately Russia's chief occupation during the past year has been the persecution of Catholic Bishops and their flocks, and the stamping out still more effectually of the last embers of Poland's nationality, by prohibiting the use of her language. She is now engaged in threatening to tear up solemn treaties, and renew her projects of ambition over Turkey.

The British Colonies have not been without disturbances. England's treatment of New Zealand had well nigh cost her that Colony's allegiance. In Red River territory Riel assumed for a time a rebellious attitude towards the Canadian Government. The situation looked threatening, but eventually the difficulty was removed by negotiation. The Fenians too made another raid upon Canada. It was repulsed with no loss to the Canadians, and of the invaders only two were killed and two wounded.

In January, 1869, a convention for the settlement of the Alabama claims was signed by Mr. Reverdy Johnson and Lord Clarendon. The American Senate rejected it. Diplomatic correspondence and negotiations ensued, which have been continued at intervals ever since. The question is again bequeathed for settlement to another year.

But that which will make the year 1870 remembered during all future ages, is the breaking out of one of the most dreadful wars ever waged. Never did disasters fall heavier or faster on a people than on the French nation; and seldom has a people borne up against crushing defeats more resolutely. Within one month ten battles were fought, three hundred thousand men were captive, wounded or dead,—the Emperor and his Marshals prisoners, and a Republic proclaimed. The strongest fortresses in France have fallen, and Paris is now closely invested. The armies of the gallant peasantry of France struggle nobly against the invaders, and every gleam of success encourages their friends to hope that the issue of the struggle will leave them not a humbled, but a regenerated people. Yet how dark in Europe is the closing scene of this eventful year. The towering ambition of Prussia and Russia, seemingly in perfect accord, Turkey, Holland and Belgium threatened, England supicious and perplexed and along with Austria arming for the seemingly inevitable fray, Italy a scene of the wildest anarchy, Spain on the verge of a civil war. From such materials the keenest forecast can do little save guess at results which cannot be otherwise than momentous.

The obituary of 1870 includes three names of world-wide reputation: One the great Novelist Charles Dickens, another the eminent Orator Montalambert, and the third General Lee. The first was interred by his grateful country, among her illustrious dead in Westminster Abbey, the second will be remembered by his countrymen as the fearless defender of the temporal sovereignty of the Popes, and the elegant cultivator of Catholic Literature—while the third won for himself applause from all, friends as well as foes, for his noble defence of the cause of the South, against the overwhelming resources of the North, in men and money.

Our own annals of the past year are annals of peace and prosperity. A general election took place, and a government was overthrown. The elections disappointed the political aspirations of some, and the dissolution of the Ministry stirred up animosities, which all but a few rabid natures have forgotten. The strict enforcement of the Treaty of 1818, has had this of good, that it has shown both the Washington and the Ottawa Government the necessity of coming to some kind of amicable settlement upon the fishery question. Let us conclude with the hope, that whatever may be the arrangement, it will be framed by a generous desire to promote the welfare of both nations, and do away with the petty jealousies, which a certain class of politicians are only too anxious to foment.

[CONTRIBUTED.]

"OSRIC.—Sir, here is newly come to Court, Laertes, believe me, an absolute gentleman, full of most excellent differences, of very soft society and great shewing.

HAMLET.—This he (and many more of the same breed that I know the drossy age doats on) only get the tune of the time and outward habit of encounter; a kind of yeasty collection, which carries them through and through the most fond and winnowed opinions; and do but blow them to their trial, the bubbles are out.—HAMLET, Act. V, Scene II.

A writer signing himself "Liberal," has been endeavoring to make himself conspicuous lately by his contributions to the *Patriot*. That he is out of temper is evident to the most casual observer; and, as a matter of course, he must have an object upon which to vent his wrath. The Hon. Mr. Haythorne is the gentleman singled out by "Liberal" for vituperation and misrepresentation. It is not our intention to defend Mr. Haythorne, who is well able to take care of himself. Neither is it our purpose to devote much space to a writer who, in attacking a public man, has not the courage to append his real name to his letters. We confess to a strong repugnance to having anything to do with Knights of the Mask; and were it not that we are immediately interested in the charge of deception and treachery, which has been so flippantly preferred against Mr. Haythorne in connection with the school question, we should throw the mantle of silence over "Liberal's" puerilities. Mr. Haythorne has very clearly shown that during the time he held the Leadership of the late Government, he had, both publicly and privately, whenever called upon for an opinion upon the subject, expressed himself in favor of a grant to St. Dunstan's College. We can bear testimony to the fact. In the month of February last, Mr. Reilly invited Mr. Haythorne to a meeting of the inhabitants of Lot 56, in order that he might hear the reasons urged by them against the valuation put upon the Lot after it came into the possession of the Government. When that matter was settled, the two most important public subjects of the day, namely—Confederation and the School question—naturally came up for discussion. Upon both of these subjects, Mr. Haythorne, as Leader of the Government, was called upon for an expression of his opinions, which he gave fully and unreservedly. This is how it came to pass that Little Pond was the locality where Mr. Haythorne had the first chance to make a public declaration upon the School question. Upon that occasion he said:

"With regard to the Education Question, the meeting having expressed an almost unanimous opinion in favor of the existing system, only demanding a small grant to St. Dunstans College, Mr. Haythorne said he was opposed to sectarian grants, and although the Prince of Wales College was not, strictly speaking, a sectarian institution, yet, in effect, it was so, and, considering all the circumstances relating to the establishment of St. Dunstan's, he thought it just to support a grant to that establishment. It would be also politic, provided it promoted a settlement of the School Question, but it was his opinion that all matters of this nature should be allowed to rest till after next Election."

These views are clear and distinct. They were delivered in the hearing of a large and intelligent body of electors, at whose solicitation they were elicited; they were conspicuously printed in the HERALD, commented upon by its contemporaries, and repeated at public gatherings at Fort Augustus, the Ten Mile House, and in Charlottetown. The charge of concealing his views until after the general election is, therefore, essentially false. He is not in a position to say that occurred when the question came up at the Council Board, over which he presided, as its proceedings are secret by virtue of the obligation of an oath; nor are we permitted to divulge the discussions of caucus meetings, to which the question may have been referred. We can, however, say, that under all and every circumstane, Mr. Haythorne has given an outspoken and consistent support to a grant for St. Dunstan's College. He would scorn to stoop to deception or treachery in the matter; and fortunately for himself, his character for truth and honor stands so high in this community, that the malevolent darts of the beardless boy whom he extricated from his swaddling clothes to place in the position of a man, fly wide of their mark. The ingratitude of the treatment is not lessened by the consideration that the spleen engendered by disappointment provoked the attack. With reference to the sneers at "the assembled wisdom of the backwoods," as "Liberal" politely calls the inhabitants of Lot 56, we can assure him that if he were to favor them with his presence upon any public occasion, he might receive a few lessons in modesty which would be of service to him through life, and at the same time acquire a few ideas upon the School question, which would enable him to discuss it more intelligently and "liberally" than he has done. The very fact of their demanding explanations from the Leader of the Government upon that question, as well as upon Confederation and local matters of importance, at once establishes their character for intelligence and independence, and places them beyond the reach of the impertinent coxcombry, which would endeavor to pass itself off as wit and sarcasm.

EXPORTS.

WE thought to have given our readers today, a detailed account of the exports from the Colony, during the season just now brought to a close. Unfortunately, we have not heard from all the outport collectors, and we are, therefore, compelled to defer a general statement of the Trade of the Colony, until a future day, trusting that those gentlemen will furnish us with the desired information as soon as possible. John McLean, Esq., the Collector for Souris, writes, under date of the 20th instant:—

"I have not yet made out my general account of Imports and Exports at this port for the year 1870, because the navigation is still open. However, should you have any wish for an account of grain, &c., shipped to date, I will give you a hurried list of some of the articles.

"Oats, 65,000 bush., potatoes, 11,267 bush. barley, 420 bush., turnips, 773 bush., pork, 121 bbls., butter, 2746 lbs., cattle (horned), 65, sheep, 167, hogs, 40, flour imported from other countries, 216 bbls., cornmeal, 2 bbls.

"As there is every appearance of an open winter in the beginning, we may probably clear more produce, &c., before 31st inst.; and we will likely have more imports from abroad. There are two or three vessels expected from Halifax, daily, with goods, and a few vessels are in harbor, some loading for other ports in the Island.

"About half of the grain shipped here goes to Georgetown, Cardigan, and other Island ports, which causes our exports to appear small."

Mr. Costin has furnished the following shipments by steamer from Summerside since the opening of the navigation:—

6442 bbls. Oysters,	14,117 bush. Oats,
1745 do. Eggs,	1,259 bush. Barley,
397 do. Pork,	27 crates Pelts,
14 do Flax Seed,	16 bx. pr. Lobsters,
16 do. Oatmeal,	150 live Geese,
23 cwt. do.	3,170 Sheep,
1360 tubs Butter,	237 Horses,
33 bbls. Game,	91 Cattle,
41 tubs Lard,	214 carcasses Pork,
45 bbls. Potatoes,	47 live Pigs.

MR. FAIRBANKS, the gentleman employed by the City Council to report upon a water-supply for Charlottetown, lectured upon that subject in the Market Hall, on Wednesday night last. His Worship the Mayor occupied the Chair. A good number of the citizens was present. A desultory discussion followed the lecture. Mr. Heard, seconded by Mr. Dodd, moved a resolution, which was carried by a majority, calling the attention of the Government to the necessity of providing an increased supply of pure water for the city, for the sake of the people and the protection of property from fire. Dr. Fraser proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fairbanks, for the important information he had brought before the inhabitants of Charlottetown. This motion was unanimously adopted. At an early day, we will call attention to Mr. Fairbank's excellent Report upon the important subject of supplying Charlottetown with pure water, a scheme which, from his survey and estimate, is quite feasible. The water can be procured from Winter River at a cost of $100,000.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.—We will accept any number of New Year's Gifts from delinquent subscribers. They cannot perform a more gratifying or more worthy action, at this season of the year, than in supplying us with a little of the "needful," in return for the instruction and entertainment which we afford them all the year round. New subscribers, with the cash, will also be thankfully acknowledged. We are pleased to be able to state that we have not been altogether forgotten by our friends, but there is a vast deal due us yet which we require before the glimmer of a happy New Year meets our vision. The compliments of the season to all good pays.

A large and well finished barn, belonging to David Douglas, Esq., Stanhope, together with 13 head of cattle, 1 horse, 200 bushels oats, 70 bushels wheat, 7 tons straw, 8 tons hay, 1 fat pig, set fanners, part of mowing machine, wagon and sleigh, driving and working harness, was totally consumed on Friday night last, about 11 o'clock. The total loss is not less than £400. The fire must have been the accidental work of some poor vagrant who took shelter in the barn. Only two untied horses escaped.

The annual examination of the students of Prince of Wales College and the Grammar School in connection therewith, took place on Thursday last. The attendance of students was not large. His Honor Sir Robert Hodgson, the Hon. John Longworth, Mr. Roche of the Normal School, Mr. Arbuckle, sen., and several other gentlemen, were present, and assisted in the various examinations. The students, on the whole, acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of all present.

The Wesleyan Bazaar, held in the Market Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, was a decided success. The sum realized is, we understand, little, if anything, short of £1000,—a sum sufficiently indicative of the zeal, industry and enterprise of the Wesleyan Body, and indeed of the whole community in the cause of Education.

WE have received the November number of *The Printer*, John Greason, New York, Publisher. It is a valuable publication to the proprietor of a Printing Office.

Correspondence.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.—In all cases in which matters of fact are involved, Correspondents must furnish us with their names and addresses—not for publication, but as a guarantee of authenticity.

MR. BOYD'S LETTER, *(continued).*

TRAFFIC CAPACITY.—It is difficult to estimate the full traffic capacity of a Railway. The London and Northwestern of England, with a double track of 4ft. 8½in. guage, carries 20,000,000 of passengers per annum, and has the largest freight traffic in England, and probably in the world. Its revenue is nearly £2,000,000 per annum, more than twice the revenue of the Great Western with its double track of 7ft. guage. The Grand Trunk of Canada, single track, 5ft. 6in. guage, carries about 1,600,000 passengers and 1,000,000 tons of freight per annum, but the New York Central, with a single track, below Syracuse, of 4ft. 8½in. guage, has an annual traffic of about 3,750,000 passengers and 1,600,000 tons of freight.

Mr. Fitzgibbon estimates the capacity of the Queensland Railway at about 150,000 tons per annum, and Major Adelskold that of one of the Swedish lines at 100,000 passengers and 150,000 tons of goods per annum. In the first of these estimates, allowance must be made for the steep gradients of 1 in 50, some of which are of great length, combined with sharp curves, and in the second for the very limited supply of rolling stock on which the estimate is based. Both these estimates are, therefore, within the mark. The traffic on the Nova Scotia Railways has not yet exceeded 170,000 passengers and 75,000 tons of freight per annum, and on the N. B. Railway 150,000 passengers and 56,000 tons of freight per annum. Assuming your probable traffic at 100,000 passengers and 50,000 tons of freight per annum, there would be no doubt that a 3ft. 6in. line would be more than sufficient for your purposes, for many years to come. As M. Pihil says of the Norwegian lines: "Should that fortunate time arrive when the traffic has developed to such an extent, that the line as originally constructed prove insufficient, then I believe that a double line would naturally suggest itself, as meeting the requirements of increased traffic everyway better than a single line of broad guage. The cost of the addition would, based upon calculations, made for the purpose, be rather more than 50 per cent. of the original cost of the line proper, stations and rolling stock not included, and the total of this double line would then cost about the same as the single 4ft. 8½in. would originally have cost." It is clear that with this facility of adding at any time to the capacity, it is bad policy to lay out twice the amount required for present purposes, merely to meet a want which may not be felt for 30 years, and is simply to expend in interest alone a large sum which would be much better employed in some other way. The Festimog Railway, in Wales, has a guage of only 2ft. The length of the line is about 14 miles. The average gradient is 1 in 92, and the maximum 1 in 60, and the curves vary from 264 to 132ft. radius. Over this miniature line there was hauled last year 130,000 tons of freight and 140,000 passengers.

The Broethal Valley Railway, in Prussia, 12½ miles long, has a guage of 26. 7in. It was originally designed exclusively for the accomodation of the mineral traffic to the works of Friedrich-Wilhelm-hutto; but the inhabitants of the surrounding districts found it to their interest to employ the line for the conveyance of their goods. As the cost of transportation was found to be about 66 per cent. cheaper than the ordinary roads, and, as a result, the line has at present a considerable goods' traffic. The company do not carry passengers at present, but the Prussian Government have granted a subscription of £2400 per mile, to an extension of 6½ miles, which is to be made, and the Company in return have engaged to establish a passenger service over the whole system. During the year 1864, the latest for which I have seen returns, the freight carried amounted to 32,709 tons. The line has curves of 125 ft. radius, and inclines of 1 in 80.

Two lines of 3ft. 6in. gauge are now under construction, out of Toronto. One, the Toronto and Nipissing, runs northeasterly 85 miles, to tap the Gull Run Navigation with a branch of 18 miles to the town of Lindsay, and is ultimately to be extended 120 miles further North. Towards the construction of the first section of 85 miles the municipalities have voted bonusses amounting to £83,125, stg. The other line, the Toronto, Grey and Bruce, runs Northwesterly from Toronto 70 miles, are under construction, and it will ultimately be extended to Owen Sound, on Lake Huron. This line has also bonusses amounting to nearly £1000 stg., per mile. These lines have been bitterly opposed, by the existing Railway, interests, and every possible evil predicted, in consequence of the adoption of the narrow gauge. The parties most interested in the lines were, however, satisfied that the weight of evidence was in favor of the narrow gauge, and accordingly decided in its favor, failing to see that because a gross mistake had been made, in adopting the 5ft. 6in. gauge, for the existing portion of the Canadian Railway System, the error must be perpetuated regardless of cost, *speed and safety.*

As the centre of gravity is lowered, and the engines and cars are constructed with an angle of stability, which is nearly the same on either gauge, the absolute safety is quite as great on the 3ft. 6in. gauge as on either the 4ft. 8in. or the 5ft 6in. lines.

The ordinary speed of Express trains in Canada and the United States is from 25 to 30 miles an hour, including stoppages; and freight trains, are not or should not be run faster than from 15 to 20 miles an hour. The speed on the Queensland lines is from 20 to 30 miles an hour. On the Swedish lines the ordinary speed for mixed trains is 16 miles an hour, but it has, on several occasions, been brought up to 30 and 34 miles an hour. Mr. Fox says: "The train on which I was, ran, with great ease and perfect steadiness, at the rate of 32 miles an hour;" and speaking of another line he says: "We ran at sometimes 30 miles an hour, with perfect ease.; nothing can exceed the steadiness of both engines and carriages." Mr. Pilel says he has seen one of his engines at upwards of 40 miles an hour, with as much feeling of ease and security as when running any engine on a broader gauge.

Fortunately no gauge has been adopted in your case, and you thus avoid a strong element of opposition to the adoption of the 3ft. 6in gauge. Instead of entering into arguments based on mere theory, I have given you the evidence of engineers of high professional standing, who having constructed and worked lines of 3ft. 6in. gauge, can speak from actual experience of their complete success. There is one objection which has been urged against narrow gauge lines, which a little reflection would show has no sound basis, viz: the inability of the engines to keep the track clear of snow in winter. Fortunately we hear the testimony of experience on this point also: Major Adelskold, himself an unwilling convert to the narrow gauge system, says: "Another dislike which I myself entertained against the narrow gauge was, that the smaller and lighter locomotives should not be able to keep the line open in winter; but experience during several severe winters has shown that with suitably constructed snow ploughs, the narrow gauge lines have been kept as free from snow as the broader ones."

I should thoroughly recommend you, in conclusion, to adopt the 3ft. 6in. gauge, for any railway that may be built on the Island. Its traffic capacity is more than ample for all your requirements, and its cost will be at least one-third less than a broad gauge line. I have no doubt, whatever, that a 3ft. 6in. line could be built from Tignish to Georgetown for £3000 stg., per mile, including rolling stock, stations, land damages and all the ordinary contingencies. You will be better able to judge of the probable traffic, and it is, perhaps, presumption in me to say anything about it, but reasoning from analogy I do not think an estimate of 100,000 passengers and 50,000 tons of freight excessive. The average distance carried may be assumed at 35 miles for passengers and about the same for freight, and the receipts about £30,000 stg., per annum, the expenses at about 10,000 stg., per annum.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
your obedient servant,
JOHN EDW. BOYD,
M. Inst., C. E.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR;—The anti-Grant portion of our Island press are giving wide publicity to a portion of the opinion expressed by Dr. Binney, Bishop of Nova Scotia, in a charge to his Clergy, lately delivered, and as is generally the case on all matters of this nature, lead their readers to believe His Lordship is in favor of a "gigantic scheme of godless education." But His Lordship does not wish to be so construed, for in looking over the report of the charge in a recent number of the Halifax *Church Chronicle*, he distinctly states:—

"My own opinion is probably known to you all, but I ought perhaps to repeat it, as the subject has lately been much discussed. I hold to the fullest extent that education without religion is worse than useless, for since "knowledge is power" it is placing weapons in the hands of persons ignorant of their proper use, and likely to injure themselves, and others; and our experience of the effect of the experiment in the United States is in accordance with our anticipation. Moreover the two departments ought to be combined, and the religious training should be regarded as a necessary element in every plan of education and not as an addition or companion to it. The teacher ought to be at liberty to introduce his religious principles in connection with all his teachings."

There is no mistaking the meaning of the above terse and clear statements. And no one but a "knave or a simpleton" could construe such testimony as being against religious teaching in our schools wherever practicable. But what is Dr. Binney's opinion compared with Serjeant Henderson's, Elder Laird's, Herbert Bell's *et hoc genus omne.* In another portion of his charge he states:—"In this Province (Nova Scotia), I think we all agree that instruction without religion is not worthy of the name of education."

In New Brunswick we find similar, and even stronger opinions expressed by a large and respectable Christian body, the Methodists.

The St. John *Freeman* of the 25th ult., gives the following notice of a meeting recently held there:—

An important demonstration in favor of Denominational Education, was made on last Tuesday evening, by the Methodists of this City, who held a meeting of their body at the Centenary Chapel—"for the promotion of Methodist Educational Institutions." The Lt. Governor promised to preside at this meeting, but he was prevented by having to preside at a meeting of the Executive Council, and for this he expressed his regret in a letter which was read at the meeting. Mr. King, the putative father of the School Bill of last Session, was also expected to attend and take part in the proceedings, but he had to attend the meeting over which Mr. Wilmot had to preside. The Rev. Chas. Stewart, D. D., "spoke in favor of denominational education," and Principal Allison of the Sackville Institutions said that these—

"Were avowedly denominational, in order on the one hand that they might be able to give a guarantee for proper moral and religious training, and on the other that they might secure the support of the Church. The Wesleyans of New Brunswick, in 1861, were less than one-tenth of the population, and in Nova Scotia only a little over one-tenth, yet their educational record compared favorably with that of any other denomination, and no better returns could be made by any body than that made by them for legislative aid kindly and generously rendered. Principal Allison argued on behalf of the superiority of denominational Colleges and Universities, holding that in all the Western States, with one exception, the State Universities had proved failures. The exception was the University of Michigan, threatened now with being torn asunder by erroneous teaching, and it had only been successful through the labors of a Methodist minister, who had recently been obliged to surrender his post, and was now at the head of a flourishing Methodist institution. In the British Isles he contended the same principle held good."

And in the same report we are told that—

"A. L. Palmer, Esq., took a very practical view of the subject. In the midst of a very busy life he had not time to look after the education of his children, and these institutions possessing his confidence, took them in charge, so he thought they ought to be liberally supported. He spoke warmly of the services conferred on the public by Chas. Allison, Dr. Pickman, Principal Allison, Principal Inch, and their associates."

Yet there are some persons who would absolutely prohibit these institutions from doing for Mr. Palmers children what he admits he can not find time to do himself. Mr. Palmer's brief statement of his personal experience is a strong argument in favor of the denominational system.

Let brothers Strong & Bertram, of the "Journal," make a note of this, for after all I am inclined to think Principal Allison is quite as good authority on the matter referred too, as either of them; or their friend the other "blind guide."

OCCASIONAL.

Tignish, Dec. 10, 1370.

"Una" will appear in our next issue.

The siege of Montevideo by a rebel army, which is now in progress, differs in some respects from the siege of Paris. The beseigers numbered 7000 men, mostly cavalry, many of them armed with spears, which are not so useful at long range as the Krupp guns the Prussians use. Every man is clap after his own fashion, but they are all confident of early victory. The garrison numbers 3500 men well armed. Blanco commands the rebels.

Garibaldi complains that the French priests "lag behind in the national movement." On the other hand, the Germans complain that the French priests are stirring up the people into a regular nation of Franc-tireurs. It is so difficult to satisfy every one. Perhaps the truth is, that Garibaldi (and no wonder) *does* find the French *cures* cool to him, while the German enemies of France find them patriotic enough.

Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended as a domestic remedy for the ailments of all classes and conditions of people—young and old, of both sexes, may take this medicine with the certainty of deriving benefit from its use when disorder or disease is making them miserable. Holloway's Pills are unrivalled for their purifying aperient and strengthening properties. They remove indigestion, palpitation and headache, and are specially serviceable in complaints peculiar to females. Each box of Pills is wrapped with printed instructions for the guidance of invalids, who will readily understand, from carefully studying them, the best way of regaining health. Holloway's Pills will work a thorough change in the constitutions of the weak and nervous.