

Correspondence.

PARIS, 11th Apr. 1885.

MR. Editor,

The following is an outline of Mr. Brown's speech on the Saint Andrews and Quebec Railroad Bill, from notes taken at the time, by

Your ob. servant,
JACK ROBINSON.

Hon. Mr. Brown agreed with the gentlemen who had spoken, that the question was a very difficult one, and that the number of the enactments, and the bearing which they had on one another, made it difficult to tell what the law really was. He himself had introduced many of the Bills, and had ever been most anxious for the success of the undertaking. He had watched the progress of the work with much anxiety, noticed the various proceedings of the parties concerned, and been aware of the inability of the Class B Shareholders. He had been present at a meeting held in the Province Building some years since, when the leading members of the Company proposed to give up the Class B shares to the Government, and so let the Province build one half of the road and Class A the other, and he was favourable to that scheme. Much had been said about extravagance and the unsatisfactory nature of the accounts, but there was the fact which could not be denied, that nearly thirty miles of the road were built and pronounced by good judges equal to the best Railways in Britain; so that the whole cost, including all the alleged extravagance, was less than £3,500 a mile. It would be a needless task to trace the history of this enterprise through all its courses—he would merely state, that he was present last year when a committee of the late Government visited Saint Andrews in order to see the road and examine the accounts. That committee reported a sum due, but the report was unsatisfactory. An application was made, by petition, at the late short Session, but there was no time to consider it, and it was referred to the new Executive Government. It was then referred to the Crown Officers, and all the documents were carefully considered, but they were so incomplete that it was found impossible to decide, whether under the law, the President and Directors were entitled to any additional payments from the Government or not. In the mean time there was tidings of the arrival of Mr. Byrne, and then it was expected that he would bring with him such vouchers from England, as would clear up the whole matter. But here the expectations of the Government were disappointed, for there immediately appeared a difference of opinion between Mr. Byrne and the St. Andrews Board, and no information with regard to any sum due could therefore be given. Mr. Byrne made some proposals to the Government, but they were not entertained. Serious differences had also arisen between the Board and the Contractors, and the contract had been taken from Messrs. King & Brookfield, and a new one made with Mr. Smart.

Arrangements were again made to have the accounts investigated by a committee of the Executive Council, in order to get more money from the Province to keep the men at work; but just when matters were ready for investigation, a meeting at Saint Andrews voted the Class B interests to Class A, and appointed a new Board. In this state of things (Mr. B.) was at a loss who to regard as the proper authorities, and to whom he was to look for instructions with regard to future proceedings. Messrs. Hatch, Wilson, and others, with whom he had been in constant correspondence, were said to be out of office. This was denied by Mr. Hill and other lawyers, who affirmed that the proceedings at the meeting were illegal, and that Messrs. Hatch, Wilson, and others, were still the legal Board—so he (Mr. B.) was sorely puzzled to find out which party he was bound to regard as his "right good masters"; and here he would declare, that he was then, and ever had been, more anxious for the success of this undertaking than for any matter or thing that ever had been the subject of legislation. He had supported it in all its stages. He had been fully persuaded that the region through which the road is intended to pass, is abounded in valuable material for exportation, he must make it a paying concern. Indeed he must say he had a personal interest in it, for his sons had entered into an extensive contract with Mr. Wilson, and had prepared and laid alongside of the line a large quantity of saw logs and square timber, and the success of this transaction depended on the continuance of the work, so that all this valuable property might be carried to market in due time. He must be allowed to express his sorrow at the sudden and sad termination of the easily catered of his friend, Mr. Wilson. It was indeed melancholy to reflect, that all his earnest and most persevering endeavours had ended, for the time, in disappointment and vexation, and that his character and conduct had been so severely handled. After a little time, the interested parties became, in a good degree, reconciled, and generally fell in with the views expressed by the majority at the Meeting in Saint Andrews; so that he (Mr. B.) knew of no one of his numerous constituents at all opposed to the present Bill. He should by all means support it, hoping that the work might still go on and be completed. The necessary amendments prepared by the Attorney-General, in order to secure the Provincial interests, would, as a matter of course, be introduced and adopted.

Fortunate—It is stated that Mr. John Gilbert of the Boston Theatre, has recently had a legacy of \$12,000 left him by a relative recently deceased in New York.

Arrival of the America.

SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

VIENNA CONFERENCE.

The Washington carried out intelligence that the first of the four basis of peace was unconditionally accepted by Russia, and the second was proceeding favourably. Since then, the second has likewise been accepted, but difficulties of a serious nature have occurred in the third. The Western Powers, foreseeing trouble, did not propose the demolition of Sebastopol, but modified their demand into a reduction of the Russian power in the Black Sea, in recompense for which they offer to evacuate Russian territory. The Russian plenipotentiaries reply that they are not authorized to accede to any such terms, and must remit the matter to St. Petersburg. Here the Conference stands still. All the Plenipotentiaries have sent to their Governments for instructions, and the Conference will probably be adjourned until final authority shall arrive. Meantime the fourth point is under discussion. Prince Gortschakoff, on the 26th, moved for the admission of Prussia.

SEBASTOPOL.

The special correspondence of the London Times describes the condition of the army as much improved. The weather was fine, and the health and spirits of the troops better. Provisions were abundant. The sanitary regulations were strictly enforced; but the actual works of siege make no progress to justify favourable prophecies. An actual increase of lines and batteries there is (but it exists on both sides), and there has been no comparative advantage gained by the Allies.

A formidable Russian force is assembled around Eupatoria, and virtually besieges the place. On the 14th, the Turkish cavalry made a sortie from the town, but were driven back.

The Russians could not hold Eupatoria if taken, as it is completely under the guns of the English fleet.

Lord Raglan's latest despatches, dated blank, announce a steady fire without change in respect of affairs; important operations are however going on. The Russians continue to strengthen the works they recently threw up in advance of the Malakoff tower. These are not isolated works but part of an advanced line of defence, and it is consequently indispensable for the Allies to destroy them. The British are therefore pushing forward a parallel from an advanced point of right attack, with view to form a junction with the French. Nightly encounters take place between French and Russian riflemen; the latter have been repeatedly dislodged but again return to pits under cover of batteries.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

Reports are revived of a French division for Bessarabia, and Muslati is named as their place of rendezvous. Sulina is occupied by a strong Russian garrison, and the export of corn from Bessarabia is prohibited.

ASIATIC CONSTANT.

The British steam frigate Viper destroyed on the 8th March the Martello tower and barracks of Djimitieva, which the Russians recently constructed for the defence of their communication between Anapa and Kirsich. The Viper fired from 100 yards, burned granaries and took two guns. The Circassians menaced by land the Stiles batteries at the same time. The British steam frigate Leopard, acting in concert with the Circassians, shelled Soujak Kale, but the Circassians having failed to attack by land, as promised, the ship discontinued the bombardment. The Circassians, however, took and burned a small fort at the head of Soujak Bay.

CONSTANTINOPLE.

The treaty of alliance between Sardinia and Turkey is signed.

The death of Prince Menschikoff is reported.

It was stated by the Paris Presse, but denied by the other papers, that the Allies had assented to a truce.

A manifesto of the holy Synod of the Russian Church has appeared, inciting the war in defence of the faith.

No loss of life occurred in the recent burning of the French hospital at Constantinople.

GREAT BRITAIN.—In Parliament, details of the Sardinian Convention Bill were discussed in Committee, showing that England will borrow money at 3 per cent. and lend to Sardinia at 4. Roebuck's Committee continues in session—medical officers being examined. An enquiry for papers connected with Admiral Dundas's conduct before Odessa was referred to the House of Commons. Lord Palmerston remarking that there was no part of Admiral Dundas's conduct but did him honour. The Earl of Lucan's conduct was discussed in the Commons, on a motion to grant him a Court Martial. Lucan's gallantry was admitted, but the Court was refused. A motion is on the books for the appointment of a Commission on the small gamblers of the British and Indian armies, or at least to render the Indian army available in the European war. Another notice of motion asks if it is intended to nominate any more Bishops for Canada, since the Canadian Clergy Reserve Bill says it is desirable to remove all connection with Church and State. Parliament adjourns over the Easter holidays till April 16th.

Nine ships of the advance British Squad.

ron sailed from Deal on the 28th for the Baltic.

The Standard.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1885.

Two labors of the Legislature were brought to a close on Thursday last; in another place we have given His Excellency the Lieut. Governor's Speech, which is short and to the point. When we have more time on our hands we purpose reviewing some of the measures passed during the Session. One or two of our contemporaries seem disposed to blame the Legislature for the large grants passed, which they assert will exceed the probable amount of Revenue for the current year. This may be true, but the blow is aimed we believe, more particularly at the "New Government," which, were it composed of angels could not please the "outs."

And it should be remembered that many of the grants were passed to pay off "old debts," not contracted by the present Executive, and which if deducted from the total sum, would reduce the amount very materially, but this would not answer the purpose of those writers whose aim appears to be, to mystify and misrepresent. Can they point out a Legislature or Government which has accomplished as much, in so short a space of time, since the first Legislative Assembly sat in this Province. Have they not brought in measures of reform, and carried them triumphantly? has not consideration been given to the wants and wishes of the people—and by such means as were in their power, have they not honestly endeavored to subvert the interests of the Province generally. True, we cannot agree with all their acts, but give them fair play, and in due time, if we are not mistaken, they will have finished a vast amount of labor, and come out with clean hands. We have thus briefly given expression to our opinions, freely and candidly, a right which we claim, and one we accord to others even who differ from us. We do not expect to please every one, nor indeed are we inclined to make the attempt, but shall endeavor to act independently and honestly, and to do to others as we wish to be done by. Our desire is to cherish Responsible Government, to have it carried out in its fullest extent, believing it to be—"the well understood wishes of the people, as expressed through their Representatives."

AMATEUR THEATRE.—The last performance for the season, is to take place on Wednesday next, the 29th inst., on which occasion a most attractive Bill will be presented, viz: the admirable Comedy of Charles II., or the Merry Monarch. To conclude with the most tragic Tragedy of all tragic Tragedies, written for the 1st April, entitled, Romulus, or the King of the North Pole. We wish the Theatre was larger, as we have no doubt it would be filled to overflowing by the many who justly appreciate the efforts of the Amateurs, who have expended so much time for the gratification and amusement of their townsmen. It is admitted by all who have had the pleasure of witnessing their performances during the winter, that the parts were well sustained; and as this will be the last performance for the season, those who have not witnessed these historical displays, should embrace the present opportunity.

GENERAL SESSIONS.—The business of the Sessions was got over rather more rapidly this Spring, than is usual. We were present one day, when an animated discussion took place on the granting of Liquor licences. A petition was read from Campbell, requesting that no licence be granted for the Island, accompanied with a recommendation from the Grand Jury to the same effect. Petitions were also presented from the Upper Parishes praying that no licences should be granted. However, licences were granted for one year throughout the County, if we except the Village of Milltown, where no liquor has been sold for many years.

PLANTING TREES.—As this is the best season for transplanting trees, we so earnestly hope that our townsmen will embrace it, and embellish their residences by planting trees along the sidewalks in front of them. It gives the streets a lively and very picturesque appearance, as may be seen by looking up Edward Street from May till November.

Forged Bills of Lading for Cotton have appeared in the Liverpool market, to the extent of £14,000 sig., all shipped at Charleston, S. C., by James C. Nichols. The fraud was accomplished by insertion of the word "hundreds" after units in the body of the bills.

NEW JURY LAW.

We are happy to inform our readers, and the Public in general, that the Hon. Mr. Fisher's Jury bill has passed into Law. We consider it, one of the greatest boons that has been conferred on the people,—this and the Election Law, are sufficient guarantees of the desire on the part of the present Government, to supply the deficiency of former Governments.

The new law, which is now actually in operation, provides for the payment of Petit Jurors, who are to have paid to them, at the rising of the Court, five shillings for each day's attendance, and six pence a mile travelling to and from home. The Jury is to consist, only, of 21—seven of whom are to try each civil cause, of whom five must agree. The Judge is not to keep them more than two hours together should they disagree, and the barbarous custom of starving them into agreement is discontinued. The same cause may be tried a second time, with a fresh Jury, should the first disagree.

The Governor's Speech.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

Thursday, April 12.

This day at one o'clock, His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, came down in the usual state to the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly, who being come, His Excellency was pleased to close the Session with the following Speech:

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

You have been engaged during the present Session in the consideration of many subjects of great importance. I acknowledge, with thanks, the assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties.

The laws which regulate the election of members to serve in Gt. Assembly—the disputed questions by which the prosecution of Mining operations has hitherto been impeded, and the system of management of the Roads and Bridges of the Province have successively occupied your attention.

I trust that the measures which you have passed may give attention and promote the public interests.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you for the supplies which you have voted for the public service. You may be assured that I shall exercise care and economy in the outlay of the same which you have placed at my disposal.

The establishment of a responsible department for the management of the Roads and Bridges of the Province, will I confidently expect afford a new security for the judicious expenditure of the money appropriated for the maintenance of these works.

The act for raising a Revenue will I think be found sufficient to promote the necessary funds, and I hope that the recent revision of the Import duties may prove advantageous to commerce.

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I congratulate you on the termination of the labours of the Session. In releasing you from further attendance I desire to express to you the satisfaction which I have received from your attention to the public business of the Session. I assure you of my cordial good wishes for the success of the private pursuits to the prosecution of which you will now return, and I earnestly pray that Providence may bless the industry of this Province, and continue to vouchsafe to us his guidance and protection.

THE ENLISTMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.—There are private letters in the City from the United States, which say, that the enlistment of men for the British service would have been eminently successful, had the business been managed with ordinary prudence, or the least degree of tact. There was no desire on the part of the United States Government to interfere with the matter, but on the contrary, a desire that the community should be relieved from a portion, at least, of the vast numbers of able-bodied men out of employ. But the Russian Legation complained; and the enlistments were managed in such a stupid and bungling manner, that they turned out a total failure.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills have effected another Wonderful Cure of Sore Legs.—Anthony Harrison Seard, of Southampton, Nanticoke, was a sufferer for twenty-eight years from sore legs, so bad at times, that human nature could scarcely bear it, as they were covered with wounds and proud flesh. His friends had given up all hopes of his ever regaining the use of his limbs, as he was in so pitiable a state, the more especially as the doctors told him it was constitutional. Having heard from several people the good effects Holloway's Pills had produced in cases of this nature, he made up his mind to give them a trial; after using them for a few weeks, he felt much better, and by continuing them for two months and a half, he was perfectly cured, after being 28 years a cripple, and considered beyond human aid.

The total amount of subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund acknowledged in the last

Fredericton Gazette, is £3,312 12s 9d.

From late English Papers.

Mr. Buchanan attended a dinner at the Seaman's Hospital, London, and returned thanks for aid rendered to 1500 sick American sailors: Lord Palmerston presided. A donation of £200 from merchants of New York and Boston was acknowledged.

Mr. Ewert, the liberal candidate, gained the Liverpool election by a large majority.

FRANCE.—Drouyn De L'Huys, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has gone to London, to consult, and will afterwards proceed to the Conference of Vienna. It is officially announced in the Moniteur that Napoleon and Eugenia will visit Queen Victoria about the middle of April, at London.

BELGIUM.—No Ministry yet. It has been announced to the Chambers that the foreign relations of Belgium are satisfactory, and are not the cause of the Ministerial difficulty.

SPAIN.—The latest news from Cuba is called satisfactory. A Vienna paper states that Spain and Portugal have acceded to the Western Alliance, and signed the treaty at Paris, on the 21st March, but this statement is nowhere confirmed.

GERMANY.—The Bavarian Diet was dissolved on the 25th. No day named for a new election.

PRUSSIA.—The difficulty between Austria and Prussia is increasing. The Prussian cabinet has reiterated on Austria's circular of war of the 8th, by sending a circular to the Prussian representatives at the German courts respecting Austrian intrigues with the Germanic Diet. The language of the circular is quite hostile to Austria. It is evident beyond contradiction, that the Cabinet of Vienna is desirous to substitute its own notions for those of the Diet, and to this end it attributes to us intentions, where no impartial judgment can find any, and adduces the views which prevailed at the conclusion of the treaty of April, and its additional article as the sole guide of action; in place of the general principles of the confederation.

The circular further taxes Austria with dissimulation in threatening Prussia with military dangers, while in the rest of Europe it talks confidently of peace.

SWEDEN.—Notwithstanding the declaration of neutrality, Sweden is fitting out a fleet provisioned for three months.

CHINA.—Shanghai dates are to Feb. 6th. The overland mail states, that the French had again attacked the city, and had been repulsed with loss by the insurgents. The country around Canton is in the hands of the insurgents, who officially certify their intention to maintain a strict blockade. There are rumours of a second repulse of the French.

FIRES.—A little before two o'clock yesterday afternoon, an alarm of fire was given in our streets, occasioned by the sudden ignition of a powerful combustible in the cellar of the store occupied by John Kinnear, Esq., in Prince William-street. It appears that a workman had been employed to solder a leak in a tin tank usually filled with turpentine, had wiped the tank out with an old bag, which he carelessly threw down beside him. On taking the heated iron from his portable furnace a spark fell upon the bag, which instantly burst into a flame, enveloping the sides of the tank, which were saturated with the turpentine, and which communicated with some oil near the spot.

Our energetic Fire Companies being promptly on the spot, and a good supply of water near, the fire was confined to the corner of the cellar, where it commenced, and did but trifling damage to the goods, considering the value of the stock. The building, which is owned by F. A. Wiggins, Esq., is uninjured.—Courier, 14th inst.

A Substantial Token of Regard.

We learn from the Christian Visitor that the members of the Brussels-street Baptist Church and congregation have presented their pastor, the Rev. Samuel Robinson, with a congratulatory address, complimenting him on the success which has attended his ministry in this City, during the seventeen years he has laboured therein. The address was accompanied by a purse containing Fifty Pounds.—Id.

The Nunery Question Again.—The Boston Advertiser reiterates its charge against the Legislative Committee who visited the Catholic school at Roxbury, and states additional facts. It says that a young lady was confined to her bed by sickness, in an upper room, and that the Sister-Superior informed the Committee of the fact and desired them to make as little noise as possible. The request was disregarded, and members of the Committee absolutely invaded the sick chamber. Comment is unnecessary. We leave the verdict upon such acts to be passed by the moral sense of the community. Boston Herald.

Country Market.—Provisions of all kinds continued to command great prices in our market; indeed, out of all proportion to the condition of the times, and the present value of labour. The poor must necessarily suffer by reason of the enormous rates which they are compelled to pay for many of the requirements of life—beef and other meats, potatoes, butter, &c. We are not aware of any just reason why potatoes should command six shillings per bushel, in this City, and other vegetables a proportionate price. From the favourable crops, with which the country was blessed, the last autumn, a different state of things might have been reasonably anticipated.—Observer.

Lord John Russell and the other members of the Cabinet, who had to go through the formality of vacating their seats in parliament have been re-elected.