

**MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.**—A correspondent has furnished us with the following account of a most distressing accident which occurred at Big Tracadie—

On the night of the 22d ult., the house occupied by Mr. George Drysdale, with all its contents, was burned to the ground, and distressing to relate, his eldest son, eighteen years of age, another son, six years old, a daughter eight years, and a grand daughter aged two years, all perished in the flames. The eldest got safely out of the building, but hearing the screams of the children, rushed in again, but never returned. Mrs. D. in endeavouring to rescue one of the children through a window, lost her balance, and got her face and breast dreadfully burnt. Her sight is much injured, and it is feared that she will ultimately lose it. A daughter broke in a window, and at considerable hazard saved one of the children. They had nothing on them but their night clothes, and the night being stormy, they suffered much from cold before they reached a place of shelter. The bones of the four children who thus perished were collected together on the following day, and interred in the burial ground. A large concourse of people assembled to witness the ceremony, who expressed deep sympathy for the family, who have been so severely visited. Mr. D. was from home during the time the accident occurred.—*Miramichi Gleaner.*

**HORRIBLE MURDER.**—The State Democrat of the 12th instant, published at Marshall, Illinois, gives an account of one of the most brutal murders ever perpetrated, that was committed on Delson Prairie, in that county, on the 5th instant. John Knight, some time since, sold his brother, Joseph Knight, a wagon for which he promised to dig him two wells or pay him fifty dollars. The time of payment had elapsed, when Joseph commenced and partially dug one of the wells, and then abandoned it.—After waiting for some time for his brother to finish the wells or pay him the fifty dollars, neither of which he did, John sued him and recovered a judgment. Joseph then went to the house of his brother, and, after an unsuccessful attempt to kill him with a knife, he told him that unless he gave him a receipt against the judgment by eight o'clock the following morning, he would shoot him. True to his threat, the next morning he shot his brother through the heart. He was arrested at his house the same day and placed in prison.—*Washington Republic, Jan. 31.*

## COMMUNICATIONS.

[FROM OUR FREDERICTON CORRESPONDENT.]

Fredericton, Feb. 9th, 1850.

DEAR SEGER,—I duly received your favour of Jan. 29, and will from time to time, let you know some of the sayings and doings of the wise ones, so far as they may come within my knowledge, or be interesting to you and your readers.

The people here seem to expect great things this Session, and if the speech (which by the way I suppose has been sent you) is indicative of what is to be done, they will not be disappointed.

I have heard it hinted however, by some of the knowing ones, that there are even members of the Government who are not willing to go the length of the speech! the principal heads of which are, the initiation of Money Grants, Municipal Corporations, renewal of the School Act, extension of the Revenue Bill for a number of years, with many other valuable suggestions.

The Debate on this all-important subject will come up on Monday. I will (if possible) attend to take notes, and give you the pro's and con's.

Notwithstanding all the great noise about retrenchment in printing, the House yesterday (with the exception of Tuesday's Gazette to Magistrates) went back to where they started from. This sending Journals to a few favourites about the country, is, in my opinion, only deceiving the people. If the House really wish to disseminate information as to their doings, why not circulate the Debates? Then the country would in earnest be informed of the acts of those who represent them: this is of as much interest to the Representative as to the people—the time of deception and humbug being about coming to an end.

Yours truly,

W.

[FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.]

MR. EDITOR,—On looking over the "Sentinel" of the 29th ult., I observed a copy of a letter which had been handed to you some time before, upon which I wish to make a few observations, and would request if you have no objections that you would give them space in your paper.

With respect to the impertinence of the writer of that letter regarding your own private affairs I have nothing to say—as that is your business not mine; nor with his accusation against the magistrates have I any business—yet I think he might have spared them for one's sake; but it is with his statements respecting a "certain gentleman" that I wish to deal. Your correspondent says "It is supposed that a certain gentleman has become the owner of the Sentinel, and was induced thus to invest his money on the eve of an Election, in order to have it in his power to exclude and keep back from the public, any information or disclosures calculated to affect or injure his popularity among his constituents." The absurdity of such a statement is palpable, inasmuch as there are many other journals in the Province, that would give publicity to any accusation; that might be brought before the public in a proper manner, against a "certain gentleman," or any other person, if such accusations should be refused space

in the "Sentinel;" and there are hundreds of ways also, that "disclosures" could be made to that gentleman's constituents, if such could be brought forth; and I am well aware, that if any thing hurtful to his character could be adduced, it would have been made public ere this.

A "certain gentleman" has been for some time in public life, and I believe that his constituents (with a few exceptions) are perfectly satisfied with his conduct, and have as much confidence in him as they ever had, and if an election were to take place to-morrow, the insinuations of your correspondent respecting disclosures would have no more weight with the public, than the same quantity of foul air that might evaporate from him on any other occasion. I said above "with some exceptions," as I know that there are some in this place who envy a "certain gentleman," and try by every means to vilify his character, but their malicious charges against him amount to nothing, as it is well known that they spring from selfish motives; and the scurrility of such persons, heightens rather than degrades the character which it is levelled against. Your correspondent must not date his letters from Richmond, for that is another of his falsehoods, as that letter was written much nearer this place than Richmond, and his motive for dating it from that place I could disclose, which would prove him to be guilty of a base dishonourable act, but I spare him for the present. Business prevents me from saying more on the subject now.

I am, Sir, your obt. Servt.,

AN OBSERVER.

Woodstock, February 9th, 1850.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE CARLETON SENTINEL.]

DEAR SIR,—I will be obliged by your rectifying a mistake committed in inserting the notice of the Public meeting held under the auspices of Melancthon Division, of the Sons of Temperance, of this place. By looking at the manuscript sent by order of the Division, you will find my name subscribed as acting Recording Scribe, whereas you have inserted A. R. S. As you are not a Son of Temperance, this on your part is excusable, and I will so far initiate you into the secrets of the Order, as to inform you that A. R. S. with us, signifies Assistant Recording Scribe. I myself am a member of York Division, in Fredericton, and on the evening that the publication of the notice in your paper was authorized, I acted as Recording Scribe in Melancthon Division, during the absence of that officer in Fredericton. As my brethren of York, on seeing your blunder, might think I had deserted, perhaps you will find room for this correction from

Your obt. Servt.,

DAVID MUNRO.

Woodstock, 11th February, 1850.

The following Address to Mr. Stevens—together with his reply—was handed to us last week but owing to the crowded state of our columns at that time we could not give it insertion:—

WOODSTOCK, New Brunswick, }  
January 25th, 1850. }

TO WILLIAM STEPHENS, Esq.

SIR,—We, the undersigned Magistrates, Merchants and others, inhabitants of the County of Carleton, have heard with much satisfaction that you have succeeded in securing the requisite facilities for the establishment of another Foundry for the manufacture of iron; and that you are about to proceed to England, with a view to make arrangements for carrying on the work.

Considering the advantages that have already been derived by many persons in this County, from a similar undertaking, projected and carried on under your superintendence for some time past, we think it proper to testify in this manner, our sense of the obligation, which we, as well as the people generally throughout the County owe, to you, for the successful prosecution of a work, that has not only been the means of bringing our mineral wealth into the favourable notice of the public, but has materially benefited the labouring classes, at a time when all other business in this Province was in a very depressed state.

With the causes which have led to your separation from the York and Carleton Mining Company, we have nothing to do, neither do we wish to express an opinion thereon; but the Shareholders in that Corporation will doubtless bear joint testimony with us, that they are indebted to your scientific knowledge and experience for many of the advantages, of which they now boast of the possession.

Influenced by a sense of the obligation of which we have already spoken, as well as by a respect for, and confidence in your integrity, which has not in any way been diminished or affected by the imputations, which are circulated as a justification for the course pursued towards you; we now tender to you our best wishes for your success in your proposed journey, and the expression of our earnest hope that your expectations therein may be fully realized.

Signed by the High Sheriff and Magistrates, and upwards of two hundred others.

REPLY.

To the Magistrates, Merchants and others, inhabitants of the County of Carleton.

GENTLEMEN,—In replying to your kind Address, language fails me to express the sense of gratitude I feel for your good wishes.

It affords me much pleasure to find that my past exertions are appreciated, and have in any way contributed to the benefit of others.

Often in the midst of difficulties and discouragements in endeavouring to bring out the mineral resources of this Province, I have been cheered with the hope, that although I might not derive much personal benefit, yet advantages must accrue to many.

With regard to my separation from the York and Carleton Mining Company, I can only say, that from the first moment of my acting as their Agent, to the time of my discharge, I served them honestly and faithfully; and to this time I am unconscious of having given any cause for the course they have pursued towards me.

They have circulated a report that I have withheld information obtained in England at their expense. This I positively deny. It is but too evident that covetousness has been the ruling cause for my dismissal.

The cruel and unmerited treatment received by me from them, was at first painfully felt; but a kind Providence has directed us to a valuable discovery of excellent Iron Ore, which we have secured under the great Seal of the Province. Myself and son intend proceeding immediately to England for the purpose of introducing it to the notice of capitalists, and no exertion shall be wanting on our part to bring Iron Works into successful operation.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obt. Servant,

WILLIAM STEVENS.

Woodstock, January 25th, 1850.

FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.

MR. EDITOR,—Through the medium of the *Sentinel*, I would beg to address a few lines to the Sons of Temperance, as not being one of their number and order, I cannot address them in public, and much less in their private meetings. I have heard them, or their speakers no doubt, with the approbation of the whole of their society, address the public, showing forth the nature of their cause and order, with their benevolent and philanthropic principles, all of which I agreed with them, was very good and laudable,—and also with others, I have been solicited to join their order, and add my name to increase their numbers, which they agreed was rather my duty to do (not that it was requisite to reclaim me from the ranks of the drunkard, as I am perhaps as temperate as any who do not belong to the Sons) but in order to give it strength and influence which the addition of every name to their numbers tends to do, whether male or female, it forwarded the good cause; and it must be admitted that since the organization of their body, it has been the means of a very beneficial reform, and I hope, lasting good to many.—Also a number or body of the Daughters of Temperance, has been organized, and although their number is small in comparison with the Sons of Temperance, yet that they have been no less the honoured instruments of doing very much good in their way among their own sex, through the means of philanthropic and benevolent visits and admonitions, &c. And I have heard the Sons of Temperance in their public addresses, also solicit the females of the audience to become members of the Daughters of Temperance; all this, no doubt, you and the public are aware of. But I have taken notice of their general conduct, private as well as public, as far as came within the space of my compass, and wondered how it was that so few names were of the Daughters of Temperance. I have enquired of some of the Sons the reason, and seldom got any other reply, than that they did not think it necessary for females to belong to it, or that females had better stay at home and mind their families; I have also ascertained that females who do belong to the Daughters of Temperance, do not neglect their homes or families, more than they formerly did before they joined their order; and further that their houses are as well kept as any in the village, and that not more time is spent by them in their meetings or benevolent visits than is spent by others in visiting their friends or neighbors, in health and prosperous circumstances. It is also well known that a great many of the Sons of T. have female friends who look up to them for counsel and direction, such as wives, daughters, &c., and that if the same admonition and invitations were given them to join in the good cause, so called, as is given to the spectators at their public meetings, would not a great number of them be likely to unite themselves with the Daughters of Temperance, and add their influence in forwarding the cause? And why is it not so? I am at a loss to conjecture; but there must be some reason and as an excuse, some may plead the poverty of the times; this perhaps, with a few, and but a very few of them, might be admitted as a sufficient excuse; but not so with a great majority of them, neither the time spent in it is sufficient to be admitted as a reasonable plea; but as there is some reason for it, what must it be? Is the avocation and visits of the D. of T. when visiting the chamber of the sick in the abode of penury and wretchedness, the result perhaps of intemperance and dissipation, administering temporal relief to the suffering, and encouragement to the drooping and despondent, an act unbefitting the dignity of the refined female of fashion, rendering her unfit for polished society, and the confidence of a Son of Temperance, father, husband or brother? I hope not.

Then why is it so that the ranks of the D. of T. are so thin, while their utility is so generally admitted, and so many ladies are the companions or relatives of the Sons of Temperance, whose members now amount to a large number; one other conjecture and I am done; as I think I have this time touched upon the right cord; that is, I fear that the S. of T. have not held out to their female companions or families, sufficient encouragement to join the order of the D. of T., but some of them in some instances, rather stood in the way of those who, with a little encouragement, or the freedom of their own will, might have added their name and influence to the cause. Now Sons of Temperance, if your cause is good, (as it is generally believed to be) and that your motto is love and charity to all, and that that is the reason why you solicit me and others to join your ranks, and give our influence to the cause, I would say to you first let charity begin at home, permit, encourage, and solicit your female friends to join the good cause, and by this means, you would soon have a very great accession to the cause of Temperance and philanthropy, and show to those who are not of your number that you are really and heartily engaged in the cause, wishing and desiring all your family to be partakers of its hallowed influence; but until you have used your influence at home, which I think if thus used would soon show itself by the great increase of the Daughters of Temperance that would soon take place, do not again either publicly or privately solicit me to become one of your number.

Yours, &c.,

AN OBSERVER.