

## COMMUNICATIONS.

[FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.]

MR. EDITOR,—

A Petition has been secretly going the rounds of this County for the past few days, having for its object the doing away with some of the proceedings of the County Council. Now Sir, it is well known that but few persons read petitions—they merely enquire the object, and if they are not opposed to the one set forth, they sign it. The present petition is stated to be every thing but what it really is, and I would warn the public how they sign it before making themselves acquainted with its contents. The acts of the Council have hitherto given general satisfaction (except to a few who find they are no longer to live on the spoils of the country), and even if they were to do wrong, a secret petition is no way to remedy the evil. Public meetings should be called, and the questions fairly and openly canvassed; but this course would not suit certain parties, their object is to induce the Government and Legislature to oppose some of the Acts of the Council; and as this can only be done by misrepresentations, an open course would not answer. Again I would warn all to be careful what they sign, or they may find themselves in a wrong position.

Yours, &amp;c.

S.

Hardscrabble, Feb. 10, 1853.

## The Carleton Sentinel

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1853.

THE Editor of the *Morning News* has a great dislike to the Hon. Mr. Connell, and would not trust him from one hour to another, because he opposed Mr. Ritchie in his efforts to obtain the seals of office; but we would ask the *News* how long it will be before Mr. Ritchie is found using his influence to bring about the reforms already introduced, or sought to be introduced, into this County? We wonder too, if the *News* still considers the *Sentinel* "one of the old breed," or whether he is willing to admit that it is, and always has been, a firm consistent advocate of Progress and Reform—watching at the same time, those who under the mask of reform, have an eye only to their own interests, vide the Ritchie *coup de main*. The man will, however, soon have his eyes opened, and will see that the people of Carleton are not backward in a good cause, and that they have set the ball in motion that is to remove many existing abuses in the Province, and from this he and others may take a hint in Railway matters.

Below we give an article from the *News* on the late movements in this County, but we would like to know where he gets his information from, that "the people of Carleton wish the money for each County to be apportioned in gross to the Municipality." The resolution he copies—which was passed at a Public meeting in Woodstock—says "The By road moneys for the County should be apportioned to each Parish." He is right however, the Council at their meeting in January decided, 13 to 2, that the By-road money for the County should be granted to the Municipality in gross, to be by them divided as may be thought most advisable. The *News* says:—

WELL DONE CARLETON COUNTY.—It will be seen by the subjoined resolutions (from the *Freeman*) passed at the late public meeting held at Woodstock, that the good folks of Carleton County are beginning to take an interest in their domestic affairs, and speaking out like men and good reformers. We heartily subscribe to every one of the resolutions; and earnestly trust that they will have an influence upon the Legislature. The present system of appropriating the public moneys for roads, bridges, &c., is rotten to the core, and the cause of much of our Provincial embarrassment, bad legislation, and want of independence among members. Now every man tries to get what money he can for his own County; and his constituents, alas, in too many cases, encourage this "grab all" system. The effects are ruinous. The people of Carleton wish the money for each County to be apportioned in gross to the Municipality, who shall have the power to spend it where it is most required, and under their own immediate supervision. This would do away with all jobbery. Super-

visors and Contractors would then be closely watched. One pound, we believe, would then go as far as two now—for it is a lamentable fact, that on some of the great roads of the Province, not longer than 50 miles, five and six hundred pounds are expended in some way, at all events granted by the Legislature every year. Whereas, we believe that less than half the amount, under an honest system, would answer every purpose. Twenty-five thousand pounds, or thereabouts, are the annual appropriations for roads and bridges. Let every County expend its own money in its own way, and there need be no waste, no drones provided for. Again, our friends advocate the ballot principle, to apply to our Provincial elections. Perfectly correct. It was stated a short time since that the Government intended to bring forward such a measure. We have our doubts about this. We hope, as Carleton has taken the lead in this matter, that one of her members will be prepared with a Bill to carry out the object. What says Mr. English? It is no use to talk about the ballot, unless we intend to act. Every one is agreed that the principle is good—all are in favor of it; even members themselves speak approvingly. But what signifies all this? Nobody takes the lead in the Legislature, and originates a Ballot Bill. We shall now look to one of the Carleton members to move in the matter. Let such a measure be brought forward, in order to test the principle in a practical way. Bring every member to book. Try the Government members upon it. Nay, after the Bill passes the Legislature, let the father of it watch its journey to the Colonial Office; and if the Colonial Secretary puts his veto upon the measure (as very likely he will), there would be some back stairs influence at work—let Mr. English move the Legislature to action, to act in defence of self-government—to insist that we shall have vote by ballot, and that the Colonial Office has no authority in such cases. If members pass a Ballot Bill, and abide by the decision of the Colonial Secretary, as they did in the case of the Bishop's appointment to the Council, they had better not waste the time of the country with a discussion that may end in nothing. Be men—be firm—act as freemen—as Colonists. It will also be seen that Carleton goes for a *Registration of Voters*.

Again, Carleton is in favor of Short Parliaments—two years duration. To this, we again say Amen, with all our heart. Once in four years is too long a time to bring our members to account for their stewardship. A Property Tax is also advocated, as the fairest test of a voter's qualification.

We repeat, we are rejoiced to find Carleton setting such an excellent example. If other Counties would follow suit, the government and legislation of this Province may be reformed within three years, thoroughly, efficiently. Let those Counties that have not yet adopted the Municipal Bill, do so without delay, notwithstanding its imperfections. We shall certainly look to the Carleton members, this winter to move in accordance with the wishes of their constituents. They are well backed up—let them take advantage of their strength, and bring forward the measures required.

We are informed by Mr. Lindsay that we did not report his remarks on the Coroner's question, last week, correctly. We stated that he did not think a Councillor was a County officer, nor did he think the office of Coroner disqualified a man from holding his seat as Councillor. His remarks were that a Coroner was not one of the persons enumerated in the Act as being disqualified to serve as Councillor, but would come under the head of those who were disqualified by receiving pecuniary allowances for his services, he was not a lawyer and would not take it upon himself to say whether a Coroner could perform the services gratuitously and hold his seat as a Councillor. We are also informed by Mr. Lindsay (chairman of Committee of accounts,) that the Sheriff's account was £35 2s. 6d., and not £40, as stated by us. We made the error by adding a separate account of £5 15s., which had been included in the general account.

We have an old lady in this place (the widow Essington) who is a near relative of the celebrated Mrs. Partington. She said—"My poor old man went to a raising and fell off.—The doctors said he lost his equal abram; for my part I never heard him mention the man's name, and didn't think he had no equal, for he was precious strong, folks said he could carry more rum than any other man in town. He was terribly bruised, he was the poor man, his shoulder blade was inoculated, and the doctor put a turn-spit on his leg, but 't wa'n't no use, his time had come, and he suffered so much, that I departed from him without a murmur.—Jerusha dear, light my pipe!"

DODGE'S LITERARY MUSEUM comes regularly to hand. This is one of the best papers published in the United States—is very large and cheap—only two dollars per year. The story of "The Faithful Slave," is alone worth the money, and another said to be equal in interest, "Mary Bray," is immediately to follow. We would give more for the *Museum* or *Portland Transcript*, than for a dozen of Barnum's or Gleason's "Pictorials."

We would also acknowledge the receipt of the "Religious Intelligencer," a neat little paper published in St. John by E. McLeod & Joseph Noble, on the 1st and 15th of every month, at the low price of 1s. 3d. per volume of twelve numbers.

THE WEATHER.—We have had one of the greatest thaws ever known at this season of the year; it rained four or five days, and has taken nearly all the snow away. The water was very high in the river, but the ice did not move. A party has been stream driving on Bull's Creek.

Owing to the weather and the bad state of the roads, Mr. Jacob's Lecture on California was postponed until Monday evening next.

Mails are good things, very. We have received one from St. John this week and know. The latest paper we have received from the "Railroad City" is just one week old to-day, and nothing younger from the "Celestial City." How would the *Crack Editors* of St. John work under such circumstances?

There has been no communication from Quebec by the Telegraph since the 5th. The wires have been broken in many places during the last storm.

The remainder of the Council proceedings in our next.

Our artist is engaged on a beautiful engraving for our next issue.

We perfectly agree with the editor of the *Morning Times* in his opinion on the election of Judges, and we are sorry the question has been ever mooted in this Province. He writes:

"The editor of the *Head Quarters* says he is not an advocate of electing our judges, because the country is not yet prepared for it." Is that the only consideration that prevents our contemporary from advocating anything so demoralizing in its effects, and so diametrically opposed to the spirit of our constitution? To what circumstance, or constitutional defect, do the leading American Journals attribute the frequent occurrence of rioting and bloodshed in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore? To the fact that the Judges were elected; and they despair of reform, until the law shall be amended. We are favorable to elective institutions, so far as they clash not with the British constitution, but we hope never to see the Judges of our Superior Courts trying men by whose suffrages they hold their respective situations.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN MAGAZINE.—The February number of this interesting work has been received; it is superior to any of its predecessors, which is saying much in its favor.—American papers are not backward in its praise. The Philadelphia "Presbyterian Banner," says:—

"The publisher deserves the substantial support of all friends of education and genuine progress, in the Provinces, and we trust that a healthy and enlightening patriotism will sustain and use this Magazine as an effective instrument in colonial advancement. The poetry and novels of Sir Walter Scott, made more roads, opened more hotels, built more steamboats, started more coaches, brought more tourists, and English and foreign gold into Scotland in a few years, than had been done by all other agencies for more than a century before. Let the 'Anglo-American' go forward to elevate and refine society, to herald and point the way of civilization in its progress in the wilderness—as an index to guide—as an intellectual and moral power to stimulate and control, and so shall its career be fraught with blessings, and its name associated with the fathers, and patriots and benefactors of the land."

Capt. Cornelius Vanderbilt, of New York has sold out his entire right in the Pacific line of steamers. He has received one million two hundred hundred thousand dollars in cash for it.

(By Telegraph to the News Room.)

ST. JOHN, Feb. 11, 1853.

Special dates to 26th ult. by Atlantic at New York, on Monday.

Cotton firm—Breadstuffs lower and depressed—News totally void of interest.

Napoleon's marriage was fixed for 30th. It now turns out that his Princess is of Scotch, not Irish descent. Her name is Eugene, and her mother's is Kirkpatrick, and not Fitzpatrick as before reported.

Mr. Howe's Railway Bills passed the second reading in the Nova Scotia Assembly last evening, by a majority of two.

By Telegraph to the Sentinel News Room.

QUEBEC, Feb. 5, 1853.

It is raining here and very foggy. Two canoes and crews have gone down with the tide in attempting to cross in the fog. All the ship yard bells at Point Levi are ringing in hopes of warning them how the land lies.

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.—The anniversary meeting of this Society was held in this City last Thursday, the Lord Bishop of Fredericton in the chair. The annual report was read which showed that the Society is steadily advancing, the gross revenue being somewhat over £1044. The Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. A Resolution was unanimously passed, and a Committee appointed to draw up a petition to the Imperial Parliament, setting forth the strong opposition which has been manifested in this Province, to any changes in Colonial Church Government.—*New Brunswick*.

WESLEYAN MISSIONS.—The following sums were raised on the occasions of the anniversary meetings of the Branch Wesleyan Missionary Societies, held during the last week in this city and Portland:—

At Carleton, £210; Germain-street Chapel, £23; Portland Chapel, £30 2s. 6d.; Centenary Chapel, £40. The proceeds being nearly forty pounds beyond the collections of the preceding year.—*ib.*

The weather has for the last few days been beautiful in the extreme; bright clear and bracing. Our streets and the suburban roads still remain entirely bare and dry; so that none but wheel carriages can be used. This on the 1st day of February.—*Observer*.

The *Scientific American* pronounces the caloric engine a deception.

RIDICULOUS.—A new arrangement has been made in the Legislative Hall. The People's Gallery has been given to the Ticketed aristocrats, and the small gallery given to the people. Verily we live in strange times! The whole of the Galleries would be better for being carpeted—to silence the eternal shuffling of feet.—*Halifax B. N. American*.

A LARGE SHEET OF PAPER.—An English paper gives a description of an enormous sheet of white paper, which was manufactured in Sterling. The web is without a break, being one continuous sheet, three thousand yards in length—within a little of a mile and three quarters—fifty-four inches broad, and weighs 400 lbs. This web was made, dried and finished, ready to be despatched, within three hours. The cost of the sheet was a little more than £10.

A young mother in Lowell, left her child asleep in the cradle last Saturday, while absent for only a few minutes, on her return found the room on fire, and the child burned to death; when will parents learn to be cautious in leaving young children alone; we fear never.—*Woburn Journal*.

THE REVENUE.—The prosperous condition of the Revenue of New Brunswick, for the last year, has been the subject of great congratulation during the week, having reached the sum of £138,220. We hope it will be made good use of, and the debt paid. In good

Archibald's time, the revenue was about £70,000. He left us with a large surplus, and in four short years of Sir John Hamond's rule found us in debt £100,000 for repairs!—*St. John Chronicle*.