

## Railway Documents.

CONTINUED.

Communication from Messrs. Baring Brothers and Company to the Honorable Charles Fisher.

(Copy) BISHOPGATE STREET, 4th Jan., 1856

SIR.—We have given full consideration to the contents of your interesting Communication of the 26th December, and having learned your return to London we lose no time in informing you of the results as to the course which we venture to suggest to you as most likely to ensure the success of the object in view, and as to the extent and mode of aid which we should be able to render the Province of New Brunswick.

We gather from your letter that it is the intention of the Province to construct, through its own agents, and at its own expense, in preference to contracting for the same, the main lines of Railroad which public utility may dictate; that the Legislature will be asked to pass such Acts and adopt such measures as will place the financial system on the soundest footing, and by providing ample means for the payment of interest and principal on its debt, establish both the credit of the Province, and the security of those who may lend the money required; that the estimate expenditure for the projected Railroad is £800,000, of which £50,000 will be required during the current year, and the remainder in the course of the following three or four years to complete the whole work. You also add that it is intended to provide the sum annually wanted for the payment of the interest on the debt from the current revenue, and to apply for the reimbursement of the principal specifically as a sinking fund, the lands, amounting to about 800,000 acres, with the timber thereon, and the proceeds of the same within the district which the Railroad will traverse, together with one and a half per cent annually of the profits of the Road.

You ask us whether we are disposed to guarantee to you the loan of £50,000 in the course of 1856 and what further arrangements we would conclude for the realization of the remainder of the Bonds to complete together the amount of £800,000.

Favourably impressed with the present position and the prospect of the future resources of New Brunswick,—feeling great confidence in the honor and integrity of its Government and inhabitants, and believing the course which you propose to pursue with regard to the construction of the public works to be dictated by sound policy, we are desirous of rendering all possible aid in the completion of the contemplated Railroads; but you must remember that events, the state of the money market and public opinion, over all of which we have no control, are most important elements of calculation in deciding the question of the possibility of raising a sum of £800,000 on New Brunswick Bonds in three or four years, and all these are most adverse at present to the success of such an attempt. But provided that the Acts of the Legislature and Government of the Province are such as to inspire confidence as to its future financial regularity, we are willing to engage to furnish in the course of the last six months of this year, the sum of fifty thousand pounds, upon delivery of Bonds of the Province in proper form to the same amount, bearing six per cent. annual interest. But beyond these Legislative enactments, we should require that the rest of the Bonds should be satisfactory, and we would recommend that they be similar to those of Canada and Nova Scotia; that they should not be reimbursable for at least 20 years from their date of issue, and we should recommend 30 years as affording more time for the development of the value of the lands, & of the sinking fund before their call; that the dividends and principal should be made payable at our office in London; that all future sales of Bonds should be made through our Agency; that the aggregate issue for public works should not exceed the proposed amount of £800,000, of which not more than £200,000 should be issued without our assent, in any one year, and that without engaging to take the same, we should have the option until the 31st March, 1857, say £200,000, or any portion thereof, at the same price of par for the 6 per cent Bonds.

These semi-annual Dividends might be rendered on the Bonds payable either on the 1st January and 1st July or 1st April and 1st October of each year as may best suit the convenience of the Government for remittance from its Revenue receipts, but all Bonds should bear Dividend Warrants payable at the same dates. For sale of Bonds on Commission by our house the charge would be one per cent, when without previous money advance, and two per cent. when we consent to advance or accept drafts before sales, and one-fourth per cent. brokerage when Brokers are employed. Our charge for payment of Dividends is one per cent. on the whole amount of each Dividend, and for the reimburse-

ment of the Principal a like one per cent. and the Government should engage to provide the necessary cash in our hands one month before the payment be due.

We should recommend that the law creating a sinking fund should provide that any money in hand on that account should be applied to the purchase and cancellation of the Bonds when their prices not above par, but should otherwise be retained for the purpose of the reimbursement at the maturity of the Bonds so that the Province should not repay more than the par value.

If the abovementioned fifty thousand Bonds are delivered to us we shall require £15,000 in Bonds of £500 each, and £35,000 in Bonds of £100 each. You will we are sure recognize the importance to the value of the Bonds of limiting the extent of issues, and for that purpose we have suggested that the law should not enact that more than £800,000 should be created, but the wisdom of the Legislature will decide whether that or some other mode be preferable to preserve uninjured the credit of the Province, and prevent an extravagant and unwise increase of the debt. The Canadian Legislature to attain this end, enacted that the assent of the Provincial Agent in London should be given before further issues of sterling Bonds should be made for internal improvement.

In engagements similar to that proposed in this letter with New Brunswick, our House has been entrusted with the purchase of the rails and materials for the construction of the Railroads, and for which the usual commission is 2 per cent., and we are thoroughly conversant with the transaction of such business but do not however make any demand or condition in this respect, thinking that we may fairly expect our services to be tried, and believing that we may rely on the satisfaction which we shall give for a continuance of the orders entrusted to us.

We shall be very happy to give you any further explanation or information which you may require and assuring you of the satisfaction which we have had in making your personal acquaintance, we beg to subscribe ourselves respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

BARING BROTHERS.

Hon. Charles Fisher, Esq., Morley's Hotel, London.

Letters from Mr. Fisher to Messrs. Baring Brothers and Company.

MORLEY'S HOTEL, Charing Cross,

(Copy) London, 10th, January 1856.

GENTLEMEN,—I write briefly what I stated to Mr. Bates, when with the Honorable Mr. Robertson we had a conversation in your office a few days since, in explanation of several of the points of your letter of the 4th instant.

When I came to England I determined if possible to secure the assistance of your House, and without referring to any other quarter, I frankly explained to you my position and what I required on the part of the Government of New Brunswick.

I feel that I have been met in a liberal spirit, and I shall return home satisfied that I have accomplished the object of my mission.

I expect, as we spoke before, to be enabled to return to England in the Spring with the necessary Acts passed and authority to give full effect to the arrangements contemplated in your letter.

I hope, before the work advances far, monetary affairs will improve, and in any state of things I shall so arrange it that the £50,000 you agree to advance for the first year's operations shall be called for at such time as may be most convenient for you.

There is one point I have thought of sufficient importance to refer to. I allude to the extent of the debt which was explained the other day. If I can induce the Legislature to invest the Government with authority, in their discretion, to go on with further work and make further loans, and also provide for the due security thereof in the same law; I prefer it to being compelled to resort to new legislation on the completion of the present section, as the propriety of increasing expenditures must depend upon the state of things then existing, and would not be entered upon by the Government unless fully justified at the time.

I appreciate the concluding sentence in your letter and reciprocate the sentiments expressed. I shall not soon forget the great kindness shewn to me by your house.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES FISHER.

Messrs. Baring Brothers & Co.,  
8 Bishopgate Street, London

The rascal who forged a draft on the Newfoundland bank, tried to commit suicide after his arrest by sticking himself with the point of a joke. Somewhat that fellow.

## Miscellaneous.

### THRILLING ACCOUNT OF THE FALL OF KARS.

Dr. Sandwith a native of Hull, and who is the sole representative at present of the army who so gallantly defended Kars, was entertained, yesterday morning week, at a public breakfast, at the Station Hotel, Hull. There were upwards of 200 of the elite of the town and neighbourhood present—ladies and gentlemen. The Mayor occupied the chair; and, after the usual toasts, proposed the health of Dr. Sandwith.

Dr. Sandwith, in returning thanks, said:—To you, Mr. Mayor, and those gentlemen who have planned this banquet, my thanks are chiefly due for the high honour that has been done me, and the pleasure you have afforded me in meeting so many of my fair country-women, whose bright eyes and fair complexions I have but dreamed of for the last seven years (cheers and laughter), and whom at one time I never hoped to see again. It is scarcely necessary for me to notice the delicacies spread out before me, when but a few weeks ago I was taken a luncheon off a poor old cavalry horse. I can do little more than repeat my thanks for the honours you have this day conferred upon me (cheers.) But I cannot accept them as merely given to myself. I cannot forget my gallant chief (loud cheers,) who, though he lost a city, never lost a battle (continued cheering,) who, although in one sense unfortunate, has crowned his honourable head with unfading laurels; and I think, therefore, you will agree with me when I say that at the top of that list of glorious heroes which this war has called forth the name of General Williams stands pre-eminent (cheers.) When we first went to Kars we met the army at Erzeroum a mere rabble. I would not cast a slight upon a brave and long-suffering ally, but we cannot disguise the fact that the army to which we went had been beaten five times, and that the last battle had been the most disastrous of all. When General Williams joined the army, he did so simply as her Majesty's commissioner, and not with any authority as General; he had not the command of a single regiment in the field; his duty was simply to report the course of events to his government. But General Williams was equal to the circumstances in which he found himself placed (cheers.) He found the army dissolved, and the enemy at the very gates of the province, (hear,) and peculation among the officials (cheers.) He at once told the governor and officers that they were enriching themselves at the expense of the troops, and he told them so in language as plain as that I now use to you (hear.)—They crouched to him, and from that time he was the actual Commander-in-chief (cheers.) During the winter of 1854 and during 1855 his work was incessant; he prepared the army for a new campaign, but, unfortunately, and, indeed unhappily, he was not backed up at Constantinople. The Pashas were too busy in filling their coffers to meet General Williams' requisitions, but, nevertheless, this brought out the qualities of the hero of Kars more than ever, and he made the best of the resources he had (cheers.) General Mouravieff, at the head of a well-appointed army of 40,000 men, was just then preparing to besiege Kars. We were at that time at Erzeroum. Colonel Lake had gone a month before to Kars, and had greatly improved the insignificant fortifications which he found, and by Captain Thompson and Major Teasdale aiding him, they made that city what it has proved to be,—impregnable to all but famine (loud cheers.)—Four forced marches over a distance of about one hundred miles brought us to the city. We found the troops no longer what they had been—poor, neglected, destitute ragged men—but their eyes were filled with courage and their hearts full of "Veilias Pasha," whom they recognised as their commander. They told us at every step that they would stand to the last; and I need not tell you how well and nobly they redeemed their word. A few days after this the alarm gun from the top of a battery was fired, and the word passed from mouth to mouth, "The foe, the foe; they come, they come!" (hear, hear.) We sallied out, not from our entrenchments, but from the open camp that surrounded our breastworks, and then we saw a compact body of men—their bayonets gleaming in the morning sun—their flanks protected by cavalry and artillery—there, I say, we saw them advancing towards our breastworks. Every soldier there said "Thank God they have come at last! We are ready!" (cheers.) I must tell you that at this time our total force was about 17,000, including a great number of irregulars; the enemy's force was about 40,000 (hear, hear.) As this huge body came nearer we pushed out our irregular cavalry, who were met by the Cossack irregular cavalry, of the Russians. Their masses came on and

made a rush upon the extremity of our works where they met with a hailstorm of grape. Our cavalry sallied out and met the advancing columns, and at all sides raged the tide of war (cheers.) The battle lasted but a short time, three hours at the utmost, and then the Russians retreated (great cheering.) Day after day, week after week passed without any success showing themselves, and without any assistance being forthcoming. Nevertheless the hearts of the troops were in the right place (cheers.) The Turkish soldier stood out wonderfully (hear, hear.) We had at that time a large portion of the population disaffected towards us, namely, the Christians—and a very good reason they had, I am sorry to say for it—they had undergone ages of oppression at the hands of the unworthy Governors and Pashas (hear, hear.) We had besides, traitors in the camp; and all these things occupied the attention of the gallant General Williams (cheers.) However, measures were instantly taken for the repression of these (hear, hear.) Week by week rolled on, varied only by an occasional skirmish, an occasional feint, or an occasional slight attack. Still there were brave spirits who counselled surrender, and, completely surrounded as were our poor, starved, unpaid soldiers, many of them gave way, and deserted. General Williams at once adopted strong measures. But, gentlemen, a brighter day was dawning for us; another glorious triumph was to be ours. On the 29th of September, when our troops were giving way under the hope deferred which maketh the heart sick—on the 29th of September, shortly after the sun had risen, the roar of the artillery was heard on the western extremity of our works, intermingled with the rattle of musketry. We knew then what had happened. Seven mortal hours these poor troops fought against the enemy, whilst he made assault after assault. Some of our batteries were carried, but General Williams with eagle eye saw where raged the heaviest fight, and reinforcements were sent out where they were required, and drove out at the point of the bayonet the Russians who had got into their batteries (cheers.) After seven hours mortal conflict, we saw the Russians retreating down the hill. The very women brought us ammunition in their aprons, and assisted us in every way,—crying out, "We pray for you," "We will help you," "May God sharpen your swords" (hear, hear.) Some of these devoted and gallant women, I regret to say, fell,—but they fell gloriously, like true heroines as they were (cheers.) Unhappily at this time every grain of barley had been consumed, and we had no cavalry force in the place, or this would have been the termination of our troubles. I cannot describe to you the horrors that ensued in the month or two following this attack. There you saw women and children expiring by the way side of famine; as you passed along they turned reproachful glances at the soldiery, almost as starving as they, exclaiming—"Why do you not go out to fight?" "Why keep us here to perish with hunger?" "Take the children, we can no longer support them!" Such a time as that was the time for trying the true soldier—(hear, hear)—and I am proud to say the soldiery there bore the test nobly (cheers.) Many of them dropped down dead at their posts, from sheer hunger and exhaustion; and in the forts, where scanty provisions for three days were laid by, there was not a single instance of a biscuit being stolen. The hospitals were crowded with the sick and dying, and death stared us in the face, daily, on every hand. But those who died, died like heroes; and to the last our works were maintained by that gallant band of starving soldiers (cheers.) At the time a Turkish Pasha, whose name I cannot mention without indignation, was constantly writing to us from Erzeroum, whence we expected him to come out with a relieving force—"Hold out I am coming;" "hold out two days longer;" "hold out three days longer;" "hold out, I am coming." We did hold out, day after day, and week after week, but never relief came. The time came at last, the dreadful hour of capitulation. The hearts of every one swelled well high to bursting with grief and indignation (hear.)—General Williams one snowy morning—for the weather by that time had become nipping cold—one snowy morning General Williams rode out to the Russian camp with a flag of truce. He was met and conducted with all due politeness and respect to General Mouravieff. He said "I have come to arrange the terms of a capitulation. There are certain articles on which I must insist, and if you refuse them, you must remember that your garrison has not yet surrendered;—if you refuse them every gun in Kars shall be burst, every trophy destroyed, (hear, hear.) I have no wish to rob you of trophies which you have well earned, but if the terms I ask are refused, you will have nothing but a famished crowd of disarmed soldiers," (hear, hear.) That chivalrous and noble-minded