

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents, unless editorially endorsed.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel:

DEAR SIR,—In your last issue I observed certain remarks relative to Agricultural Societies, suggested, I presume, by the recent appointment of a Committee of gentlemen to investigate and report upon the system as now adopted. With your remarks, every one who has any experience in the present workings of these Societies must coincide. As you have very rightly remarked, "the whole system needs examination, thorough and impartial;" and I trust the Commission now appointed will make strict enquiry into the proceedings of the "Victoria County Agricultural Society." I should occupy too much of your paper in giving you a full account of the manner in which this Society has been and is now conducted; but I earnestly draw the attention of the Committee to the most flagrant wrongs ever perpetrated in a community by a Society receiving Government patronage and support. There was a time when the Society was a benefit to the farmer, and the community in general; gradually jealousies ripened, dissensions took place, and finally parties came in power, whose only aim was plunder. For the last two or three years it has become a source of general dissatisfaction; members have become disgusted with the proceedings and withdrawn their names. The last "Cattle Show" was a scene of the most glaring swindling, and honest men had no chance for awards, although impartial and disinterested persons generally allowed that the articles thus slighted deserved the premium. In some cases, for fear of offending those whose support they craved, a "special premium" was awarded the day after the general awards were made; but then these jobs were spurned, and the givers despised.

The matter has now approached a crisis. In a few days new officers must be appointed. The whole proceedings will be carefully watched; and unless some very great change for improvement is manifested, the whole transactions of the Society, with the names of the individuals under whose quiet "nod and beck" such outrages have been sanctioned, will be carefully laid before the Governor and Council.

Such people must remember that it is not only their own paltry subscription of five shillings they are squandering, but the funds of the people of this Province.

We anxiously, earnestly, and imploringly entreat the people of this community now, as the time is at hand, to make a wise and more careful selection of good, honest and upright Officers and Committee. Very soon then the Society will become a general benefit to each and every member of the community.

Yours, truly,

AGRICULTURIST.

Victoria County, N.B., Dec. 22, 1856.

For the Carleton Sentinel:

MR. EDITOR.—
A FEW WORDS TO THE WOODSTOCK CITY COUNCILLORS.

Gentlemen Councillors! can you tell who elected you? Were they men drunk at the polls? No! no! Why then give us men to do city duty who are not of sober habits? I have seen the officers of your choice, while in the performance of their duty, so "tight" that they could not wink. And how can you expect the officers whom you have appointed to do their duty, when Councillors themselves get drunk and fight.

Fellow citizens! come, like men claim your rights. Let us know who rules, the Council or its officers. It is time the people should say something.

Come, Councillors! you are so long-headed, can't you appoint some one to take care of your officers and yourselves?

I can prove the statements made above; they are of almost daily occurrence. Shame! shame! for those who pretend to be gentlemen. I respect you personally, but not as Councillors; for you have not respected yourselves, or your oath or office. If you should ever have occasion to bring me before your Mayor, take good care to send a sober man to perform the duty, or I shall tickle the whole of you.

I am nobody.

N. CHURCHILL.

Woodstock, Dec. 24, 1856.

For the Carleton Sentinel:

MR. EDITOR.—Will you have the kindness to allow me a small space in your columns for the purpose of giving publicity to the following act of noble generosity and religious zeal of the Roman Catholic congregation of the Parish of Woodstock, as manifested by them on Christmas night and the following day, in their liberal donation in aid of a

Fund established for the purpose of purchasing an Organ for their Church in this Village. At Midnight Mass the Revd. Mr. Connolly addressed the congregation, announcing his intention of appropriating the Christmas collection of this year to the commencement of a fund for that purpose, and having dwelt some time on the propriety of decorating the House of God, &c., he declared himself ready to receive their contributions. The congregation nobly responded to the call of their beloved pastor. A collection was begun, and in the space of three quarters of an hour the sum of two hundred dollars was paid in. The collection was resumed at eleven o'clock on Christmas day, when those who had not an opportunity of contributing on the preceding evening, came forward with their offerings; when, at the close, the whole sum was found to be Eighty-five Pounds—a sum truly magnificent to be contributed by a mere handful of people, and that at a time, too, when money is unusually scarce and hard to be obtained. At the conclusion the Priest again addressed the congregation, thanking them for this noble proof of their liberality and zeal, and expressing his conviction that at a day not far distant they would have the pleasure of hearing in their Church the tones of a splendid Organ.

Yours, &c. AN EYE WITNESS.

Woodstock, December 26, 1856.

The Carleton Sentinel.

WOODSTOCK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1856.

With much pleasure we give place to the communication of our esteemed friend "Agriculturist." A deliberate discussion through the papers, of the matters involved, must result in great good; although doubtless many there are who tremble lest such discussion should touch them in a sore place. Our correspondent, however, is in error in supposing that our remarks of last week were based upon the appointments he refers to; it was not until after we had gone to press that the *Royal Gazette* was received, bringing the following notice: PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—George Kerr, Geo. L. Hatheway, Charles Perley, Hugh McMonagle, Esquires, and Professor James Robb, M. D., to be Commissioners, in pursuance of an Address of the House of Assembly, to report as to any improvements that may be deemed advisable in the application of the present Grants to Agricultural Societies to objects likely to produce more permanent and advantageous results than heretofore to the Agricultural Interests of the Province.

It will thus be seen that our views, in some respects, had been anticipated by the Government.—We have no reason to doubt that the gentlemen named are all well qualified to discharge the duties required of them as members of the Commission. There are not, however, enough of them. It strikes us that there should have been one at least from every County in the Province, so that correct conclusions might be arrived at as to the workings of existing Societies.

It is, we think, a matter for regret that action in the matter has been delayed so long. It will scarcely be possible for the Commission, with any degree of satisfaction, to consider and submit a scheme at the approaching Session, which shall cover by its provisions all the essential and desirable features to be found in the existing system and at the same time provide against the many evils which are connected with, or have grown out of it.

We not only want a remedy but we want it at once. Enough money has been already uselessly spent. We want those open arteries, through which the wealth of the Province is running waste, cauterized and closed, and the public grants turned into a channel through which they may produce corresponding benefits.

If the last effort of our Executive, the "Emigration Scheme," is regarded in the same light by the people of other Counties as it seems to be by those of Carleton, it will scarcely live to become full fledged. We have heard a good many of our most intelligent farmers, and others, discuss its merits, and we have yet to learn that it is received with favor by any.

We have tried to discover in it some redeeming quality—we have sought to perceive some hidden wisdom and policy in it (there is none apparent); but we must confess that our efforts have proved fruitless; and we doubt if, with the Irishman's telescope which brought a pig, ten miles off, so near that he could hear him grunt, we would be enabled to find aught in the new superior to the old system.

First, there is that most unfortunate provision, that the settler shall pay all the money down. This is bad enough; but it reaches the very acme of absurdity when it is decreed that even the payment

of the price does not constitute the purchaser owner of the land, but that, certain injunctions unfulfilled at the end of the year, he forfeits both money and land. Cheering encouragement this for the inhabitant of the old world to emigrate! He may come and pay for his land, and build his house—but, in taking his first lesson in felling trees, his axe may glance and cripple him; or exposure to a new climate may induce fever, or other sickness; or some of a thousand other incidental casualties may happen to prevent the possibility of fulfilling the regulations—and at the end of the year he may find himself houseless and homeless.

Much stress is laid by a portion of the press upon the 15th proviso; but, we would ask, why is the time wasted and expense incurred, if the new scheme be not an improvement, and calculated to supersede the old. It looks as if the Government feared their own weakness,—wished to avoid the responsibility of the errors of the new system, and introduced the last proviso as a refuge in case of trouble.

Below we publish the "Old Regulations of 1843," the "Regulations under Labor Act," and the "Regulations in Canada," from the *St. John Courier*. Our readers can compare these with the present scheme of our Government, and judge for themselves.

OLD REGULATIONS OF 1843.

Sales of crown land to take place on the first Tuesday of every month.

Application for land to be by petition to the Lieutenant-Governor, sitting forth that the land is required for actual settlement, &c.

If application approved, a warrant for survey to issue forthwith.

On return of survey twenty days Public Notice of sale to be given.

If already surveyed, [in 1855, 200,000 acres were surveyed, including those now set apart for the operation of the new Regulations] notice of time and place of sale to be forthwith published. Outline maps of land to be made for information of public.

Upset price to be three shillings per acre.

Terms, twenty-five per cent. down and the rest in three equal annual instalments, without interest. No person to hold more than a hundred acres payable by instalments.

If the whole purchase money be paid down, then twenty per cent. discount to be allowed, and an immediate grant of land to the purchaser. Reservations to be made for roads, schools and places of worship.

REGULATIONS UNDER THE LABOR ACT.

Price of land to be three shillings per acre. Applicant must be eighteen years old and not an owner of land.

He must occupy the land within three months after notice of approval, and make ten pounds' worth of improvements within that time. [Putting up log house and chopping and burning one acre would be ten pounds' worth.]

Terms, payment to be made in labor, one-fourth each year and five per cent. until the whole be paid. No grant unless within five years proof is made that the conditions have been complied with and that not less than ten acres of the land are cultivated.

REGULATIONS IN CANADA.

(CROWN LAND OFFICE.)

Sale to be by private contract with Government Agent.

Not more than 200 acres to be sold to one person.

Price of land one shilling and sixpence per acre, payable by five equal annual instalments, with interest.

Immediate and continuous actual occupation necessary.

A clearing of two acres per annum to be made during the first five years.

House (log or other), 16 by 18, to be erected.

Timber reserved till land paid for.

Occupation by licence not assignable without permission.

Sale and licence of occupation null and void, if conditions neglected or violated.

Absolute title if conditions complied with.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS OF AGRICULTURAL BUREAU.

One hundred acres will be given free.

Settler must be 18 years old.

Must take possession in a month, and clear 12 acres in the course of four years.

Build a house, log or other, 18 by 20 feet, and reside on lot till conditions fulfilled, when his title will be absolute.

Families of several settlers, residing on a single lot need build only on that lot, but must clear the required number of acres in each lot.

Non-compliance with condition causes forfeit. Governments makes roads, settlers must keep them in repair.

Since writing the above we have received the *Head Quarters*, who in his attempt to prove, as he assumed last week, that he is very "Solomon" as regards the land scheme, has really sustained the character of an unscrupulous assenter and defender of what is wrong.

We are quite willing to take the *Courier* (we wish we could say the same with regard to the *Head Quarters*.) as good authority for any deliberate statement therein made by its editor; but in the case mentioned by the *Head Quarters*, our article was penned before we had seen the *Courier* or its remarks.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[Reported for the Sentinel.]

ARRIVAL OF THE "CANADA."

HALIFAX, Dec. 23.

Canada, from Liverpool Friday, 13th, arrived at Halifax 12 o'clock, noon, Tuesday, 23d, with the mails and passengers of the *America*, which sailed from Liverpool Dec. 6th, but met with very heavy weather, and, when lying to, forty miles west of Cape Clear, was struck by a sea, which swept decks, carried away bulwarks and three boats, and completely gutted the ship, badly injuring one man. *America* therefore put back to Liverpool, where arrived 2 A.M., Thursday, 11th. Passengers presented address to Captain Laing and officers. Several other casualties at sea.

Canada reports following ships at anchor at the Bar on 12th: *New World*, Baltic, John Howell, Belmont, Wm. Rutledge. On 13th, fifteen miles westward of Fastret, passed steamship *Niagara*; on 17th, lat. 49°, long. 29°, passed American ship *Syphoon*, bound west. The captain and 15 persons, picked up from the *Lyonnais* steamer, have arrived at Bordeaux, per ship not named; subscriptions have been opened in London for widows and children of perished. Ship *Adriatic*, Coombs, Liverpool to New York, was wrecked 8th near Dungarvon, three men drowned—not reported whether passengers or crew; is likely to be complete wreck; had full cargo and 200 crew and passengers; if weather moderates, "tween-decks" cargo may be saved. Ship at anchor near Wexford, with masts cut away, is supposed to be the *J. Lawrence*, from New Orleans for Liverpool. Has been a succession of severe gales along the British coasts, with numerous casualties in channel. Steamer *Troubador* arrived at Dublin, was caught in a gale short of fuel—and burned hundred and fifty pigs in furnace.

BRITAIN.—A deputation from Liverpool, Manchester, and London, have waited on Lord Clarendon, to ascertain what is meant by the British demonstration against New Grenada.

Father Matthew died at Cork on the 9th.

Felice Orsini, the Italian exile, was lecturing in London on Italian tyranny.

Richard Cobden published another letter on maritime laws.

London *Times* has an editorial backing out of the Arrow Smith, Georgia Railroad, and Revolver hoax. It is reported that Arrow Smith has returned to the United States.

Corporation and citizens of Portsmouth have subscribed £1000 to give banquet to American officers in command of the British ship *Resolute*.—Naval service at Portsmouth contemplate similar compliment.

Pacha of Egypt had interview with Manchester Commercial Association on the subject of growing cotton on the district watered by the river Tigris.

The British Government is about to lay a telegraph line across the Persian Gulf.

FRANCE.—It is rumoured that Cardinal Morlot's mission to Rome, to coronation of Napoleon, which should peace be concluded, will probably take place early next year.

Havre Journal has Cayenne letter of Nov. 5th, stating that gold was discovered in several parts of the colony.

Many shipping casualties are reported from the Mediterranean, in anticipation of the forced sales at the end of the year.

More activity had been shown in the Parisian factories; but retail trade was not so brisk as usual.

SPAIN.—Municipal elections are appointed for 5th of February.

Madrid commercial letters say that opinion was strongly against the new loan, and that Finance Minister will probably resign.

Accounts from Malaga and Saragossa represent these Cities as still agitated, although not in open outbreak.

HOLLAND.—Weekly statements from the Amsterdam and Rotterdam produce markets represent that although business continued inactive prices on the whole were well supported.

PRUSSIA.—Prussia has communicated the resolution of the Germanic Diet on the question of Neufchatel to the powers inviting them to join in a collective decision with a view to secure their recognized right. It is likely that the prisoners of Neufchatel will have been judged by the time an answer to this circular is received; but the Federal Council of Switzerland is said to have given a formal promise to the Cabinets of London and Paris that an amnesty shall be granted immediately after the preliminary condition demanded by Prussia will be fulfilled. On this question France and Austria advised Prussia to abstain from military measures, but on the other hand, have positively promised to support her views.

THE BALTIMORE.—The Elbe, Dec. 8th, was free from