

Secretary of State for the Colonies to his Honor the President, and communicated to him by command of his Honor.

DOWNING-STREET, 28th February, 1834.

SIR,
I have had the honor to receive your Despatch of the 17th of December last, accompanied by a Memorial from Messrs. Philip J. Holland and Edmund Ward, publishers of Newspapers in Halifax, complaining of the exaction (illegal as they allege it to be) of Postage on Newspapers forwarded through the Post Office into the Country.

You will acquaint the Memorialists, that the practice of which they complain, is not illegal, but is founded on an Act of Parliament, empowering the Post-Master-General to authorize certain of his Officers to circulate Newspapers by Post, and it has been in existence since the first establishment of a Post Office and a Newspaper in the Colony.

The Complaints must, therefore, have entered into business with the full knowledge of the privileged charge to which their publications would be liable, and the statement, that their prospects and expectations are thereby almost entirely destroyed, must be unfounded.

As Newspapers in the Colonies are not liable to any Stamp Duty to give them a claim to a free conveyance by Post, if the Parties do not think proper to submit to this very moderate charge for their being forwarded, they can only pass at the full rates of Postage, as Letters; and supposing the two papers to be published weekly, the present charge of Two Shillings and Six pence per annum is actually less than the rate of Postage on American Papers in the United States.

I may take this opportunity of acquainting you, that a Bill is in progress for the purpose of enabling the Provincial Legislatures in North America to regulate the Postage of Letters and Newspapers; and that as soon as copies can be obtained of this Bill, as well as of one on the same subject, which it is proposed to submit to the consideration of the Legislature in each Province, they will be forwarded to the several Governors of the North American Colonies.

I have the honor to be,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. G. STANLEY.

The Acting Governor of
Nova-Scotia.

PRINCE ED. ISLAND.

The Legislature of Pr. Ed. Island closed its Session on the 27th ult. The Assembly have petitioned his Majesty to grant to that Colony a Legislative Council, and that he would be likewise pleased to appropriate the Glebe and School Lands exclusively for the encouragement of Education. The House have also requested his Excellency to procure a Steam-Boat of 50 horse power for the conveyance of the Mails between Picou, Charlotte-Town, and Miramichi, provided the expense shall not exceed £500; and have declined voting any sum of money to defray the expenses of the contract entered into with the owners of the Pocahontas, on a charge of a violation of the contract.

CANADAS.

MONTREAL GAZETTE.—A murder of the most barbarous nature was lately committed at L'Assomption under rather unusual circumstances. Two brothers, Raymond and Olivier Brien dit Desrochers, were enamoured and paying their addresses at the same time to the deceased Domithilde Perrault. Olivier, however, soon discovered that his brother Raymond was the favored swain, and under the influence of jealousy notified his brother, that if he married the young lady, he would not long enjoy her society. The marriage took place, and the brother has unfortunately carried his horrible threat into execution. During the evening between Saturday and Sunday, he entered into the bed-chamber of his brother, and destroyed his sister-in-law by striking her several blows on her head with an axe. The husband also received a blow from the axe on his arm. The murderer has been committed to the goal of this city. A Coroner's Inquest was held on the body of the deceased, and a verdict returned that she came to her death by the blows of an axe, inflicted upon her by a man suspected to be the prisoner now in Custody. We derive our information from the columns of the Ami du Peuple, of yesterday.—March 27

ORIGINAL.

MR EDITOR,

I HAD no idea of commencing a paper war, when I sent you my extract from the letter to a friend in Novascotia, but merely to shew the actual state of traffic, in the hope of contributing to the work of reform, at which I see Mr C. D. has taken high dudgeon, and undertaken to ridicule, and call erroneous. Now I desire to inform him that the error lies on his side and not on mine. The statements made in my extract, was neither an error of the head nor heart, but plain matter of fact, which can be verified by a host of attestations.

I am inclined to think that Mr C. D. is one of those close minded beings who would rather keep the real state of such matters wrapt up in inquisitorial secrecy, than face an honest and fearless expose. He might as well endeavour to falsify every revealed truth, as to call those stubborn facts 'erroneous.' I repeat it, there is not a tithe of the labour performed in Miramichi paid for in cash; where there is one receives money for his work, there is ten that does not; and where there is one pair of shoes sold for 15s. in money, there is twelve sold for much less, payable in goods at a long credit; and where a labourer gets 5s. in cash for his labour, he is paid 12 in traffic. I, Mr Editor, as well as many other mechanics, would be better satisfied with the state of trade, if we could at all times command as good payment as oatmeal, with the necessary ingredi-

ents to make it palatable, it would make a Father's heart rejoice to see his flock of little urchins playing spoon round their bowl of porridge, instead of peeling the rind off 'a yellow monster.'

My worthy contemporary would inform us that he has travelled, and actually been in business at Quebec, and hired labourers at that place at 2s. per day, and he also tells us that it is the exorbitant rate of wages paid here, which retards Agriculture! These are far-fetched statements to illustrate his argument: and he has been rather unfortunate in his choice of a place as an example; a town where thousands of half-famished beings are almost daily arriving (in the season) who are glad to grasp at employment at any price. But even 2s. per day in Quebec is much better than 4s. in this country; all kinds of provisions there being much lower in price than here. It is a pity that when C. D. went so far as Quebec to bring an example, that he did not take a peep into the Province of Upper Canada, from which I will draw a picture of a very different complexion. In that Province Labourers' wages is seldom less than 5s. per day, and Mechanics from 7s. 6d. to 10s.; yet that does not retard Agriculture, on the contrary, it acts as a stimulus to it; as wages are paid in money, that money is in constant circulation, therefore the farmer is under no apprehension about hiring men to till his ground, well knowing that as soon as his crop is harvested, he can obtain money to pay his servants. Quite contrary is the case in this country. I say, give us a sound metallic circulating medium, and let it be paid freely—not grudgingly—for all kinds of labour, and then, and not till then, will you see the face of this country smile under Agriculture.

C. D. would endeavour to hide the real state of trade, by imputing it to the stagnation of trade in the Mother Country nine years ago, and insinuations of the indolence and intemperance of the Mechanics themselves. 'It won't do,' this community cannot be inveigled by spurious shows, or such false gloss; such people are few in number in comparison to those who justly complain. Let sound metal be brought from the coffers of foreign banks, and circulated freely; return the spurious paper—that apology for money—and we will soon see trade revive, and new life and vigor infused into every branch of industry. That great stimulus to action, a sound currency freely circulated, would immediately call up the energies of men who are now loungers, and make those useful members of society who are now useless.

ARGUS.

April 3, 1834.

SCHEDIASMA.

MIRAMICHI:

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 22, 1834.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—We are indebted this week to the St. John Observer for European dates to the 16th March, received at that port by the arrival of the brig Millman, in the short passage of 27 days from London. We have given in another column the extracts thus furnished.

TIMBER DUTIES.—We perceive by the late English papers, that Lord Althorp stated in the House of Commons on the 21st February, in answer to Mr Robinson, who asked his Lordship if Ministers meditated any change in the Timber Duties this session, "that it was not the intention of Government to do any thing in the present session which would affect the trade, but would not promise what might happen next session."

COLONIAL POST-OFFICE.—We also perceive by the late papers, that a Bill has passed the Commons, empowering the Colonial Legislatures to make regulations for the controul of the Post-Office Department in the Colonies; the same bill went through a Committee of the Lords on the 14th, and was reported to the House without any amendment, and was to be read a third time on the 17th ult.

LIGHT HOUSES.—The Legislature of Novascotia has passed an Address to His Majesty on the subject of erecting Light Houses on the Islands of St. Paul and Scattarie; praying His Majesty that an act may pass the Imperial Parliament, for levying a small Light Duty on all vessels arriving in the British North American Provinces, for that purpose. This Address also prays His Majesty to continue the annual grant from the home government to enable them to keep up the present establishment at Sable Island.

The House of Assembly of Novascotia has presented an Address to His Honor President Jeffery, complimenting him on the able and impartial manner in which he has administered the Government of that Province.

THE WEATHER.—The weather still continues unusually fine. The river has been free of ice for some days past; and the Captain of the sloop which arrived here on Friday, from Pr. Ed. Island, reports that he met with none in the straits.

FIRES.—The building in Chatham, owned by Mr John O'Donnell, and occupied by him as a Blacksmith's forge, together with the small Dwelling House nearly adjoining, also the property of Mr O'D. was totally consumed by fire on the morning of Sunday last. The flames were first discovered about half-past three, and before the inhabitants could assemble, the buildings were nearly consumed. The Engine was early on the ground, and to the efficient manner in which she was worked, is mainly owing the preservation of the barn owned by Dr. Key. We have not been able to learn how the fire originated.

One night last week, the barn, stable, and other out-houses of Mr Patrick Quinn, a Settler on the Richibucto road, where wholly destroyed by fire. The former building contained a quantity of Hay and Oat Seed. This case of calamity to a poor, but industrious old man, though remote from our village, will not, we trust, be overlooked by the active benevolent.

A Barn on the farm named Derry, situate on the North West Branch of this river, owned by Francis Peabody, Esq., and occupied by Mr George Peabody, was totally consumed by fire, on the night of the 8th inst. This we learn was one of the largest Barns on this river, measuring 112 feet by 50 and 30 feet high. It contained at the time 20 sheep, 6 oxen, 1 cow, 1 steer, 2 Horses, 12 barrels Wheat, sleds, harnesses, &c., and 7 tons of Hay; all of which were consumed.

BOARD OF HEALTH.—Our Board of Health met yesterday, and in another column will be found a code of judicious and salutary regulations for preserving the health of the settlements, which we trust they will be most rigorous in seeing duly executed.

ERRATUM. In a large portion of our number of last week, we made it appear that the Port of Bathurst was in the County of Kent, instead of the County of Gloucester.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—If *Civis Mundi* will send to our office, we shall be most happy to furnish him with a few of the articles he wishes to peruse. His favours shall meet with an early attention.

MARRIAGES.

At Sackville, County of Westmorland, on Wednesday the 9th inst., by the Rev. Christopher Milnor, the Rev. Michael Pickles, Wesleyan Missionary, to Fanny B. fifth daughter of the late Benjamin Wilson, Esq., formerly one of the Representatives in General Assembly, for the County of Westmorland.

FOR SALE OR TO LET

and immediate possession given.

That well known and eligible ESTABLISHMENT at Newcastle, owned and heretofore occupied by G. & R. HENDERSON, consisting of a Wharf, extending to the channel of the river; with 2 Stores and Stable thereon; a convenient Landing Slip, together with the residue of Lot 29, adjoining the Store of Thomas C. Allan, Esq. affording an excellent Boom Privilege and Building Lot. These premises have been recently built of the very best materials, are at present in excellent repair, and fitted up with every attention to convenience and comfort. The Wharf from the Store fronting Castle-street to the slip is 180 feet long by 40 feet wide; from thence outwards 272 feet long by 30 feet wide, making the total length of the wharf 452 feet; being one of the most eligible situations for carrying on the trade of the country in the town of Newcastle.

Also a well-finished HOUSE and GARDEN, in Water-street. Apply to
Newcastle, April 21, 1834. GILBERT HENDERSON.

TEN POUNDS REWARD!

Whereas HENRY CORNWELL and PATRICK WARD, two of the Prisoners who were confined in the Gaol of this County on a charge of FELONY, did on the night of the 14th instant break out and escape from said Gaol. The above Reward will be paid to any person or persons who will apprehend the said Henry Cornwell and Patrick Ward, or give such information as may lead to their apprehension. Cornwell is blind, a native of this Province, about 5 feet 9 inches high, sandy complexion, and about 37 years of age. Ward is an Irishman, about 32 years of age, about 5 feet 9 inches high, blue eyes, light complexion, brown hair, rather stout and active make, by trade a Carpenter.

Fresh pursuit and Hue and Cry is hereby levied and raised against the said Henry Cornwell and Patrick Ward; whereupon all Magistrates, Constables, and all other officers and Ministers of the Law, and other his Majesty's liege subjects are hereby enjoined to be aiding in the apprehension and securing of said Felons.
W. P. SAYRE, Sheriff.

Dorchester, County Westmorland, 15th April, 1834.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Miramichi Temperance Society will be held in St. John's Church, Chatham, on Thursday evening, 1st May, at 7 o'clock. The members and friends of the Society are requested to attend. The Committee will meet in the same place on the Monday evening previous, at 7 o'clock. April 22, 1834.

CUSTOM-HOUSE Blanks for the Port of Bathurst, for sale at this Office.