

Communications.

Mr Editor,—Having seen in the Gleaner of the 13th current, an article headed "St. Stephen's Church, Glenelg," setting forth, that at a meeting of the Trustees of that Church, the Clerk was ordered to transmit a copy of Minutes of Presbytery to the Rev. Mr Master, together with the following notification from the Chairman of Trustees of his ceasing to be their Minister, which notification concludes the article in question, and was signed "Alex. Fraser, Jun." with all the solemnities of Chairman of Trustees,—

We, the undersigned, being the majority of Trustees at that same meeting, take the earliest opportunity of contradicting the above statement. The clerk was not ordered by the meeting, nor by the chairman, to give any such "notification" to Mr McMaster; neither was the chairman himself authorized to do so; the meeting had no intention nor wish of doing so; and though Mr Fraser, as we understand, wrote such a letter after he left the meeting, he did so unknown to the Trustees—without their consent, and without their authority; and therefore that "notification" we declare to be null and void. All that the clerk was ordered to forward, was simply a copy of the Presbytery's Minutes, as Mr McMaster did not know all that the Presbytery had done; but not with the slightest intention of vacating the church. Indeed, Mr Fraser made an attempt to thrust into the minutes of meeting, words to the effect of vacating the Church, but we utterly rejected them. Mr Fraser said, "I must give in to the majority;" and after all we have been truly astonished to think that after he left the chair and the meeting, he should of his own accord write such a "notification," and presume at the same time to sign it as chairman of Trustees!!! This contradiction of that article we feel ourselves called upon to make, because truth demands it, lest the public be deceived.

We beg to request that you will be pleased to insert this in the columns of your journal; and also that all other Editors who may have inserted the article signed "Alex. Fraser, Jun." may also copy this, that that notorious falsehood may be sued, chased, and exposed, to the ends of the earth.

We are, Mr Editor, yours truly,
FRANCIS H. M'KNIGHT,
DONALD ROSS,
JOHN CAMERON,
ANGUS SINCLAIR.

Glenelg, December 22, 1845.

GLENELG, December 23, 1845.

Mr. Pierce,—Would you be pleased to publish the following letter assigning my reason for withdrawing from the Synod of New Brunswick.

Yours truly,
ANGUS McMASTER.

Reverend and Dear Sir,

I write you at this time as Moderator of Synod, to intimate that I have deemed it my duty to withdraw from connection with the Synod. The reasons which have induced me to this step, are the following ones.

First. That "the Church of Scotland," the Church of our Fathers, has, as it appears to me, been called upon by God in His providence, to testify in these times, for Christ, as "King of Zion," and for His church, as a divine institution, His "Kingdom, which is not of this world;" and also has been enabled to respond unto this high call, and to testify for these great truths, by resisting civil encroachments upon its jurisdiction, by abandoning its emoluments from the state, as that on account of which it was threatened to be brought into subjection to earthly powers, and by casting its burden openly and professedly on Christ Himself as the Head of the Church and Ruler of the world, in its constituted capacity Moderator and Members as "the Free Church of Scotland."

Secondly. That those who remained behind without going forth with the Church bearing that testimony, and complied with the demands of the state even to the extent of these demands, have made a compromise, which, as it appears to me, is incompatible with the character of the Christian Church as the divine institution, and with the character of "the Church of Scotland" according to its own standards and the lives of its Fathers: also that the plea by which they would justify themselves in this matter, viz., "that the Church was in compact with the state, and therefore under civil obligations to it unto such proceedings," appears to me to be a plea which cannot

be maintained, according to historical truth in relation to the Church of Scotland, and which does not consist with the character of the church as Christ's kingdom; and that, by this compromise and its corresponding defence, they have inflicted a severe wound upon the feelings of multitudes of God's servants and children in Scotland.

Third. That "the Synod of New Brunswick, in connection with the Church of Scotland," which was an independent church both according to the common law of Presbyterianism and to matter of fact, and therefore not necessarily a partaker in the merits of the one party, nor in the demerits of the other, in Scotland, has, as it appears to me, virtually departed from its own independency as a church, or failed it in maintaining it in these times; also practically nomologated the doings of those who complied with the demands of the state unto the compromising of the church's character, and the wounding of many brethren's christian feelings in Scotland; and by doing so, has virtually testified against "the Church of Scotland" in its testimony: while, as it appears to me, it was the duty of this Synod to have openly asserted its own independence as a church, and moreover with all other christian churches, to have expressed cordial sympathy with the (Free) Church of Scotland, in testimony of its approbation of those principles, which that church, the church of our Fathers, was called upon to suffer for and to maintain, as principles which are vital ones to the church of Christ, in all ages, and nations; and which it never can abandon—principles, the maintenance of which, though it has had brought sufferings upon those who most eminently maintained them, has always in the end been followed by rich and abundant blessings from on High upon mankind, as was the case unto Israel in consequence of Moses's faithfulness; also to the same people in after years in consequence of the faithfulness of their chief men in Babylon; again unto all nations in consequence of the faithfulness of Peter and John, together with the rest of the Apostles; and to Britain, and even to the whole world, in consequence of the Reformer's faithfulness, in Germany, Scotland, and other places; and the grand principles which all these maintained were, that the Lord, is Lord of the conscience, that His word is the rule of duty unto the church; and that His servants must serve Him accordingly, all other powers notwithstanding.

For these reasons, and because I do not understand that there is any probability that the Synod will, in the meantime, return to and maintain its own proper position as an independent church, and hold fellowship with other churches according to christian rule, I find it to be my duty to abandon connection with said Synod; and though I feel for the Synod as an institution, and for brethren in it, I do now abandon that connection, at Glenelg, New Brunswick, this fifth day of September, 1845 years.

I am, Reverend and Dear Sir,
Yours truly,
ANGUS McMASTER.
The Rev. John M. Brooke, Fredericton.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:
CHATHAM, SATURDAY DEC. 27, 1845.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT FOR THE ARRIVAL AND CLOSING OF THE SEVERAL MAILS, AT THE POST OFFICE, CHATHAM.

TIME OF ARRIVAL.—Monday.—Nova Scotia, St. John, Fredericton, Dorchester, United States, (via St. Andrews,) Petticoe, Richibucto, 6 A. M.
Tuesday.—Newcastle and Douglastown, 5 A. M.

Thursday.—Nova Scotia, Dorchester, Petticoe, Richibucto, 6 A. M.
Friday.—St. John, Fredericton, Canada, United States, (via Woodstock,) Newcastle, South West, 6 A. M. Bathurst, Dalhousie, Campbellton, 8 A. M.

Saturday.—Newcastle, Douglastown, 5 A. M. Shippegan, Pokemouche, Tracadie, Tabernacle, 3 P. M. every fortnight.

TIME OF CLOSING.—Monday, Canada, United States, (via Woodstock,) Fredericton, Newcastle, South West, Douglastown, Bathurst, Dalhousie, Campbellton, 8 A. M. Shippegan, Pokemouche, Tracadie, Tabernacle, every fortnight, 5 A. M. Nova Scotia, Saint John, Dorchester, Richibucto, Petticoe, 9 P. M.

Thursday.—Newcastle and Douglastown, 8 A. M.

Friday.—Nova Scotia, Dorchester, St. John, United States, (via St. Andrews,) Richibucto, Petticoe, 9 P. M.

N. B.—Letters will be forwarded upon the

payment of a Fee of "six pence," and Newspapers "one penny" each, if posted within thirty minutes after the time appointed for the closing of the respective mails at this Office.

UNITED STATES.—The papers report that a very destructive fire occurred at Bridgeport, Ct. on the 10th inst., which consumed a number of dwelling houses and stores. The property destroyed is estimated at \$150,000.

The New York Express gives the following account of the distressed state of the Money market in that city, and the cause which has led to it.

"What may be called a panic in the Stock Market, continues. All stocks are more or less depressed. The cause of this, we apprehend, is not so much the President's Message as the Foreign news, indicating formidable naval and military preparations in England, and a determination on the part of the British public and British press, to stand by 'the whole of Oregon,' just as the Union, and other organs of our Government do. Indeed, there is among serious and thinking men, a great fear, that the grasping resolve of the United States to push for territorial acquisition generally, and the determination of the British people to resist the spirit of acquisition, will in the end, push the two nations into a collision."

CANADA.—The Quebec papers give most deplorable accounts of the severity of the weather in that quarter, and report a number of casualties resulting therefrom. The Gazette under date of the 5th instant, contains the following paragraph:

"The winter has set in with unusual rapidity and severity in Canada. Only eight days ago the thermometer was between 40 and 50 degrees of Fahrenheit, the rain was pouring in torrents down for 24 hours, and the Saint Lawrence was as free from ice as in the summer. The thermometer has been down to 10 degrees below zero several mornings since; the snow, accumulated by furious easterly blasts, when it is impossible to see at a distance of a few feet, lies in heaps more than 15 feet deep in many places in the roads and in the streets; and the broad St. Lawrence is not only covered with floating ice, but it is heaped, one piece above another, rendering it almost impassable, even by the hardy canoe men of Point Levy."

This paper reports the loss of several vessels in the St. Lawrence, and states that fears are entertained that many others have occurred. The paper of the 8th says, accounts had been received that seven vessels which had sailed the latter end of November, were ashore, above Green Island. The paper of the 10th contains the following:

"Mr. Campbell, Jun. arrived here this morning from Matane, and reports a ship ashore near Green Island, and a schooner in the ice, near Crane Island, from on board of which two men had been landed, frozen to death, and another had also lost his life in attempting to land on the ice."

"Captain Daniel, of the ship Sir Robert Peel, has come up, and reports his vessel ashore at the lower end of the Kamouraska Islands, in a very bad situation, and much exposed to the drifting ice."

"The pilot of the Laurel has just returned, and reports her ashore on Green Island."

From fifteen to twenty vessels are reported as being fast in the ice, for whose safety great fears are entertained.

BOMBASTIC.—The following is an extract from Ingersoll's History of the last American war:

"Nothing was wanting to his amazing triumph, but that Wellington, instead of Packenham, as was at first intended, should have headed the invasion of Louisiana, that Jackson might tear from the brows of Napoleon's conqueror the laurels of Waterloo."

The New Orleans Bulletin spoils this historical flourish, by calling attention to the awkward circumstance, that the battle of New Orleans occurred several months before the Battle of Waterloo.

RELIGION.—The following, unfortunately too correct remarks, on the Religion of the world, in contradistinction to the religion of the Bible, are taken from the October number of the "Biblical Repository:"

"It has ever been an error in the church," says the writer, "that instead of trusting truth with her own defence, clad as she is with heavenly panoply,—she has been fortified by cathedrals, and mitres, the decrees of councils and synods, and the terrors of inquisitions and excommunications. She has been treated as a feeble old woman, of no intrinsic excellence and might, although of Queenly quality—supported by easy and gilded crutches,

es, invigorated by aromatic and costly stimulants, surrounded by gorgeous equipages, followed by crowds of officious attendants, and protected by armed guards. The splendor of circumstance has withdrawn attention from herself, or rendered it impossible to obtain a clear vision of her angelic countenance."

BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.—A Correspondent in the New York Herald says the following is the game to be played by the Americans with John Bull regarding the Oregon Territory.

"The next step now to be taken, will be for Congress to pass a resolution instructing the President to give notice to the British Government to 'annul and abrogate the Convention of 1827;' but you may rest assured that this will not be done until they get the news of how that Government takes the withdrawal of all propositions by the President—and claims all of Oregon. We are in the situation of boys, who have been amusing themselves by throwing pebbles in a hornet's nest, and then cease operations for a while, to see whether they take it kindly—then act as circumstances require—viz: if they come out, run—if not, fire at them again. So with our Congress—the knowing ones will make no farther move until they see what England intends to do—and if they will wait only until Parliament meets they will not have to pass any such resolve, for the British Government will put an end to the Joint Occupation itself."

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The Royal Mail Steamer Acadia, in a passage of 123 days arrived at Halifax on the morning of Wednesday week. By this vessel we received our usual files of British papers to the 4th instant, and a parcel of Magazines. From the former we have gleaned a number of extracts.

The intelligence they furnish, is not very important. We are sorry to perceive that the news from the manufacturing districts represents business as somewhat depressed. The remarks of several leading Journals in the United States, on the Oregon question, had created considerable feeling in the public mind. Government was still making active preparations for a conflict, and with this view, Commissioners had been examining the capabilities of the larger class of mail steamers as vessels of war.

We refer our readers to the extracts, for a more detailed account of the European news.

THE SEASON.—The weather with us, has been unusually severe. The roads in all directions, are in a most wretched condition. The mails from Fredericton due on Friday morning, did not arrive until noon on Sunday; and the Southern mail, which should have been at our Post Office at 6 o'clock on the morning of Monday, was not received until late on the night of Tuesday. The roads to the northward, we understand, are also blocked with the late heavy snow drifts.

BRITISH TIMBER MARKET.—Willmer and Smith's European Times, gives us the following gratifying account of the Timber Market at Liverpool.

"The Timber trade is in a healthy and active state. The ships that have arrived here from Quebec and St. John's, during the present year, amount to 393, and they have brought an excess of tonnage over last year's importation of more than 36,000 tons. Stocks, consequently, are ample, without reference to the cargo now on their homeward course. St. John's Pine, of 19 1-4 inches, averages 19 1-2d, and St. Andrew's 18d per foot. In Ash, manded 17 1-2d and 17d per foot. In Elm, and Deal, there has been a fair business doing. There has been a heavy supply of Planks, and sales have been made of St. John's at 2 5-8d per foot of two inches. There has not been so much doing in Staves. One cargo of Honduras sold recently at 8 1-2d per foot. Of Cuba and St. Domingo, the imports this year have been extensive, and two considerable sales of Honduras will take place at this port to-morrow. All descriptions of ship-building wood are much enquired for."

LATE FROM FREDERICTON.—By a private conveyance, we have received an Extra Royal Gazette, published on the 22nd instant, which contains a Proclamation further proroguing the Legislature to the 29th day of January next, then to meet for the Despatch of Business.

The same publication announces that Her Majesty has accepted of the resignation of the Hon. William Botsford, of his