

decisive, say improvement 15 to 20 per cent both wheat and corn land inclined to white clay. Effect on oats, not visible; land, white clay. Effect on meadow every evidence, the grass being lifted thereby from 5 to 6 inches on both dry and wet land. The grass consisted of a mixture of greensward, alias Kentucky blue grass, and red clover.

The pasture ground operated on, was the top of a high poor ridge, which has ever since been closely grazed. On this, white clover and other permanent natural grasses are now about half as thick as I could desire, and suppose that in two more years, the ground will be well soded. Be it known that this hill is so situated that it would improve without the coal, &c., but I attribute about one-half the improvement to this source.

The earth from a coal pit I would estimate at the outset, to at least as much as the coal; but as the coal is a permanent actor and reactor, it may ultimately perhaps be worth 100 per cent, or even 1,000 per cent more than the earth.

My manner of spreading this manure, is by casting it from the cart in such quantity as to blacken the earth handsomely, and for obvious reasons always keeping the cart on the wind side.

If Ljebig's theory as to the action of coal be right, then it must act profitably on all lands wanting manure, except such as are continually wet but on clay grounds, when plowed down, it has the additional virtue of opening the pores. If then the coal be used as manure separately, I would plow it into clay grounds; and if burnt earth and ashes be used separately, I would cast these on sandy grounds.

He who spreads manure of any kind, but especially coal has this fund out at interest. It behooves us then to inquire what fund in labor or money we can afford to invest in this way. Let us suppose an acre of ground without improvement, capable of yielding 20 bushels of corn; which corn is worth \$8; suppose \$5 worth of coal, &c., spread on the acre, by which the crop is increased only 12½ per cent, thus creating an annual income of \$9, how now stands the case. If you live on the premises twenty years you pocket for one acre a profit of \$15—ten acres, \$150—one hundred acres, \$1500. My son, 12½ per cent profit above a living, will by and by make you rich, and whether this be in meal or malt, no difference. And remember moreover, the additional value of your lands, and the sweat you have saved by the difference in cultivating hard and poor ground, and that which is improved.

I would say to A. J. P. that coal and all other vegetable matter, must in time become earth; but I wish my coal to remain coal as long as possible: for I would value the ammonia which the coal may furnish, much more than the carbon which it would furnish by its decomposition. This winter I intend again to make and spread several thousand bushels of coal. But after all this, I doubt whether it is advisable for my son Levi to do so likewise; for if his lands are by nature black and porous enough, it contains already enough of charcoal, or that which is its equivalent. But let me not discourage you, if this be the quality of your lands. I tell you what you can do; just burn your wood, not so much for the coal as for the burnt earth and ashes; and I warrant the application equally as valuable on such lands, as on that which is sandy. To burn a large quantity of earth, and produce a large quantity of ashes, with a given quantity of wood, you will let the air more copiously in at the bottom of the pit, keep a goodly quantity of earth packed on, and burn the greater length of time. For agricultural purposes, it is best to open a coal pit while rain or snow is falling; or if water be convenient, this can be cast on the coal, by which it is broken or pulverized.

Z. A. DRUMMOND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY,
1844.

The Third Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the P. E. Island Steam Navigation, was held at the Court House, on Tuesday, the 11th February, the Hon. C. Hensley in the Chair.—The following report was read and adopted:—

GENTLEMEN—

Having arrived at the conclusion of another year, it becomes again our duty to render to you an account of our proceedings since our last annual report, and to offer to your consideration such particulars as matured experience in the management of the Company's affairs may appear to suggest. In the latter part of our last year's report, we stated that we

had thought it to be our duty to transmit a memorial to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, praying for some assistance to the Company, to enable as well as justify the Directors on extending the operations of the Company's vessel, so as to accomplish a steam communication with Newfoundland and Halifax, by means of a periodical meeting with the North America, (a steamship about to commence running between Halifax and Newfoundland,) either at Arichat or at Ship Harbour, in Cape Breton, as might be found most convenient. We regret that we are obliged to lay before you the following extract from their Lordship's answer thereto:—

"That as the Post Office derives no revenue from Prince Edward Island, the posts being for the most part under the management of the local government, they do not feel themselves justified in complying with the request which has been preferred to them."

The Directors feel it incumbent upon them to offer some few remarks upon this refusal of a request which, it may be recollected, had its origin in the favor already extended to other Colonies, and which if it had not been acceded to in all its latitude, we think (with all becoming respect to their Lordships) deserved more consideration and attention than the tenor of their Lordship's answer implies. For we believe it will be found that little distinction exists as regards the receipts at the Post Offices in the different Colonies, and we certainly know of no special favor extended to this Island with respect to its means of correspondence and communication, which ought to be adduced as an impediment to the favorable consideration of our Memorial.

Referring to the foregoing extract from their Lordship's answer, it may perhaps be necessary to explain, that the Revenue arising from the Postage paid in the Island, for letters sent to or received from Europe, and the postage paid here on letters sent to and received from the neighbouring Provinces, and also our internal postage is accounted for to the Treasury of the Island; but we shall be surprised to find that the other North American Colonies have a less advantageous arrangement allotted to them.

Relieving then that we are correct in stating that there is nothing in the Post Office arrangements and regulations of this Island, which can be viewed as being more favorable than those of the other North American Colonies; we are naturally induced to enquire, how are we comparatively treated with respect to the convenient delivery and conveyance of our letters, and to examine if the Imperial Government exercises the same providence for the perfecting the means of communication and correspondence to this Island, which it does to other and neighbouring Colonies under similar circumstances. At Quebec, the Post Master having collected his letters from the interior and made up his bags, at once consigns them to the charge of a steamer, provided and paid for by the Imperial Government; at St. John's, Newfoundland, in like manner, the Post Master is enabled to deliver his charge to a steamship almost entirely supported by a grant from the Imperial Government, and at Halifax again, the whole charge of the conveyance to and from Europe is undertaken by the Home Government, whilst we, who are certainly the least able to incur such extra charges, are compelled at all times and seasons, to fetch our letters from the adjacent Province, without receiving any adequate assistance from the Home Government, to compensate the Treasury of the Colony, for the great additional expense it incurs in completing the line of communication between this Island and England.

The Directors have deemed it to be their duty to those who placed them in the management of the Company, to explain the grounds upon which they feel themselves to have been justified in having addressed their Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury for assistance; and with the utmost respect for their Lordships, they are still of opinion, that the expense of maintaining the complete line of correspondence and communication between this Island and England, may be as justly expected in behalf of this Colony, as of those already pointed out.

This refusal, however, precluded the possibility of enlarging the Company's operations with safety; and as by the Act of the General Assembly, the Directors are empowered to make such alterations in the route of the St. George as they may consider to be most beneficial to the interests of the colony and of the shareholders of the company, they determined that as the experience of 1843 justified them in believing, that by sending the St. George alternate weeks to Miramichi, they would satisfy the present wants of the public, to order her voyages for the same accordingly. By this arrangement the inhabitants of Miramichi, Pictou, and Charlottetown, and the adjacent places, have been enabled to preserve that communication both for commercial and social purposes, which is so desirable and necessary for the advancement of all growing communities, and the Company has been able at the same time, proportionately, to diminish the heavy expenses it incurred in previous years. As by the alteration in the frequency of the St. George's voyages to Miramichi, the company forfeited its legal claim upon the Legislature of New Brunswick, the Directors have sent forward Memorials soliciting such remuneration, as upon a due consideration of all the circumstances, it shall deem the services of the St. George, during the past season, to deserve, and they anticipate from the known liberality of the Legislature of that province, that their application will meet with a generous attention. The memorial which we addressed to the Legislature of Nova Scotia, has not been answered; this we attribute to the state of business at the time it came before it: and we have, therefore, addressed other Memorials requesting such equitable remuneration for the services of

our vessel during the past season, as that honorable body shall consider them to deserve, and we entertain little doubt of a favorable reply.

It now becomes necessary to request your attention to a subject, which nothing but a deep sense of our duty to those who have so long honored us with their implicit confidence could induce us to conquer our reluctance to enter upon at all—namely, the continuance or abandonment by the company of an enterprise, which our experience has at length forced upon us a conviction, cannot be made profitable to the Shareholders without such an increased liberality from the different Provinces and from the Imperial Government, as we are now obliged to relinquish the hope of experiencing.

Every effort has been made to reduce our expense, both by Mr. Owen, whose vigilant attention to the interests of the company is unwearied; and by Captain Mathewson, whose careful management of the company's vessel has relieved the directors from much anxiety; but notwithstanding their exertions, the returns yield no profit to the Shareholders, and there appears but little prospect of any immediate amendment. So long as we could persuade ourselves that there was fair ground for believing, that the enterprise entrusted to our management, might by new arrangements, or by the procurement of additional assistance, be made at length to return a moderate profit to the public spirited individuals who, so readily embarked their capital in it, so long we felt justified in abstaining from asking your decision on this important matter; but having been unsuccessful in our efforts to obtain further assistance, it becomes necessary that we should ponder over the present aspect of our affairs; and however alive we may be to the great importance of maintaining a Steam vessel, for the convenience and service of the public in these Colonies, ask ourselves the question, do we intend, or can it be reasonably expected, that we should persevere in an undertaking which, whilst it is undeniably of the greatest public benefit, produces to ourselves only loss and anxiety? And whether indeed it is not more properly the duty of the Government itself, to furnish and maintain an instrument so imperatively required for the general convenience, and so requisite to the prosperity and importance of this Colony? The very great advantage and benefit of keeping in our own hands the Steam communication between this Island and the neighbouring Provinces, must have presented itself to the attention of every one who has noted the rapid advance in the value of property here, even in a time of comparative distress; and the relinquishment of it altogether, would indeed be a most serious evil to the community; but we are of opinion that it is properly the affair of the Legislature, to establish and maintain these communications: and we do, therefore under the circumstances, recommended to your consideration the propriety of authorizing the Directors—if any favourable opportunity should offer itself—to enter into negotiations for the sale of the St. George, upon such fair and reasonable terms, as from her present value and other circumstances, may appear advisable to them.

In conclusion, we have the satisfaction to inform you, from the reports made to us by Capt. Mathewson and Mr. Attkin, the engineer, that both the vessel and machinery are in a very sound and efficient state, and that the refittings and repairs required this winter are of a very trifling character and value; indeed the trials of any succeeding season, have only tended to confirm the first impressions received of her excellent qualities as a seaboat, and her strength and soundness.

CHARLES HENSLEY,
Chairman of the Directors.

Receipts and Expenditures for the Year
1844.

Expenditure for coal, wages, &c.	£2,266 4 1½
Insurance, £100 Halifax cy.	480 0 0
Reserved fund, (for repairs)	480 0 0
Interest on Capital, at 6 per cent.	432 0 0
	£3,558 4 1½
Receipts, exclusive of sums expected from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	2,389 1 6
Deficiency or Loss	£1,169 2 7½

The following Resolutions were then proposed to the Meeting, and unanimously agreed to:—

Moved by George Coles, Esq., seconded by Thomas Petrick, Esq.—

1st Resolved, That the Report now read be adopted, and printed for general information.

Moved by J. D. Hazard, Esq., seconded by Mr. Henry Hazard—

2d. That the Treasurer's Accounts be received and approved.

Moved by Hon. Edward Palmer, seconded by John Longworth, Esq.—

3d. That as it appears, from the report, and from the statement of accounts laid before this Meeting, that the present traffic between the Ports of Pictou, Miramichi and Charlottetown, is barely sufficient to bear the expense of maintaining the St. George upon the station, and is altogether unproductive of profit to the Shareholders, it is

Resolved, That the Directors be empowered whenever favorable opportunity offers, to negotiate her sale upon such equitable terms as a due consideration of all the circumstances may appear advisable to them.

Moved by Mr. Geo. Beer, seconded by Wm. Douse, Esq.—

4. That the thanks of the Meeting be presented to the Directors for their careful management of the affairs of the Company, during the past year.

The following gentlemen were appointed

Auditors, for the ensuing year:—John Longworth Esq., and Mr. Henry Hazard.

A ballot was then held for the election of the Directors who, by rotation go out of office this year, being W. W. Lord, Esq., Hon. T. H. Haviland, and James Peake, Esq. These gentlemen were all re-elected. The thanks of the Meeting were then given to the Chairman, and carried by acclamation. Adjourned.

United States News.

Boston, February 12.—The Western Illinois and Iowa papers of the 14th ult. bring the reports that the party of Mormons who recently left Nauvoo for the purpose of settling in the Pinery, (high up the Mississippi river) have all been murdered! Having got into a dispute at a French trading establishment about the price of some provisions, which they thought exorbitant, they unceremoniously helped themselves to whatever they wanted; which so exasperated the Frenchmen, that they called in the aid of the Indians, and massacred 100 of the Mormon party amounting in all to 300 or 400.

The Bill for the Annexation of Texas had not passed the Senate at the latest dates from Washington. A new Bill on this subject had been introduced by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Polk, the new President, will assume the reins of Government at Washington, on the 4th of March, the accidental administration of Mr. Tyler is therefore rapidly drawing to a close; and the present Congress will terminate on the same day.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The joint resolution for the annexation of Texas, as amended and passed in the Senate yesterday, will be probably taken up and passed in the House to-day; though for such purpose, bills in order must be postponed, and perhaps lost.

The Senate, satisfied with this addition to our already extensive territory, will reject the bill that passed the House for the occupation of Oregon; nor is it probable there will be time to arrange the admission of Iowa and Florida this session. The United States, as a nation, is becoming so popular, and so great is the rush to be enrolled as members of our Union, that some little discretion hereafter should be exercised in the selection of future allies. Mr. Buchanan, on the eve of assuming the seals of the state department, does not wish threatening relations to exist between our country and Great Britain; by his intervention, therefore, and the influence of the Calhoun section of Democracy, the Oregon bill will be strangled in the Senate; and Mr. Buchanan will continue the progress of the amicable negotiations with England for the settlement of the Oregon boundary and jurisdiction, which Mr. Calhoun has commenced. It is fortunate for the country that the ability he brings to the consideration of the question is fully adequate to its satisfactory adjustment; it is equally fortunate for the repose and prosperity of mankind, that this pacific disposition will avoid any unnecessary means of excitement, and labor, in good faith, for the accomplishment of a good end.

The New York Herald gives the following as among the latest on dis. from Washington:—

The information communicated a few days since relative to the *expose* of the negotiation between Santa Anna and the English Government for the purchase of California, is correct in every particular, as our Minister to Mexico, has sent official notice of the fact to the Secretary of State, and the despatches are now before the Senate of the United States.

The yearly notice of abrogation of joint occupation of the Oregon country, will be concurred in by the Senate, but the territorial provisions of the bill will not be adopted.

The Postage Reform Bill, reducing the rates to five cents under 400 miles, and ten cents over, will pass the Senate, and become a law. It is probable the foreign letter reform bill will also be adopted.

Should Congress adopt any decided measure of annexation at the present Congress, the Mexican Minister will immediately demand his passports, and receive them as quick as desired.

The Oregon Negotiation.—We referred yesterday to the favourable account given in a recent message of the President, of the amicable spirit in which this negotiation has been conducted.

Since then we learn, upon authority entitled to the most implicit reliance, that in the event of a failure on the part of the negotiators at Washington, to agree upon