

Communications.

Dear Mr Editor,
Encouraged by the success which attended a former application to you for the redress of a grievance which then existed, we beg leave again to address ourselves to you, indulging the hope that you will, kindly, take up our case, and institute enquiry, or adopt such other mode, as your better judgment may suggest, but would premise, that for pity's sake, you would not suffer our wail to go into the columns of your respected paper in our language, but as we before hinted, adopt your own.

We both, as you would be aware if we ventured to doff our disguise, are house-keepers, and endeavour, to the best of our ability, to keep things in order, and be in time with our domestic matters and arrangements. It so happens as that our husbands are as fond of system and regularity in their domestic arrangements as most of their neighbours; and we, as most females, heads of families of course do, feel very great satisfaction, so far as in our power, in administering to their comfort. They have each, provided us with good time-pieces, which, of course, are very essential in governing our movements; but the difficulty which we present to you, Dear Sir, is as follows:—If we set our watches or clocks, as if to-day, by the watchmaker who governs the steam-mill, shipyard, and foundry bells, altho' perfectly satisfied that our watches and clocks do their duty regularly and faithfully, at the end of a week or ten days, we discover perhaps when our husbands come in to dinner, that all of a sudden, our time-pieces have jumped fifteen or twenty minutes behind the time! We endeavour to set ourselves in order again, and get on comfortably enough for a week or ten days longer, when lo! we discover that all at once, and as if by perfect understanding and mutual consent, our time-pieces have set their brains to work and raised their wicked hands against us, to our utter consternation and discomfiture, in as much as at this time, instead of making a retrograde movement, as on the former occasion, and without our having attempted to touch their regulators or pendulums, from the commencement, they have distanced the bell-regulating watchmaker by fifteen or twenty minutes! If it were only once or twice that our wicked time-pieces played us this kind of trick, it may perhaps be borne with, but so they (?) act from year's end to year's end, creating annoyance and confusion every time they (?) indulge in these pranks. If we form an acquaintance with a shipmaster, who sails with a Chronometer, and regulate by him, it has no effect whatever that would operate favorably for us. The shipmaster and his Chronometer may remain in port for two, three, or four weeks, and our time-pieces keep within a minute or two of the Chronometer, but alas! they cannot, nor will not, keep time with our watch makers here; neither can, nor will the SUN himself. For nearly a year back we have referred to the Almancks, for the rising and setting of the sun; and we have even referred to Mr Charles Peters' sun-dial, than which it is impossible that any thing can be more correct. We can keep time with the one and the other within a minute or two in the week or ten days; but even that is of no use, as our watchmakers declare that they, the Sun, and even Mr Peter's Sun-dial are too lazy and too slow from half an hour to an hour from time to time. Need we say more, Dear Mr Editor? You can readily imagine the dilemma in which we are placed. If the watchmakers would even agree among themselves, it would be some relief, but even that does not appear to be possible, as you never can find them more than a day or two together in their time—in their persons, never. O, Mr Pierce, if you can devise any relief, or any plan which may lead thereto, we shall feel for ever indebted. How do you think it would do to invite both our watchmakers to the Mechanics' Institute? It appears to be a common ground upon which all parties agree, and a vast number of old differences and feuds are fast subsiding among parties who have met upon it. If you think it would have the effect of reconciling our watchmakers in their time, we should not hesitate a moment, if necessary, in paying for a season's ticket for each of them. For they being once reconciled among themselves, may perhaps become reconciled to the old Sun, and even to Mr Peter's Sun-dial; in which case we may be enabled to avail ourselves of a fixed oracle in point of time, by which to regulate our time-pieces, and conse-

quently all our domestic matters and movements, even to the article of our husbands' tempers.

Pray do something for us, dear Mr Pierce and thereby establish us,

Ever yours faithfully,
C. AND E.

Chatham, 25th January, 1847.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1847.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far-spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is not indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for Advertising in the Gleaner, and for Printing, in future, must be accompanied with the CASH, otherwise they will not meet with attention.

JAMES A. PIERCE.

Gleaner Office, October 23, 1846.

NEWCASTLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—The half-yearly Examination of the Grammar School, Newcastle, taught by John Sieve-wright, A. M., took place on Friday, the 22nd January, in presence of the Trustees, and a number of the parents and friends of the pupils. The various exercises in English Reading and Spelling, English Grammar, History, and Geography, were gone through with much credit, and the numerous questions proposed to them on these various branches, were answered with great readiness and accuracy. The writing books exhibited by the pupils, gave great satisfaction on account of their neatness and cleanliness. In the various rules of Arithmetic and Mensuration, a number of questions were solved with great expedition and correctness. Two classes of Latin scholars were examined, who were found well grounded in the principles of the language, and who, by the progress they had made, proved that great attention had been devoted to this department of study. The whole exhibition was very gratifying to the Trustees and visitors, and showed that the high character attained by this school is still amply sustained.—Communicated.

NOVASCOTIA.—The Legislature of this Province was opened with unusual pomp and ceremony, on the 21st instant. The Speech of Sir John Harvey is rather lengthy for such a document, and we copy below a portion of it, which embraces all the subjects of general interest on which it treats:—

"I am happy in being enabled to offer you my congratulations upon the state of the Provincial Revenues, arising as well from Colonial Imposts and Imperial Duties as from the increased and increasing value of the Crown Estate—a source of public income which, if wisely secured to the Provincial control, must I conceive, have the effect, at no remote period, of placing the resources of Nova Scotia upon the most satisfactory footing as respects the future, and enable the Province at once to relieve itself from all claims as regards the past.

"On this important subject I am happy to inform you that I am authorised by Her Majesty to tender to you a distinct proposition which shall be communicated to you by Message, and I shall be happy to enter into full communications with you upon it whenever you may be prepared to engage in them. It will be seen that the proposition for the surrender to the Colony of the Revenues of the Crown in exchange for a Civil List, is based upon proposals in which leading individuals of both parties in this Assembly formerly concurred.

"I have directed that a detailed account of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Colonial Revenues, from whatever source derived, be laid before you; and I entertain no doubt that suitable provision will be made by you for the demands of the public service. I avail myself of this occasion to inform you that, owing to the circumstances connected with the partial failure of the potato crop in certain parts of the province, I have felt it to consist with my duty, as well towards the sufferers as yourselves, to assume the responsibility of administering such relief to these sufferers from this cause, as well settlers as Indians, as appeared to me to be called for by the reports laid before me, and as I believed that you would have offered if in Session; it will rest with you to relieve me from the responsibility (if you should see fit to do so) which I have not hesitated in assuming, after the examination of the papers which will be laid before you.

"The period at, and the circumstances under,

which we meet, afford me the opportunity of recommending to your continued attention an undertaking second in its importance to none which has ever engaged the notice of any Colonial Legislature in any portion of the British Dominions. I allude to the projected Railroad between Halifax and Quebec, which will constitute the most important link in that great line of communication which may be destined at no remote period to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific Ocean, and to conduct to a British Seaport from those into which it is now forced, the vast stream of trade, not of our own Western Possessions alone, but of the rich and extensive Wheat and Grain growing districts of all central America.

"This view of the incalculable advantages which the completion of this great work would confer on the British North American Colonies, and perhaps more especially upon this, its natural Atlantic terminus,—this consideration alone should call forth our gratitude for the promptitude with which our appeal to the Home Government was met, on this all important topic.

"With respect to the survey, which, in compliance with your request in the last Session, has been commenced by order of Her Majesty, for ascertaining the best line through which to carry the projected Railroad, although it may have unavoidably experienced some temporary interruption, from the unfortunate loss of one of the distinguished officers to whose superintendance it was confided, I am nevertheless enabled to inform you that it is proceeding energetically, and that the operations will be renewed as soon as the season will permit.

"In reference to this subject extracts of several despatches from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State will be laid before you, as well as the copy of one from the Right Honourable the Earl of Cathcart, respecting the prolongation to this place of a line of Electric Telegraphic communication, now understood to be in actual operation in Canada from Toronto westward,—and although this is a project which would appear to connect itself with individual enterprise, in which I am convinced the mercantile community of this city will evince no reluctance to engage, I should be happy nevertheless to receive and to communicate to the Governor General, any expression of your views on the subject."

Despatches in reference to the Newfoundland fire, the Coal Mines, Test Oaths, Copyright, the Cape Breton question, the Assembly Library, the proposed Railroad to connect Halifax and Quebec, and the Telegraphic line, were laid before the House. The Times says—

"It is rumoured that the British Government have determined on the prosecution of the Great Railroad—that some changes relative to the Post Office of an important nature will be submitted—and that there is a proposition to be made relative to a union of the Customs and Excise."

Last week we hurriedly noticed that Lord Elgin, Governor General of British North America, came passenger in the Hibernia. The Times thus notices his reception in the city—

"His Excellency was immediately waited upon by the Lieutenant Governor, and landing from the steamer, was received by a Guard of Honor, and by a salute of Artillery, and the acclamations of a crowd of spectators. His Excellency seemed gratified with his reception. He was conveyed to Government House in the carriage of the Hon. Sir Rupert D. George, and escorted along Water street by a number of vehicles filled with Officers of the army and gentlemen of the city. At 4 o'clock the Legislative Council and House of Assembly proceeded to Government House to present addresses to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in answer to the opening speech, and addresses of congratulation to his Excellency the Governor General, upon his safe arrival."

The Recorder gives the following brief remarks on his personal appearance:—

"His Lordship, we may as well say in passing, is a middle sized, dignified personage, probably some five feet seven in height, rather inclined to corpulency, apparently under 46 years of age, and getting considerably grey. His countenance beams with intelligence and firmness, and he evidently enjoyed the scene to which he had been suddenly and unexpectedly introduced."

His Excellency stated that it was his intention to have stopped in Halifax a few days, and to have proceeded to Montreal by way of New Brunswick, but the long and rough voyage, and the state of the roads, had led him to determine to take the most direct route.

The following is the concluding paragraph of an Editorial in the Halifax Sun. By it our readers will perceive, what we long ago expected, that Sir John Harvey is not likely to give satisfaction to the Liberals of Nova Scotia; and that the high expectations they entertained of his governing the Province in accordance with their views, is not likely to be carried out by him:—

"His Excellency, in meeting the Assembly with the fragmentary council of his petulant predecessor, not only gives credence to, but lends us to believe, that he approves of the policy pursued by Lord Falkland. We pray we may be mistaken, but combining circumstances lead us to conclude, however reluctantly—first, that Sir John Harvey has entirely placed himself in the hands, and at the mercy, of his present Executive advisers,—and next, that in his government of Nova Scotia, he will decidedly and signally fail; and chiefly, because he lacks that decision and firmness which is so essential a quality for success in the government of a spirited and intelligent people. Time will tell whether we are right or wrong in our conclusions. The remedy lies in the hands of the people. We fear not their decision. They will be true;—and as they will—so shall the country be GOVERNED."

STATE OF IRELAND.—The Halifax Times contains the following extract of a Letter received from this distressed country by the last steamer:—

Extract of a Letter from Kilkenny, dated December 30th:—"This and the adjoining counties are in a very agitated state. Wretchedness and want are depicted on every countenance. The people half clad, discontented and starving, are very rebellious, and the cry of work or bread is daily heard in the streets. Outrages of every kind are perpetrated nightly by the Rockites, or White Boys as they are here called, and seldom are they discovered. The demand for firearms among the peasantry is increasing to a frightful extent; every man now has his gun, and they are all privately drilled by night. What may be the end of this God only knows, but the government seem aware of the fact, and regiment after regiment is poured in on the country. Provisions of every kind are frightfully dear, and bags of flour, in their transit from one town to another, are obliged to be escorted by police or soldiers. There was a disturbance here about three weeks ago, upon which occasion the mob seized three carts laden with corn, broke open all the bread and provision shops, smashed the doors and windows, showered stones at the police, and were very riotous—a regiment stationed here was called out, and after enduring much insult, were obliged to charge through the streets, and force the people out of the town at the point of the bayonet."

MORE STEAM.—The Halifax Morning Post, upon what authority it does not say, states that a new steamboat has been purchased in Britain to ply between this port, Charlottetown and Pictou. We trust this information may prove correct.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Her Majesty has appointed Sir J. G. LeMarchant, Knt., Lieutenant Colonel in the army, to be Governor and Commander in Chief in and over this Island and its dependencies.

BRITISH NEWS.—The January mail was brought out to Halifax in the Hibernia, which vessel arrived at that port on Friday week, after a protracted and boisterous passage of 17 days. She had on board 110 passengers, and specie to the amount of half a million sterling, to purchase provisions in the United States. The missing portion of our mail came to hand on Friday night, having, we understand, unnecessarily performed a journey to Saint John.

After a very careful perusal of our British files, which are to the 5th of the month, we perceive but little of consequence in addition to the intelligence furnished by the extracts in our last week's paper. To-day we make some further selections, which will be found under the proper head.

COUNTY RESTIGOUCHE.—To the attention of our Agent in this County, Dugald Stewart, Esq, we are indebted for a copy of the Seventh Annual Report of the Restigouche Agricultural Society. This interesting document we shall publish in our paper of Tuesday next.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER TRADE.—Willmer and Smith in their European Times of the 5th January, gives the following discouraging remarks on the prices of our staple commodity in that market:—

"The Inhabitants of Canada, who are much interested in the Timber Trade, will expect that allusion should be made to that branch of business. We are sorry that it is not in our power to report more favorably of the trade during the month. The arrivals since our last publication have been of an unusual extent. This has had the effect of checking the former buoyancy of the market. Prices, under such circumstances, have declined; nor is there, at present, any expectation that they will regain their former extent for some time to come."