

cinders, charcoal, lime, soot, &c. to increase their growth; these are often beneficial in moderate quantities, and occasionally eminently so in certain conditions of the tree or soil; but the treatment which is most strikingly beneficial, and in the greatest number of cases, is to make the soil deep and rich, and to keep it clean and mellow by constant cultivation. Hence the selection of stony ground or side hills is bad policy.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

St. John New Brunswick, Aug. 19. Magnetic Telegraph.—A meeting was held at St. Andrews on Saturday last, for the purpose of raising funds to establish a depot at that place of the line of Telegraph about to be erected from Halifax through this province. L. R. Darrow, Esq., of New York, the agent of the enterprise was present, and gave some information respecting the proposed line.—He stated that the Government of Nova Scotia, which have taken into their own hands the construction of Telegraphic lines through the province, had secured to the Company the exclusive use of one wire, and that as the Stock for the line through to Calais was already nearly all taken up, all that remained to dispose of was the Stock from Calais to the Nova Scotia line. On this line, he estimated the distance through New Brunswick at 240 miles, and the cost at \$150 per mile, or a total cost of \$36,000. The proportion called for from St. Andrews is £1000. A Committee was appointed at the meeting to procure subscriptions.

Fredericton Reporter, Aug. 25.

The last heavy rain and cold weather have made a remarkable change in the Potato fields throughout this part of the country. In some instances where the vines were nearly destroyed by the previous intense heat, they are now shooting out a vigorous aftergrowth, thus plainly proving, that the failure in the present year, is not a recurrence of the old rot, but a circumstance resulting from an apparent cause.

St. John Observer, August 22.

Great Storm and destruction of Property.—On Friday last we experienced a very heavy storm of rain, which, in the evening was accompanied by a strong gale of wind from the north east. The wind continued to blow with great violence until Sunday night. We have heard of no extensive damage having been sustained in this city or vicinity, but learn that in some sections of the province the destruction of property has been very great, particularly between this and the Bend of Pettitcodiac. The effects of the storm will be a serious loss to many of the farmers, who had their hay remaining out, particularly on the marshes between Hampton and the Valley, which were completely flooded and where there are hundreds of tons of hay lost. The River Pettitcodiac had risen higher on Saturday last, than had been remembered for many years, and considerable quantities of timber were drifting down the current. Many of the smaller bridges between Hampton and the Bend were so damaged by the streams as to render them impassable for a few days, until the necessary repairs can be made.

There are likewise, we learn, a great rise of water on the river St. John, and all the tributary streams, caused by the heavy rains of last week, and it is feared that much damage has also been done to the crops of the middle and upper sections of the province. The wind still continues from N. E. with appearance of more rain and chilly for the season.

Fredericton, Head Quarters Aug. 23.

Fire at Mount Hope.—On Sunday last, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock, a most destructive fire broke out at Mount Hope, situated on the Pennyack stream, and distant about nine miles from Fredericton, by which the whole of the fine new buildings recently erected for a country residence, by Oliver Smith, Esq., merchant in this City, were consumed with their contents. It appears that the fire originated in an upper apartment usually occupied as a sleeping room for the men servants belonging to the establishment, and it is strongly suspected that the accident occurred from parties using tobacco pipes in that apartment, in the early part of the forenoon. So sudden was the bursting out of the flames that the whole of the costly furniture in the dwelling house, including a valuable library, with the exception of a portrait of the proprietor, and another of

his late wife, was consumed: these the old housekeeper seized and carried out, when retreating before the flames. Every implement of husbandry, as well as carriages and harness, were also destroyed, and one horse and a number of pigs shared the same fate; another horse was rescued after being much injured by the flames. We are informed that not a single vestige, unless the ashes of this tastefully fitted up establishment, in which its owner took great delight, now remains, and that the loss cannot be less than £1500, and no insurance. It is probable, however, that the much respected owner will never know of the loss of his fine property, as he now lies at his town residence in a state of which forbids any such communication being made to him at present, and there is not we believe, the most remote hope of his recovery.

Canada.

Quebec Gazette, Aug. 19.

The Montreal Gazette of yesterday mentions the currency of rumours in that city, to the effect that the Montreal Rifles, or Light Infantry, had volunteered or would be called out for active service. It is likewise generally believed, that His Excellency has formally signified to the Executive Council his having demanded his recall, one principal cause of this event being the continued ill health of his amiable countess. The same paper says.

It is also rumoured that Mr Francis Hincks, the honourable and sweet-tempered, has received an intimation, that either the tone of the Pilot in reference to Irish affairs must be altered, and encouragement of and dallying with treason abandoned, or he must quit the council; while others say that one and all have combined to give his 'walking ticket' to a minister whose evil destiny it seems to be to make nothing but mischief.

Quebec Chronicle, Aug. 21.

A schooner arrived on Saturday last, brought information of the wreck of the brig *Lady Cremorne*, from Gibraltar, off Gaspe. She had on board the baggage of the 79th Highlanders, part of which, we learn, was brought up in the schooner.

Novascotia.

Eastern Chronicle, July 27.

The Crops—Up to the present time the crops in this County have had a very fine appearance. Haying has been partially commenced and the yield promises to be large. The wheat crop has so far looked well; but we are informed that in the fields farthest advanced the weevil has already been destructive, so as to leave no room to doubt, the deficiency of the crop from this cause, will be much greater than in former year. The potatoes, however appear well, and there is at present no appearance of a return of the blight which has destroyed them in past years.

United States News.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad.—Matters are getting in good order and trim on this road, and by the 20th, the time fixed upon for the regular trips to North Yarmouth, it will be in good working order. Quite a large company of ladies and gentlemen, nearly filling the two passenger cars now upon the track, took a trip out some eight miles and back in the early part of last evening and were highly gratified with the excursion. Among the company we were happy to meet with one of the early friends of the enterprise and from the Canadian end of the line, Mr. Penoyer, of Sherbrooke, who, it will be recollected, was here in the winter of 1845, on business connected with the road, and was enthusiastically received at the meeting of our citizens which he addressed at the time.

The grading and bridging are nearly completed to Danville, sixteen miles beyond North Yarmouth, being twenty-seven miles from Portland. This part will be opened as fast as iron can be laid. The work is also in an advanced state to a point above Mechanic Falls, forty miles distant from Portland. The iron is contracted for as far as Mechanic Falls. Three cargoes of iron have been delivered, and a fourth is on the way.

The work is under contract to South Paris in Oxford county. The whole road can be opened to the borders of that county within the present year.

Upon the completion of the road to Paris, it will attract, besides the local

travel, a large amount of travel and business from the northern parts of New Hampshire and Vermont.—*Portland paper.*

Communications.

Mr. Pierce,

Sir,—When any body of men make choice of a few of their number, to act for them in the capacity of Directors or Trustees, I consider it is the duty of that body, to assist their friends thus chosen, in every reasonable way they can. Acting upon this principle, and without the least consideration, I paid my shares in the Steam Ferry-boat Company without a grumble. Nevertheless I must confess that I now view the treatment which your correspondent of last week, and such as he, have met with from the directors, as extremely harsh, nay, I had almost said as unjust, and unwarranted, owing to the directors of the Company having neglected to submit—or rather, perhaps, having resolved to withhold—any statement of their proceedings, both as regards money matters, and the management of the whole affairs of the company, shareholders have been kept totally in the dark respecting the whole affair. It was owing to this singular circumstance, that many of the most influential of the shareholders—men, who had the success of the speculation—I am convinced as deeply at heart as any in the community—deemed it their wisest policy to withhold the balance due by them, until the Trustees should afford them an opportunity to ascertain—among other things—what had become of the large sums of money already paid: that opportunity has never been given them! and what is the consequence? Why, the injured party being no longer shareholders, are debarred from ever having an opportunity to appeal to their fellow shareholders at any meeting that may hereafter be called, or of casting in the weight of their own votes, while the interesting question is being decided as to whether they have or have not—under the peculiar circumstances of the case, forfeit their share by the step they have taken. Who will deny that this is harsh sort of treatment?

It will not be denied that the principal motive which induced our merchants, mechanics and others, to take Stock in the Steam Boat speculation, was not the hope of gain, but purely a desire to promote the welfare of the place. Now, if this be true, I trust I will not be deemed impertinent, if I take the liberty to ask the Trustees one or two questions in addition to those put by your correspondent last week.

1st—Why was not the building of the Boat offered to public competition? Is not this the invariable practice adopted by all disinterested persons in like circumstances? Had this been done, it would be folly to deny, that many in this community, far better qualified than he who did contract—would have gladly competed for the job—a superior vessel would have been built, and the money of the shareholders would have been expended and circulated in the community.

2nd—In like manner I ask, Why was not the contract for the machinery of the Boat advertised? I have ascertained from the best authority, that without much difficulty it could have been cast at the Chatham foundry. Then, surely by giving the foundry of this town the advantage of the cost of carriage from Fredericton to Chatham (a pretty considerable item I guess), the castings could have been obtained for less money than they have been, and if I am correctly informed, they would have proved of superior quality to those imported. Worse they could hardly be: besides what will be done for patterns or moulds on occasions of breaks or accidents? why the old patterns being pinned at Fredericton, new ones must be made, and the cost and loss of time required for this purpose will prove no joke, or I am mistaken.

3d—A great deal of work has been done to the steamer, by job and day's work. Now, Mr Daniel Crimen, blacksmith, and Mr Charles Carter, carpenter, are both excellent workmen, and both shareholders: why were these men not employed? were they not, I ask, as part owners of the boat, justly intitled to a preference? I say they were. Having said much more than I intended when I began, I shall conclude at present, by suggesting that a meeting of the steam-boat company be called forthwith by request of shareholders; this, I believe they can do constitutionally, in order that the Trustees be required (better late than never) to submit a report of their payings and doings, ever since their appointment to office: that the important question be settled, as to whether the shares exposed at public auction, have been legally

transferred from the original holders to purchasers; and that the whole business may be brought to a final, and if possible, an amicable adjustment,

A SHAREHOLDER.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Mail Steamer Britannia arrived at Halifax, on the evening of Thursday last. Below we give a summary of the leading items of news, copied principally from Willmer & Smith's European Times of the 12th August.

The incident connected with the political drama which has been in course of performance in Ireland for some time past are this week highly important and interesting. Mr. Smith O'Brien, the chief of the rebellious Confederates, has been captured. A railway guard at Thurles, on Saturday last, spied the valuable prize, just as Mr. O'Brien was about to start for Limerick, arrested him, called the police to his assistance, and in a couple of hours the accused was, by special express engine, on his way to Dublin. Mr. O'Brien is confined in Kilmainham, charged with the crime of high treason, the penalty of which is death. We have given in our compendium of Irish news ample details respecting his arrest and imprisonment. For the first day he was kept in close confinement, but subsequently his wife, uncle, and brother were permitted to see and converse with him. He is represented as being fully resigned to his fate, be it transportation or death, and that, regardless of his own safety, he expresses much concern for that portion of his unfortunate and ill-guided followers who have been arrested and charged with treason for attacking the police at Ballingarry.

Various rumours are afloat respecting the other chieftains—Meagher, Doheny, and Dillon. The report that any of them has succeeded in escaping is now credited. They are supposed to be wandering about the mountains in the south of Ireland; and as an evidence of the correctness of this supposition, they have made qualified submission to the Lord Lieutenant, through a Roman Catholic clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Mackay, of Connally, in which the offer to surrender if none of the state prisoners charged with high treason shall, in the event of conviction, be put to death. From the past conduct of his Excellency it is almost certain he will repel the proposal of binding the Government to any course of action with respect to all or any of the persons found in open rebellion against the Crown and Government of the country.

Mr. O'Gorman, junior, is said to be heading a party of desperate characters in Abeyfeale, county Limerick. The authorities at Dublin Castle have issued a proclamation, offering a reward of £300 for his apprehension. It is similar in its phraseology to that issued against Mr O'Brien.

A successful attack was made on the mail which runs from Tralee to Limerick, on the 5th inst. The mail-bags were carried off, and an unfortunate policeman whose general appearance and demeanour stamped him as a detective, was seized tied hand and foot, carried up to the mountains, and robbed of some money. Several warrants which he had on his person were captured and torn to pieces. A similar attack was made on the Cork mail by an armed force of 150 men; but the bold front assumed by the guard, who presented his blunderbuss, daunted the insurgents, and they permitted the coach to pass on. The executive authorities are as active as ever in arresting suspicious persons. Since our last publication a number has taken place; whilst a great many warrants are still unexecuted, and in the hands of the police.

The anxiety which prevails respecting the onward progress of the revolution in France is still deep and abiding. Although General Cavaignac

Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been
So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Plead like angels.

With the French people, nevertheless a half-smothered rebellion is gathering strength amongst the Red Republicans; whilst the moderate party whose experienced leader, M. Thiers, the hand of the assassin has aimed at, are gaining in strength and intend hold the power at any moment of overthrowing General Cavaignac and both the other sections of the National Assembly. It is difficult to conceive in what way General Cavaignac can maintain himself, unless by an