

sterling character—one who thinks for himself, and speaks what he thinks—is always sure to have enemies. They are as necessary to him as fresh air; they keep him alive and active. A celebrated character, who was surrounded with enemies used to remark:—“They are sparks which if you do not blow, will go out of themselves.” Let this be your feeling while endeavoring to live down the scandal of those who are bitter against you. If you stop to dispute, you do but as they desire, and open the way for more abuse. Let the poor fellows talk; there will be a reaction if you do but your duty, and hundreds who were once alienated to you will flock to you and acknowledge their error.

Communications.

WESLEYAN MISSIONS.

Mr Editor,

I was much pleased to see a few lines relative to a Wesleyan Missionary Meeting at Newcastle, in your valuable periodical of last week. I fully expected to have had the pleasure of perusing some account of similar meetings held at Chatham and Upper Nelson, on the evenings of the fifth and seventh instant, from some more able pen than my own. Like many others, I am quite aware of my own deficiency, and therefore unwilling to expose myself to the remarks of those disposed to criticise. However, as I think the occasion merits some notice, I will proceed to employ an inferior pen, remembering the old adage of “better late than never.”

The object of the Wesleyan Missionary Society is, to unite or combine the exertions of the Societies and congregations of the Wesleyan Methodists, and of others who are friends to the conversion of the heathen world; and I may here with pleasure observe, that many kind friends of other churches, contribute towards the annually collected fund.

The meetings held in Chatham and Upper Nelson were in furtherance of this great Christian enterprise; in the former place the chair was occupied by J. A. Pierce, Esq., and in the latter by David Crocker, Esq.; the addresses delivered on both occasions by the several ministers and friends, were much to the purpose, and characterised by that energy, which an heartfelt interest in his subject is ever ready to impart to the speaker. At the close of each meeting collections were taken upon behalf of the Wesleyan Missionary Society. The amount contributed on each occasion was more than anticipated. Chatham contributed its quantum in this good cause, and Nelson exceeded last year. Too much cannot be said in praise of those ladies, who exert themselves year after year, in procuring subscriptions for the foreign missions, and it is to be hoped that they will use their utmost exertions during the present year, in the promotion of the same laudable cause. It is also a pleasing sight to behold even children endeavoring to collect their mites to cast into the same treasury.

C. C. P.

STATE OF THE INDIANS.

Mr. Editor,

There is scarcely a benevolent or well-meaning person in this community, who does not feel a deep sympathy for the poor Indians, who are now suffering very much from the Small Pox, and many are dying from its effects, and the want of care, food, and clothing; and it is impossible for them, under those circumstances, to keep their bodies either in a clean, warm or healthy condition, hence they are always the first victims of every sickness of this description. The destruction this malignant disease makes among them, strikes terror into the minds of the most timorous, and the result is, that when any of them takes this disorder, their relations and friends, mostly fly from the camp in which they are, for the purpose of saving their own lives, and leave the unhappy patient to suffer and die, mainly from the want of proper attendance. The Indians say themselves, that the most of them die from starvation, and we have good reasons to believe them, as those few who attend upon the sick will have but little time for making anything they can sell; and on the other hand, they can get but little when begging, as persons are afraid to let them into their houses, lest they should bring the sickness unto their families.

It is a fearful thing, Mr. Editor, to see human beings dying in this manner in a Christian country, and especially when there is abundance of food in the country, and the people are not ignorant of the Indians being in this wretched condition. We see the public authorities providing for and attending upon sick passengers; but these poor Indians, who live among us, who deal with us, and who are good and faithful subjects, are allowed to suffer with hunger. It is melancholy to hear of the lower animals, suffering in this manner, and are these poor unfortunate creatures to be left in this condition until the warm weather comes, which is fast approaching; if they are, it is likely that there will be but few of them who will

escape destruction. Is the County unable to afford them any assistance in the same manner in which it affords assistance to others who are in similar distress. Can there be no subscriptions made for them. A very small amount given in time would be the means of banishing the sickness from their tribe. If there could be food and clothing to the value of even ten or fifteen pounds sent to the camps in which the sickness is, and if there were one or two persons appointed for the purpose of distributing any articles among them, it would probably be the means of saving the lives of those that are now sick, and if a Doctor could be employed for the purpose of vaccinating those who have not taken the disease, it would prevent its spreading among them.

But some persons will say, that the Indians themselves are to be blamed for not cultivating their lands and improving themselves like other people, and that they now suffer just punishment for their neglect. But those arguments are only brought forward by persons whose animal feelings are much greater than their reason. They do not consider that nature has not bestowed on the Indian the capabilities sufficient to enable them to traffic, or for studying the arts and sciences, like the Europeans. In the whole Micmac tribe we do not believe there is a single merchant, clergyman, or philosopher—still they appear to be possessed of a great deal of ambition, but for the want of natural capabilities they are unable to rise in society. But Nature, which always acts well her part, placed the ancestors of those Indians in the almost boundless forests of this country, supplied them with abundance of game, and made their rivers to abound with fish. When in this condition, they could shoot the moose with their arrows from their wigwam doors; they could catch as much fish as they wanted at the river side; they could satisfy their hunger then at pleasure; but those days are now past and gone; the white man came and took possession of their country, frightened and destroyed their game, spoiled their fisheries, and drove them from the shores, and ploughed up the surface under which the bones of their ancestors were buried: so that now we see the Indian suffering the torturing pain of sickness brought upon him by the white man.

This is a heart-rending and melancholy circumstance to them. If we were to see a man of great physical strength and mental energy entering the house of another, whose family was large but inferior to this monster of strength and abilities; were he to take this family by violence, and cast them out of possession; were he likewise to bring sickness among them, which would cut them down in great numbers; and he was then to see those unfortunate beings dying for want, and he himself enjoying their just rights and means of subsistence, surely he must be a hard-hearted, cruel and selfish man, if he would not afford them some trifling relief.

We may speak of the natives of Mexico being murdered by the Spaniards, for the sake of their gold mines, but we can here see the Indians in Miramichi dying on account of their being deprived of their fisheries, and many other means of subsistence which nature has provided for them. But we may rest assured, that the God which heard the cries of the Mexicans, and whose law is now punishing Spain, will hear the cries of the Micmac.

A FRIEND TO THE INDIANS.

Douglstown, February 19.

[The above communication was received too late for publication last Tuesday.]

AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF GASPE.

The following quotation is in the proverbs of Solomon, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart therefrom.” Upwards of two thousand years this Proverb has been handed down through successive generations; its truth has been attested in every age, and the world will feel its happy influence to the consummation of time. It embraces the whole moral duty of parents to their children, and according to the manner and degree in which it is directed, so will its influence be felt. My business at present is, to apply it to the important object—the Education of Youth. It is universally acknowledged that the moral and physical strength of a nation, rests upon this noble principle. Hence, it follows in order that its efficacy may be experienced, that it descend into all the subordinate circles; to the fireside of the humble cottager, as well as the gilded halls of the great. To rid the mind of its native rubbish, is to prepare it to associate with objects sublimely great, and (if I may say) sublimely small—from the glow-worm that crawls in the evening path, to the blazing comet, which seems to be launched upon the bosom of creation in wild disorder. Not only parents, but every individual of Society is bound to aid and support whatever contributes to the public weal. I now beg the question: do you, parents and others concerned, consider that you have acted in the line of duty by prostrating your schools, and allowing your children that undue license in matters and manners, which must more or less affect the harvest of life? Be assured their coming years will not exhibit a blank. The future will hold forth to view, the wisdom or the folly you may have exerted. Be not indifferent when I say it is very important, that you now lay your plans upon a foundation that will ensure success. And how will you better accomplish the object than to re-establish your schools? Not, however, as you have incautiously done, but upon a basis more decidedly your own. The mode in which you have sifted out the Govern-

ment allowance, has thwarted your plans—a circumstance too evident to require explanation. The great working point rests with yourselves; and as you exert your means so will you advance your object. I make not the least doubt but you all hope it will be in your power to bequeath something to your offspring that will ease their burdens of life, and enhance its blessings. Now the question arises, “what are the blessings of life?” Were I to say they consist in a well ordered mind, would you be disposed to cavil with me, and cast my text into the shade?

The world is becoming one concentrated Theatre; in the midst of it the tree of knowledge is taking deep root; its fruit is accommodating itself to every palate, and its branches are extending to the rising and to the going down of the sun. Shall we, then, who possess the power of doing so much good, suffer our offspring to wither under its very shade, and drag out an existence as little to the purpose, as if they were not endowed with human capacities? Love is said to be the fulfilment of the divine law, but that love is not intended to be bestowed upon the brute animal, nor upon the rich garniture of the earth. It breathes universal philanthropy to mankind, but more particularly to those of our own household, who will one day balance our actions. The child that in after years, is to rise up and bless us, must now share our love in this important work. This pinfold, the abode of much superstition and ignorance, should long ere this have given place to that more ample field for which, nature and nature's God have designed us. But notwithstanding the past has fled for ever, we are encouraged to hope that it is not too late to do good. We may yet lay a foundation, and our sons, although they will wish that their fathers had been more wise, may rear a superstructure upon it, that will do honor to posterity.

A TEACHER.

Gaspe, Jany. 1849.

[The above article was sent to R. W. Kelly, Esq., the manufacturer of the Gaspe Gazette, for insertion, but by some strange transmutation or twirling of his machinery, it was wrought into that tasty and fashionable material which is to be found in his paper of the 4th January, 1849, signed “A Teacher,” comparing man, without education to the brute creation, and that nine tenths of the inhabitants of Gaspe, are not able to sign their own names to a petition. I must say the latter is very false, and the former shows both the want of good breeding and education in the writer.]

COUNTY GLOUCESTER.

Bathurst, February 20, 1849.

James A. Pierce, Esq.

Dear Sir—My attention has lately been called to that part of the letter of your Frederickton Correspondent, wherein he asks you whether the Bathurst Address, lately said to have been presented to Mr. End, and published in the Gleaner, “is not a hoax.”

I did not observe that you had satisfied your correspondent's inquiry; probably it was on account of your inability to do so, and although Editors are supposed to know everything, you may in this instance, and without laying yourself open to the charge of ignorance, very reasonably have been at fault: the fact is, I suppose, that you had some slight suspicion that it was what your Correspondent seems to think it “a hoax,” and as Editors we know, do not like to have such jokes played off upon them, you very wisely and discreetly, maintained a prudent reserve; but I do really wish you would, (if you can) enlighten your Correspondent, and then I and others in this quarter, from whence the Address is said to have emanated, who are as much in the dark as he is, will have a little light thrown upon what is now enveloped in obscurity.

Yours,

Y.

[Our Correspondent will find the information he is desirous of obtaining, in the letter of Mr. Hickson, inserted below.] Ed. Gleaner.

Bathurst, 21st February, 1849.

MR. PIERCE,

In reference to an enquiry of your Frederickton correspondent, touching the address presented to Mr. End, by his constituents—I offer you the following information, with a view to afford you every satisfaction, but not to gratify the envious curiosity of unknown scribblers.

The address presented to Mr. End, and published by you, was prepared by me, without the knowledge of Mr. E. It had over one thousand and short of eleven hundred bona fide signatures appended to it, and the extremely cold weather presented the only difficulty to doubling the number. Neither official nor ledger influences were used in the matter, but the whole thing was conceived, conducted and completed, by that class of persons who pretend to no such influences, namely, by plain, honest, but independent tradesmen, farmers, and shopkeepers.

The deputation that waited on Mr. End with this deserved Testimonial, was composed of Messrs. John T. Carter, John Brown, John Meahan, John McLea, John Dunn, John Donnelly, John Henry, myself and others.

Perhaps neither in Gloucester nor in many other counties was there ever such an opportunity afforded for a few voluntary and spontaneous expressions of sincere feeling. Indeed before the influential (so called) were aware that such an intention was abroad, the object was nearly completed, and thus doubtless a few—a very few, beside the individual himself principally concerned, were taken by surprise. This, Mr. Pierce, ought to satisfy any reason-

able man, as to the genuine character of the document; while the comments of the envious and malicious, deserve only to be consigned to the ignominy of the silence of Mr. End and his legion of ardent supporters.

I am, Sir, your obliged Servant,
ROBERT P. HICKSON.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, FEB. 27, 1849.

☞ 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.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Steamer Europa arrived at Halifax about 4 o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday last, in a fine passage of little less than 11 days. The news from Britain is very satisfactory—trade was rapidly reviving. Parliament was opened by the Queen in person on the 1st instant—the Speech we shall publish next week. We refer our readers to the numerous extracts we have given elsewhere for particulars.

COUNTY OF RESTIGOUCHE.

At a public meeting of the inhabitants of the county of Restigouche, duly called by the High Sheriff, held in the Court House, at Dalhousie, on Tuesday, the 19th February, 1849, to take into consideration the subject of the proposed Railroad and Telegraph, from Halifax to Quebec. In the absence of the High Sheriff, Hugh Montgomery, Esq. being called to the chair, and Mr. D. Ferguson requested to act as Secretary, the following Resolutions were proposed and unanimously approved of, viz:

Resolved—That the province of New Brunswick, having a fertile soil, fine climate, boundless forests, noble rivers, inexhaustible fields of mines, and shores abounding with fish, require only population, capital, and enterprise, to make it one of the most prosperous, wealthy and important colonies of the British Empire.

Resolved—that as nothing tends more to the rapid development of the resources of nations, and the increase of their wealth and population than facility of communication, it is of the utmost importance, politically, socially and commercially, to this and the adjoining provinces, that the Halifax and Quebec Railroad be carried into immediate execution.

Resolved—That judging from the universal effects of railroads in other countries, nothing could tend more to advance the general prosperity of these provinces, cement their union, and preserve their integrity, as integral parts of the British empire, than the speedy completion of this important undertaking.

Resolved—That the immediate and ultimate effect of the construction of the Halifax and Quebec Railroad, will be to develop our provincial resources, settle and cultivate our wilderness lands, enhance the value of real estate, establish a valuable shore and deep sea fishery, and by ensuring prosperity, increase the trade, population and revenues of the province.

Resolved—That this meeting strongly urges upon the proprietors of land in this county, to grant a free right of way where such may be required; and that the Legislature should provide for an equitable proportion of the expense, and also authorize the executive to grant a free right of way, and adopt such other prudent measures as may be necessary to ensure its speedy completion.

Resolved—That the Legislature should authorize the continuance and completion of the Quebec and Halifax line of Telegraph (second in importance to the Railroad only) and that the route prescribed by law should be altered, and a direct right of road granted, by Restigouche and the Bond of Peticodiac, which will not only secure a less expensive route, but also add to its general utility.

Resolved—That copies of the above resolutions be transmitted to our Representatives, with the request, that they will advocate them to the fullest extent of their power; and that copies be also sent to the Gleaner and Head Quarters newspapers for publication.

HUGH MONTGOMERY.

The Chairman having left the chair, and Alexander Campbell, Esq. being called thereto, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to Hugh Montgomery, Esq., for his efficient and impartial conduct in the chair.

D. FERGUSON, Secy.

The above meeting, which was numerously attended, was addressed by several of the most influential gentlemen of the county; and the unanimity and enthusiasm displayed on the occasion, were worthy of the important undertakings which all have so much at heart.