

and new prospects. However dark the present may seem, there is a ray of sunshine glimmering through the future. On what do we base our hopes? Simply on this circumstance—the British Government are busy; by them old systems are being revolutionised, and the colonies form no inconsiderable share of ministerial attention. In less than another twelvemonth, we shall hear of railroads actually being commenced in right good earnest (without reference to the St. Andrews' affair) and the idle population of the mother country, of this, in full employment upon the public works in the colonies. The darkest hour is disappearing. Daylight is approaching—and believe it. There are other reasons too, which will suggest themselves, no doubt, to many of our readers, why our hopes should be cheered, and our faith reconciled to the future, and its developments. As far as our individual interests are concerned, we do not despair; and yet those interests are the interests of all—interests that must suffer in common with the interests of others; and which only can be benefited when trade is in a healthy state. When we speak of interests, then our reference is chiefly to prospects—and we again pronounce that, however languishing St. John is at presents, there are better days in store for us all.

QUEBEC AND HALIFAX RAILROAD.—We have commenced the publication of the highly important Report of the commissioners appointed to survey the line of Railway between the above named places. The Report is lucidly drawn up, and is highly satisfactory as regards the practicability of the undertaking. If the report be correct respecting the desire of the Home Government, that this great national work be undertaken, it is probable that next season active measures will be adopted to carry their desires into execution.

DONNING.—The editor of the Montreal Transcript duns his subscribers in the following quaint manner:—

TO THE UNPAYING ONE.—"What a large mouth you've got Grandmama."—*Little Red Riding Hood.*

There is one continuing croaking and never ending chorus which a newspaper proprietor is from pure necessity compelled to chaunt:—"pay, pay, pay, miserable sinners pay," this is the doleful burden of the song. Woodland birds sing only now and then—frogs croak by night—grasshoppers chirp by day; but printers (Heaven save the mark!) whistle on cold finger tops from noon till night—"pay, pay, pay, miserable sinners pay."

Why don't they pay? Catch us that six feet sinners who for three whole years has fed upon our sweet internals, contributing not one stinky sou to the bare exchequer of our wants—catch him we say: why don't the villain pay! Oh horrid vampire—sucker of our printer's blood, look here, and see thy work:—his fleshless frame, these greasy elbows, all have come of thee:—There take a full receipt, erase thy name; upon ourselves we take "the deep damnation of thy cutting off" [that's Shakespeare.] We cannot give thee farther mental suck: on horrid giant: Hadst thou but made a sign [thy minimum finger to thy nose, excepted] we had lived in hope:—but not a sixpence not a word: Go say.

"We sent thee forth to purchase honor, Not Donald Macdonald exiled thee?"

[That's Shakespeare again.]

Why don't they pay? Catch us another—Who have we now?—a silver-toned Cornelia, mother of the Smith or the Sprati!—sweet breather of sentimental sighs; come "let us clutch thee;" flea-like napper of our heart's best blood, we hold thee! What! poetry—no, by Jove hard cash we want; that verse was stolen from us,—it is not paid for—that sentimental cost us a breakfast, you get it cheap as dirt. What's that you say?—not harm a woman—yes, by Jove, we will: a prying woman is heaven's precious gift, but an unpaid she—confound them! Look, here's the bill as large as life:

Mrs. SUSAN POPPS,

TO D. McDONALD,

Subscription to Transcript, £2 10s. 0d.

Poetry indeed! How much poetry would it not require to blot out these fearful lines?

But again—why don't they pay; try us another catch: pull in the line—now now; whose this?—half-man half-boy, by Jove!—Thou wretched fledgling—thou empty, unshelled egg—thou imp—thou cur,—how comest thou on our books? Oh, wretched world for unborn printers, when suckling infancy grows thus indebted. Hand us your knife—the carving one, we mean—that we may cut his—name out; crash, crash, crash;—thus young burglar we dismiss thee!

And now, ye not quite hardened sinners who read the transcript, and mean to pay, but don't take warning by their fate. You owe as much—indeed you do,—be pleased to pay it quickly. Remember how the Philistine have vexed us, and how we suffered—Did we trust but to be betrayed? Shall Policemen No. 10 retire disgusted from the scene because ye will not do what is your due (due?) and our due too? Hitherto our terms have not been legal terms. [12s. 6d. a year, ye know] but henceforward we will speak with law's loud trumpet, and by attorney. To avoid being sued (sued!) we must sue ourselves, and woe unto them upon whom the prayer of our declaration cometh. There shall be on fauendo to our actions, no meaning and intending, but all shall

be plain English, conceived in the language of the Commissioner's Court, and as full of Platitude as Mr. Platt can make it. In short we have determined to

"Let slip the dogs of law" upon all delinquent debtors, and therefore for the last time we utter the piteous prayer—

"Pay, pay, pay
Good people all,
Both great and small
Pay, pay, pay!"

COLONEL WYER.—The Charlotte Gazette thus notices the death of this gentleman. He represented the County for a long series of years in the Assembly, and was recently elevated to a seat in the Legislative Council:—

We have, indeed, a melancholy duty to perform, in announcing the death of the Honorable Thomas Wyer, which sad event took place at his own residence, in St. Andrews on Saturday last, at 10 o'clock A. M. The deceased was in the 69th year of his age, and was much and deservedly beloved in the County, in which he had occupied a conspicuous position for many years. By this event the Lieutenant Colonelcy of the Second Battalion of Charlotte County Militia, a seat on the Bench of the Court of Common Pleas, and at the Board of Directors of the Charlotte County Bank, with several other offices, will become vacant. The hon. gentleman was also a member of the Legislative Council.

This melancholy bereavement will throw a gloom over many a Christmas table, and create a regret in our community, as general as it is sincere.

McFADYAN.—The latest news of this unfortunate criminal, who suffered death on Wednesday, the 20th inst., is contained in the Eastern Chronicle. It says:—

The mail from Halifax last Thursday, bro't intelligence that the sentence of that unfortunate man McFadyan, who was under sentence of death for the murder of James Kier, had been confirmed by Her Majesty, and also bro't an order for the High Sheriff of the County to prepare for the carrying of that sentence into effect, on Wednesday, the 20th inst. A gallows was accordingly erected about two and a half miles from town, on the lot of land at the Beaches, lately purchased for the purpose of erecting a Lazaretto, and there the criminal suffered the penalty of death, imposed by law for the crime of murder, about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. A vast concourse of people were assembled to witness the execution, impelled to the spot by a kind of morbid and heartless craving after a scene of human degradation and misery. We certainly could not envy any man the possession of a mind which would allow his curiosity to triumph over his humanity, and take pleasure in witnessing the death struggles of an unfortunate and erring fellow creature, who is thus hurried into eternity to expiate his guilt. We have been told that during the first two days after he was informed of his fate, he displayed a kind of nervous uneasiness and anxiety, and once or twice refused to take his accustomed food, but he afterwards regained his usual indifference, which he maintained till the moment of his death. During his confinement in prison he was visited by several clergymen, to one of whom he made a partial confession, in which he tried to make it appear that Kier's death was the result of accident, but confessed to have concealed the body, and appropriated the young man's effects to himself. We shall endeavour to get the particulars and publish them next week.

TEMPERANCE STATISTICS.—It is stated in one of the papers that there are 1,500,000 persons in the United States who abstain from spirituous liquors, 5000 temperance societies embracing more than 600,000 members. More than 2000 distilleries have been stopped; more than 5000 merchants have ceased from the traffic. It is estimated that thirty thousand persons are now sober, who had not been for the temperance societies, would have been so, and that at least 20,000 families are now at ease and in comfort, who would otherwise have been in poverty and disgrace, by drunken inmates.

THE COLONIES.—We extract the following from a Communication in the St. John Morning News of December 27. The letter is written in New York, and bears the signature of "Blue Nose":—

Sir—If your public prints are to be relied upon, the condition of British America is fast approaching a crisis that is to both feared and dreaded. A prostrate commerce—inadequate means to support the population—vast numbers emigrating to the United States—the seeds of discontent towards the British Government taken deep root throughout the land, and a growing desire to be annexed to the United States—whilst at the same time some portions of the press appear to be striving with much zeal to awaken the public confidence in the local Governments.

To a looker on, these things partake too much of the character of confusion, disorder and subversion of all good government, evidently without purpose, and reckless of consequences, not to call forth a serious remonstrance before it be too late. I do not appeal now to

unfledged aspirants for fame, who, that they may exult their own merits, seek to arraign the conduct of men in power, regardless of the consequences, and unreflective of the times, or the influence of their injudicious censures on the public mind.—Neither do they appeal to any class of public writers, be they editors or contributors, who can arraign the faults of past times, and vent their spleen against Executive Governments and Legislatures, and devote no portion of their council and advice to remedy the evils for the time to come, and the way and means of extricating their country from her present troubles.

But my calm and sober appeal is to the yeomanry, merchants and men of capital, age and experience throughout the country, the men in whose hands the destinies ought ever to be maintained, the real elements of power and influence among you. Respectable citizens who, in view of impending evils, and for the sake of your own properties, and the safeguard of your civil institutions, may find yourselves compelled to act sooner than you foresee, for you live in eventful times, when Revolution and Disorder are running outlawed about the world.

Permit me, therefore, in a brief but sober review of the past, to state such facts as will accord I trust with your own convictions, and that I may the more readily prepare your mind for a consideration of the future. For a period of more than ninety years, some more and some less, the British North American Provinces have been ruled by England under a Colonial Government. Since the American Revolution, now sixty four years ago, history shows that the policy of the British Government has been steadily inclining towards the enlargement of free principles in favor of the people. More particularly in the last thirty years, when the mother country, that she might promote the welfare of these Colonies, had introduced a protective system, that was found to be both burthensome to her subjects at home, and injurious to her foreign relations.

Will any reflecting or observing man deny that the effect of this protection on the minds of the people in the Colonies, has been to beget too great dependence on the Government and too little on themselves? And because that this protection has been handed down from one generation to the other, that it has become too strongly imbedded in the minds of the people.—That a time must come sooner or later, when this protection must have an end, any one might have foreseen; that it could have continued for ever, against the interests of the rest of the world, and oppressive to the people of the mother country; it would be monstrous to suppose. The time has come—and in your own days—and it now becomes your duty as good subjects, good members of civil society, good fathers, good christians, and above all—solemn and fearful thought!—as men accountable to God, for the welfare of future generations, to pause before you act, to deliberate well, and to CHOOSE FOR THE BEST.

With the protective policy of England withdrawn from you, and your trade in a state of paralysis, what is the best remedy that presents itself, the best because it is the easiest, the best because it is the cheapest—FREE TRADE. It is not necessary for me to go over again, the arguments that for several months past I have zealously put forth in favor of this measure; is it not sufficient to show that were not one pen has been raised against them, they must at least contain some truth; they do indeed contain many truths, and were they pursued to the letter, British America would take a respectable stand among the nations of the earth.

As soon as trade could be opened between the Provinces and the United States untrammelled with duties and the lumber, fish and coal of the Province, began to find a market in the United States, there would be abundant employment to the lumbermen, fishermen, and miners, and this in turn would give abundant employment to the agriculturists, merchants, and Navigators. Whilst the mechanics whose success depends on the success of all other classes, could not fail in participating in the general prosperity around them. I have already spent some time and labor in explaining to the people of the provinces how their lumber must be manufactured to suit this market, similar information as regards other markets of the United States is in course of preparation, and will be forwarded in good season. It is only necessary to add, that future success in this trade will depend in a great measure on carrying these directions out to the letter.

When once again there is abundant labor and remunerative prices among you, there will be no more cause for emigration; and should a vigorous trade be opened with the United States, many of those who have abandoned their native land may be glad enough to return home again and enjoy your prosperity. Nay even prefer a residence at home, to that country with whom, so many among you desire to be annexed.

THE SEASON.—The past week was one of storms. The old year was closed and the new one ushered in during one of the most violent storms of wind and drift that we have experienced for years. The travelling had been made bad by a heavy fall of snow on Thursday, particularly to the southward of Richibucto, at which place the Courier arrived with the mail on horseback, 8 or 10 hours beyond its time on Friday last; and the quantity of snow which has since fallen, and the heavy drift of Sunday, we should imagine, has rendered the roads almost

impassable; we cannot therefore, expect the mail for many hours beyond the usual time. We pity the mail Couriers; their duties are arduous, and we are apprehensive they are but poorly requited.

ERRATUM.—The compositor made a most foolish blunder in setting up last week, our notice of the presentment of the Grand Jury of St. John. In speaking of ball-allies, billiard-tables, &c. he said it caused Jury men to spend more money than they honestly acquired: it should have been young men. A wide difference this, certainly.

CHUBB'S ALMANAC.—We are indebted to the publishers for a copy of this publication, forwarded to us by mail. It is a great improvement on the old work, both in matter and material, and the manner in which it is got up, reflects much credit on the Press of the Province. The mechanical labor alone must have been very great, and we hope the spirited publishers will meet with a prompt and extensive sale. We shall publish the advertisement, which furnishes an account of its contents, next week.

ARRIVALS AT HEA'S HOTEL.

Dec. 17—Arthur Ritchie, Esq., Dalhousie. 19—E. C. Patten, Kouchibouguac; Jas. Fraser, do.; John Styrisk, Tabusintac; H. Sergeant, Escuminac. 20th—Miles McMellen, Ludlow; W. Parker, Nelson. 23d—W. W. Barnard, Esq., St. John. 28th—Miss Good, Dalhousie. 30th—Wm. Faucett, Dorchester; Wm. Babcock, Sackville; S. B. Hetherington, Richibucto; Miss Duncan, Cape Torment; Wm. Duncan, do.; Wm. Eddy and Miss Eddy, Bathurst; Miss Eddy, do.; Alex. McDonald, sen., Bay du Vin.

Marriages.

At Napin, on Wednesday last, by the Rev. John McCurdy, Mr. JAMES HUTCHINSON, of Richibucto, to Miss AGNES COLTART, of the parish of Chatham.

Deaths.

At Chatham, on Saturday evening last, Enoch Wood, youngest child of Mr. Thomas Spratt, aged 15 months.

NEW GOODS.

E. DALEY & SON have just received a well assorted stock of

Dry Goods,

Suitable for the season, which they will sell cheap for cash. January 2, 1849.

EAGLE HOTEL.

The subscriber has been induced, at the solicitation of many of his friends and acquaintances, to open his house to the Public. Having a spacious and convenient house, ample stables, and all the necessary outbuildings for the purpose, he has taken the resolution as above, and he flatters himself, that by strict attention to his customers, he will be enabled to give satisfaction to all such as may honor him with their patronage.

Horses and Carriages let at all times on reasonable terms.

DANIEL WITHERELL.

Newcastle, January 1, 1849.

Oiled Clothing, Covered Hats, And South Westers

FOR THE WORLD!

LEWIS & HANFORD'S Wholesale

Oiled Clothing Warehouse,

NOs. 252, 254, 256, and 258, PEARL ST.

New York.

LEWIS & HANFORD are the largest manufacturers of the above named articles in the United States, and will sell them at reduced rates, warranted in good shipping order, and free from combustion. Purchasers will find it to their advantage to call and examine our large stock before they buy, where they will find all the kinds that are made.

Also—Palms, Sheaths and Belts, Sheath Knives, &c.

N. B. All orders promptly attended to. New York, December 12, 1848.

Miramichi Mechanics' Institute.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the Members of this Institution will take place at their Lecture Room, on the Second Monday in January next, at 7 o'clock P. M.

J. M. JOHNSON, Jun., Secretary. 29th December, 1848.

To Let,

And possession given immediately, the premises now occupied by Mrs. Bird, in the upper part of Chatham. Apply on the premises. November 14, 1849.