

Communications.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19, 1850.

Dear Sir,—Agreeably to the promise made in my last, I resume my pen to report to you the further progress of events in this City. We have had very mild, pleasant weather, since the decline of summer, until about two days since, when we had an attack of wet and cold, and as a natural consequence very disagreeable weather, which has continued up to the present time, reminding one very much of the commencement of winter in Miramichi.

With the cold weather has appeared on Broadway a new style of Cloak worn by the ladies, I presume entirely for comfort, as they present a very ungraceful and ludicrous appearance. I fear that my knowledge of the nomenclature and construction of ladies' garments will not permit me to give a very clear or satisfactory description of them; yet for the benefit of my fair readers (if I am so fortunate as to have any), I shall make the attempt; and should I fail, they must not turn up their pretty little noses in displeasure, but give me credit for the best intentions. In the first place, there is a neck and shoulder piece, quite plain, around the lower margin of which is attached the remaining portion, which is here gathered in full folds, and at the lower extremity is also quite plain, constituting a very striking resemblance to what is called a gypsy cloak. There are no armlets; nothing in fact save those two pieces, and the most dependant one does not reach lower than where the top of a long stocking would extend to. These little mis-shapen things appear to be very popular among the young ladies, to judge by the rapid increase in their number since their first appearance; but as far as my taste is concerned, I should not advise your fashionable ladies to adopt them. But Broadway is a place where true republicanism is universally acknowledged, as there a person may wear any dress they chose, without exciting more than a mere glance of curiosity, which is the next moment forgotten. Jews, Turks and Christians, white men and black, walk in procession; the wealthy lady, arrayed in costly silks, elbows the half-clad beggar aside, without a thought; and perchance, as the careless dandy turns his head to follow with admiration some light and graceful figure tripping by, he may come into violent contact with a buck-basket full of dirty linen, supported by a couple of white-eyed, ebony-cheeked, grinning damsels, and his thoughts will involuntarily revert to the adventures of the noble Sir John Falstaff in a similar conveyance, and the undignified manner of his ejection from its filthy recesses, at his journey's end.

"Positively the last week of Jenny Lind!" So say the bills. Well, she will be here again after her trip to New Orleans, Havana, &c.: tickets as high as ever, \$3 to \$5; and a few may have the privilege of standing in the corners, out of sight and almost out of hearing, and cursing their folly in studying economy, for \$2.

Madam Anna Bishop is at present giving a series of sacred concerts, on Sunday evenings, at Tripler Hall. I happened to be present at the last one, and was very much pleased with the performance of that immortal Oratorio by Haydn, "The Creation." There were over 200 performers on the stage, and Madam Bishop exhibited her splendid vocal powers in several recitations and arias. She is a beautiful singer, and certainly cannot be excelled but by Jenny Lind, though many deny that even the latter can surpass her. Her action is very constrained and ungraceful, but none could think of this when her sweet and powerful tones filled the air with melody: all then was silent and breathless excitement until the conclusion of each piece, when the pent-up feelings of the audience, no longer under their control, would burst forth in a deafening thunder of applause. During the evening I was very much amused by the occasional remarks of my next neighbour (a young, gaping countryman), who looked for the first time on such a scene. At one time, while the instruments, of which there were 150 (the rest of the performers being vocalists), were engaged in the execution of "Chaos," and each appeared to be exerting himself to the utmost to make more noise than his neighbour, suddenly all was silent. Then "tap" goes the sceptre of M. Bochsa, the director. "Rat-tat-tat" goes two or three drums. Silence! Again "tap" goes the magic little wand, and once more on rolls the majestic thunder of sweet sounds, giving birth to the magnificent ideas of the immortal composer, accompanied by the voice of my friend, who looked up into my face with a most puzzled and astonished aspect, and requested to be informed if there was "any thing broke."

On the conclusion of the concert, as I was making my way door-wards through the crowd, my attention was drawn to a very tall and rather awkward looking gentleman, by a friend, who informed me that he was Sir William Don, who, by report, is a wealthy English baronet, and who last week was performing low, very low comedy, at the Broadway Theatre. He created some excitement at first, and numbers visited the theatre purely out of curiosity to see a live baronet on the stage; but in consequence, I suppose, of his embryonic talents not being sufficiently developed to admit of his performing his chosen part well, the excitement was short-lived, and the lamp of his fame, in a dramatic point of view, has become totally extinguished.

Signora Parodi, the new prima donna at the Opera, has made a most successful debut, and

has completely won the ears of all the box-holders, and enslaved the souls of all the critics who frequent this aristocratic resort. She is a great acquisition to Maretzek's troupe, and after the departure of Jenny Lind, will repay his enterprise with a golden harvest.

We had a great temperance meeting in the Tabernacle on Monday evening, with an attentive audience of about three thousand persons, who evinced a most lively interest in the cause, proving satisfactorily that there are yet many sober men in Gotham. The occasion was the first quarterly meeting of the National Temperance Society, and the assembled multitude was addressed by our old friend Henry Ward Beecher, and P. T. Barnum, Esq., after which came the most important, and to the audience least amusing, part of the performance, viz., that of passing round the hat. About \$1,500 was collected in a very short time, with a very refreshing display of zeal on the part of the collectors. The music of the choir, led by Mr Bradbury, was excellent, and altogether the evening passed off very pleasantly. I know that Chatham is a praiseworthy little town, and deserves a great deal of credit for its energetic demonstrations in the cold water cause, but it can not vie with our pious and virtuous city in this respect. But there is the deep-toned bell of the city hall, tolling the midnight hour, and warning me that another day will soon commence; and as it is very necessary that I should pay my respects to the god of slumber before that event occurs, I must again bid you adieu.

Yours truly,
NUX PINEA.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1850

EUROPEAN NEWS.

By Friday's mail we obtained British papers to the 15th November. They were brought to Halifax by the steamer Europa; but as no mention is made of her arrival in the Halifax papers of Wednesday morning, we presume she arrived in the latter part of that day.

The news they furnish is important. Fears are entertained of a sanguinary conflict, in which three of the great powers of Europe, Prussia, Austria, and Russia, are expected to take part. Considerable excitement has been occasioned in England and Scotland in consequence of the recent appointment by the Pope of dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church for England.

We have made numerous extracts, which will be found under the proper head. They embrace all the principal items of news.

CAUSE OF TEMPERANCE.

Since the recent visit of Mr Kellogg to this place, the cause of Temperance has received considerable impetus, and the "Sons" are weekly augmenting their numbers. A Ladies' Total Abstinence Society has been formed, and has on its Books a goodly array of names. They purpose giving the Cadets of Temperance a Tea Party on the evening of Wednesday next. We are happy to learn that Northumberland Division has decided on the erection of a spacious HALL. At meetings recently held in their Division Room, the handsome sum of £94 was promptly subscribed towards that object, and JOHN M. JOHNSON, Jun., Esq., very generously gave a piece of land on which to erect it. The lumber has been purchased, and the greater portion hauled on the ground. The prompt manner in which the Resolutions of the Division were carried out, is quite a novelty among us, for we have not been proverbial for rapid motion when public matters were to be undertaken; and is a guarantee that the Committee to whom the business is entrusted, take a deep interest in the matter. Such a building has long been a desideratum, and we hope the Sons will succeed in obtaining the funds necessary for its completion.

UNITED STATES.—It is reported in the papers, that an arrangement has been entered into between Mr Collins and Mr Cunard, that during the winter season a vessel of each of their respective lines will leave Liverpool and New York alternately, by which means a weekly communication will be kept up between Britain and the United States until the spring.

The New York Herald gives the following very flattering account of the present condition of the United States:

"The country is prosperous, money is abundant, and business generally is good and conducted on a firm basis."

We wish we could report similarly of the Colonies—but we are sorry to say the very reverse is the case. We lack trade, money,

enterprise, and everything else that is calculated to improve our condition, and make us a thriving, contented people.

WEST INDIES.—The following extract of a letter dated Kingston, Jamaica, November 8, gives a most disastrous account of the ravages of the Cholera in that island:—

"I beg to state that our island, especially our city, has been and still is suffering from the cholera. We have had over eighteen hundred deaths from October 16 to 7th instant, within the city alone, and other parts of the Island say about six hundred more. Business quite suspended, and all parties busy at work relieving the wants of the poor and sick."

CANADA.—The Quebec Morning Chronicle reports that it is the intention of the Finance Committee of the City Council to recommend the granting of £100,000 to the Richmond Railway Company, with this only condition, that the terminus of the road shall be in Quebec.

THE FREDERICTON FIRE.—The office of the Amaranth, it appears, was burnt. By the mail on Friday we obtained a half sheet, and we are glad to perceive that our contemporary has succeeded in obtaining a new location. The Editor makes the following severe but just remarks on the origin of the fire. People cannot be too careful with lights or fire—but how frequently do we see men working in stables and barns with pipes in their mouths, and at night with candles. Will our Firewards look more carefully after these matters? We believe there is a heavy fine for entering a barn with a lighted candle if it be not in a lantern.

"Cause of the Fire.—Some four or five years since a laboring man named Dunham came to Fredericton, from Miramichi, on his way to the United States. It must have been the evil genius of Fredericton that prevailed on him to stop here. On the 11th instant he was employed sawing wood in a barn; he finished his work and was paid, when he returned to the barn smoking his pipe. He was seen sitting on his wood-horse smoking, although he had been requested not to carry a lighted pipe into the barn; he was next seen knocking the ashes out of his pipe. Half an hour afterwards the barn was discovered in a flame. Thus did this miscreant, through worse than criminal carelessness, ruin scores of his neighbors, turn many of those who were comfortably off, into the street destitute, and cause a loss to the community of one hundred thousand pounds. We know of no statute under which this fellow can be convicted and punished, but such a statute is now imperatively called for, and we hope the members of the Legislature will attend to it during their next sittings. In the mean time we think it would not be wrong to invoke so much of the spirit of Lynch Law as to insist that the miscreant who has been the cause—the almost wilful cause—of so much loss and misery, should make his exit, nor longer insult our citizens by his hateful presence. It is remarkable that of six fires inflicted on Fredericton this autumn, one was the work of an incendiary, and the others were the results of culpable negligence, as they all occurred in barns. We believe we may go further, and safely assert that they all owe their origin to rum-smuggling and tobacco smoking."

The Editor thus notices the prospect of parties burnt out to procure places to carry on their businesses during the approaching winter. We are glad to hear such satisfactory accounts:

"We are happy in being enabled to state that most of the business community who were burnt out, have found temporary places wherein to carry on their business during the winter; and some are already erecting frames for new buildings. The families who were left houseless have stowed themselves in among those who were more fortunate. Much kindness has been manifested toward the sufferers, but, nevertheless there are some sharpers in the community who have taken a rascally advantage of others' necessities. We believe that (with the assistance of the insurance) most of the owners of houses will be enabled to rebuild next summer, when we may expect our town, phoenix like, to arise from its ashes. We know it is the intention of several to rebuild with brick, and we wish the intention was general. We shall be sorry if Queen Street at least is not rebuilt of brick."

THE RAILWAY.—Meetings of persons in different sections of the Province friendly to the European and North American Railway continue to be held. The Morning News obtained by Friday's mail contains the following article on the subject:—

"Mr Jardine who accompanied Mr Morton in his travels from this city to Shediac, for the purpose of inspecting the situation of the country through which the railway is to pass, returned home on Tuesday; and on Wednesday we had an interview that gentleman, and the information he imparted was of the most gratifying nature. Mr Morton was highly de-

lighted with his journey, or rather with the prospects that presented themselves, in a topographical sense, for the construction of a railway. From the Hammond River Bridge to Shediac Harbor, the land was an almost dead level—as if nature had originally designed this portion of the country for a Railway, and what was of more importance, the line was perfectly straight, so that a track may be laid with but very few curves in it, which in other countries interfere, so materially, with the speed of the engine. The character of the soil too, was such as to satisfy Mr Morton that it only required a Railway, to induce farming on an extensive scale, and cause prosperity to every interest along the line, and throughout the Province. On nearing Shediac it was observed that the soil began to change its appearance, exhibiting that of a red sandstone formation—which in all countries is proved to be the richest and most valuable for agricultural purposes. They were informed by Hon. Mr Hannington, and to the great surprise of Mr Morton, that this rich formation of earth extended all along the Gulf Shore, from Dalhousie to Cape Tormentine, a distance of three hundred miles—and that there was one continuous village, so to speak, from that section of country, by a very excellent road all the way on to Canada. That wheat is raised every year of a very superior quality without ever being subject to the usual diseases—in fact, that it is an unfailing crop—while the potato blight has never been known there. That the harbor of Shediac and coast along the Gulf Shore are entirely devoid of fogs. It was also ascertained from Mr Hannington, that the number of passengers who cross over every week from Prince Edward Island, notwithstanding the miserable communication by sailing craft, averaged forty—(with a steamer to Shediac and a railroad to St. John, this number would be more than quadrupled the first year—while most of the freight that now finds its way to Halifax, would pass through this Province.) It is Mr Morton's opinion that if this railway were laid down, and Southerners could be made acquainted with the salubrity of our Northern climate, they would migrate as regularly as birds, every summer, in thousands to inhale our healthy atmosphere. Mr Morton is the 'railway king' of New England; and his authority ranks No 1 in the estimation of all the American Railway Companies. It therefore gives us great pleasure in being able to record his views, since they are so favorably expressed. He proceeded immediately on to Halifax, in order to take an observation of the Nova Scotia section of the contemplated Railway. Mr Morton's word, founded on ocular evidence, will go a great way in the United States, as soon as he is prepared to express it.

"We are also gratified to learn that Mr Burris has nearly got to his journey's end, and that two thirds of the people along the line have signed the 'right of way'—and the remaining third will in all probability follow the example, prior to the meeting of the Legislature."

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—The Editor of the Boston Mail thus quaintly notices the proceedings of certain of the fair sex in that quarter, who have been holding meetings with a view of obtaining equal civil rights and privileges with the opposite sex.

"The women's convention lately held at Worcester was really a funny affair. They passed resolutions against the Bible, petticoats, the Constitution of the United States and the habits of Society. They go for the same privileges enjoyed by the males, among which privileges we fear Miss Davis forgot such delicious pastimes as sawing wood—bringing in coal—standing up in Church—riding in the rain, and being the last to sit down to dinner. Before the women embrace our privileges they had better try them on some. As a beginning let them carry a hod all day for six shillings, or when the thermometer is twelve degrees below zero, shoulder an axe, wade to the woods through the snow; and taste the luxury of chopping wood for fifty cents a cord. This is what the 'brute' has to do, who pays the rent for her. Again we say, try it on girls."

THE SEASON.—During the early part of the week we had some pinching cold weather, and considerable ice formed in the river. We understand that the Northwest and Southwest branches were completely frozen across on Friday. Some snow has also fallen. Saturday and Sunday were extremely mild, and during the latter part of the last named day it rained. This morning the air is mild and balmy, and there is but little floating ice in the river.

All our shipping have taken their departure; the last, the new brig Agnes, sailed yesterday for Halifax. Three schooners are still expected; the Primrose, from Halifax, which vessel has been out over three weeks, and the schooners Elizabeth and Herald, from Boston.

GENEROUS.—We perceive that the officers of the First Royal Regiment, now in Halifax, but recently quartered in Fredericton, have subscribed the handsome sum of £72 10 towards the relief of the sufferers by the late disastrous fire at Head Quarters.