

The answer of the gallant Colonel is rather laconic, but to the purpose. Mr Secretary Leslie has rather a difficult task to perform in carrying out Earl Grey's "gag" despatch:-

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Toronto, 25th March, 1850.

Sir,—A letter has been published in several of the newspapers of the Province, dated 19th February last, signed with your name, and addressed to Arthur Rankin, Esq., recommending 'Independence from the Mother Country,' as a remedy for certain evils under which the Province is therein alleged to labor.

I am commanded by the Governor General to enquire from you, if you are the author of that letter.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient Servant, J. LESLIE, Secretary.

John Prince, Esq., Sandwich.

THE PARK FARM, Good Friday, 1. P. M.

Sir,—Your letter of the 25th has been this moment received.

You may inform the Governor General that I am the author of every word in my letter to A. Rankin, Esq., of the 16th ult.; and you may be sure that I believe what I therein wrote is true—that I hope it will in due time be carried out; and that my best exertions shall be ever used towards that great end.

From your humble Servant, JOHN PRINCE.

To the Hon. J. Leslie, Provincial Secretary.

THE RECIPROCITY QUESTION.—We are indebted to the St. John Morning News for the following information respecting this important subject:—

WASHINGTON, April 11.

It is understood that the Canada Reciprocity Bill, which was some time since re-committed to the committee on commerce, in the House, will be again reported to the House, together with a correspondence between the Committee on Commerce and the Secretary of State, and between the Secretary of State and the British Minister, in which the British Minister communicates to our Government his power to pledge the British Government to open the River St. Lawrence, and the adjacent canals, to American citizens and American shipping. This correspondence was instituted by the Committee on Commerce, to avoid the necessity of introducing into the reciprocity bill any feature which could make this bill in itself a measure of reciprocity with the Imperial Government, and thus open the same privileges to other nations with whom we have commercial treaties, containing the clause commonly called 'the most favored nation clause,' that is, the clause which promises to put the nation with which the treaty is concluded, on the terms of the most favored nation.

The pledge of the British Minister is full and satisfactory, and the whole region of the North west is deeply interested in this privilege.—New York Herald.

Be it remembered to all who are any way interested, that our House of Assembly have not yet entertained the Reciprocity question, so far as it relates to New Brunswick, nor are they likely to this session—notwithstanding Hon. Messrs. Partelow and Wilnot proceeded to Halifax last summer, to confer with the delegates from the other Provinces, upon the subject. The Nova Scotia Legislature as well as the Canadian has passed a reciprocity bill to go into effect as soon as the Americans are ready for the arrangement. Should Congress consent, New Brunswick cannot be benefited by the treaty this year, nor until our Legislature decides upon the question. What do our readers, the whole commercial community, and every other class think of it? All that we can do is to lay the facts before the public, and the people in their collective capacity must do the rest. There is our River St. John, ought not the Americans be made acquainted with that?—Morning News.

WASHINGTON, April 17.

The committee of foreign relations of the House are preparing an elaborate report, in favor of securing a free navigation of the St. Lawrence, which, to the Northwest, is scarcely second in importance to the free navigation of the Mississippi. The Northern New York and the New England States, to Michigan, and the Lake States, it is of more immediate importance. The commerce of the Lakes is swelling to the magnitude of the commerce of an Empire, and its natural outlet is the St. Lawrence. The committee will present this vast commerce in an abstract of the statistics of the Lakes. We understand that the committee will close their report, probably with a resolution, recommending the President to open negotiations with the British Government, for the free navigation of the St. Lawrence; and from what we have learned of the opinions of Governor Elgin and Sir John Simpson, of the Hudson's Bay Company, her Majesty's Government are disposed to concede the free navigation of the great ocean highway of Canada, as a means of suppressing the annexation movement.

The only difficulty to the immediate pushing of this great measure, is the negro question. That once out of the way and there will be no trouble in an act of reciprocity securing the open roadstead of the St. Lawrence, the opening of which would tend as rapidly to develop the resources of Canada as of the great Northwest.

GOLD IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—A few weeks ago we alluded to the manufacture of sharpening stones in Chatham, and took the opportunity of bringing under the notice of our readers other branches of business which we thought could be conducted with advantage. The St John Morning News contains an article headed as above, and re-echoes our opinions on the great natural resources we possess, which require only capital and enterprise to convert them into valuable branches of manufacture and profit.

A fact! We shall prove it. A specimen of sharpening stones was forwarded to us a few days since from Miramichi, with a request that we would obtain a practical opinion as to its qualities. This stone abounds in immense quantities on the Tomoganops, a branch of the North West, so called, and is pronounced to be equal in every respect to the Turkey stone, for which our carpenters pay one dollar per pound. This stone possesses rather an advantage over the Turkey stone, as it can be used with water as well as oil. Persons are already actively engaged in Miramichi in cutting and dressing this stone. The value of the export of sharpening stones from Turkey (said to be the best in the world) amounts to millions of dollars. Now only think of it. We have an inexhaustible quarry of stone, a good, in Province, every pound of which will be worth a dollar, which is equal to gathering gold dust on the Sacramento. There is no 'hear say,' or 'we understand,' about this. It is positive. The stone was sent to our office, and we immediately put it into the hands of several carpenters of experience and respectability, with a request that they would pronounce an impartial opinion; and they all agree that the stone is of the most superior description, equal to the article they pay a dollar a pound for. Here then is a mine of wealth in itself. The riches of this Province we believe to be equal to those of the most favoured land on the face of the globe—not excepting California; but enterprise and capital are required to turn them to account. We further learn from Miramichi by private letter, that there is a superior description of clay in that section, fit for manufacturing delf, earthenware, and all articles of crockeryware; and if the Americans had such clay as this in their own country, they would manufacture crockeryware themselves, instead of importing it from England, for want of the raw material. This Province also abounds extensively in the article of black lead, iron, lead, copper, coal, &c. But it is all useless to us. Now suppose this Province were a State of the Union, and enterprise and capital could be infused among us, who can doubt but that this would be the very richest State on all the continent? But, our wealth is destined to remain in the bowels of the earth, until some great political convulsion overturns the present order of things—and when the landmark of prejudice, and of geographical nicety, shall disappear between the two people, we may expect to go on our way rejoicing, and reaping the rewards of plodding toil. We starve in the midst of plenty. We float upon a wreck, perishing of thirst—the ocean rolls around, but its waters cannot be converted into refreshing draughts, from want of the necessary apparatus to destroy its saline particles. How long must we continue so?—Heaven be merciful to a people whose land has been blessed with bounties in such rare abundance! Are we to toil on from day to day—men of intelligence—without making an effort to bring our country before the eyes of the world? Thousands, nay millions of capital are out at ragged interest in England and the United States, uncooperative, unproductive; yet because our country is not known, scarcely beyond its own limits, the people are doomed to trudge along over mines of wealth, with poverty staring them in the teeth—bread scarcely to be had.

We hope that some of our American contemporaries will take notice of the prominent points of the above article that their readers may see what sort of a place 'down East' is! Since writing the above we are informed that a gentleman has arrived here from Miramichi, on his way to the United States with a box of the stones before mentioned, to see what our neighbors think of them. Good luck attend him.

A TOKEN OF RESPECT.—By the last English mail we obtained a copy of the Glasgow Chronicle of April 3, from which we extract the following paragraph with much pleasure. It must have been a source of great satisfaction to Mr Loudoun, on re-visiting the place of his nativity, to see so many of his old school-fellows gather around him, and in such a marked and substantial manner, evince the high estimation in which he was held by them. The feeling is honorable to the donors, and the occasion which brought it forth, creditable to the recipient.

"Last night, a highly respectable body of gentlemen, natives of Newmilns, resident in Glasgow, entertained Alexander Loudoun, Esq., merchant, Miramichi, to supper in the Crow Hotel, George Square, in testimony of their respect for his many good qualities as a man of

business, and a pleasant companion of their earlier days. Archibald Morton, Esq., occupied the chair, supported by the guest of the evening, and by William Moffat, Esq. The duties of Croupier were discharged by Alexander Paton, Esq., supported by John Brown, Esq., George Morton, Esq., Thomas Richmond, Esq. After an elegant and substantial supper, served up by mine host of the Crow, the cloth was withdrawn, when the chairman gave, in succession, prefaced by appropriate remarks, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, all of which were heartily acknowledged. He then came to the toast of the evening 'the health of Mr Loudoun,' which he proposed in a neat, eulogistic speech, expressive of the high estimation in which Mr Loudoun was held, not only by all the natives of Newmilns to whom he was personally known, but also by the merchants of Glasgow with whom he had come in contact during his periodical visits from the country of his adoption. The Chairman concluded by presenting Mr Loudoun, in the name of the company, with a handsome silver snuff box, bearing the following inscription—'Presented to A. Loudoun, Esq., Merchant, Miramichi, by a few of his old friends and school companions. Glasgow, 2nd April, 1850.' Over the lid of the box there was engraved two hands clasped in friendship, and above the motto, 'Here's a hand o' thine.' Mr Loudoun replied in a very feeling and judicious address, which was received with great applause. The evening was afterwards spent in the most agreeable manner, with toast, song, and sentiment, and the proceedings terminated at a timeous hour."

AMATEUR BAND ROOM, Chatham, April 23, 1850.

Moved by Mr Wm. Mason, and seconded by Mr John Shirreff:—

Whereas this institution has been under deep obligations to CHARLES LLOYD, Esq., of Dalhousie, for a large collection of Music, arranged expressly by that gentleman for them:

Therefore, Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of the Band are justly due, and heartily given to Mr Lloyd, for his valuable present; and they regret it is not in their power to bestow on him a more substantial token of the sense of the obligation under which he has laid them; more particularly, as he has generously offered to arrange such music as they may require from time to time, free of any charge, a service which is the more valuable, as it is with great difficulty and much expense that such can be procured abroad.

Moved by Mr Ward, and seconded by Mr Griffin:—

Resolved unanimously, That this Resolution be published in the Gleaner, that the public may know the valuable service Mr Lloyd has rendered them, and to give expression to the unanimous feeling which pervades the Band, of the sense of the obligation under which they labor, for his kindness: which is considerably enhanced by the cheerful and liberal manner in which it was bestowed.

JAMES A. PIERCE, President.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.—Messrs. Montgomery, Read and Barberie arrived here on Thursday night.—We learned from them that the business of the Session, it was expected, would be brought to a close on Friday last.

The papers received reader but little information with respect to the sayings and doings of members.

We obtained a letter from Head Quarters, written on Tuesday last, which informs us that the Resolution going to establish an Elective Legislative Council passed the day before by an overwhelming majority.

Yeas—Partelow, Wilnot, Fisher, Hannington, R. D. Wilnot, Jordan, Ritchie, End, Ansley, Woodward, Vail, J. Earle, S. Earle, McLeod, Gilbert, Miles, Hayward, Taylor, Baillie, Connell, Brown, Read, Steves, Barberie, Botsford.

Nays—Rankin, Thompson, Montgomery, Street, Cranney, Wark.

The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to draft an Address to the Queen to carry out the Resolution, and point out details, namely—Messrs. End, Ritchie, Steves, Fisher and Dr. Earl. Our correspondent says:—The Committee are understood to be nearly unanimous, but have not yet reported. The qualification of the new Elected Councilors will be £600, free from all incumbance, not less than 30 years of age; one for each county; if population beyond 15,000—then two; to be elected for nine years, one-third to go out every third year, and elected by select voters to be chosen by the freeholders,—three in each parish.

THE SEASON.—We have experienced some pleasant weather during the last three or four days. The snow is rapidly

disappearing, and the ice on our river has at length become so weak that foot passengers scarcely dare venture on it except in the morning. There are large rents and holes in it in all directions. Should the weather continue fine for a day or two longer, we may expect to see a clear river. A brig, we believe from Dundee, inward bound, has been beating about, waiting the departure of the ice, for upwards of a week.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We are glad to learn from our Newcastle correspondents that they do not intend continuing the controversy, which was commenced by "One of the People." The subject has been worn thread-bare, and like many others, there has been far too much personality mixed up with the subject—either to be creditable to the writers, or to us as publishers. We do not like the spirit that dictated the remarks of "Spectator," we therefore decline inserting them.

Deaths.

At his residence, at the French Village, Lower Bay du Vin, on Wednesday, the 25th inst. Mr URBAN SAVOY, aged 83 years.



Boots and Shoes.

D. KEARNS, Boot and Shoemaker, thanks the public for past favors, and begs to announce that he has for sale at his Shop, opposite the store of Mr William E. Samuel, a stock of MENS' BOOTS AND SHOES, Likewise Womens' BOOTS AND SHOES, manufactured by himself, of the best materials, which he will sell low for Cash or approved paper, as he intends leaving the Province during the next fall. Chatham, April 1, 1850.

NOTICE.

The Subscriber, grateful for the patronage he has received, begs to intimate to his friends and the public, that he has made arrangements for the exclusive privilege of the Water Power in French Fort Cove, as the most central situation in the County, and is about removing his establishment thither. He has also made arrangements for a

FULLING AND DRESSING APPARATUS,

which he will have in operation at once. And should he receive that support from the public which his reasonable expectations warrant him to anticipate, he will, in addition to the above, procure Machinery for Spinning and Weaving. Price of Carding, when the Wool is clean, well picked and oiled to his satisfaction, will be Three Pence per pound. WM. WILSON. Upper Nelson, March 25, 1850.

WANTED!

Immediately, FOUR or FIVE ACTIVE MEN, practically acquainted with the work of a Saw Mill, to whom liberal wages will be given. Apply personally or by letter (post paid) at the office of H. & J. MONTGOMERY. Dalhousie, April 9, 1850.

SEED GRAIN.

SPRING WHEAT, POTATO OATS, PURE BLACK OATS, Of superior quality—also TIMOTHY AND CLOVER SEEDS, For Sale by FERGUSON, RANKIN & CO. Bathurst, April 1, 1850.

TO LET,

FOR ONE OR MORE YEARS. A Good DWELLING HOUSE, containing 12 apartments well finished, and a large Barn attached, lately occupied by the Subscriber. If required, he would fit up the Barn as a SHOP, and have it in readiness by the first of May. Also, a STORE on Pebody's Wharf, capable of holding 1500 Barrels. All will be let together, or the Dwelling House separate if required. For further particulars apply to JOHN NOONAN. Chatham, March 6 1850.

To Let,

For a term of years, from the first of May next, The FARM, Dwelling House, and Out Houses, formerly belonging to the late Richard S. Clarke, Esq., in the Parish of Chatham, adjoining the property of Mr David Gatchell on the East, and that occupied by Mr Andrew Peterson on the West side, cutting about 15 tons of Hay yearly. Apply to WM ALBRO LETSON. Chatham, March 22, 1850.

BLANKS

Of various kinds for sale at the Gleaner Office.