

this country, and of course that will be a benefit to both. Moreover, if you place our colonies on a proper footing, you will be enabled to reduce the expenditure—not £10,000,000 only but £15,000,000 annually. The hon. gentleman, at some length, alluded to the state of the suffrage, reiterated the statements and arguments he has recently used in favor of the 40s. freehold movement, and, after a few words about the Protectionists, resumed his seat amidst vociferous cheers.

## Communications.

### THE OLD BAY STATE.

MR EDITOR.—When great political questions come up before us, we ought, as in other vital questions, to take a dispassionate and common-sense view of them, as the only means whereby we can arrive at just conclusions. Loyalty and patriotism, and their kindred topics, however well they may suit the purposes of declamation, are, after all, but artificial sentiments, and should not be let in to embarrass and complicate questions, in which the whole body politic is interested. Nine tenths of the people know nothing and care nothing about such sentiments. What they are concerned to know, is, the facts—palpable, substantial facts. With them, all your fine-spun theories, all your womanish sentiments, go for nothing.

Now, with respect to our political relations with the mother country, the conviction is forced upon us, whether agreeable or otherwise, that a change must ere long take place. Passing by as the idle wind, all speculations on a confederacy of these Provinces, we must take the other horn of the dilemma—we are forced to the conclusion that this Province is to become a part of, to be absorbed into, "the Great Republic." My own opinion is, that before the lapse of many years, New Brunswick will become a sovereign State—will add another star to that constellation, which, as some think, is now shedding a benign influence upon the world.

Supposing that such a contingency should happen, the question is, whether it is an event to be deprecated. I think not. We ought to remember, that whether as Britons, Colonists or Republicans, we are all sprung from the same glorious stock—that the science of government has kept pace with the other sciences in their progress among men—that the great principles of human liberty are well understood by us all, and graven on the human heart—that education and knowledge are universally diffused among us—whence it seems to follow, that should we merge into the great republic, such an event ought not to excite apprehension or alarm. At all events, if it be our destiny, it is unavoidable, and we should prepare ourselves to meet it like men. My own opinion is, that it is our destiny—it is our mission, as Anglo-Saxons, to illustrate, on this continent, the blessings of republican government, just as much as it was the mission of our fathers to illustrate, in the old world, the blessings of an enlightened monarchy. Colonial Governments have been tried for centuries on this continent, and they have not been successful. If they have succeeded at all, it has been through a vast outlay and vast trouble on the part of the parent country. They are not the staple—they are not a profitable crop. In the days of Pitt, it was said in the British Parliament, "The colonies have been fed by our bounty; they have been nourished by our care."

Now every person must see at once, that three thousand miles is a great distance to carry food, wherewith to feed the Colonies. The fountains of irrigation are too remote to insure at such a distance, a profitable crop. I will not take up any more of your time, Sir, with these remarks. I have said thus much by way of introducing to your numerous readers, the concluding part of Governor Briggs's annual message to the Massachusetts Legislature. I heartily commend it to them, and wish them, after having read that eloquent speech, to ask themselves the question, how it is, that Massachusetts, with an area of only about one-fifth of that of New Brunswick, has attained to such a degree of prosperity—how it is that a State, whose soil, as compared with the soil of New Brunswick, is one immense sand hill—how it is that a State in which there is no deposit of metal or mineral that may be dignified with the name of a mine—how it is that that small State, with all her disadvantages, has so far outstripped us in the march of civilization and improvement? To go back to the time of the immortal Pitt, it seems to me that they must employ the retort of Colonel Barre,

"The Colonies have grown by your neglect of them." I am, Sir, your servant,  
Nelson, January 25, 1850. A. D.

Massachusetts has an area of 7,250 square miles, and within its limits there are now in operation more than eleven hundred miles of railroads, with a capital of fifty millions. We have a population of about one million, who are engaged in every branch of business and of industry—at home and abroad, upon the land and upon the sea—which holds out the prospect of a remunerative profit. The annual value of their products exceeds one hundred millions of dollars. Her credit is unimpaired, and, on 'change, at home and abroad, her bonds are sought. The value of the school houses in the State, in 1849, was \$2,700,000. More than two millions of that sum was raised and expended within the twelve preceding years. In 1849, there were in our three hundred and fourteen towns, 3749 public schools, in which were employed 8163 teachers, 2426 of whom were males, and 5737 were females. The amount of money raised for the support of the public schools was \$830,000. Add to this the amount paid for tuition in the academies and private schools, and the whole sum expended for education during the year, excluding the three colleges, was \$1,163,364.—A thousand convenient and tasteful houses of public worship, erected by different denominations of Christians, beautify every city, town and village of the Commonwealth, and bear testimony that our people have not forgotten the God of their fathers. Our public charitable institutions for the benefit of the deaf, dumb, and blind, the sick, insane, and the destitute, and for instructing and reforming juvenile offenders, are the jewels of the State. In our public schools, the children of the rich and poor sit on the same seat, and struggle for the prize of scholarship on equal terms. Here honest industry, prudence, and economy are honorable; idleness and dissipation a reproach. It may well be doubted whether the laborer is better fed, better paid, better educated, and more respected, in any community on earth than in Massachusetts. By our constitution and laws all citizens are placed upon a common level, and are entitled to the same civil and political rights, and all men are or may become citizens.

As the representatives of the Commonwealth it becomes us here, in this legislative hall, with the profoundest gratitude to acknowledge the goodness of the Supreme Ruler of the world to our fathers, and his mercies to us. Invested with high and responsible public trusts, let us invoke the guidance of his wisdom in the discharge of the duties upon which we have now entered.

### COUNTY OF RESTIGOUCHE.

MR EDITOR.—My attention was attracted the other day to a body of Canadian "Shinglers" drawn up in file upon the ice, stake in hand, looking "battle, murder, and sudden death." I observed a crowd of persons on the shore pointing in the direction of this troop. I stepped towards the crowd to inquire the meaning of the hostile array, when I was informed that the Locker, Searcher, and Warehouse Keeper had been making an attempt to seize, or had seized the shingles of the poor "habitans" from the other side of the river. "How is this?" I enquired of the person near me, a stout man with a large swelling under his ear; "have they not, as far back as the memory of the oldest inhabitant, been in the custom of interchanging commodities with us on the New Brunswick side without restriction?" "True, but you see how it is now." "Then you mean that there has been some special order made in Council constituting our Canadian neighbors foreigners, while we have all along been gaping like fools for the expected reciprocity. It appears strange." "Not at all," said he; "have you not heard of the late outbreak?" "Outbreak," I exclaimed, "have the Canadians riz on the annexation question?" "Oh! you mistake me. I mean rather the inbreak, the Warehouse business; 'huckster' smashing the lock." "Oh, indeed, you refer to the day that Johnny's steak was in bond, and he took it out without a permit." "The same," said he. "But what has that to do with the poor 'habitans'?" My companion eyed me with a look of supreme contempt, as much as to say "how green you are," or "where did you get your brought'as up." "Don't you know that the 'Alcaide' and his Deputy have had a falling out about the matter, and that the deputy has written certain disagreeable things in the Chronicle of New Brunswick, in consequence of which the Alcaide has taken it into his head to punish his refractory servant by ordering him to do extra service, and you see the result before you." Being rather choleric, I exclaimed in a very snappish manner—"my goodness! gracious! can this be the case? are these things to pass without remonstrance? are these poor people, who have traded with us year after year, and bought our duty-paid goods, to be excluded from the only market they have access to, and that by the caprice of an individual?" "Oh!" said my companion,

"I beg of you do not get into a passion; if so, I say no more; if you be calm, I have further to tell you." I therefore cooled down, and got into a listening attitude. "Proceed," said I. "Well," said my communicative companion, "you appear indignant at what I have told you, but reserve your choler for what is to come. I am credibly, and I may add confidentially, informed, that the Alcaide, last winter, (and I wish you here to observe that the tariff was the same as now) hauled a great quantity of Hay from the Canadian side. Now I never heard of the said personage paying any duty on the same, nor of his exacting duty from any other party, either on hay or any other produce brought by the 'habitans' to our market. Well, the other day a Frenchman, poor 'John Plude,' who had been prevented from getting to Dalhousie for the last six weeks, in consequence of the river not being frozen over, and whose family must have been in distress for the necessaries of life, came across with about two hundred weight of hay, by the selling of which he hoped to procure something to eat for himself and family. To the poor man's surprise his handful of hay was seized, and was only relieved by some kind friend making an entry for him, and paying the duty, 2½ per cent! What a contrast to last year." My friend here looked very knowing, and continued—"And report says that the 'huckster' a few days ago, hauled two loads of hay across the river, obtained a permit to land without the hay being weighed or duty paid. But that is not the best of it. It is said that Johnny had snugly concealed in one of the loads a carcass of —. No matter. He appears to have a particular relish for that sort of meat." "Hold," said I; "do not repeat that story, for no one will believe you." "Perhaps not," said he, with a peculiar wink, and he *sloped*. I also walked off, muttering to myself, "and all this botheration is the result of a quarrel between the mighty Alcaide and his grumpy deputy." I was not conscious of my whereabouts until I knocked my head against the famous Warehouse. A sudden optical illumination took place. Ah! thought I, the only way to enlighten the Alcaide and his deputy is to knock their heads together; but even that would scarcely be fair, as it would be a very heavy body against a very light one. Oh! dear! O.K.  
Dalhousie, January 18, 1850.

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1850.

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 mail of January 12 was received at our Post office on Friday evening last. The papers thus obtained contain a good deal of matter of an interesting character, and we have devoted considerable space to extracts.

NORTHUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The adjourned Annual meeting of this Society was held in the hall of the Mechanics' Institute on Thursday last. An elaborate and well digested Report of the proceedings of the Board, was read by the Secretary, and received with much applause. The Treasurer's Accounts were then exhibited, and showed a considerable balance in hand. The office bearers for the present year were then appointed, and some discussion ensued respecting Agricultural affairs, and some valuable suggestions thrown out for the guidance of the new board.

We are in hopes we shall be enabled to lay before our readers next week, a portion of the Report.

HIGHLAND BALL.—The Annual Ball of this society came off in Mitchell's large room, in Newcastle, on the evening of Thursday last. The whole went off as "merry as a marriage bell," reflecting much credit on the managers.

WOODSTOCK.—Alderman Needham has been lecturing to large audiences in this place, on the "Corruptions of the Government and House of Assembly." He intends lecturing in Victoria at the special request of several influential individuals. So says the Carleton Sentinel.

James S. Segee has become sole Proprietor and Editor of the Carleton Sentinel.

NOVASCOTIA.—The Legislature of this Province was opened for the despatch of business on the 17th instant, when Sir John Harvey delivered the following speech:—

Mr President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,  
Mr Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It is my painful duty to announce to you the demise of Adelaide, the Queen Dowager. The loss of this highly respected and estimable Princess has called forth an expression of deep and universal regret on the part of the British nation, in which, I am convinced that you, and the people of this colony, will participate.

While inviting you again to the discharge of your very important functions, I am bound to acknowledge the gratitude we owe to the Giver of all good, for the blessings by which the past year has been distinguished.

Peace and tranquility have reigned within the borders of Nova Scotia. The great scourge of the earth has passed us by, and several trying years of partial failure have been succeeded by a comparatively secure and productive harvest.

Deeply convinced as I am that the loyal sentiments of the people of this colony are unchanged, I do not feel myself called upon to make any reference to the discussions which are taking place in surrounding colonies.

The fisheries, though less prosperous than in 1848, have yet supplied our domestic consumption, and yielded, at the high prices which our great staples command abroad, a valuable export.

In resuming our labors for the public good, let us diligently endeavor to deserve by thankfulness, industry and forethought, a blessing upon our efforts, and the continued favors of a beneficent Providence.

Mr Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The accounts for the past, and the estimates for the current year, will be laid before you without delay, and you will be gratified to learn that the supplies, so liberally granted, have been adequate to meet the expenses of the financial year and that the Revenue is on the increase.—Though the payment of the arrears under the Civil List Bill, and the construction of the electric telegraph, have required heavy advances, the Loan authorized by the act of last Session has been largely reduced, and will, I confidently anticipate, be shortly liquidated.

Mr President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:  
Mr Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The Imperial Parliament having passed an Act, authorising the several Governments of North America to regulate their internal Posts, a measure will be promptly submitted to you in accordance with that enactment, and I am happy to be able to assure you that no obstacle now exists to the entire control being assumed by the Provincial Government over this branch of the public service, and to the establishment of a low and uniform rate of postage throughout British North America.

The School Act expires at the close of the present session, and a measure aimed at a further extension of the blessings of Education, will be submitted to you, which, I trust, will be found to embody the improvements suggested by recent experience.

The absence of any provision for Lunatics has been painfully forced upon my attention during the recess, and now I refer to the subject chiefly for the purpose of submitting whether some arrangements might not be made, either for the erection and endowment of an Asylum for the insane, or for the maintenance, in suitable institutions, founded in the neighboring Provinces, of those unfortunates, who, without the light of reason, are unable to support themselves.

The report of the commissioners appointed to revise and consolidate the Laws of the Province will be immediately set before you, and the greater part of the work having been done, I am gratified by the assurance that your united labors, in the present and ensuing session, will enable you to perfect this long desired and most valuable improvement.

The tenure of land in the island of Cape Breton, appearing to demand legislation, that titles may be confirmed and litigation averted—measures will be laid before you, which, I trust, matured by your wisdom, will accomplish these desirable results.

The subject of the reciprocal interchange of staple productions between the British Provinces on this continent and the United States of America, brought to my notice last Session, has largely engaged the attention of my government, and I hope to have, in the delicate and peculiar aspect which the question has assumed, the advantage of your calm and united deliberations.