

of wealth and enterprise. Your Committee have felt bound, although not strictly within the scope of their duty, to touch upon these matters, in order that the members of this Society may lay them to heart, and cherish a spirit of contentment among themselves which will extend itself among all branches of society, and which your committee are convinced will do a vast amount of good.

Your Committee would, in conclusion, recommend this Society to the favorable consideration of all, and that by mutual co-operation and zeal in the cause, the steady advancement of its true interests will naturally be the result.

Institutions of this description have in some instances retrograded, from prejudices, and a want of knowledge as to their real value in a community. Your Committee do not anticipate such a result to this Institution; they have the strongest warrant to the contrary; but should such an unforeseen occurrence unfortunately arise, your Committee would quote the opinion of the highly talented Governor General of Canada, Lord Elgin, on the subject, and trust that from so high an authority none will appear willing to dissent:—

"Mechanics Institutes," says His Lordship, "are of the greatest value to the community, especially at the present time. We have great advantages in this country, a rich and fertile soil, a favorable climate, mines and minerals, and forests whose wealth is still but partially developed. We have also the means of bringing to bear upon these the great inventions and noble discoveries of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which man has succeeded in ferreting out from the secrets of nature, and has applied to his use. This combination of advantages has never before existed in any other age, and is now only to be found in America and Australia. From this marriage between young and lusty nature and ingenious art, marvellous issues must proceed. Mechanics Institutes are of the highest importance. Institution of this kind stimulate to competition, they give opportunities of meeting together for instruction and for purposes of innocent enjoyment and recreation. The first public meeting of this kind he had attended in Canada, was a Soiree given by the Montreal Mechanics' Institute. On his way to it he encountered one of the most severe storms he had ever experienced, an event which taught him at a very early period of his residence amongst us, that if a man intends to do good in Canada he must make up his mind to face storms. Notwithstanding all the benefits enumerated, His Excellency remarked that there were those who disapproved of these Institutions. He had a letter in his pocket which he had received from an anonymous friend, in which the writer bewails, in piteous terms, the degradation to which His Excellency subjected himself in patronising such institutions, and hints that he was the first Governor General who had condescended to do so. Persons holding such views, continued Lord Elgin, show a lamentable ignorance of the distinguishing features of the present age. One of the most characteristic of which is an earnest and intelligent endeavor to procure a full recognition of the dignity and value of labor. In this Great Britain—your own land—for he wished every Canadian to remember that he is a member of Britain—takes a lead in the high and holy work. England is most especially a country of steady and persevering labor, not only as shewn in the labourers, but in persons of all classes."

Such are the sentiments of the noble Bruce in vindication of the principles we are contending for, as delivered at the Mechanics' Industrial Fair, held at Toronto in October last, and for which His Excellency was rapturously applauded by the society. May we one and all imitate his noble example, and practise his noble sentiments and this Institution will most assuredly flourish.

Respectfully Submitted.
E. WILLISTON, Secretary.
Newcastle, 16th December, 1850.

MIRAMICHI MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The Opening Lecture of this Institution for the season, was delivered at the Institute Room, Chatham, on Thursday evening last, by the Rev. William Henderson.

Immediately after the Lecture a meeting of the Board of Directors was held, and a unanimous Resolution passed, requesting Mr Henderson to permit the Lecture to be published, as a means of advancing the interests of such Institutions. We have received the manuscript from the Secretary, and shall have much pleasure in publishing it in our next number.

A JUST RETORT.—Major Noah, a Jew, conducts the New York Sunday Times. A Correspondent thus pertly interrogates the Editor:—

"The second coming of Christ is believed by a large portion of the Christians. Would the Jews believe in his spiritual and temporal messiahship, if he should again appear on earth?"

To this question the Major pertinently replies, and it is grievous to think that there is too much truth in the observations he makes:

"He would, we think, be less welcome to the Christians than to the Jews. He would not, we think, recognise the reformed religion which is carried out in his name. He who

preached against pride, ostentation, and arrogance—who was the friend of the poor, and rebuked the rich and worldly-minded—who preached 'peace on earth and good will to men'—who enjoined obedience to the laws and submission to rulers—would not brook the desecration of the Christian pulpit, occupied by some men who endeavor to stir up rebellion and division among the people—who falsely quote the scriptures to carry out their fanaticism on slavery—who openly defy the laws, and wickedly recommend opposition to them—who are sowing division and misery throughout the land. He would say, 'I had trouble with the Scribes and Pharisees, who were my own people—they did not recognise my mission; but here are my followers—as they represent themselves to be—who ought in my name to carry out my principles, but who do not—who consider that there are many of my orders, directions, and doctrines which they cannot carry out, alleging that they do not conform to the spirit of the age!' He would find his own people as he left them two thousand years ago—with one faith and one God; but the church which he established he would find divided into numerous sects, one arrayed against the other, preaching all kinds of doctrines, and understanding better what he meant to establish than he did himself. The question is not 'How would the Jews receive him?' but 'How would he be received by those professing to be Christians?' This is not the age for such a question."

ST. JOHN.—During a heavy storm on the night of Saturday week, a wooden building, occupied as a store by James O'Conner, was totally consumed by fire, together with the greater portion of its contents. Loss estimated at £1,000.

The New Brunswicker, of Friday last, in speaking of the weather, says:—"On Saturday last we had another heavy snow storm, with the wind from the North East, and the travelling in the country is consequently heavier than ever. The Mails are much delayed. The weather is cool and clear."

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—A correspondent of the London Globe, furnishes the following extraordinary communication to that paper:

"That mysterious state known by the name of Clairvoyance, is now being tested with a view of practical utility. A gentleman in England, named Dr. Haddock, who has devoted considerable attention to Clairvoyance, has made some statements of great interest. His Clairvoyant is a female, whom he has from time to time been in the habit of questioning as to the fate of Sir John Franklin. According to him, Sir John is yet alive, but many of his companions have died. What revelations she has actually made have not been published, but are known to Sir John's personal friends, Lady Franklin, and persons high in office. Such facts as have already transpired concerning the various vessels forming the expedition, strongly corroborate the truth of her assertions. On the 15th of September, she stated that Sir John had been met by a ship commanded by a 'white-headed man,' and relieved. Both Sir John Ross and Captain Austin are 'white-headed' men, and were both on the track that Sir John was supposed to have taken."

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The British Mail Steamer Africa, arrived at New York on the morning of Sunday, the 21st December. Our English papers, which are to the 7th of that month came to hand on Friday. What occasioned the delay we have not learned.

From the papers thus received we have made numerous extracts, which will be found under the proper head. We expect by this day's southern mail, to obtain our papers by the steamer which left Liverpool on the 21st ult. We were somewhat disappointed that they did not come to hand on Friday.

CANADIAN LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature of Canada is summoned to meet for the despatch of business on the 5th day of February.

WOLF KILLED.—We understand that Mr Robert Tweedie, living at the Williamstown settlement, on the South West branch of this River, shot a wolf on his premises, one night last week. Mr Tweedie heard an unusual noise among the sheep in the barn. He took out his gun, and proceeding to the building discovered an animal which he at first mistook for a dog, worrying one of the sheep; he fired and killed it. It proved to be a Wolf.

FIRE.—The dwelling house owned and occupied by George Rogers, pilot, situate about half a mile from Chatham, was totally consumed by fire, about three o'clock, on New Year's morning. The cause of the fire is not known, but is supposed to have originated from a spark escaping from the cooking stove. The inmates had barely time to make their escape, and consequently saved nothing.

CANADA.—The Toronto papers state that the surplus Wheat of Canada West, this season will not fall short of 7,000,000 bushels.

We hope the information furnished in the annexed paragraph is correct. We are advocates for free trade, but we do not like to see one nation partake of all the advantages and give nothing in return—this is the case with the Americans.

"Threats of Retaliatory Duties, &c.—Toronto, December 21, 1850.—Inspector General Hincks left Toronto for Washington, this morning, on business connected with the reciprocity question. It is stated by an opposition journal, and not denied by the Government organ, that the Finance Minister is proposing a tariff of differential duties, in favor of the St. Lawrence, with a view of retaliating on the American Congress, if it continue to refuse reciprocity."

It will be seen by the following article, copied from the Quebec Chronicle of the 23d December, that a very serious rupture has taken place between the Bench and the Bar in Canada East.

"Superior Court—Striking Demonstration.—Startled on Saturday morning last with the news, that all the Bar had left the Superior Court, in high dudgeon, we made haste to get all the information possible about so extraordinary an event. We soon learned that there was a very serious misunderstanding between the Bar and the Bench. That the Bar in a body had attended the Superior Court in the morning, to remonstrate against the promulgation of an expected Tariff of Fees; and that in spite of such remonstrance the tariff of the court being handed to the Prothonotary, the Bar with their Batonnier, followed by three Queen's Counsel, rose up, and more immediately to intimate their indignation, left the court room. To be more minute. On Friday it had come to the knowledge of the Bar, that the Judges of the Superior Court were upon the point of promulgating a new Tariff of Fees, as it is alleged, without previous communication of the Tariff to the bar, for further consideration, and, if need were, remarks, although a promise to such effect had been given by His Honor Chief Justice Bowen to the Batonnier of the Quebec Section. A meeting was therefore called to consider what steps should be taken by the Bar, and at that meeting which was most numerously attended, it was unanimously resolved that a respectful petition should be presented on the following morning praying that a draft of the proposed Tariff be communicated to them, and that the Bar be heard upon it. Accordingly upon Saturday morning, after the rendering of the judgments and upon the Chief Justice's taking up the document containing the Tariff, Charles Paret, Esq., the Batonnier, rose in his place, and requested permission, on behalf of the bar, to address the Court upon the subject of the proposed Tariff. The Court, after a brief and hurried Consultation among the Judges, signified its assent, the Batonnier stated that it was his duty to present a petition on behalf of the Bar, and he then read the petition in accordance with the above-mentioned resolution; and the petition was then handed up to the Bench. The Chief Justice observed that the Rules of Practice and Tariff of Fees about to be promulgated had been settled by all the Judges; it appeared that the Bar had surreptitiously obtained information concerning the scale of fees recommended by the Court, (murmurs from the Bar.) There was not on the part of the Bench any intention to diminish the fees of the Bar; for his own part and that of his brother Judges, he could say that they did not wish to reduce the fees, as would be seen by the Tariff, as in some trifling instances, such as uncontested opposition, the fees were reduced, but in other cases they were augmented; and if the Bar in about three or six months hence should find that the fees were not sufficient, the Judges would change them as they had the power to do so; but for the present they could not change them as they were to be promulgated in so short a period. His Honor here stated that he was about to order the Prothonotary to record the Rules and the Tariff. And, as we have already intimated, the three Queen's Counsel, the Hon. F. W. Primrose, the Hon. R. E. Caron, and W. K. McCord, Esq., and all the advocates present (70) rose up and left the Court, to the seeming amusement of the Chief Justice, who being wittily inclined, remarked, I have seen a flight of crows before, but never until this day a flight of Lawyers."

"The new Tariff, we are informed, reduces the fees of the lawyers, fully one half, but saves litigants nothing, inasmuch as the court costs are increased. However much the Bar might be annoyed, were the saving made for the purpose of compelling litigants to pay the Court expenses—we confess it—they should have little sympathy from us, fully persuaded as we are, that the profession will discover a way of making up for the loss of fees; but, the Prothonotaries and Sheriff, being now on regular salaries, the saving in fees is to be collected by the court officers for the purpose of being applied to the building of County Court Houses, so that the people of Quebec are to be indirectly taxed for, it may be, the advantage of the people of Kamouraska."

"That the Court is to blame in promulgating the new tariff, we do not even insinuate. In doing so they were as much only the exponents of the law as in giving judgments; but the manner of promulgating it must have been something unusual to have given of

fence, not to a few members of the Bar, but to the Bar as a body. Considering the high character of the Judges—the Hon. Chief Justice Bowen, Hon. Mr. Justice Duval, the Hon. Mr. Justice Meredith—it is almost impossible to believe that after the Chief Justice had promised to communicate with the Bar previous to the promulgation of the Tariff, the following resolution was treated with contempt:

"That the Batonnier request the Judges, at the opening of the Court to-morrow, to give communication of the Tariff of Fees, which, as the Bar understands, is about to be promulgated to the Quebec Section of the Bar of Lower Canada."

"Advocate's Chamber, 20th December." "The Bar have come to the determination to discontinue practising in the Superior and Circuit Courts. The wisdom of this resolve is questionable. The Judges' salaries will go on, and the Bar will be the only sufferers. Besides, it has the appearance of a vulgar 'strike,' and is likely to be treated as lightly by the government and the public, as the *héra* was treated by His Honor the Chief Justice."

THE SEASON.—All our exchanges from the United States, Canada, Nova Scotia and this Province, speak of the extreme severity of the weather. For the last five weeks we have had an ample share of frost and snow.

SOLUTION OF PROBUS'S GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

Spire is a town in Germany; Paris a city in France; Arran, a Scottish Isle; Rome, a city in the South of Europe; Crimea, a peninsula in Europe; Minorca, an European Island; Saome, a river in France; Amiens, a town in France; Assam, a town in Southern Asia; Cairo, a town in Africa; Pera, a city in Turkey; Princes, an African Island; Macao, a Chinese Island; Cama, a river in Europe; Meaco, a city in Japan; and *Mariner's Compass* is the name of a "well-known instrument."

PERITUS.

Chatham, January 3, 1851.

NOTICE.—The Annual General Meeting of the Members of the *Miramichi Religious Tract Society*, will be held on Tuesday, the 21st instant, at 3 o'clock, P. M., in the room over Mr KERR'S Office, Chatham.

WM. HENDERSON, Secretary.

3rd January, 1851.

Wesleyan Missionary Meetings.

The attention of the Christian Public is respectfully invited to the following announcements:—

CHATHAM—Sunday, Jan. 19: Preaching in the Wesleyan Chapel, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and at half-past 6, P. M.

On Monday, following, January 20, a *Missionary Meeting* will be held in the same Chapel, the service to commence at 7 o'clock, P. M.

NEWCASTLE—Sunday, January 19: Preaching in the Wesleyan Chapel, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday evening, January 21, at 7 o'clock, a *Missionary Meeting* will be held in the same Chapel.

UPPER NELSON—Sunday, January 19: Preaching in the Wesleyan Chapel at 11 o'clock, A. M., and a *Missionary Meeting* will be held in the same Chapel, on Wednesday, January 22, at 6 o'clock, P. M.

A COLLECTION in aid of the Wesleyan Missions, will be made after each Sermon, and in the course of each Public Meeting.

C. LOCKHART,

Wesleyan Missionary.

January 6, 1851.

Highland Society

OF NEW BRUNSWICK, at MIRAMICHI

The General Court of Directors and the Annual Meeting of the Society, will be held at *White's Hotel*, Chatham, on MONDAY, the 13th day of January, 1851, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Directors are requested to meet one hour previously.

ALEX. FRASER, Jan.,

Honorary Secretary Highland Society

New Brunswick, at Miramichi.

Miramichi, December 21, 1850.

CARD.

JOHN HENRY.

Tailor and Habit Maker,

FROM SCOTLAND,

Begs to acquaint the inhabitants of Miramichi, that he has opened the shop lately occupied by Mr James Maher, opposite the Commercial Building, and will be happy to execute Orders in his Line, for those who may honor him with their favors.

Chatham, 28d December, 1850.

Farm to Let.

For a period of seven years and possession given on the 1st April next; rent payable half-yearly, in advance.

THE FARM, formerly belonging to the late Wm. KIRKPATRICK, situate in rear of Moorfields. Sealed offers will be received on MONDAY, the 29th January, 12 o'clock, noon, at the office of

GILMOUR, RANKIN & CO.

Miramichi, 30th December, 1850.