

Communications.

THE RAILWAY AND THE MORNING NEWS.

And now let our Southern neighbors and friends understand us distinctly: we have no desire to stop the Portland Railway, but the reverse; but we do object to its being in the hands of a company for speculative purposes, and especially when there is no more capital among us than is actually necessary to carry on our several branches of trade—and hardly that, and if any among us should be fortunate enough to have any spare capital, there is room enough and chances enough for him to lay it out without speculating in a railway, for although there are many railways in Britain carried on by companies, it does not follow that we can or should imitate their example. In Britain there are gentlemen of large Estates, of princely fortunes, and as they have the money among themselves they may as well invest it in a railway as spend it at the gaming table, race-course, or galavanting on the continent; and when money is in a country and among its own people, it is of little consequence whether public works are carried on by a company or by the Government, for, as already observed, the people are the Government; nor yet would there be that danger of monopoly, for other capitalists would start up in competition. But we are not in that position; we have not money enough, apart from other business, which ought and must be carried on, to build twenty miles of railway, and yet a farce is got up about companies, and we are told of what benefits the Americans would confer on us. Just as much as a Russian or Prussian or a Turk.—Deal with us when it would suit them or when they expected to get the best of the bargain, but not otherwise. We are further told that a Railway in this country will not pay, and strong reasons in "facts and figures" set forth, railway failures shown in so many places, railways going between princely cities, and multitudes of people travelling on them, and yet no more than paying; and then wheeling round and contrasting our beggarly little towns and extraordinary wilderness, and calling aloud, with their eyes fixed on you with a stare and a knowing shake of their head, and with that expression convenient to every wise head that don't give itself much trouble to consider or enquire, by saying it won't pay!

Now I ask, what is the undertaking or course of business, from the cobler to the monarch, but what some have failed in? Is it any reason because some railroads have not paid—being outdone by competition—that we should have none? Now, we believe in a very short time that it will pay, and pay very handsomely; and we believe that a vast amount of trade or traffic might be got for a railway by the northern route, as explored, even in the present state of the country, in the shape of boards, lumber, fish, and produce of every description, and a host of other articles, and if there is any good in emigration and money coming to the country, we believe there will spring up on the Richibucto, on the Miramichi, on the Rivers of the Bay de Chaleur, and on the several bays and streams along the route, towns and villages worth looking at, in place of the ragged, scattered appearance that now presents itself to the eye of the traveller. We believe that instead of a great portion of our country being a habitation for wild beasts, in a very few years the hooting of the owl will give place to the cheering ring of the hammer, the tapping of the woodpecker to the sound of the hatchet and the lowing of cattle, and the yelp of the wolf and fox to the barking of the house-dog, and the cautious tread of the bear to the foot of civilized man.

A few years ago there were few settlers north of the Miramichi, and if a person wished or was forced to go north he was obliged to foot it along shore, through bogs and creeks, sometimes up to his hips in mud, and often in danger of sticking there, as a beacon for the next that came along to take warning by, and when night overtook him he had to hunt out the softest stone on the beach for his pillow. If it should be a person's misfortune to turn out on a like expedition during the winter season, he had to provide himself with a pair of snow shoes and a blanket, and, Indian-like, face into the forest,—that was the carriage and those the buffalo robes that were used in those days; but now, Sir, the case is entirely altered, thanks to the enterprise of a few bold and spirited persons, men of comprehensive minds, who placed themselves along this northern shore, in different stations, and encouraged others to follow their example. Those men never called for their servants to fetch them their canes and their gloves, that they were going out a walking. No; it was generally where is a handspike, a boathook, a pole or a paddle, or see, there is something wrong. They looked after their own business. It never was—"go boys," it always was—"come," and what is the result? Why, that we have fine roads, fine farms, and fine farms a-making, and each person able to take care of himself. As a proof of what I say, (I do not mention this to slur any county or to offend any person, and I trust every person of sense will look upon it in its proper light; but to those who turn up their noses, as much as to say—can there any good come out of the north. Those are the persons to whom I allude.) when there was a kind of famine throughout the Province, I believe the wail from the south for provincial aid was as full and as loud as that which the north sent forth; and I could name a county or counties in the north that took none—

they did not need it. But I do not wish to dip too deep in these things, it is tender ground; but as I said before, it is but to those who believe themselves living in the Garden of Eden, and think there is no place but where they reside that is fit to be or should be improved. It is to those I address myself. They sometimes make us laugh round here when we think what an exalted opinion of us they have. It makes us feel not a little proud, for, from the frequent selfishness of some at the south, we think they believe we are in want of nothing, and that everything that can be raked or scraped they require for themselves. Others believe us to be desperately ignorant, that we do not know when we are imposed on.

In conclusion, Sir, allow me to thank you for the very great indulgence in allowing me so large a space in your columns. And I would merely add that, suppose the Railroad does not pay one farthing of the interest for six years after it is finished, and suppose worthies who make all those fine scholastic calculations be correct, that they cannot let a single shilling of the present revenue to go to any purpose but as present applied. Do they mean to say that if twice the number of inhabitants came into the Province that is now in it—that is if Britain can spare them, and they by some means be got across the Western Ocean.—Do they mean to say, at the present scale of duties, that all the articles that must come into the country for the construction of the Railway, in the shape of provisions, clothing, articles of every description subject to duty, which will and must be consumed by emigrants and others, will not raise a revenue sufficient to cover the interest of the loan required, saying nothing about an overplus, then I declare ignorance is bliss and it is a folly to be wise, for they will get hold of a juggernaut or a buggaboo, which ignorant and unlearned people cannot see, and keep themselves in a state of alarm, to the annoyance of all about them. The only way to prove it—yet I may be wrong—would be to keep two chests; but I am afraid they would be for swapping keys. Well, then, there is the wealth that would flow into the country. Many of the emigrants who would come out would be poor, no doubt; some might have no more than five shillings, yet some might have five pounds, some five hundred and some five thousand; for no one ever saw a shoal of fish, let them be ever such small fry, but there would be some whoppers among them, and such is also the case with men.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c., R. Restigouche, August 16, 1851.

GLOUCESTER, September 11, 1851. To the Electors of the County of Gloucester. Gentlemen,

Since I last addressed you on Election matters, other things have come to light, upon which I consider it necessary to make a few remarks. I am informed that W. End, Esq., will again offer himself to you at the approaching election, for your acceptance or refusal. I would therefore caution you to be on your guard, and not be led away by parties who no doubt will endeavor to impress upon your minds that he is the most able to represent you, and that he will support the present Government, and the Great Trunk Railway. Allow me, then, to tell you such will not be the case; no, but that he will oppose them, and do all that he can to turn them out. And by whom is he induced again to offer? Rumour says, by the St. John members, who no doubt will do all they can to aggrandize themselves, and sink the Government. And then, I ask, what will become of you in the North should such be the case? Will you be gainers by it? I answer no; but you will lose all power, Railway, and every thing else which will be for your benefit. Then, Men of the North, arouse from your slumbers and stand forth; now is your time; let your voice be heard, and tell them at the South that you will not be trampled upon; that you will have your rights, and are determined to maintain them at all hazards. Show it to them by your conduct at the coming election, by recording your votes in favor of your late member, Mr Read, one who will support the Railway route along the North Shore, and no other—no compromise—let it be that or none. Do you not know that the people of that great city, St. John, (the great reservoir,) will do all they can to crush you, and carry every thing to their own mill. It has been said that one of their great reformers (at least I suppose he thinks he is) is coming this way to address you. If he does, I trust he will find there is sterling worth enough in this County (the Black North as it is termed) to tell him he is not wanted, and to give him such a lesson as he will not soon forget.

Some parties say, "Oh, Mr Read has now got a good berth, and should be satisfied." What a silly idea. No, gentlemen; but on the other hand you should feel proud that he is worthy of receiving it, and that he has conducted himself in such a straightforward manner as to command influence to obtain such an honor. Then I say rally around him both Protestants and Catholics; let there be no division, for he is the man for the present crisis—one whom you can depend upon. Your interest is his interest; he is a resident amongst you, and no doubt will spend the remainder of his days in Bathurst. But where, I ask you, is Mr End; is he not now a resident in a foreign land; then can you depend upon him—if you return him now where will you find him afterwards? Then be cautious what you do, ere it is too late.

Another story is artfully got up, that a certain great house is supporting Read, and that they will then have two members, and have

every thing their own way. What an ideal! Let me ask you if they have not a right to exercise their interest in returning a member for this County? Are they not doing a large business, and entitled to be consulted on those matters? Undoubtedly they have. Who, let me ask you, made advances to this county a few years since, when the crops failed, and many persons were in a state of starvation? Was it not that house? Where do you find a market for your produce at the present day? Who buys any thing you have to dispose of? Is it not them? Who made the independent farmers that is amongst you? was it not through them, by buying your grain and other articles. Then, gentlemen, I ask you, are you not bound to grant them a favor when you have it in your power to do so? Undoubtedly you are, and will do it; and by supporting Read, will show them that you are not ungrateful for past favors. Gentlemen, I shall now take my leave of you, trusting to meet you on the day of election, shoulder to shoulder, and of one mind, in supporting Read the Railway, and the Government.

A FREEHOLDER.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1851.

ADDRESS TO MR. STREET.

The following Address from the Grand Jury of this County to His Honor the Attorney General, was presented in open Court, on Thursday last, during the temporary absence of Judge Parker:—

GRAND JURY ROOM, September 11, 1851.

Honble. JOHN A. STREET, Her Majesty's Attorney General:

Sir,—We, the Grand Jury for the County of Northumberland, embrace this opportunity, being your first professional visit to this County since your appointment to the important office of Attorney General, to offer you our hearty congratulations on your elevation to an office, to which your legal attainments, strict integrity, and long standing at the Bar, so justly entitle you; and from the fact that nearly the whole of your professional life has been spent in this County, we feel proud that Northumberland has been enabled to afford to the Province a Public Officer that we feel assured will discharge the high, important, and arduous duties that may devolve upon him, with credit to himself, and advantage to the public service.

We can assure you that we listened with great pleasure, and extreme satisfaction, to the complimentary remarks of His Honor the Judge, in reference to yourself, in his address to us at the opening of the Court; remarks in which we most fully concur, and we sincerely trust that you may continue to hold the office of Her Majesty's Attorney General, until it shall please our most gracious Sovereign to elevate you to a more important situation.

Wishing Mrs Street, yourself, and family, a long continuation of health and happiness, We remain, with respect, Your most obedient servant,

JOHN HARLEY, On behalf of the Grand Jury.

Mr. Street's Reply.

Gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for this highly complimentary Address. It is the more gratifying from its being altogether unexpected. Gentlemen, it has at all times been my pride and ambition deservedly to obtain the approbation of my fellow countrymen, and especially of my constituents, the inhabitants of this County, in which I have spent so many happy days, and so large a portion of my life. The present flattering testimony, therefore, coming as it does from so influential and respectable a body as the Grand Jury of this County, is peculiarly gratifying to my feelings, inasmuch as it is to me the most satisfactory proof that I have in some degree attained the great object of my ambition.

Gentlemen, from my long residence among you, and from the length of time I have had the honor of representing you in the General Assembly of this Province, I feel in every respect identified with the interests of this County; and you may rest assured, that whatever may be my situation, or wherever may be my residence, I shall ever continue to take the warmest interest in its prosperity, and in that of its inhabitants.

Gentlemen, from my heart I thank you for the good wishes you have expressed towards myself, Mrs Street, and family, who, in common with me, I can assure you, will ever look back to that period of their lives spent in Miramichi with pleasure and grateful reminiscences.

In conclusion, I beg to say, that while I have the honor to hold the high and responsible office I now occupy, you and the public may rest assured of my discharging the duties thereof both professionally and politically fearlessly and independently, and in that way which a sense of duty may dictate to me to be for the best interests of the Province at large.

Gentlemen, I again thank you, and beg to add, that if anything were wanting to stimulate me in the conscientious discharge of my duty, it is embraced in this flattering mark of your approbation; and it shall ever be my

earnest desire to show myself deserving of the too-flattering terms of your address.

J. A. STREET.

Newcastle, September 11, 1851.

LATEST FROM CUBA.—Our exchange papers furnish the following important news from this Island. The piratical invasion has been brought to a speedy close, and the guilty parties have met with condign punishment. We trust the lesson, which has been written in blood, will have a beneficial effect on those restless characters in the neighboring Republic, who fancy that the whole universe was made for them, and that it is only necessary for them to land on the shores of any country, hoist the standard of revolt, and the natives will flock around it, and embrace them as their deliverers. This is not the first time that these worthies have met with their deserts. The Canadians gave them a severe drubbing, during the late troubles, in that country, and the Cubans, it appears, have exhibited but little sympathy for those "ardent lovers of liberty," and as slight compensations in inflicting on them summary vengeance:

"The steamer Cherokee, with six days later news from Havana, brings intelligence that Lopez was captured at San Christoval on the 29th ult and executed. All the men were likewise taken, and suffered the same fate."

A late paper furnishes the annexed account of the population of this Island:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Categories include Creole Whites, Spaniards, Troops and Marines, Foreigners, Floating population, Free Mullatoes, Free Blacks, Slave Mullatoes, Slave Blacks, and Total.

CANADA.—We are indebted to our Canadian exchanges for the following important Despatch received by the Governor General from Earl Grey, in answer to a joint Address of the Legislature of Canada, to Her Majesty on the subject of the repeal of the Duty on Foreign Timber imported into the United Kingdom. We think the Colonial Secretary has taken up a position which it will be difficult for his opponent to combat:

"DOWNING STREET, 5th Aug. 1851. My Lord,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 74, of the 6th June, enclosing an address to the Queen from the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Canada, on the subject of the proposed repeal of the Duty on Foreign Timber imported into this country.

I have laid this address before the Queen; but after having fully considered the reasons assigned in it against reducing the Duties levied in this country on Foreign timber, Her Majesty's servants did not feel themselves justified in abandoning the Bill for this purpose which was then before Parliament, and has since passed into a law. This reduction of Duty on Foreign Timber was proposed with a view to the advantage of the British dominions at large, but while it is obviously calculated to promote this object by reducing the cost in the United Kingdom of the most important materials for the employment of industry, there appear to Her Majesty's Government no grounds for apprehending that the measure will inflict the injury upon Canada which is anticipated by the Provincial Legislature. The successive reductions of the duty on Foreign Timber which have already been made since the year 1843, and the consequent great increase of its consumption have not been found to occasion any diminution in the consumption of Colonial Timber, which on the contrary has continued rather larger than before, the fact being as it appears that whatever may be the rate of duty, and consequently the market price for foreign timber, the particular kinds and qualities of timber grown in the British Colonies will continue to be used for the purpose to which they are peculiarly adapted, and are now applied. It is also a consideration which ought not to be lost sight of by the Provincial Parliament, in a country possessing such great natural resources as Canada, and of which the population and capital are still so inadequate to the full development of these resources, there can be no occasion for endeavoring by artificial regulations to extend the field of employment, and that the permanent prosperity of the Province will be best promoted by allowing enterprise and labor to flow in their natural channels, instead of seeking to divert them to branches of trade dependent for their success upon the uncertain and fictitious encouragement afforded by protective duties.

You will assure the Provincial Parliament that, while Her Majesty's Government take the most lively interest in the welfare and commercial prosperity of Canada, they are for these reasons convinced that a steady adherence to the commercial policy on which the measure now complained of is founded, will be found to be the course best calculated to promote the interests of the Colonies in common with those of the British Empire at large.

I have, &c.,

GREY."