

rica, on which, when in this country, he had traced out a line of communication between the United States and Mexico, and it was the same as that now laid down for the Pacific Railroad; and that he stated that he was satisfied however he might wish it otherwise that was yet destined to be a part of the United States. Mr Silliman then read a complimentary letter he had received from the Baron and stated that any of the audience who so desired could see the Baron's autograph. The lecturer concluded, and the greater number being ladies, went up to the desk to inspect the handwriting of the Baron.

Communications.

PUBLIC MATTERS.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir.—To carry out my views of the present Government, as noticed in my last, and to place them in a proper light before the public, permit me in this letter, to notice their action and reaction on the Railway scheme of uniting those colonies. And let me here observe, that never since the first white man trod the soil of New Brunswick, has a measure presented itself to the public, involving such a destiny for weal or woe to the Province at large; and never were Statesmen required to act in a more straightforward manner, or free from local prejudice, or self aggrandisement. It involved the destinies of the present and future generations, and was calculated to rise our name as Colonists, among the nations of the earth, or sink us in abject slavery; and never did an opportunity occur for our Statesmen to hand their names down to posterity among the departed great, or of being recorded among the traitors of our country. The public may judge from their acts which of the two they are entitled to. Now, in taking up the Railway question, I do not intend to fight that battle over again, it being a matter of history, but I intend to notice a few points, and quote a few extracts from their speeches, and public works, and draw therefrom a few conclusions. First—after Major Robinson's able, accurate, and impartial Report was made known, and that it favored the Northern section of the Province, the Southern Press, with few exceptions, burst forth like a tornado; and scribbled, in all kinds of abuse, all kinds of nonsense, and all kinds of falsehood, heaped and hurled, nay piled on the unfortunate North; and a Railway by the North, was represented as feasible as a Railway to the moon; and in their rage, the solar system became in danger of being disturbed, and the inhabitants of the North of being buried in the snow, not being aware before, until informed by their friends of the South, that we lived in so dreadful and inhospitable a climate. New lines of Railways were started in all directions, no valley, creek or mountain range, but had its railway pointed out, backed by the opinion of that Office Engineer, Master Wilkinson, setting forth his opinions; and he, in his fury and zeal, attacked Major Robinson's Report, and so keen did he get in the chase, to show the Major an impostor, and enlighten his employers, that he pursued him among the mountains, and had not Major Robinson in his kindness and mercy, condescended to notice him, thereby replacing him in his office, like an innocent babe, reclaimed from the woods, he would no doubt have remained rambling those mountains in pursuit of a railway; and as the flying Dutchman has become the terror of sailors, so might his spirit have become the terror of Lumbermen, and be known to them as the spectre of the Mountains. Before I have done, I shall endeavour to show what share the Government had in having him whipped and chastised by the Major, for his folly. While all this was acting, out comes Howe's celebrated letter to Earl Grey, followed by Earl Grey's Dispatch of March 1851, and I shall here notice a passage in that Document, which the Earl says:—I have no objection to a deviation from Major Robinson's line, if a better can be found, of which I am so well assured, running wholly through British territory. Now mark the words 'of which I am so well assured,' who assured Earl Grey of this? not Howe, for upon the Major Robinson route he based his letters, and has zealously and consistently, in public and in private, advocated the northern route. Not Canada, for they had taken at this time, little or no action in the matter, certainly not in the route. Who then extracted that expression from Earl Grey? Clearly New Brunswick, through their paid servant, Mr Wilkinson, by writing a criticism on Major Robinson's Report, supported and backed, by all the weight and influence of the Government; for it is a known fact, this precious document was not sent direct to Major Robinson as it should have been, to convince him of an error, but to Downing Street, to Earl Grey, carrying with it a two-fold aim—First, to destroy Major Robinson's reputation in the eyes of his Government, as an incompetent Engineer, and to accuse him of partiality; and there is no doubt in my mind, that the Government for Mr Wilkinson's services, *veniam pretium* problem, *conducit et vitit*. But it may be said, that any subject can address the Colonial Minister through their Government. True; but it does not follow, that the person or party is answered by Dispatch, without allusion being made of who he is, but it is noticed that their petition was received and presented to the Queen, for sanction or refusal; the foot of the throne being the privilege of the subject. Not so the Colonial Office, where hundreds of Dispatches pass between a Co-

lonial Ministry and our Colonial Governments that the people know nothing about, for it should be remembered, a Government will show no dispatch to operate against itself, if it can avoid it. But who is this Mr Wilkinson that has become so conspicuous? Why gentle reader, neither more nor less than an individual in a Government Office, and receiving Government pay, and herein he has shown himself the cat's paw of the Government. But where was Mr John Grant, a gentleman well known to the Province at large, as a man of superior parts and qualifications? Where, I ask, was he, how was it that he did not write a criticism, to save the Province from ruin and folly, as he was employed on that survey and had borne a conspicuous part in it, and should have known a good deal about it? Ah! plain John Grant, in the language of an honorable member on the floors of the House, knew his place, and knew his duty to his superiors and his country, and would not lend himself to no mean treachery.—I must close this, and in my next follow the Government into some of the thick of their actions. In the meantime I remain yours,

OBSERVER.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir.—Would you believe it, notwithstanding the late honors heaped on our County by the appointment of one of our Members to the Executive Council, there is a number of those low minded persons, that know not how to appreciate honor, talent, or worth, that meet in private circles, and hold confabs, and all kinds of curious things are said, such as another Cipher added to the Government, only one member now to stand for the rights of the County; that all friends and connections being now pretty well provided for, we may expect shortly a fresh importation from a neighbouring Province, equal to the Egyptian Locusts, to eat up all our green things, just as if that was a crime, when they should know, that he that provides not for his own household and friends, ought to be considered worse than an infidel. And as to Ciphers, there is no figures in Arithmetic like them; I was always fond of them, their value rests altogether in the way they are placed by the hand of the master. A Cipher added to a figure sometimes counts 10, sometimes 20, 100 or 1000, altogether depends on the value of the figures in company with them. In adding up a sum they are so easily got over, and so nice in subtraction. Nothing from nothing and nothing remains; in fact in any difficult question or problem, a cipher or two are always found convenient, for instance the square root; and I see no reason why a well organised Government should not have a few of them to help them along. Besides, it shows a spirit of meekness and wisdom in our member, when he found the Government at all times disposed to crush any measure that would be of vital interest to the Northern Section of the Province, not to act like those other blockheads that always keep opposing them, doing no earthly good but keeping them cross and ill-disposed. Besides it will be much more convenient for the member to tell the gaping constituents on his return from Parliament, to say, I in the Government done so, and so, in place of as before, I got the Government to do so and so. Besides let me tell those fault finders, if what they say be true, that we have but one member to represent us, then I say we are better represented than any other constituency in the Province, for one and one cipher make 10; for my own part I feel much pleased with the appointment, and would merely add, that I hope the present Government will appreciate the worth of this late addition, and not serve him such a scurvy trick as they did before, to kick him down stairs with a hint to go out of doors. Should they be in want of any more Honorables, there are a few more to be had at a premium, from this quarter, at the shortest notice.

Dalhousie, 30th March 1853. C****

IMPORTANT SALE Of Valuable Property, Stock in Trade, Household Furniture, &c., &c.

PHILIP VIBERT is instructed by the proprietor Mr JOHN JAFFRAY (who is about to leave the District) to sell by Auction on WEDNESDAY, the 20th April
A Handsome newly erected COTTAGE, situated in the Bay of Port Daniel. Being a most comfortable and genteel residence, with a good STORE, BARN, STABLES, and Out House adjoining thereto. This property is most eligibly situated for the prosecution of the Fishery, Lumber Trade, or Ship Building, the Bay of Port Daniel being a good and safe anchorage for vessels of considerable burthen. Also the

STOCK IN TRADE, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE &c. &c.

The Sale will take place on the premises commencing at 11 o'clock A. M. Term cash on delivery.

PHILIP VIBERT, Auctioneer.

New Carlisle, 9th March 1853.

For Sale or to Let.

On reasonable terms, the Stone DWELLING House and Farm, recently owned and occupied by Donald McDonald Esq. at Bartibogue. Enquire of

ROBERT BROWN,
Chatham, March 25, 1853.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1853.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—15s. in advance: 20s. at the end of the year.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—Seven lines and under, first insertion 2s. 6d., and 6d. every subsequent publication: from 7 to 15 lines, 5s. the first, and 1s. every insertion afterwards. Longer advertisements in proportion. Advertising by the year as may be agreed upon.

No order except from persons with whom we have an account, will be attended to, except accompanied with the cash.

We should like on the opening of the navigation, to publish TWICE A WEEK, on a sheet somewhat larger than half the size of our paper. To procure a suitable Press, and other necessary materials, would involve an expense of about £200. Will our subscribers, who are the parties to be benefitted by the arrangement, make an effort to put us in possession of the necessary funds? A small percentage on what is due by them, would enable us to carry out our wishes.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

We have but little matter of interest to communicate from the Legislature. Below we copy a Letter from our Correspondent, and in our Telegraph despatches will be found the latest news of the doings therein.

We have been kindly furnished with a copy of the joint address of both branches of the Legislature to Her Majesty, on the subject of the Fisheries and Reciprocal Trade with the United States. It is an able document, and embodies the sentiments and feelings of all classes in this quarter. We have no doubt it will receive that attention from the home Government which its importance demands. We have not room for it to day but shall publish it next week.

Dear Pierce,

The last three days the House has been chiefly occupied in discussing the Election Bill. On motion to day to postpone it for three months, the division was 13 for and 23 against, and progress was reported. If the Government go on with the Bill, it will be changed in many respects, although it is quite impossible to engraft the Ballot system upon it, there are a majority of the members in favor of the Ballot, though most of them object that the Assessors list does not provide a safe registration. In some instances this objection is sincere, but I fear that in others it is but an excuse to avoid the question. Kerr, Williston, Cutler, McPhelim, Barbrie, Gordon and Johnson expressed their opinions in favor, Read's opinion not expressed, though I believe he is in favor of it, and Montgomery, with the Attorney General are against it. There will be amendments moved, and an attempt will be made by the Liberal or Radical party, to exclude many of those who hold office under Government, from holding seats in the House, and the House having already passed a Bill of that nature, which was rejected by the Council, 'tis more than probable that an amendment of this nature will be carried. In the discussion on this Bill, Gray and Johnson had a regular set to; the affair was conducted in a strictly Parliamentary and gentlemanly manner, the sarcasms cutting and severe on either side, and the account pretty fairly balanced, each expressing through the debate, feelings of personal friendship, and manifesting their sincerity at its close. Gray behaved in a most manly way. The Attorney General wishing to exclude Johnson from replying Gray urged Johnson's right to be heard. You will probably see some report of this matter, in which it is to be hoped each party will get fair play. The Session is evidently drawing to a close, though much business yet remains to be done; the members who work at all, appear constantly busy, but whatever be the cause, business does not progress as rapidly as could be wished. We never can have a short Session until the principle be adopted, that Government Bills, and the Public Accounts shall be brought in during the first week, and all government measures disposed of in the first place. This course would not suit the present Government, because, when they find it necessary to maintain their popularity, that some shadow of reform should be introduced by them, while its substance would be their downfall, it must be their aim to get the principle of the Bill sustained, then to report progress, and have the measure got over in the hurry and confusion always consequent on the desire or necessity of closing the Session. The House has not received one third of the information asked for by the various addresses, and probably will not get half of it at all, by this means the committee on Public Accounts and other Committees are delayed, and until they report 'tis not possible to say what business remains to be done:—tis needless for the most anxious and industrious members to urge on their work under such a system, and in the end it must always happen that the work will drive the members. Many things will be done which otherwise would not or should not be, and much left undone which the interests of the country call for—again

so long as the Legislature has to conduct what is properly the business of the several Counties, time and money must be spent in a worse than useless manner.

FIDES.

AUSTRALIA.

The Pictou Eastern Chronicle, has been doing good service to its readers, by publishing several letters received from parties who left that place for the 'land of gold and promise,' as Australia has been designated.

These letters give any thing but a flattering account of the climate, fertility or resources of the country, and hold out but very poor inducements to individuals to emigrate thereto. The following is an extract from a letter received from Mr. Alexander Ross, formerly of Pictou, and dated at Williamstown, December 5, 1852.

There are a great number of emigrants coming here every day. Melbourne is crowded already, and has been ever since I came here; where all the people are to go to or what they are to do I cannot tell. One half of Melbourne is hotels, boarding houses, and wine and spirit vaults. The city though young, is much larger than Halifax. It is well laid out in regular squares, with broad streets, and is mostly built of brick. There are very few wooden houses. There are some very fine buildings, and some stumps of trees are still visible in the heart of the city. The Church of Scotland (established) is a large brick building, but still unfinished inside. The service is held in the Temperance hall, where I heard the Rev. Mr. Reid preach one Sunday. The hall would contain about 300 persons, but it was not so full as I would like to have seen it. Mr. Reid stated in the course of his sermon, of the population of Melbourne, now from 50,000 to 60,000, he believed there were not more than four or five thousand attended all the places of worship within the city. There are twelve or thirteen churches of all kinds in Melbourne. The population altogether, including those living in tents around the city is estimated at 85,000 to 85,000. The City is supplied with water from the Yarra Yarra river, by watermen who make a business of it; their charge is seven shillings for a cask of 100 gallons. Melbourne is a very drunken city. Almost every corner is a wine and spirit store. They are always full. The hotels are crowded with proud, saucy, ignorant people, who have made a little money, and do not know what to do with it. Murders are frequent. Policemen have been shot at noon day. Robberies are so frequent that the papers have ceased noticing them. House rent is extravagantly high—provisions are dear and not so good as when only half the price—life and property are not so secure as they should be—the roads are unsafe—the very streets of the city and towns are almost tabooed as far as ladies are concerned.

Under such circumstances, hundreds of the most respectable portion of society are beginning to look around for a pleasanter home, they grudge the enormous expenditure, when they find it unattended by reasonable comfort and security. In fact, I have come to the conclusion that a gold country is not a very pleasant place to live in. It may be bustling and progressive, and business like; but the condition of both California and Victoria shows that a profusion of gold is not favourable to the development of those circumstances which make a country pleasant or desirable as a place of residence.

I am at present on duty on board the Epaminondas, an American ship from New York, taking account of the cargo. She has 1,000 bbls. flour, and a large quantity of Yankee notions. The Revenue, an American Ship from New York, sold her cargo well. Her bread (biscuit and crackers) were taken from the ship's side, and brought 300 per cent over invoice. Flour sold at £4 10s sterling taken from the ship's side; hams 1s. 9d. stg. All the wooden ware sold in Melbourne at public auction. Amongst other articles were some round mousetraps; I bought one at R. D's in Pictou for 1s; they sold here at 4s 6d each, by the dozen. Brooms, buckets, tubs, &c., sold at great prices.

The weather here is very unsettled and changeable in temperature—one day being very hot, and the next quite cold. The south wind is here the coldest; when it blows from the north west it is hot. There has only been one slight shower of rain here during the last six weeks. The climate of Australia does not appear to me to be so fine and genial as it has been represented to be; the fine blue sky I used to read about to all appearance has left this part of the country. I do not observe much difference between it and the sky over Nova Scotia. That fine fair I was to purchase for G— I cannot cast my eye upon as yet. The one he has will equal any of them I have seen here.

CANADA.

We publish below a series of Resolutions laid before the Assembly of Canada, by Mr. Hincks, on the 29th March. This gentleman stated, that Customs duties for the past year had been about £700,000, or a little in excess. That the alterations proposed would amount to something like £325,000, and if the prosperity of the country continued, he hoped next year it would be possible to make still greater reductions.

1. That it is expedient to repeal all Provincial Acts and parts of Acts, imposing Duties in Upper Canada, on Licenses to sell spirituous Liquors in any quantity or in any