

THE GLEANER:

AND NORTHUMBERLAND, KENT GLOUCESTER, AND RESTIGOUCHE
COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

Old Series.]

NEC ARANEARUM SANE TEXTUS IDEO MELIOR. QUIA EX SE FILA GIGNUNT, NEC NOSTER VILIOR QUIA EX ALIENIS LIBANUS UT APES.

[Comprised 13 Vols.

NEW SERIES.

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 25, 1854.

VOL. XIII.

Cheapest in Town, and Best yet Offered.

DRY GOODS.

White, Grey, Striped, Printed, and Fancy Cottons; Gingham, Moleskins, Muslins, Linings, Velvets, Edgings and Lace, Knitting Cotton, Bed Ticks, Sheets, Waddings, White and Colored Warp, Braces, Tapes, &c., &c.; India Rubber Braces, Black, White, and Fancy Kid Gloves; Fur Caps, &c., &c. Figured Aprons, Coburgs, Orleans, Plaids, Braids, Handkerchiefs, Shawls, White Red and Blue Flannels and Serges, Yarn, Hose, Socks and Mittens, Ready made Coats, Jackets, and Trousers; Ribbons, German and Berlin Wools, Bonnet Shapes.

HARDWARE.

Nails, Hinges, Saws, Spoons, Table Knives and Forks, Jack and Open Knives, Razors, Pins, Needles, Thimbles, Powder and Shot, &c. CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

PROVISIONS AND GROCERIES.

Pork, Flour, Meal, Herrings, Coddish, Ham, Pickles, Tobacco, Tea, Sugar, Molasses, Butters, Soap, Candles, Barley, Vinegar, Coffee, &c.

DRUGS.

Honey, Arrow Root, Caster Oil, Salts, Senna, Salspetre, Oil, Peppermint, Cramp and Pain Killer, Vermifuge, &c., Indigo, Whiting, Caperass, Red and Yellow Ochres, Rose and Dutch Paints, Glue, &c. &c.

STATIONARY.

Blank Books, Writing Paper, Perforated Card and Pasteboard, Red and Black Sealing wax, Wafers, Crotchet Cases, &c., &c.

Salmon, Trout, and Herring Twines,

Shoe Hemp, &c. Just Received, Boxes Muscatel Raisins,

One Cask Extra Lard Oil.

The above are being sold off by the Subscriber at greatly reduced prices for cash or approved credit, to make room for Spring Importations. At his usual stand, Hawbolt's Building, Lower Water Street, immediately below the Steam Ferry Slip.

N. B. Shingles, Fur, and Produce taken in exchange.

A. FRASER, pd.

Chatlam, February 10, 1854.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Come unto me all ye who Suffer and be Restored to Health!

The Subscriber keeps constantly on hand a large Stock of the undermentioned valuable Medicines:

Radway's Relief Relief,
" Renovating Resolvent,
" Resuscitating Regulators,
Christie's Galvanic Belts, Necklaces, and Fluid,
Morehead's Magnetic Plaster,
Morse's Invigorating Cordial,
Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup,
Hunter's Pulmonary Balsam,
Mexican Mustang Lintment,
Cramp and Pain Killer, Cherry Bitters,
Vermifuge, Dispepsia, and Holloway's Pills,
Russia Salve, Essences of all kinds,
Hair Oil and Perfumery.

ALSO

Dry Goods, Groceries, Liquors, &c., &c., &c.
Cheap for Cash.
Call and receive Almanacs, and Pamphlets, gratis.
JOHN J. GIFFORD.
Richibucto, 4th February, 1854.

MEDICINES.

The Subscriber is Agent for the following Patent Medicines and Curators.

Morse's Invigorating Cordial,
Wild Cherry Bitters,
Cramp and Pain Killer,
Celebrated Russian Salva,
Radway's Ready Relief,
McEet's Pills and Bitters,
Morehead's Magnetic Plasters,
Johnson's Anodyne Lintment,
Clarified Cod Liver Oil,
Hunter's Approved Cough Syrup.

ALSO

Those Invaluable Galvanic Belts, Necklaces, Brackets, and Magnetic Fluid.
Almanacs and other treatises on the above Curatives given free at the Shop of
WM. A. LETSON.
Chatham, Miramichi, January 15, 1854.

WANTED.

100,000 PINE SHINGLES, for which CASH will be paid.

January 25, 1854
W. J. FRASER.

To Ship Owners and Others.

Two experienced ship Masters, who have lately lost their vessels in the Bay of Chaleur, are desirous of obtaining employment, and would engage to take charge of, and superintend the fitting out of any vessel, proceeding to any part in the United Kingdom, from any part of this Province, on reasonable Terms.—Reference to Mr Henry Bowser, Bowser's H. tel. Chatham.
B. thurs, 6th February, 1854.

Communications.

OUR NORTH AMERICAN FISHERIES.

"Slight not good counsel, come from what quarter it may."

During the past year our pen has not been idle in advocating the cause, and in defence of the important and just rights of our hardy fishermen. We have, *tant bien que mal*, endeavoured to awaken public attention to the importance of this great source of wealth, not only to the North American Colonies, severally and collectively, but also to the Parent State. And now that the season is fast approaching, when the harvest is again to be drawn from the briny deep, we deem it incumbent to return to the charge—to persevere in the same course—and not allow our Rulers at Home or in these Provinces, to become lethargic.

The large Squadron placed on this Station during the last fishing season, has proved to the Colonists that the Home Government was then, at least, in earnest. Our blue jackets have done their duty nobly, and our bombastic, bullying neighbours across the border have been *volens volens*, made to understand the difference between *meum and tuum*. But an important question arises—is the good work to be persevered in—are the patrimonial rights of British subjects to be maintained and respected, or will Lord Aberdeen be as easily cajoled into passiveness, by the wily tactics of the diplomatists of the Sovereign Republic, as he has been by those of the Russian Autocrat. We are so accustomed to Colonial misrule, that we feel a species of instinctive presentment of evil, fearing lest some error, some egregious blunder, may yet be committed by the Aberdeen-Russel Cabinet. If we are to judge the Colonial Administration in Downing Street by the past, we can have but poor hopes for the future. Twenty years of close attention to the subject, of personal intercourse with our Colonial possessions in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, and an eight years residence in British North America, has convinced us, that the Colonial Office, as now constituted, far from advancing the interest of the Colonies has been a complete mar-plot. All the disturbances, all the evils, which have, from time to time, retarded the progress of Colonial improvement and prosperity, can be traced, and are solely attributable, to mis-government, to a misconception of the wants, or the capabilities of each distinct portion of our mighty Empire. The Colonial Office is a barbarous remnant of the old High Tory school—of the times when its sovereign edicts were as irrevocable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. Those days are passed—and we the Colonists, know and feel that we are men—free as the air we breathe! Can any thing be more monstrous, more iniquitous, than a system which permits, that the Colonial Minister for the time being, shall preside over and direct, not only the present, but the future destinies of millions of fellow subjects, differing alike in language, in habits, in customs, and in wants. His must indeed be a master mind, whose comprehensive intellect could scan the mighty whole—could deal out even handed justice to all—and provide, not only for the present wants and necessities, of each integral part, but likewise for the well-being and prosperity of future generations. We have oft asserted what we now reiterate, that one of the worst and most dangerous consequences of the present constitution of our Colonial Office is, the continual change which takes place. The Colonial Portfolio is seldom held by the same individual beyond two or three years, and sometimes scarce as many months. Hence the numerous errors which have been committed. In a word the whole system is bad.

Let it not however be supposed, that we are of the number of those who would seek or even countenance the dismemberment of any portion of our Colonial Empire. Far from such being our views, we would wish if possible to cement even more closely the bond of union which links us to the mightiest, the most civilized, and magnanimous Nation of ancient or modern times. Every Englishman has just reason to be proud of the land of his birth—He can point with exultation to her past history—can glory in her noble institutions—and truly say that England is the true land of freedom. With Sir Walter Scott we would exclaim:—

"Breathes there a man—with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
This is my own—my native land?"

What we have ever advocated, what we now advocate, insist upon, and claim as our right—is—not only to legislate for ourselves, but to be consulted in all matters of vital interest to our well-being. What right, we ask, has a Colonial Minister to treat with any foreign Power, relating to the settlement of this or that question—affecting us alone—without our knowledge or privity. What right had Lord Stanley (now Earl Derby) to concede the fisheries of the Bay of Fundy to our rapacious neighbours? And but for the timely representations made to his Lordship, the like concessions would have been granted both as regards the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Bay Chaleurs. We have previously on more than one occasion alluded to this iniquitous error. But such gross abuse of power—for we cannot qualify them by any milder term—ought incessantly to be paraded before the public, until our rulers conform to the dictums of plain common sense. Yet, under the administration of the same noble Lord—when he became Premier—a powerful armed force is sent to protect the very interest, the self same fishing grounds which he had well nigh ceded, not only without our knowledge or consent, but without even the shadow of an equivalent—can a stronger proof than this be adduced of the correctness of our strictures relative to the Colonial Office.

Again, look at the conduct of Earl Grey, relative to New Brunswick. The Legislature of that Province, pass an Act for the granting of Bounties towards the encouragement of the Fisheries. That enactment goes home for ratification, and is quashed by the Colonial Minister. "Strange! Aye! passing strange!"—A Colonial Minister, who does not know a Haddock from a Codfish—who has not the most distant conception of our wants or the difficulties we labour under, places New Brunswick on an equal footing with Great Britain, and because bounties are discountenanced at home, the Colonies, forsooth, must follow in the wake.

Prodigious!—"Another Solomon come to judgment"—we should like to have his Lordship out here just now, and put him to the test, as to how far the clothing he wears in England, would suit this climate when the thermometer is 23° below zero, as it was on the 20th ulto. Had New Brunswick sought to obtain any assistance from the Mother Country to carry out her plans—if the Bounties were to be drawn from the Imperial Exchequer—then indeed would Earl Grey, or any other Colonial Minister, be justified in placing his veto on that or any other measure of a like tendency. But, when the Colonial Legislatures decide on appropriating funds to any purpose wholly local, and in no wise affecting the interests or majesty of England, then we maintain, they have an undoubted and unalienable right to do what they please with their own.—Such are our views, and such must be the views of every right minded man—in fact we challenge Earl Grey or any Colonial Minister to prove the contrary—not by special pleading—the rules of diplomacy (*which we interpret chicanery*) or expediency—but by the rule of plain common sense—by the simple, christian, practical law of doing unto others as we would wish to be done by. Theory is one thing—practice another—and we have no notion of being made the victims or the scape-goats of theoretical experiments or *State Diplomacy*.

We have, we think, said enough to prove that we are justified in fearing a relapse—a return to the old careless system—or worse—a surrender of our rights to Foreigners. Let the Legislators of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland be on the alert—let them look out ahead, and see that the interests of our sea-board population be not sacrificed—that our "birth-right be not sold for a mess of pottage!"

Nothing can we fear, avert from us that awful scourge of Nations—War—we must again pass through the fiery ordeal. But let the British Ministry beware, that amid the din and turmoil of war, they forget not the interests of the British North American Colonies. Let a new principle be adopted, as recommended by Captain C. Y. Campbell. Let our protective force consist chiefly of Boats crews, stationed at the various important points. Three or four small Steamers will then suffice to protect the entire sea-board of these Colonies. Let Captain Campbell be appointed Commodore, let the entire arrangement and management be entrusted to that persevering and zealous officer, and we will answer for the result. "The Devil upon the Station," as the Yankee fishermen were pleased to term the

Devastation when commanded by that indefatigable officer, and we transfer the expressive cognomen to him, will take care that our rights are respected.

The opinion we entertain of Captain Campbell, is that universally entertained by the merchants and fishermen along these shores. We have had the good fortune to make his personal acquaintance, and have had frequent opportunities of judging of the deep interest he took in the Fisheries, and the pains he was at to become thoroughly conversant with all the details appertaining thereto. His Report addressed to Admiral Sir George Seymour, proves the truthfulness of these our assertions. 'Tis a document replete with valuable information, and highly creditable, in every respect, to its author. The Port Hood embargo was a bold and decisive step, such as perhaps few other Naval officers would have ventured on. In a word, Captain Campbell was up to every artful dodge of Brother Jonathan. Hence then our anxiety to see him again on the station. A vote of a few hundred Pounds per Annum, on the part of our several Legislatures, to secure the services of Captain Campbell, with the concurrence of the Home Government, as the Superintendent of Fisheries throughout the Colonial waters, would, in our opinion, be money well spent, and a move in the right direction.

Let not however any of our readers suppose that in speaking thus highly of Captain Campbell, we wish to cast even the slightest reflection on the conduct of any other Officer on the station; for we feel satisfied that the Commanders and Officers of each and every ship engaged in the service, did their duty to the utmost, and were all zealous and indefatigable in their exertions to protect us from foreign aggression. But it must be remembered that in the Navy as in the Army—in all professions,—in all trades—there are some master minds—some individual, who excels his compeers in some particular point. The protection of our Fisheries is a peculiar service—an arduous, and even unpleasant one—*which many officers would feel*

Unfortunately for the prosperity and well-being of these Colonies, as well as for herself, England has been unmindful of her own interest, in her neglect of our Fisheries. The finest nursery for hardy and able seamen, has been suffered to dwindle to the mere shadow of what it might have been, through the apathy or ignorance of Colonial Ministers. Each summer some 2,000 American Schooners of from 70 to 130 tons register, hover upon our coasts, and bear off, to their respective Ports, a source of wealth which impoverishes both us and the Mother Country. Each vessel makes two or three trips in the course of the season, and allowing only eight men to each schooner, gives a total of 16,000 able seamen. Had our Fisheries been fostered and protected, we doubt if half the number of American schooners would be so employed. Protection—that is a strict and rigid adherence to the terms of the Treaty—will rapidly reduce this large fleet, and ours will increase proportionably, thus causing additional employment at home, consequent upon an increased consumption of British Manufactures.

The Americans we maintain, can offer us no equivalent for our fisheries. If they are disposed to treat for Free Trade—the unrestricted navigation of the River St. Lawrence, and the great inland seas above, will be ample compensation.

It has been stated that a continuance of protection will ultimately lead to the embroiling of the two Nations. We on the contrary, assert that 'tis the only sure preventive against such a calamity. For the moment you throw open the Fisheries, the Americans will have free access to all our Bays, Creeks, and Rivers in each and all of which, they will have an equal right with the inhabitants to set their nets or prosecute the fish in any way they may think fit. Is it then to be supposed, that our fishermen will tamely submit to be thus robbed and plundered? They will not—and we warn our rulers to beware how they tittle with this question. For, should such a privilege be granted, war to the knife will be the inevitable result. Our fishermen will not submit to foreign encroachment; and any attempt to interfere with their net setting grounds, will be repelled by open violence. Bloodshed will be the result—and a very bloody *casus belli* will present itself.

"Do nothing to-day that you may have reason to repent of to-morrow."

MERCATOR.

Hope Town, Gaspé, 4th March, 1854