

Thimble Rig—and unless our statesmen are on their guard, yours will steal a march upon them—you want free access to our fishing grounds. We the Colonists say no—we claim and hold them as part and parcel of our patrimony, and we emphatically deny the right of the Parent State to give you that which is not hers to give—and, in order that all parties concerned may better understand a material point connected with this, to us, vital question, we will return to the last paragraph of our previous communication which appears in the *Gleaner* of the 25th March. We there say that “our fishermen will not submit to foreign encroachment, and any attempt to interfere with their net setting grounds, will be repelled by their violence. Bloodshed will be the result, and a very pretty *casus belli* will present itself.” This we said, this we repeat. What you Brother Jonathan demand, is, unrestricted access to our fishing grounds. This we presume forms part of your scheme of annexation, for if such a concession were made, and our people tamely submitted, a few years would suffice to destroy all our fisheries. The Salmon fishery is a very important one to numbers on this coast—your citizens, as a matter of course, would claim the right of setting nets in all our rivers—of appropriating to themselves the Lion's share of the spoil—Gaspé, Pabos, Port Daniel, Bonaventure, New Richmond, Restigouche, and all our Bays and Creeks will forthwith be barred and swept by the nets of your fishermen—we, good easy quiet souls, allowing you to do all this without let or hindrance. Can you, can our Rulers suppose that we are such dolts. We tell you and them plainly, that ere such a thing takes place, martial law will have to be proclaimed along the entire line of coast—England would require to double the number of her protecting squadron, and a paid Police force would be required by the several Colonial Governments for the purpose of keeping order. As it is your fishermen have committed the most lawless acts on various occasions, what would they not do if such a state of things existed. We repeat that no surer plan can be devised by the Governments of either Nation, to bring about a war. Let well alone we say—the Fisheries are ours by every law, human or Divine—you can offer us no equivalent—so far as Gaspé is concerned the sea is our harvest field—deprive us of that and half our population must starve, our merchants be ruined.

And now Gentlemen, Rulers of this, the brightest jewel in the British Diadem! What have you done, what are you doing, or what do you purpose doing to foster this important branch of industry? Nothing, literally nothing—worse than nothing! You have voted £1000 tis true, for our protection, you have fitted out a small vessel, and sent her on a voyage of discovery, under the scientific charge of an M. D.! We have witnessed many extraordinary appointments in our day but none to equal this! We know nothing of Doctor Fortin, save through Punch in Canada, as the Brigadier Commandant of the Montreal mounted Police. A strange transmigration that!—when lo and behold!—from a bold dragoon, you transform him into a veritable Horse Marine. Could no Naval Officer be found, no experienced and educated Master Mariner fitted for the post. You will doubtless, Gentlemen, point exultingly to his Report of the Fisheries on the Coast of Labrador. We have read that Report carefully and attentively—we have analyzed it with the gusto of an amateur in such matters—and though we have never visited that desolate coast we can enlighten both Dr. Fortin and the Public on some important points.

When we first learned that the vote had been made we congratulated ourselves with the consolatory reflection that, however tardy, still our rulers were making a move in the right direction. We fondly hoped that brighter days were in store for us—that not only the coast of Labrador, but the South Shore of the St. Lawrence, Bay Chaleur, and Magdalen Islands would be carefully explored by our State cruiser—that the wants, the capabilities and resources of the entire sea-board would be enquired into and reported on—and that the collective wisdom of Canada would thus be enlightened—and both appreciate and understand the real importance and value of the treasures of the deep. Gaspé to the devil, what do they want to know about that wild howling wilderness! The fruitful and densely populated shores of icy Labrador are far more important. Hie thee there friend Fortin! The whole affair is really too ridiculous, too pitiable to dwell upon. But we wish both Dr. Fortin and his Patrons to understand, that we have not, cannot possibly have any personal ill feeling towards the Doctor. We are utter strangers, and have no doubt that he is a very gentlemanly worthy man—one who might possibly shine in some more congenial and suitable capacity—but, we unhesitatingly affirm that he is in no wise qualified to see into and report upon that which he knows less than nothing about. We do not blame Dr. Fortin for getting a good berth, if such it be, but those who made the appointment. Let the various Naval Officers who were on this station last summer, and fell in with the Canadian flag ship, be appealed to, we will stand or fall by their unanimous opinion in this matter. Has the Pro-

vince of Nova Scotia entrusted the command of her Cruisers to M. D's, Apothecaries, or Lawyers? “Throw physic to the dogs”—appears to be literally carried out in Canada, for Dr. Fortin is but one of the many sons of Esculapius holding office in this Province.

The fact is that nine tenths of the population of Canada look upon Gaspé as a desolate wilderness, 'tis to them a complete terra incognita, less known, less heard or read of than the Polar Regions, consequently less cared for. During the first Session of the present Provincial Parliament, our Members, Messrs. Christie and Le Boutillier succeeded in obtaining the appointment of a Committee, to enquire into the state and wants of the Gaspé Fisheries. Printed circulars were sent to such as were considered capable of giving information. On one point all the answers agreed, the necessity of granting Bounties. The information thus obtained enabled the Committee to arrive at the true state of the case, and an excellent Report was drawn up by Mr. Robert Christie, the chairman, recommending the granting of Bounties for all decked vessels employed in the Fisheries, as well as prizes in the several settlements, for the boats catching the largest quantity of fish during the season. It might have been expected that something would be done, if only the granting of prizes—not at all!—the whole question was pitched overboard, though 'tis true the measure was only lost by a majority of four.

We must here refer to an anecdote related to us by the member from this County. When he found the measure was lost he looked over the names of the Yeas and Nays—and among the latter he saw that of an Upper Canadian Member, whom he reproached with not having redeemed the pledge he had given him to support the Bill. When to Mr. LeBoutillier's surprise he excused himself by stating that he only just entered the house at the moment of the division, and voted without being aware of the question then before the Assembly. Is this the way in which our representatives watch over the interests and welfare of the people of Canada?

A prevailing error among Parliamentary Representatives is, to suppose—for we can only judge of men's opinions by their acts—that their Legislative duties are strictly confined to advocating the interests of their respective localities. The member for a great Lumbering constituency thinks only of the Timber Trade—for a strictly agricultural population, that the products of the soil are to be his sole study—and so on to the end of the chapter. Each of these gentlemen forgetting, that the Agricultural, Commercial, Lumbering, Manufacturing, and all other interests, are so many links in the great social chain which unites the whole community as one family. There are in reality no distinct interests—for whatever tends directly or indirectly to injure any separate branch of industry, will sooner or later affect the whole. Legislative enactments are not to be considered in the abstract, but the aggregate. If you protect one branch to the prejudice of another, the evil effects of such enactments, will, sooner or later, cause their baneful effects to be felt throughout the entire community.

Agriculture is the true source of wealth, the only sure basis on which to found National prosperity. Commerce and Agriculture go hand in hand—the former being the eldest daughter of the latter—whatever then tends to the injury or benefit of the one, must in like manner affect the other. This axiom cannot be refuted by any rules of political economy or jesuitical sophistry. Let us then consider how far and in what manner these two great interests—these pillars of the State—are affected by the Fisheries.

MERCATOR.

Hope Town, 8th April, 1854.
(To be continued.)

COUNTY NORTHUMBERLAND.

TALK ABOUT TOWN.

As we are on the eve of a General Election, the probable occurrence of such an event, has of course set the political community on the *qui vive*, and a great many things are talked about, that may or may not be true. Some people say that our four Representatives—two of whom at least mis-represent us—are all anxious to get into the good graces of this noble constituency, and while they each fill the chair of an M. P. P., do what seem to two of them at least of the greatest importance—secure the plunder of office for the next four years. Rumour even goes further, and it is said, the Hon. Attorney General who now mis-represents us, has got a few of his old fogey friends to get up a Requisition to him to give him some colour for again offering for the suffrages of the constituency, he has so grossly outraged. Rumour says, it is meanness itself for the Attorney General to pretend to return to this County, on a Requisition got up at his own suggestion and emanating from parties too clearly showing the Hon. Attorney General to be at the bottom of them. Rumour says, that he is counting on support from quarters, where we would be afraid to do it openly—that so fearful is he of his return that he is not above troubling himself to write to, and seek support from parties, he professes to be perfectly independent of; and this because he

finds his *got up* requisition a failure. Rumour says, that at the coming Election, political renegades whether occupying a higher or lower position, will meet with their just deserts, and that the man who would sacrifice the interests of his County on a Railway question, and so far demean himself as to appropriate a silk gown, (as rumour has it) and only charge himself with it when likely to be detected, would without the slightest twinge of conscience, receive mileage for travelling which he never performed, and take a member's pay, while attending to his professional business in the Courts. Again I say that rumour hath it, that he will be treated in the same way, as a more contemptible colleague, (who professed what he did not practice)—when the constituency are giving them their deserts. Again rumour says, that Kerr and Johnson will be returned and that we want two more to beset as colleagues with them, possessing honesty and integrity, in whose principles the public have confidence, and who will not be like those whom they are likely to succeed—place their own advancement of more importance than the interest of the County, and who will not disregard the expressed wishes of their constituency, even though it should be at the sacrifice of their seats.

Yours, &c.,

OBSERVER.

ARISE.

Arise, for our native land, arise
For their sakes, who have gone before us;
Let our shout of firmness reach the skies,
And freedom's flag wave o'er us.
Let us up, in the patriot's holy might,
And with heart and hand maintain our right;
Should we need to tread in the battle track,
Let the forest echo our war cry back.
Be firm, for those whom we cherish dear
Must still be free, and void of fear,
And the earnest glance of our matron's eyes
Bids us both one and all arise.

Arise for our Fatherland, arise,
No bigot chain shall bind us;
But a spell is before our slumbering eyes,
And traitors tread behind us.
Let us up and protect the ancient fame
Of the land from whence our fathers came;
Let the patriot fire of the gallant Scot,
By his brother Breton ne'er be forgot.
Be firm and protect our social hearth,
To us the most cherished spot on earth,
For our maidens smiles cannot disguise,
But willingly speak the word,—Arise!

Arise, for the hour is dark, arise
For the daylight now is near;
Let us wake in our dreaming eyes
And water for our best and dearest.
Then up each weak and gossamer thought,
In our unity be all forgot;
The flag of free conscience o'er us waves,
'Twas never yet unfurled o'er us.
Be firm, for treason will shrink and fly,
From the lightning glance of freedom's eye;
And freedom now to her children cries
In thrilling tones, Arise! Arise!

AFFLEX.

Chatham, April, 1854.

On the Death of a Young Lady, supposed to have died of a broken heart.

'Tis ever thus, the fairest flower
Will soonest fade and pass away,
It spreads its perfume one short hour,
Then droops to premature decay.

The young, the lovely, gifted die
As tho' but sent our hopes to mar,
And bid us turn our thoughts on high
And seek in Heaven our guiding star.

They tell me that they mourn thee not,
Where once thy smile a lustre shed;
Art thou then thus to be forgot,
And has thy mem'ry with thee fled?

But if thy Spirit from on high
Can commune with this mundane sphere,
If aught of earth can give thee joy,
Or chase the silent speaking tear.

Then wilt thou still rejoice to know
That others have not hearts of steel,
That tears of deep regret still flow,
That strangers mourn, that strangers feel.

Thine early doom—But, Oh! 'tis vain
To weep, to sigh,—thou'rt happier far
Where none can cause thy young heart pain,
Or seek thy fondest hopes to mar.

1st March, 1854.

FOR SALE.

To be Sold by Public Auction, on the 10th day of MAY next, in front of Messrs Johnson & Mackle's Store, in Chatham, a

LOT OF LAND,

containing 200 Acres, situate on the south side of Napan River, known as the *McRae Property*; there is a large amount of Cleared Land, with Buildings and good Fences.

The Property will be sold in one or two lots, as may suit purchasers, at the time of sale.

For further particulars apply to

WILLIAM McRAE
Chatham, 3rd April, 1854.

Legislative News.

OUR CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

FREDERICTON, 14th April, 1854.

Dear Pierce,

The Session is drawing to a close. I think the House will rise by the 1st May. Much work has been done, though not of a kind to make much shew. The Law Commission labour and the review of its proceedings by the House, is not trifling. The Liquor Bill (as it is called) has been discussed this week, and progress reported. It will be lost by a vote of 24 to 16 or thereabouts, and the last winter's act be replaced by a license law (I think). The change in the feeling of the House since last winter, is but a representation of the reaction throughout the country on this subject; persecution will necessarily stir up opposition and the labors of total abstinence men will not only be increased, but become (I fear) less productive of good than when they worked within their proper sphere of moral suasion. I know well that an over zeal has caused them to push forward in the present instance; as a body they sincerely wish the good of society, and the moral improvement of mankind; but I feel as I have always felt on this subject, and sincerely trust they will take warning by the past; they can do wonders by the means originally intended; let them confine themselves to the legitimate means, they did not organize as a coercive but as a persuasive Institution, and no organization ever produced such great results as this while persuasion and example were the weapons used, though the excitement caused among them by the struggles for legal prohibition, may induce many to suppose that they are not only flourishing but advancing more rapidly than heretofore. A calm observer must see that not only is the cause retarded, but that it is approaching that point where its motion must cease to be onward. There is already that wavering along the ranks which indicates danger, and proclaims retreat necessary to avoid a complete rout. Let the more cool friends of total abstinence use their efforts to save the cause from the hands of those whose zeal must otherwise destroy it.

The Orange Bill has been lost on division 20 to 19, so that there is another subject to create trouble and produce strife again thrown back upon the country. The debate on this Bill was warm during the first day, but on the second it was agreed to take the question and avoid further excitement. The speakers were Connel, Earle, Needham and Boyd, &c., on the one side, and Barberie, the Speaker, Johnson and Smith on the other. All the northern members voted against the Bill.

The law to amalgamate the Courts of Law and Equity has passed the House. This makes the Master of the Rolls a judge of the Supreme Court, and gives the Judges an equity Jurisdiction. The change will advance Justice and diminish expense in equity proceedings.

A grant of £40 has been passed in supply to G. B. Bell, for ferrying the Mails in 1852 and '53, but may yet be lost in the Council. The Road Committee recommend £1500 for the North West Bridge out of the £10,000 placed in the hands of Government, and this in addition to last year's grant.

FIDES.

P.S. It appears by the Accounts that the Silk Gown will not cost the Province anything.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

April 15.

Mr Kerr moved an address to His Excellency calling upon him to chancel the Old Bridge Bonds, St. John. He argued that the bonds had been standing for eighteen years, without a penny having been collected,—that every one knew it was not intended to force the collection; that it would be extremely hard on the parties to do so, and that there were doubts in the minds of the Law Officers of the Crown whether a verdict could be obtained if the bonds were put in suit. The Address was carried by a majority of one, as follows:

Ayes—Messrs Street, Wilmot, Kerr, Scoullar, Harding, Williston, Gordon, English, Jordan, Godard, Needham and Taylor—12

Nays—Messrs Earle, Ryan, McPhelim, Botsford, Purdy, Stiles, Smith, McLeod, Boyd, Lewis and Connell—11

April 17.

The Steam Regulation Bill passed to-day, and will come in operation on the 1st of July.—The clause for red and blue lights is struck out. The salary of the Inspector is to be £200. Mr Smith moved that the salary be paid by the steamboat proprietors, which was lost, 19 to 7.

Mr Scoullar's address to the Government to stay suits on timber bonds was carried, 11 to 10.

CALIFORNIA.

By the arrival of the California steamers, we have received fifteen days later news from California.

The steamer leaving San Francisco on the 16th or Maach had over \$2,000,000 in treasure.

The trial of Col Watkins, of the Walker expedition, had commenced. Ex-Governor Foote of Mississippi was one of the counsel.

Mining accounts are still exceedingly favorable.

San Francisco markets were quite stagnant. Six failures, including two commission merchants, had occurred.

Money was stringent and real estate had largely declined in value.

There is the gratifying intelligence that Lt. Stein and his party are safe.

UNITED STATES.

THE TELEGRAPH TO NEWFOUNDLAND.—We see by the Newfoundland papers that active and efficient men have in hand the extension of the Telegraph from Halifax to Newfound-