

their pit, when one of them scrambled out and began running rapidly. As he passed, our own and the French batteries fired nearly 50 shots at him, but the fellow sprang and turned like a Jack Snipe, and though the balls cut up the earth all around him he managed to run the gauntlet and escape unhurt. His comrade in the pit, it is presumed, was killed by the bursting of the shell.

## Communications.

### COUNTY RESTIGOUCHE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—In your Gleaner of the 14th April, a communication appeared from Restigouche, signed SAM SUKE, the authorship has been attributed to me of that false and trashy production, I feel it a duty to myself and the public in this quarter, to correct the impression. Your correspondent, if he mean anything would fain convey to the public, that Restigouche was in a horrid state; and would impress on your mind how thankful you should be "to your God, that your lot is cast where it is; that if you were here at present you could not get a barrel of flour for 20 dollars." He then informs you "that starvation is actually staring a great many of the inhabitants in the face, from early frost, hurting the grain and potato crops." He next informs you "this has been a favourable winter for lumbering, on account of the snow which for a wonder, has been light," and concludes the sentence by saying our lumbermen have made up their minds to volunteer for the Crimea, or Dalhousie for the benefit of their health." He then notices "the old quantity of ships building (viz 3), not so bad" he considers "considering how Quebec and St. John have fallen from their high estate in that respect." Rather a puff by the way in the face of such hard times. Next the fatality of our mill business claims his attention, and Mr Travis's mill is stuck up in "statu quo" with the unkind stab, "that it never will be of any benefit under its present proprietor." But to the Messrs. Ferguson & Company your correspondent is extremely kind, for although he gives them a gentle chiding for their want of judgment in not managing their business aright, with prophetic wisdom and encouragement, says, "I am sure the present hard times cannot last long," and then directs their attention to New York, Boston and Britain, and declaring again "we will soon have an alteration in the face of things." So come on Messrs. Ferguson & Rankin: here are words of inspired wisdom from the mouth of our oracle "SAM SUKE." But alas! alas! our unfortunate merchants, they poor souls, "until the spring arrivals, it would puzzle them to send you an advertisement." Encouraging, very, to any person feeling disposed to settle in the place. And as to politics he cares nothing about them "nor what they are doing in our assembled wisdom, supposing each will try to get all he can to their own mill." And concludes by informing you "when the times get worse I will write you again." Strange conclusion after the "go-a-head" spirit he would wish to cultivate, and the flattering views held out for the future.—The only excuse that can be offered for the writer is that he betook himself to the Mission Point among the Indians, and chose one of their names for a signature; and as they are a mixed multitude of black white, and grey, it would be quite out of keeping, with a production from that quarter, were it not mixed up with all kinds of contradictions, nonsense and falsehood; and were it not known that few or none of our Indians know anything of the Latin language, it might have been taken for a genuine indian production, from its senseless jargon.

First—your correspondent "SAM SUKE," is quite at variance with truth in stating that you could not get a barrel of flour for 20 dollars. I have asked and obtained the liberty from Mr Donald Stewart, of the late firm of Peter & Donald Stewart, to state, that he has sold flour during the past winter, and is selling it at the present time, for 23 5s. or as SAM SUKE would say 13 dollars; and I know of no reason why you should be treated in a worse manner than any other person. Besides, flour has been sold in Carleton, and down the Canada side of the Bay during the winter, and yet, at from three to three pounds 10s. As to the starvation of the inhabitants, I am happy to state, that the people of Restigouche have seen worse times than the present year, and weathered the storm; and had "SAM SUKE" attended the Agricultural Grain Show in Dalhousie, he would have found the Agricultural Products that will bear a favourable comparison in weight or quality with any in the Province or Provinces, notwithstanding hard times, frosts, and all the other train of evils which we poor mortals are heir to." The Merchants have quite as much goods as are common for them at this season of the year, and will no doubt be quite as able to meet their liabilities the ensuing season as "MR SAM SUKE" with all his presumption, and "go-a-head spirit." He might to say the least of his production—have spared the unkind cut to Mr Travis, a gentleman not interfering with any one; and if he has been tardy, or neglected seeking the council of "MR SAM SUKE," he is able and willing to bear the loss, and will no doubt, be guided by his own judgment in studying his own convenience, no one being able to force him to do otherwise.

That there are some individuals who may have had enough times, is not disputed, and what country or place, let me ask, where such is not the case; but that the country is half as bad as your correspondent "SAM SUKE" would make it appear, is a libel on the place. If he can believe what he has written, why does he not clear out? Does he fancy his leave-taking would put the place in mourning? or that he cannot be done without? If so—I beg to assure him, not a single tear would be shed for his absence, and when he next writes you, let him strive to make himself more acquainted with the state of the country, and less with that of the mission, which might be quite as much to his credit. He would then find that bad and hard as the present year is, there has been years not long since, that many people were more sorely pressed for food for themselves and for fodder for their cattle. The latter pressure is not felt the present season, hay having been sold and is still selling at Dalhousie, at from three pounds to three pounds fifteen shillings; and as to the "wonder" expressed for the fine winter we have had for lumbering, I can only fancy that he is the only person lost in "wonder" at the circumstance, it being by no means a rare occurrence to have fine winters in this quarter for lumbering purposes.

I have thus noticed a few of the errors and eccentricities of your correspondent, but from the extraordinary manner that your correspondent flew around, from one side of the river Restigouche to the other, and then showing "the amount of stock of our staple commodity at home," with a hopeful eye to

our neighbours across the line, taking New York and Boston in his flight, &c., &c., and his being so extremely severe on the words "her" and "our," it was most difficult to follow him in his perambulations, and more so to understand. For what is the collective wisdom of New Brunswick or Canada that he shows so much contempt for is to me a secret. But taking it for granted that he has become domiciled among the Indians, it must be in that case the Canadian Parliament he means, (as the Mission is in the Canadian province) and Indians are not generally great politicians, which may account for his indifference.

I remain yours respectfully,

A. FRASER.

Restigouche, 24th April, 1855.  
P. S. Should "Sam Suke or a gone Sucker" think me too severe in my strictures. I shall be most happy to be corrected by him under his proper signature, but otherwise shall take no further notice of him.

### COUNTY GLOUCESTER.

Shippegan, 26th April, 1855.

James A. Pierce, Esq.,

My Dear Sir,—I see by the last two Gleaners, you are scarcely well informed as to the real state of things in this quarter, as to the destitution of the inhabitants of the lower part of the County Gloucester. There certainly is much want of provision, but they are confined to certain localities, but not general. In Shippegan and Pokemouche, the people have little to complain of, but the upper part of Caraquez Parish and Tracadie, there is real want and destitution in the highest degree, and where relief is to come from at present, it is more than I can tell, for supplies of no kind is in either place, money cannot procure them, and money has been sent from hence to Miramichi for Indian Meal, and the sleds have come back empty. Money was also sent by a horse in this place to purchase this article to give out to save the potatoes if possible for seed, but it could not be procured.

In Session in January, the Grand Jury recommended to the Bench to petition the House for money to purchase seed for the poor in this County, and I see £1,000 were granted for the Province, which is only a drop in a bucket compared with the wants required. In Caraquez, Pokemouche, Shippegan and Tracadie, the inhabitants cannot plant two thirds of the usual quantity, come what may, many will not be able to plant one potato, all seed at present is eaten. What can be done? Provision is not in the country owing to the high price of flour, and the low price that was obtained for shipments of fish to Quebec and other markets, yielded no return. This is the great cause why provisions could not be imported last fall, and our spring shipment is going to be very limited owing to hump and political strifes. Our members there their want of experience or ignorance, have never given the real state of the country a thought, but they will be like Barnwell "wis too late." It is here where the rub is, and the fault lies at their doors and not with the public authorities of the County, for it was only thro' the Province chest that the cry could be heard. Self and crude miserable notions were the order of the day—malicious, false and foul attacks on private characters, to destroy good men and their families, to put in their places miserable demagogues, neither of standing or character, who were all the Session writing false stories about their neighbours, and leaving theory of want out. Let those now who have taken so much upon them, come and see the picture, and ask their consciences when they have so done, what have we done for those who are now starving, and the children crying for bread, and not one mouthful to be had to save them from death? Let the public say what is to be done—say the word—and the writer will be at his post as a public man, but at present it is beyond my comprehension what is to be done to relieve the wants of the people alluded to.

Yours, very truly,

JOHN DORAN.

### COUNTY BONAVENTURE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—A number of most disgraceful Valentines having been sent to various Ladies and Gentlemen in this neighbourhood, and some charitable persons having insinuated that Mercator is the author of some addressed to parties with whom he holds no intercourse. He begs leave through the medium of your Journal to assure those parties, that he never has so far debased himself as to write anonymous letters or abusive Valentines.

We have also been accused of writing a certain Pamphlet, addressed to the Electors of Gaspé, which was pretty freely distributed throughout the district last summer, and may as well embrace this opportunity to deny all participation in, or knowledge of that production, until we received one by Post. In a word, Mercator never has denied or attempted to evade the responsibility of authorship of any thing emanating from his pen.

Your obedient Servant,

MERCATOR.

New Carlisle, 17th April, 1855.

### STEAM FERRY BOAT.

The Subscribers having been appointed by the Sessions of the County of Northumberland, a committee to enter into arrangements for running a STEAM FERRY BOAT, for a term of years, between the Public Landing in Chatham, and the landing opposite at Dickson's, Newcastle, hereby give Notice that proposals for effecting this will be received by them at the Office of John T. Williston, Esq., Chatham, an annual sum of £500 will be allowed in aid of a Steam Ferry Boat.

JOHN PORTER, } Committee  
J. T. WILLISTON, } of  
JOHN MACDOUGALL, } Sessions.

Miramichi, 31st March, 1855.

### GARDEN SEEDS.

The subscriber has on hand, and low offers for sale, a well selected lot of

#### PRIME GARDEN SEEDS,

the growth of 1854, among which are the following: Swedish, Yellow, Purple and Green Top Turnip Seeds; early born and orange carrot, early frame, chariton and marrowfat Peas, broad window Beans, Red Beet; early york, sugar loaf, drumhead, and cape savoy Cabbage, Spinach, Radish, Curled Parsley, solid Celery, and curled Cress; with a variety of Flower and other Seeds; also, a few superior Dutch Hoops, an excellent article for the use of Gardeners.

M. M. SARGEANT,

Newcastle, 26th April, 1855.

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1855

TERMS.—New subscribers Twelve Shillings and Six Pence, per annum, in all cases in advance. Old subscribers 12s 6d. in advance, or 17s 6d. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a large saving, we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it.

This Paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at Holloway's Print and Ornament Establishment, 24, Strand, London, where advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

### COUNTY BONAVENTURE.

OUR attentive and intelligent Correspondent at New Carlisle, under date of April 17, writes to us as follows. We would earnestly recommend his remarks relative to the attention, feeding, &c. of Horned Cattle during the long winter, to the attention of our Agricultural readers, as they come from a person who speaks from experience:

"Not a vestige of ice can now be seen in this part of the Bay. The snow is rapidly decreasing, and the first shower of rain and warm weather will put an end to sleighing. The Bonaventure is, I believe, the only river which is not open. Fodder is scarce and dear, although an immense number of horned cattle were slaughtered last fall. The two last winters will, I trust teach our farmers experience—it has been dearly acquired by many, and ought not easily to be forgotten—every man who is in the habit of attending to cattle, ought to be able to judge of the number he can winter by the contents of his barn: a moderate sized horse requires at least three tons of hay, besides two gallons of oats per day, if only moderately worked, to take him through our long winters. The allowance for horses shipped abroad from England, is forty pounds per day. For Cows one ton of hay should be allowed, besides turnips and plenty of straw. A most important item in the management of horned cattle is their being kept clean. During the winter all horned cattle should be Curry Combed the same as horses; this will not only keep them free from vermin, but in good condition. Try it Gentlemen. A celebrated Divine has stated, 'that cleanliness is next to Godliness'; what is applicable to the man, as regards the first, is equally so to his beasts, of every kind."

### OPENING UP THE COUNTRY.

It gives us much satisfaction at all times to record any intelligence referring to the opening of roads, as this is the only way by which the country can be settled. We have, therefore, much satisfaction in copying the annexed piece of intelligence from the St. John Freeman.

We agree with every word written by our contemporary, and we believe a commencement, but on a small scale, has been made in this quarter, to carry out the project spoken of. Last year the Legislature granted £100 for a road from Welfield Settlement towards the head of Barnaby's River, and this year they have appropriated £75 for the same object, which will open a road 12 or 15 miles on a direct course from Chatham to the Grand Lake.

We hope another year will not be allowed to pass over without this road being thoroughly explored to the Grand Lake. If opened, we are informed by competent persons, it would shorten the distance between St. John and Miramichi one half, besides open up a fine country for settlement. Two objects of vital importance.

The Editor of the Freeman remarks:

"We are glad to perceive that something is to be done at length to connect the waters of the Grand Lake with those that flow to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and that the fertile lands which lie between the head of the Lake and the settlements along the Gulf Shore are to be opened up. The House of Assembly voted £1,000 for the construction of a road from the Salmon River to the Richibucto. We trust another road will soon be made from Gaspereaux to the Miramichi. The distance overland from Chatham to St. John would then be reduced to a few hours' travel."

### THE RAILWAY.

LAST week we stated, that there was a screw loose in Railway matters, the following explanation is copied from the Freeman:

"It is an advantage, when rumours of an evil character are afloat, that these should assume as soon as possible some definite shape, in order that they may be properly dealt with.

"There is enough of truth in the rumours on which the paragraph above quoted is grounded to render it necessary to explain what has occur-

red, though an official announcement is not required.

"The Directors of the Company have not, by any deed or omission of theirs, afforded any pretext to the contractors to abandon their contract.

"While the late Government was in office; arrangements were made (through the Provincial Treasurer we believe) with the eminent house of Baring Brothers, to pay the interest on Provincial Debentures and an account was opened with them, on condition that they pay the Province at the rate of 4 per cent, per annum on all moneys lying on their hands and charge at advanced.

"This general understanding, it appears, was considered sufficient by the Provincial Executive and no advice of the issue of certain debentures was sent to the bankers, nor any special directors to pay the interests on them when the coupons were presented. They had on hand a sum of money belonging to the Province, and in due course the balance of the amount required was forwarded by the Provincial Treasurer, but it had not been received when the interests fell due. When, therefore the holders of the debentures applied for their interest, the answer given by Baring Brothers was, that they were not advised to pay; they were quite ready to pay had they been so advised. Fortunately Mr Jackson, who felt how much injury such an error may do, interfered and persuaded the bankers to pay the interest, and so set matters right.

"Mr Jackson has written on the subject and complained severely of the carelessness that threatened consequences so mischievous; but he does not, we are assured, threaten to abandon the contract. Credit in the best time is a delicate thing liable to be injured by the least breadth of suspicion, and in times like these large money transactions are not to be trifled with. There was a misconception, perhaps a want of due care somewhere, but it is not to be supposed that such a mistake will occur a second time."

We perceive by the St. John papers that the Hon. Mr Ritchie has left that city, to take passage in the New York Steamer for Britain. The object of his mission the Courier says:

"Is to endeavour to ascertain from the Contractors the precise position of our Railway matters. It cannot be denied that our railways have not progressed with that energy nor been managed with that prudence, which might have been expected from such eminent men as Messrs Peto, Brassey, Betts and Jackson, and it is desirable that matters should, if possible, be placed on a better footing."

### STATE OF THE PROVINCE.

MATTERS WORTHY OF SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

LAST week we alluded to the distress which prevails in this district, the want of Seed, and the necessity there exists for placing every acre of land under cultivation the approaching season. We hope our Farmers will take our advice, and should they fail in procuring a sufficiency of potatoes and oats, to plant beans, pease, turnips, buckwheat, barley, carrots, beets, cabbage, corn, in fact any thing that can be converted into provender for beast or food for man.

We are pleased to find the Editors in other parts of the Province are calling on the farmers to abandon all other pursuits and turn their energies to the cultivation of the soil. We give a few extracts below.

"Scarcity of provision and high prices for all the necessaries of life are matters which now demand something more than a mere passing notice; they are matters of fact and substance; they are matters which affect in the most direct manner every inhabitant in the land; they are matters which we cannot pass by with such an amount of unconcern as we would the ordinary and every day transactions of life. A famine is a horrible thing to contemplate, yet we would do well to look seriously into the subject and see how far the possibility of such a thing may be from being realized—this is neither a light or a trivial consideration, and whether we choose to look at the present condition of circumstances, which may bring it about or not, its consideration may be forced upon us at a time, and in a manner when we have not the means to avert the consequences; it becomes therefore necessary to sound the alarm in time. Our readers must not imagine that we have any desire to excite their fears unnecessarily, but when a difficulty is likely to arise, we must meet it in the spirit of fairness and candour; and we can tell them that if the present war should continue, and England be deprived of the usual supplies of grain from the continent of Europe, then the consequences will be such as we shudder to contemplate, and our worst fears be realized in a manner which we dread to anticipate. Let us enquire then, what is our duty under these circumstances—we have a soil, and a climate capable of raising enough, and to spare for every living creature within its bounds. Argument upon this point is unnecessary, the fact is established beyond a doubt, we must then put our hands to the plough, and never forget the good old maxim