

and asked me my name. I told him. He said he would recommend me to my colonel. Poor fellow, he had scarcely spoken when a shower of rifle bullets flew past us, and he fell into the ditch. "Tis near my time to hook it," cried I to myself, and once again I crossed the field unhurt. No matter what the papers say, the men did their duty. They cannot do impossibilities—sending hundreds instead of thousands, to attack a place like the Redan!"

*Isaac Youdall, a Private in the 90th Regiment, the son of a labouring man residing in the village of Corsley, Wilts, gives the following account of the failure at the Redan:—*

"At the hour of twelve o'clock at noon the word was given to attack. In a moment 300 or upwards of our regiment bounded out of our advanced trench in front of this formidable work. It was here that our difficulties commenced: a deep ditch fourteen feet wide and as many deep had to be crossed before we could reach the parapet of the battery; this was accomplished by means of scaling ladders, which had to be carried up by the storming party. Before the ladders could be placed the Russians were aware of our approach, and commenced a heavy fire of musketry and grape upon us, which we preserved, and in a few moments crossed the parapet and rushed into the battery. The heavy peal of musketry ceased for a moment or so, to give way to the more deadly weapon, the bayonet, which was used in good earnest. On our first entry the Russians retired, and I thought we should gain an easy victory, but the tide of battle soon turned against us—The Russians being reinforced, returned to the fight in overwhelming numbers, and our gallant little band being greatly reduced by this unequal fight, retired reluctantly to the outer edge of the battery. Here we formed, and commenced a heavy fire of musketry. The Russians, elated by their partial success, rushed up to the edge of the parapet, and commenced a cross fire of grape and canister and musketry on both our flanks, which swept hundreds of our brave fellows down. Things began to wear a serious appearance, and nothing but British soldiers could have stood against such fearful odds. By this time all, or nearly all, our ammunition was expended and no supply could be procured, no reinforcements could be sent to us, as the heavy fire kept up by the enemy prevented any force being sent to our relief; it was then a furious fight commenced with stones and pieces of wood which were hurled down on the Russians, it being the only missile we had to use that we could reach the enemy with. Our men by this time were nearly all killed or wounded, and we were forced to leave the place; of the 300 men of my regiment hardly fifty returned.—Both officers and men were nearly all gone; it was a sight never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it, and fortunate was the man who came out of it unhurt."

*William Pendlebury, of the 77th regiment, was chosen to form one of the ninety-six brave fellows to break an opening through the breast-work of the Redan, in order to make an entrance for the storming parties—certainly a very dangerous position. He thus describes the affair:—*

"I was one of the party that went to level the Redan with our picks and shovels; but when we advanced amongst grape, canister, shell shot, and musket balls, I did not think I should be alive to tell this. At seven o'clock we were marched to the middle ravine, to form up by divisions, and there were picked out twelve men for each company, making ninety-six men. We thought it was some easy thing we had to do. We were marched to the advanced trench, and told we were to advance on the right of the storming party, with our firelock in one hand or a pick or a shovel in the other, to knock down the face of the Redan. We all got ready; bade 'Good bye' to one another, and the word was given to advance. We gave one cheer, and over the parapet we leapt and got into the Redan, where we had to fight hand to hand.—We drove the Russians out of it, and held it for one hour and a half. When they were retiring we kept up a fire on them, which killed hundreds of them; but they soon returned with column after column, five times the number we had, but we still drove them back, until the force of the Russians which was in the Malakoff came up and reinforced them, and gave one charge, killing and wounding us until there was not a quarter of our men there that went to it. The most painful thing I have to tell you is, that we were forced to retire before numbers three times as much as our own. The Russians remained masters of one half of the Redan, and when we got reinforced, and drove them out of it, and have all the works now. Out of ninety six men of a working-party thirty men returned to tell the tale. Of four men who went out of my tent, only two of them returned; so you see what must be our feelings, who go out together and some never to return."

*The following extract written by a private soldier in the second battalion of the rifle brigade gives a very graphic description of the attack on the Great Redan. He says:—*

"Our regiment marched up to the advanced trench, and directly after the order came for our men to go over the parapet, although there were two regiments that ought to have gone before us. Our colonel then mounted the parapet, and cried out, 'Now, my boys!' waving his sword over his head. I was close to him at the time, but there were two men who got over before me—I was the third. Directly we got over we had to run through a complete storm of grape and canister, and the rifle balls whizzing round our heads like flies round a sugar

basin; in fact, it seemed almost impossible to get to the Redan, without being knocked over. It almost seemed to me that some had a charmed life. I had men fall in front, rear, and each side of me every few yards that I went. At last I reached the Redan unhurt. It is impossible to describe the scene. There was a ditch at least twenty feet from the top of the Redan, this was covered with red soldiers when we came up, but it soon became dotted with black coats. In the ditch were the dead and dying. In spite of the determined manner of our soldiers, the Russians succeeded in flanking and driving us back, throwing stones, hatchets, and all sorts of missiles at us. The sight then was awful. As soon as we had the word to retire I felt myself slipping down (for where we were was like a steep bank). I looked into the ditch and that was filled with red soldiers, with their bayonets fixed; but I happened to see a place left vacant. I jumped down, and was no sooner down than I had a dozen or two over me—the bank had given way, and down they came on top of me. I made sure that I should never get out alive, but still I tried; but I was so crushed, that I had no strength left in me, so I lay quiet. After about five minutes I felt a shift, and got my right arm loose, for I was wedged in by a poor fellow that fell on his head, and I believe broke his neck. I then managed to get myself free from my load, and scrambled up the bank which I rolled down and there I lay a minute or two to get breath. I then got up and ran about ten paces; then I got a clout on the 'nut,' which sent me spinning, but I got up again, and ran on till I got into the trench. I forgot to tell you, that while I lay in the ditch, the men's rifles kept falling down, and the bayonets sticking into the poor fellows as they lay. I had one that caught me in the ear and gave me a bit of a nick, but it was only a scratch. We lost one captain and officer, and three sergeants; three officers and three sergeants wounded, and about 200 privates killed and wounded. Believe me, it was a fearful day. I never wish for such another."

*The Late Major Welsford.—The following letter was written by this lamented officer within an hour of his being blown to atoms from the cannon's mouth:—*

"Camp, Sept. 8. My dear B—, This is about to be an eventful day to some of us, as we are to storm the Redan, the French the Malakoff; and as you say 'would it were bed time, Hal, and all were well,' but trust in Providence all will be well, and that I shall be instrumental in making her Majesty a present of the Redan, as I am to lead the Light Division storming party, and if God spare me, to be the first in and first up. This is to be done by escalade. I am glad her Majesty has seen my photographs, and I now send you some more like them. No time for writing more, as the drums are going. Remember me to Lady —. They asked me if I liked the idea of active service; I will tell them more about it when this day is over. God bless you my dear B—. Believe me most truly yours,  
A. F. WELSFORD."

## The Politician.

### THE COLONIAL PRESS.

From the Fredericton Reporter.  
THE GOVERNMENT RAILWAY POLICY.

There is not a man whose opinion is worth the trouble of asking for, either in St. John or the adjoining Counties, and embracing the whole central districts of the Province, who will hesitate for a moment in declaring his assent to the plan proposed for the construction of Railroads by the present Government. The sectional character hitherto assumed on this subject, has given way to a more enlarged and liberal policy, in which the rights of all are to be respected, and the interests of all held in even balance. In this arrangement the city of St. John will come in for the Lion's share, but why should it not? its position, its population, its influence, and its importance alike claim the first consideration, inseparably as those interests and influences stand connected with the whole Province.

The design is, so far as we are able to ascertain—to push on a line as soon as the preliminaries can be adjusted, from St. John upward through all the River Counties; from St. John Eastward to Peticodiac, so as to connect with the North Shore, and also to continue the St. Andrew's line Northward far enough to connect with the route by the valley of the River.

We are not so blinded by the desire for the internal improvement of this fine Province, or by our long and earnest desire to witness its natural connection with the vast Trade and brotherhood of Canada, as to lose sight of the many difficulties which stand in the way of this great undertaking; but we look both at the positive and negative necessities of the case, as they exist around us, and we see not only the impossibility of our provincial existence on the one side, but the hopeful prospects of our advancement on the other, in connection with the course to be taken on this highly important question.

The Province holds millions of acres of excellent land, which although ready to teem forth their valuable resources along the line of a Rail-

road, are nevertheless absolutely useless in their present condition. The soil on the surface, the timber above, and the mines beneath, are all wanting the hand of the cultivator or manufacturer, but in the dormant state of each and all, their rich products are for ever held in embryo. The farmer, the mechanic, and the merchant, may dream over broad acres, undeveloped resources, profitless speculations; but the four winds are yet to blow which are to bid the dry ones of those several interests form a junction and live.

Our neighbours have adopted the policy of building Railroads; and the race-course of the Iron Horse will shortly have completely surrounded us. We cannot exist in a torpid state within this busy circle. As well might an unarmed man take the field against his armed enemy. We must either build Railroads or desert the Province; but in the midst of this urgent claim upon our best energies it gives us pleasure to know that the voice of the country is almost unanimous for their adoption. The plan of making the City of St. John a terminus for the East as well as the North and Northwest, will secure for that City a trade, under the influence of which it will shortly rise to the position of a second Toronto, while Fredericton, with the other towns which in the present instance are merely dragging along a sickly existence—and solely dependant upon the caprice of the Lumber Trade, will shortly feel their legitimate share of the general impulse. The country will be cultivated because its produce will find a market; while such descriptions of produce as have hitherto been deemed uncertain here and which from the extraordinary cost of their importation have drained so much money from the Province will then be procured upon easier terms. Briefly, our imports will cost us less—our exports will be more valuable.

In the midst of these urgent circumstances, we can see the man in no other light than that of a traitor to his country, who, in their consideration would stand in opposition simply on account of who is in or who is out of the Government. Our only preference in this light is for that Government which from the active and favourable habits and principles of its members is most likely to secure these great and mutual interests of the country. We are not called upon to support the selfishness of a faction, but a great provincial measure which we believe will give a favourable impulse not only to our domestic relations, but also to our connections abroad with the world of commerce.

The opponents of the present Government—so far as the Press is concerned—appear to be hostile to any public work; the surface reason assigned being that ten or twelve per cent. must at the present period be paid for the use of money, but the real cause having its origin in the nut-shell of an opposition. What will they say when we inform them that we know of an overture from competent parties in London, to erect our Railroads from the Nova Scotian line to Canada, requiring only the simple provincial guarantee of six per cent for the expenditure? This is no delusion. The same parties engaged on the Railroads in Nova Scotia are willing to make ours on the same conditions. The sooner we get rid of the Jacksons, the better for ourselves. Mr Jackson well knew that the isolated line from the Bend to St. John would never prove remunerative; and as his contract bound him to become a heavy stockholder, he at once abandoned the undertaking, unless his ruse for a second contract should find acceptance. This is the true position of the case; and in stating it we could quote an authority which Mr Jackson himself has never anticipated—a friend of his own.—Briefly, we must have Railroads, and we must have them soon; but their construction, whatever may be the cost, must be general not sectional. If we would unite in any scheme for the benefit of the Province, we must also be prepared to sacrifice some of our peculiar views to the feelings and prejudices of our neighbours.

### THE BRITISH PRESS.

From the London Times.  
PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION.

BRIGHT, D'ISRAELI, AND GLADSTONE.

For some days there has been expectation among men. It is whispered that a portent will shortly attract their gaze and wonder. Three great luminaries whose erratic course has hitherto baffled calculation are to meet in full conjunction. They have long been approaching each other, and by the end of January next, or perhaps sooner, if there is to be an autumn session, will be brought so near that their mutual attraction will carry them forward in one track. The most ponderous will chiefly influence the motions of the others, and Mr Bright will henceforth draw from him the meteor-like D'Israeli and the nebulous Gladstone in the path of peace. It is well that the country has received a little warning of the policy which this new opposition is to pursue. It would certainly have been more prudent in its originators to conceal at the present time their purpose and tactics. Had they kept their counsel, the Protectionist, the Peacemaker, and the Peelite might have come together in the Commons as if by an undesignated coincidence, and in the first moment of national surprise might have achieved a triumph. As it is, they will find an audience both

within and without the house prepared to receive them with a feeling in which so much of contempt will mingle that it will barely rise to indignation. This is not a moment at which the country can be jeered with. The minds of men are in a state which will not allow them to see with patience office-seekers combine to gain their ends by a betrayal of the principles deepest in the nation's heart, and by the frustration of the efforts which it has sacrificed so much to make. England is now devoted to a cause which rightly or wrongly, she deems of another and a higher nature than the domestic questions of the last few years. Let Mr Disraeli, if he is wise, reserve his scheming for matters connected with agriculture or finance. Party has in some things a prescriptive right to sport with patriotism, but he will find that the war with Russia is not among the number. The nation has hardly ceased to celebrate the late day of triumph and disaster. The wounded are still in pain; the relatives of those who died have their tears fresh; every post brings tidings of new victims, who have succumbed after many days of agony. The comments of Europe and of the New World are only now reaching us. The British general has hardly learnt his country's judgment on his conduct; who is to succeed him, we are, as yet, uncertain. All is breathless watching and suspense; the world is still paralysed by the tidings of Sebastopol. This is the moment chosen by the new party for the announcement of its existence. Amid the dying and the dead, amid the orphaned and the destitute, amid the feelings caused by the triumph of our cause and the disasters of our arms, Englishmen are to listen with patience to the news that a discredited clique of politicians is once more to commence business with a capital based on their sufferings, and to be increased by their dishonour. Could not the Protectionist juggler have waited a little longer before resuming for the season his disagreeable cleverness? Is this a time to gain applause by easy tergiversation, or to attract novices to his school in the hope of acquiring similar dexterity? The programme of the party sets forth that the war was just and expedient when it commenced, but immoral and unnecessary now.

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 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.

CENTRAL BANK AGENCY, CHATHAM.

Discount days TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS. Hours for business from 10 to 3 o'clock. Notes for Discount to be lodged at the Bank before 3 o'clock, on the day immediately preceding the discount day.

This paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at Holloway's Pills and Ointment Establishment, 244 Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

### COUNTY GLOUCESTER.

A Correspondent at Shippigan, under date of 29th October, communicates the following items:

"On Saturday, the 27th ult., was launched from the building yard of Messrs. William Fring & Co., a handsome bark called the *Mary Ann*, of 350 tons. She was examined by Lloyd's Inspector, T. Tucker, Esq., and will class A 1, seven years. Her materials are all hachmata, of the first quality, and her model and the workmanship manner in which she was built and finished, reflects much credit on Mr James Henry, the Master Builder, both as a draftsman and a mechanic."

Another Correspondent writing from Bathurst on the 7th instant says:

"The following is an account of the Fish caught and cured in the Parish of Caraquet the present season:

"Cod Fish—10,000 Qlts. against 7,000 in 1854. Herring—350 Bbls. against 2,500 in 1854. Mackeral—too trifling to notice. Pickled Fish all along this coast will therefore be scarce and high this fall, and there will be little or none to export.

"The mild weather we now enjoy so late in the season, is somewhat remarkable. The ground is now as free from frost and yields as readily to the plough as it would in August last."

### GOVERNMENT RAILWAY POLICY.

FOR a pretty comprehensive review of the policy of our Executive in reference to Railway matters, we refer our readers to an article copied from the Fredericton Reporter under the Politician head. The scheme so far as it is developed, manifests considerable judgment and impartiality, and if prosecuted with vigour, we have no doubt will meet with the support of the Legislature of the Province.