

The Politician.

THE COLONIAL PRESS.

From the Woodstock Journal.
AT LAST.

At last we are to have a Railroad in New Brunswick. The new company formed in England to build the Saint Andrews and Woodstock road is, we learn, nearly ready to commence the work. Last week we gave from the Westmorland Times an account of the opening of a few miles of the Shediac line; and the Freeman states that a gentleman of Moncton, who had ridden on the road, informed him that in a few days about ten miles would be open. At length, then we are to have railroads in New Brunswick.

And high time it is! For the last ten years or so New Brunswick has done little but talk and speculate about the iron road. We doubt whether in the wide world there can be found so small a country in which so many huge and magnificent Railway Schemes have been devised, broached, canvassed—and exploded.—New Brunswickers have been wonderful builders of paper railroads. We have had all sorts of plans, suggestions, expedients, calculations, prospectuses,—and not a few companies. One public man or party after another has seized the pipe and sent his bubble floating gaily abroad, to delight for a brief time the eyes of the people, and then to burst and disappear. New Brunswick railroads hitherto remind us of certain castles of which we all have heard; they are all built in the air.

The St. Andrews road at one time began to look somewhat promising, and sanguine anticipations were entertained as to its speedy completion. These hopes, however, were only raised to be disappointed. But once again the prospect brightens; there can be little or no doubt that the new company will carry the road through in a few years. And the facts that a portion of the Shediac line is already completed and that the engine is on motion upon it are very cheering, so many delusive hopes have been raised only to be disappointed, that we had almost begun to despair; and nothing less than the solid tangible fact that the engine is actually in motion could have induced us to put faith in a New Brunswick railroad. The fact, however, cannot be disputed; a commencement has been made, and there is now a fair prospect that within a reasonable time our Province will be put in possession of those means of transit and intercommunication which in both the Old World and the new have effected, are yearly effecting, vast though noiseless revolutions.

We do greatly rejoice that the day of talk has passed and that of work commenced.—Now that the work has been begun it should be carried on with a will; for we have been talking while others have been working, and have thus been left behind. We are an active and industrious people; but we lack enterprise; and our best interests have been hitherto sacrificed to local jealousies. Railroads will be perhaps a means of mental as well as material advancement. Cheap and speedy transit,—cheap and regular communication among ourselves and with our neighbors,—good and cash market brought in a manner to our doors, will ensure our progress in the industrial pursuits. But we very much mistake if fifty miles an hour does not have as well some effect in setting the Blunson mind in motion. Antiquated and useless, or pernicious, notions will be carried away, and new, liberal and useful ones brought to us, by steam. We shall progress intellectually as well as industrially.

The Government are deserving of the best thanks of the country for pushing on the Shediac line so rapidly. We trust that they will not slack in their efforts, but carry on the railway works with as much speed as is consistent with the safety of the Province. This however, must be first looked to. The credit of the country must be imperilled by pecuniary engagements which it will be impossible to meet. Our financial resources should be carefully considered before any extensive undertaking is entered upon. Let us make it a rule to owe nothing which we cannot pay; to promise nothing which we cannot perform. Our credit must remain unbroken, and our honour untarnished, whatever the consequence may be.—False indeed should we be to our duty did we allow a desire for material progress to lead us into dishonest courses, into pecuniary engagements which we could not meet. And false should we be to our merely worldly interests did we plunge recklessly into railway speculations without regard to the limited pecuniary resources of our new and undeveloped country.—We do trust that the Government of New Brunswick will never allow it to be placed in a position in which it can duly pay its debts.

That ensured, the great public works which are so necessary to our progress and to the development of our agricultural, mineral and manufacturing resources, should be constructed with all possible dispatch.

Communication.

OUR POSITION.

The past history of this part of the Province being well known, and surmises and opinions as to its future being frequently indulged in, it may not perhaps be out of place to call the attention of the people to the circumstances upon which the future welfare of countries depend, as it may cause them to enquire whether such principles are now prosecuting, as may reasonably lead them to expect that this country is on the road to wealth and prosperity, or whether poverty and destitution will shortly be its portion.

That we take an interest in the prosperity of Miramichi cannot be denied. In it we were born, reared, and educated; here have we not only spent the years of boyhood, but a great part of the more real and less ideal position of manhood. All we possess (though little) is in it—our children now gambol in the same meadows, and in winter slide down the same hills we formerly did—the Miramichi of twenty years ago, being exactly the Miramichi of today.

Why does this sameness reign around us? Why does Miramichi not progress something like other places? Have we not a noble river, healthy climate, and fair soil? Have we not valuable forests of Pine, Birch, Juniper, &c., &c. Have we not opportunities for prosecuting the Fisheries, which are near our doors, equal to most, and superior to many of our neighbouring Provinces and States? Do not our people live in harmony and christian charity among each other? Secret Societies are unknown amongst us. Every man claiming freedom of conscience allows it in full to his neighbours, and a confidence not to be surpassed in any county, is placed by each in the integrity of all.

With all these necessary and important qualifications for progressing, we are almost in a retrograde position. With the exception of two Foundries, a few ship-yards and Steam in Chatham, signs of improvement are wanting. A few shops for the sale of fancy articles and White Eye, have crept into notice; but establishments calculated to make the country self-supporting, are no where to be seen. The "eternal deal" appears to be the only article we can manufacture any way extensively from the wood of our forests, while we import furniture of all kinds, wash-boards, cloths-pins, and even shoe-pegs, from the States. The idea seems to be amongst us, that unless a Steam Mill can be erected, or Ship-building carried on, there are no other ways of making a living—while we contend that with a small outlay, the very waste wood of each and every saw-mill in the country, could be made to yield a handsome profit, by converting it into material for sash-making, and other small work, not to mention the facilities afforded at those establishments for making Laths, Shingles, Staves &c. Our forests will not last for ever; at least, it will be difficult to obtain in a few years a good quality of timber or logs. Ship-timbers will, ere long, become scarce too; and, as there seems to be little prospect of the country being opened by Rail-roads, we will then be in a complete "fix."

The fact is, Mr Editor, we do not know how to take hold of the advantages within our reach. In trying to grasp at too much we lose all. We want to import a Yankee or two to teach us how to make use of our waste wood—to make Laths, Matches, Pegs, Clothes-pins, and wooden Hams, and Nutmegs if you will, (anything rather than remain idle.) We want to learn how to make barrels for our Fishermen, at a cheaper rate than usual; and this could easily be done, by the aid of Machinery.

We want to make our own Wash-tubs, Buckets, Chairs, Tables, &c., &c., our own Rakes and Farming Utensils. Labour is no higher here than in the United States; and with the aid of Machinery, and the protection of the freight, we could surely furnish ourselves with those articles, as cheaply as the Americans. Yours,

VIGIL.

FREDERICTON MAIL.

The Quebec papers received by this mail, announce the death of Robert Christie, Esq, who so long represented the County of Gaspé in the Legislature of Canada. He died at Quebec, suddenly, on the 13th instant, in the 70th year of his age. We shall give a more detailed account next week.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—William Alex. Black, Esquire, to be a Justice of the Peace in the County of Northumberland.

Samuel R. Hetherington, Esquire, to be Postmaster at Richibucto, in room of John Gifford, Esquire, resigned.

John Hickman, Esquire, to be Deputy Treasurer at Dorchester, in room of William Carter Esquire, deceased.—Fredericton Gazette.

NOTICE TO NEWCASTLE.

J. W. CROSKILL, Surgeon-Dentist, will, by partial request, visit Newcastle, on TUESDAY, the 23rd inst., where he will run in ONE WEEK ONLY, that those who require his Professional services may have an opportunity of consulting him.

N. B. Fees moderate
Residence at Withers' Hotel,
Chatham, 25th October, 1856.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1856.

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. To Clubs of five and upwards, to one address, Ten Shillings a year in advance.

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.

SAVINGS' BANK.

Deposited 6th October, £339 3 10
Withdrawn 7th October, 608 13 9

WEEKLY CALENDAR.

New Moon 28th 5h 32m P. M.—HIGH WATER.

26 Su	23rd Sunday after Trinity	4h27	4h44
27 M.	St. Simon and Jude	5 0	5 15
28 Tu		5 31	5 47
29 W		6 1	6 16
30 Th		6 27	6 37
31 F.		6 50	7 18
1 S.	All Saints Day. NOV.	7 30	7 42

The above Tides having been calculated with regard to the moon's horizontal parallax and angular distance from the sun, will be found to be correct, due allowance being made at times for high winds and freshets. For Richibucto, subtract, 2h30m—Bathurst, 2h45m—Dalhousie, 2h50m from the above.

GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.

OUR attention has been called to some remarks which appeared a few weeks ago in the Head Quarters, relative to the amount received by us in 1855, for publishing the Crown Land Notices. The Editor, it appears, wishes to convey the idea that we were indebted to the late Liberal, or Fisher Administration, for this patronage. This is not the fact. The instructions to copy all notices relative to the sale of lands, timber berths, &c., in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester, and Restigouche, came from Mr Wilmot two years prior to the advent of the Liberal Government. As the order has not since been cancelled, we presume the Department considers they receive an ample return for the expenditure of their money; if it were otherwise, we presume they would ere this, have cancelled their order.

The Editor of the Head Quarters has at all times manifested a laudible desire to enlighten his readers on the doings of the late Government, we shall impart to him a piece of news, which, as he has not published it, we presume he is totally ignorant of. The Editor of the Gleaner published the Crown Land Notices in 1855, charged his usual price, and handed in his Account. After a considerable delay, he was notified that he must reduce his bill one half. Fortunately his Agent in Fredericton had secured the full amount. This is a rather novel way of backing your friends.

To the Liberal party, or to the late Liberal Government, we are not under the slightest obligation for any patronage or mark of attention—we have advocated their principles, considering they were right—but we defy any of our contemporaries to point out a solitary instance in which we have been actuated in so doing by mercenary motives, or that we received any countenance or patronage, either as a public journalist or private individual, from that party for so doing.

NEW WORK.

HOMEOPATHY DEMONSTRATED.—We acknowledge the receipt of a Pamphlet by Dr. Peterson, entitled "Homeopathy Demonstrated, or young Physic contrasted with old Physic," requesting our notice thereof. We confess ourselves incompetent to pronounce an opinion on the respective merits of Allopathy, Hydropathy and Homeopathy, as each has its zealous advocates. We consider that to the excellent regime in all cases of Disease which this last mentioned system adopts, is to be ascribed its success, rather than to those infinitesimal doses which it prescribes. As for example ten drops

of juice of Aconite are to be diluted with ninety drops of Alcohol, this latter dilution is called the second potency; and when we are required to believe that a dilution carried to the 200th potency is employed with effect, we can liken such minute subdivision to emptying a bottle of rum into the Miramichi River at Newcastle, and then presenting to a patient a full tumbler of the water dipped out of the river at Chatham, as in each case equally will no part of the original fluid be appreciable by the severest chemical test. It is a Volume of 68 pages, published in St. John, at the Printing Office of J. & A. McMillan, and the manner in which it has been got up, reflects much credit on that establishment.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

We have been handed the following Report of the proceedings of the Ladies Auxiliary Bible Society at the last Annual Meeting.

Anniversary of the Miramichi Ladies Auxiliary Bible Society.

St. John's Church, Chatham, Oct. 22, 1856.

The 35th Annual meeting of the M. L. A. Bible Society was held, Mrs Kerr presiding. The meeting having been opened with prayer by the Revd. Mr McCurdy.

The minutes of the last annual meeting, the principal part of the correspondence for the year, and the Annual Report were read.

It was agreed that the Report be received and published in the Gleaner, along with the abstract of Account.

It was agreed to dispense with the publication of the names of subscribers and benefactors.

It was resolved that a Colporteur be employed for a few weeks.

It was agreed that £20 sterling be presented as a Donation to the Parent Society, and the balance of funds in hand be applied to purchase Scriptures.

Appointed the next annual Meeting to be held in Douglstown.

The following were elected Office-bearers for the current year.

Mrs. KERR, President.
Mrs. PERLEY,
Mrs. D. JOHNSTONE, } Vice-Presidents.
Mrs. H. CUNARD.
Mrs. McCURDY, Treasurer.
Mrs. C. THOMSON, Secretary.

COMMITTEE.—Mrs Dr. Thomson, Mrs James Kerr, Mrs. A. Fraser, Mrs Spratt, Mrs Harkins, Mrs W. J. Fraser, Mrs Steel, Mrs Mackie, Miss Chalmers, Miss Henderson, Mrs MacDougall, Mrs G. H. Russell, Mrs Bain, Mrs Mathison, Mrs Smith.

COLLECTORS.—For Chatham—Miss Kerr, Miss McCurdy, Miss Brown, and Miss Gray. For Newcastle—Miss Sergeant. For Douglstown—Miss E. Chalmers and Miss Wyse. For Nelson—Miss Harley. For Napan—Miss Gray, and Miss Kerr. For Black Brook—Mrs A. Fraser.

REPORT.

There have been imported during the year 145 copies of the Scriptures, many of which consist of Family Bibles, of Quarto and Royal Octavo sizes, with large type, Testaments and Psalms, suited to persons of advanced age. The Sterling cost of this importation is £15 5s. 9d.

There have been sold since the last Annual Meeting—109 Bibles, 135 Testaments, and 13 Psalms; and one Bible and one Psalm have been given gratuitously; making the total issues for the year 259.

It having been deemed expedient to attempt something in the way of colportage, Mr Joseph Tweedie was engaged for this service. He travelled 11 days, during which time he disposed of 194 copies. The ground occupied was on either side of the Miramichi River, from Nelson to Point-aux-Carr, and from Bartibog to Newcastle, and the Settlements of Moorfield, Napan, and Black River. The breaking up of the travelling prevented his going up the North and South-West Branches. It deemed advisable by the Society, there and other parts may yet be traversed, and your Committee are decidedly of opinion that the effort of last spring should be vigorously followed up. There is at present a sufficient supply of Scriptures to employ a Colporteur several weeks; and our next importation can be regulated by the numbers thus distributed. The total proceeds of Mr Tweedie's sales are £11 19s. 7d. of this sum £2 11s. were paid for his services, leaving a net balance of £9 8s. 7d.

The sales, direct from the depository, are 63 copies, and the gratuitous distributions one Bible for the Harvey Pulpit, and one copy of the Psalms; total 65. The amount realized for these is £8 5s. 3d. The total of receipts for sales is £20 4s. 10d.

The free contributions to the Society's funds amount this year to the gratifying sum of £37 14s. 1 1-2d., making the total receipts £57 13s. 11 1-2d.

Your Secretary has remitted a bill of exchange for £36 12s. sterling; £21 12s. of which was a donation to the Parent Society, and the balance of £15 went to the purchase account.

Your Society has now become somewhat venerable for years, having assembled on the occasion of its thirty-fifth anniversary. Your Committee, however, have much pleasure in recording their belief, that its vigour has by no means abated. The bands of active and perse-