

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Woodstock Journal.

SIR,—The *Sentinel* of Saturday rather angrily takes the small star to task for presuming to say a word in favor of the New Brunswick University. The reason of this is perhaps not difficult to understand, since the truthful remarks of your correspondent are calculated to throw discredit upon the opponents of education, and consequently reflect upon that great luminary who rules the destiny of Carleton, and whose effulgent rays have been so earnestly directed towards the destruction of King's College.

No wonder, then, that such presumption on the part of the star should have excited the ire, and drawn forth some scintillations from one of the chief satellites and worshippers of the great planet, the Carleton Jupiter, whose thunders have been so freely hurled against our Provincial University.

Without, however, entering into the important question as to the propriety or impropriety of your correspondent's writing over a star, instead of the signature A, B, X, or Y, which appears to have called forth such a loud bray from the *Sentinel*, I shall offer a few observations induced by the leading articles of the two last issues of that paper.

The influence which a newspaper exercises, within the area of its circulation, we know to be considerable: it is plain therefore, how important it is that the articles which appear in its columns should be prepared with great care, and with a strict regard to truth. If this is not attended to, and the Editor of a paper undertakes to write upon matters with which he is very imperfectly acquainted, he is as much responsible as any one of his correspondents would be for any misstatements which may appear, and is likely to draw upon himself a review of his editorial, the same as if it were merely a communication, and without the necessity of the person replying to it appending his own signature.

Of all persons the Editor of a newspaper should be most particular in his writings, and unless he is fully acquainted with the matter he wishes to discuss, and is assured of the truth of his statements, he had better either wait for certain information, or select some more familiar subject, and one more within his own compass and comprehension.

Considering the influence which newspapers exercise in a community, it is sadly to be regretted when an Editor lends himself, at the expense of truth and honor, to the advancing of the principles of some unscrupulous patron, destitute of candor and honesty, and presents to the public erroneous views, calculated to deceive and mislead them.

That the people of this Province are greatly interested as regards having an University no sensible person will deny; nor will they deny the necessity and usefulness of such an institution, although the *Sentinel* may endeavor to convince us of the contrary. It is true that the minds of many persons have been poisoned against the present College by the falsehoods and misrepresentations made respecting it by those who have used it as a stepping stone to a seat in the Legislature, and to lift themselves into the highest offices of emolument which this country affords. It is true that great men in the councils of our country have, "reckless of consequences, and inflated by selfish motives, talked valiantly, boasted amazingly, and distorted facts hugely," with regard to our University. The Editor of the *Sentinel* complains of being misrepresented, but upon re-perusing his article of April 23d we find it stated that "for thirty years, at an expense of from £3000 to £5000 a year, all told, some three or four students have been educated within its walls." I might humbly suggest to him the propriety not only of greater clearness in his writings, but of a closer approximation to facts in the setting forth of his statistics. If he will take the trouble of referring to the last Report of the Chief Superintendent of Schools he will find, at page 60, the annual receipts of King's College, and the sources from which they are derived, stated. From the Crown, £1111-2, Legislative grant, £110; Rent of Land, £350; making a total of £2,561-2.

Not to occupy too much of your valu-

able paper, I shall for the present conclude with the hope that you will allow me a small space in a future issue, when I trust to place before your readers the other side of the knotty question which has cost our Province annually hundreds of pounds in empty and useless discussion, but which we may now hope is definitely settled.

VERITAS.

Woodstock, May 10, 1859.

The Journal.

Thursday, May 19, 1859.

Military Defence of New Brunswick.

The telegraph informs us that actual hostilities have commenced in Europe; that Austria has invaded the territory of Sardinia with a force of 120,000 men, and was pressing forward, driving the forces of Piedmont before her; that the French troops were hastening to the assistance of the Emperor's ally, and were landing in Genoa, crossing the Alps, and pouring down through the south of France towards the seat of the war; that Prussia was preparing for war with evident sympathies towards Austria; that Russia, on the other hand, was supposed to be leagued with France, and to be bound to provide an army of observation on the Austrian frontier, and another on the Prussia; that the dockyards and arsenals of England were ringing with the work of preparation against circumstances which might occur,—no one knew how soon. All this we are told in the few brief paragraphs which are furnished us. After the momentary wonder which it excites is over is it not most natural and most proper for us to consider whether these things do not concern us, and what are our duties to ourselves and to the world which we belong? If Great Britain is dragged into this war,—as it is not improbable that she will,—can we think of it without concern, or without any consideration of the question whether New Brunswick is to be to her a source of weakness or a source of strength? Or, even although the mother country escapes from an active participation in the struggle, are there not duties of preparation against dangers in which we should endeavor to assist her so far as our humble means may allow?

This is not the first occasion upon which we have raised our voice in behalf of some military preparation in New Brunswick. We have done so knowing how unpopular were our opinions on the matter, and how ready people were to throw ridicule upon all such propositions as those which we were advocating. Yet we believe that our views will stand the test of the severest logic. What we propose is that New Brunswick, according to its population and according to its means, shall do its share in the work of general military preparation which is to shield the whole empire and every part and portion of it, from the worst dangers and the most cruel sufferings of war. If it be said that New Brunswick is a small and unimportant part of Her Majesty's dominions—why, then we shall have but a small and unimportant part of the work to perform; if it be said that we are poor, and cannot afford to do much,—why, then, our share of the work will be proportioned to our means. If it be said that all that we can do is of so little importance that it is ridiculous to attempt anything—why, so may any English Shire or Hundred say. It is not the exertions and the strength of any one portion of the empire, but it is the aggregated strength and importance of all, that must be considered. If one portion can plead insignificance as an immunity from the burden of preparation,—why so can each and every portion;—and Britain would be defenceless.

You may ask, What can we do? what would you have us to do? Without entering at present into an elaborate discussion of the matter, we will merely

say that New Brunswick might very well provide her own garrisons, and thus enable the Imperial Government to withdraw the regular troops at present in the Province, and dispose of them elsewhere. This might be but a trifling relief, and but an insignificant aid to the mother country; but it would evince our willingness to do what we could, and it would swell the aggregation of items which make up the strength of the empire.

Something should be done with our militia. Something should, and might without much expense, be done to raise uniformed volunteer corps, and to infuse something of a military spirit into our people. What means should be adopted it is for the Government to consider. We trust that even the peaceful and smiling Mr. Tilley, who appeared so much tickled when Mr. Wilnot mentioned the subject of military defence last session, will be graciously pleased to see that the millenium has not yet arrived, notwithstanding the labors of Peace Societies and the Order of the Sons of Temperance, that war is still a possibility, and the military art not altogether an exploded idea. We trust that he will look to the honor of New Brunswick as a portion of the great empire whose lot it may be,—in the interests of humanity, of liberty, and of civilization,—to throw her sword into the trembling scales of this not unequal contest, and not allow the Province, the destinies of which he sways, to assume the disgraceful position of looking supinely and indifferently on while the empire is preparing for defence. We can do but little at the most, but let us not therefore content ourselves with doing nothing.

OATS AND OAT MEAL.—Can any one inform us why it is that in a district of the Province where the soil is so fertile, and surpassed for the growing of the oat, and in which the oat is more widely and extensively grown than any other cereal, oat meal is so scarce and so high? Oats are one of our staple crops, and yet there are frequently times when not a pound of oat meal can be had in Woodstock—not even by those who desire it for the use of the sick. Oat meal for this purpose is frequently brought from St. John and retailed in this, the very heart of the oat country, over the counter for two pence half-penny per pound. It is now worth twenty shillings per hundred; and but little of it, we believe, can be got at that price.

This is certainly an extraordinary fact, and one that well deserves consideration. Our people send to the Middle and Western States and purchase flour and corn meal, and entirely neglect the manufacture and use of one of the most wholesome and nutritious of the cereals, which they grow in great abundance, and feed to their horses or send abroad. The nutritive qualities of oat meal have been proved by those who have made scientific analyses of it, and scientific comparisons with the meal of other grains, and by its use in countries famous for the muscle and sinews of their sons. We regard its neglect in New Brunswick as a national calamity, because, among other reasons, it throws us upon other countries for the supplies of food which it is for our interest socially, politically and economically, that we should raise ourselves.

We invite the attention of our Agricultural Societies, and of those who are wont to interest themselves in the economy of the Province, to this important subject.

THE NEW MAIL ARRANGEMENT.—For the information of the public we publish below a table of the new mail arrangements between Fredericton and Edmundston. The object of the Postmaster General has, we presume, been to discontinue the mails on Sundays. Between Fredericton and Woodstock this is done by a very obvious arrangement; to six mails per week are run on the six week days. But with the

mails from Grand Falls to Woodstock the Postmaster General has not been so happy. The mail which leaves Grand Falls on Saturday at four in the afternoon lies over at Buttermilk Creek (otherwise Florenceville,) until Monday morning, and then comes on to Woodstock. The mail will probably arrive at Buttermilk Creek at one on Sunday morning. There it will stop, within five hours of Woodstock, until Sunday at 12 P.M. At midnight it will again get under way, and arrive at Woodstock at six Monday morning. Simple minded people, and sinful people, who have not had the Postmaster General's opportunities of sharpening their moral perceptions by ten years mingling in the corruption and trickery and knavery and general abomination of New Brunswick party politics, are stupid enough not to see the absolute necessity of this stoppage at Buttermilk Creek. They,—poor sinful souls!—think that the mail might very well come on in the Sunday morning, arriving at Woodstock at six, and giving the driver and the Post Office authorities the whole Sunday after that hour to attend to their devotions. They presume to say that the arrangement of the Postmaster General smacks not so much of the disposition to respect the Sabbath in spirit as it does of that straining at a gnat which is characteristic of the Pharisee.

MAIL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN FREDERICTON AND WOODSTOCK.

Leave Fredericton and Woodstock, every day, Sundays excepted, at 8 A.M. Arrive at 6.40 P.M.

Leave Woodstock. Arrive at Grand Falls. Mondays, at 8 P.M., Tuesdays, at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, " " Thursdays, " " Fridays, " " Saturdays, " "

Leave Grand Falls. Arrive at Edmundston. Tuesdays, at 11 a.m. Thursdays, at 6 p.m. Thursdays, " " Thursdays, " " Saturdays, " " Saturdays, " "

Leave Edmundston. Arrive at Grand Falls. Tuesdays, at 8 a.m. Tuesdays, at 3 p.m. Thursdays, " " Thursdays, " " Saturdays, " " Saturdays, " "

Leave Grand Falls. Arrive at Woodstock. Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Mondays, at 6 a.m. Thursdays, " " Wednesdays, " " Saturdays, " " Fridays, " "

The Way Offices at Dumfries, Prince William, Lower Prince William, Kingsclear, served downwards on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays,—upwards on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays,—Canterbury every day, each way.

The above mail down will lay over on Sunday at Florenceville.

CHARLES CONNELL, P. M. G. Post Office Department, Fredericton, 3d May, 1859.

FIRES IN THE WOODS.—THE SEASON.—The extraordinary dryness of the season has led to the occurrence of extensive fires in the woods, charging the atmosphere with smoke, and thus adding still more to its drying and parching nature. These fires have in places spread into the clearings, and destroyed buildings. We have heard of two cases. One is that of Mr. Israel Smith in Jacksontown, who has lost his barns, shed and outhouses; and the other, and most severe that of Mr. Charles Boyd on the Maduxnakik, who has lost all his buildings, dwelling included.

The absence of rain or any other meteoric interruption has enabled farmers to push forward their spring work with unusual celerity. The tardy growth of the grass, however, and the slowness with which the woods put on their vernal covering show the need of rain to moisten the soil.

NOVA SCOTIAN ELECTIONS.—By telegraph we learn that the Nova Scotian elections have resulted adversely to the Conservative Government. The majority against them is set down at seven. It is said that four of the opposition members elected are disqualified by holding offices of emolument; and that there are other irregularities in the elections. Fourteen scrutineers have been demanded. At the polling in Halifax they had a riot and murder by way of giving piquancy to the affair.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH.—Tuesday next will be the anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria,—an occasion which Woodstock in times past was wont to honor. Why the good old custom of doing honor to this auspicious day was ever discontinued we do not know, and cannot understand; but we do know that the sooner it is revived the better. The present year presents an excellent opportunity of commencing this revivification; and we trust that our citizens, whose enterprise, intelligence, and energy in all matters relating to public demonstrations has long been acknowledged, will turn their attention to the matter, and not let the approaching twenty-fourth pass over without some kind of celebration.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Mr. Miller, Fredericton, sends us Harper's Magazine for May. It is as good as usual; and contains some remarks upon the Sickles case which accord almost exactly with our own views. Although rather out of place here, we do not know any good reason why we should not here and now express our convictions that the trial was a farce, that the killing of Key was a deliberate and wilful murder, that if there is any propriety in hanging a human being,—which, by the bye, we very much doubt.—Sickles should have been hanged, and that those who sympathise with him, and approve of the verdict, take a position in which neither morality, nor christianity, nor common sense, nor any other sound principle which men are accustomed to commend with their lips and recout in their actions, will sustain them.

The Water Cure Journal for May is before us. We can confidently recommend this monthly Journal of "Physiology, Hydropathy, and the Laws of Life" to our readers. Many of its views may be as erroneous as they are extreme; but these altogether aside it contains much matter of the highest importance to men and women of all classes and conditions.

We have received a copy of the Supplementary Report of the Commissioners of the European and North American Railway, which contains, in reply to the address moved by Mr. Gray in the Assembly, a great deal of information concerning the construction and management of the Railway. It is neatly printed by McMillan, uniformly with the Report itself.—We should like to see the evidence taken by the Railway Committee published in the same form, that the three might be bound up together.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

The good people of St. Stephens have been treating themselves to a Bazaar of fancy articles, of which the *Herald* of the 6th contains a glowing account. The object was the payment for an iron fence for the Cemetery. The proceeds were about \$1000. It is very refreshing to see Death and jollity thus pleasantly fraternising in our sister Town.

The Queen has conferred a K. C. B. upon Chief Justice Halliburton of Nova Scotia. You must not confound him with Sam Slick Halliburton, who is a totally different person.

The Circuit Court opened at St. John on the 3d, Judge Wilnot presiding, but was obliged to adjourn *sine die*, there being no Clerk in attendance.

Lady Morgan, author of "The Wild Irish Girl," and other works of repute, is dead.

The Canadian Parliament was prorogued on the 4th. The Governor General's Speech contains nothing of especial remark.

The York County Agricultural Society are engaged in the very commendable work of importing improved stock. There arrived for them at St. John on the 6th, in the Barque Renown, from Aberdeen, four Short Horn Bulls and two Heifers, and three improved Leicester Rams. They were in excellent condition.

The attention of readers of the Medical profession is called to the notice of W. S. Harding, elsewhere.

The first effect of the war which will be felt by New Brunswick is that which has already raised the price of breadstuffs, and lowered that of lumber.

MR. WHITTAKER.—We have much pleasure in being able to state on sufficient authority that Mr. Collins Whittaker has not been removed from the United States Consulate at St. John.