

## Gems for the Household.

## THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT.

"Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Exod. 20. 12.

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HOOKER AND HIS MOTHER. The judicious Hooker used to say, "If I had no other reason and motive for being religious, I would earnestly strive to be so for the sake of my mother, that I might requite her care of me, and cause her widow's heart to sing for joy."

WASHINGTON'S FILIAL AFFECTION. Washington, when a boy, was about to go to sea as a midshipman, and his trunk had been taken to the boat, when, as he was about to take leave of his mother he saw the tears, bursting from her eyes, and an expression of deep sadness on her countenance. Seeing the distress of his parent, he at once turned to the servant, and said, "Go and tell them to bring back my trunk." "I will not go away, and break my mother's heart." His mother was struck with the spirit and manner of the decision, and at once said to him, "My son, God has promised to bless thy children that honor their parents, and I believe he will bless you."

NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN. A youth lamenting the death of an affectionate parent, a friend endeavored to console him by saying he had always conducted towards the departed one with tenderness and respect. "So I thought," said the other, "while my parent was living; but now I remember with shame and deep sorrow, many instances of disobedience and neglect, for which alas, it is now too late ever to make any atonement."

BE KIND TO YOUR MOTHER. "What would I give," said Charles Lamb, "to call my mother back to earth for one day, to ask her pardon upon my knees, for all those acts by which I gave her gentle spirit pain."

CHRIST AN EXAMPLE TO CHILDREN. "Let all children remember," says Dr. Dwight, "if ever they are weary of laboring for their parents, that Christ labored for his; if impatient of their commands, that Christ cheerfully obeyed; if reluctant to provide for their parents, that Christ forgot himself and provided for his mother amid the agonies of the crucifixion. The affectionate language of this divine example to every child is, 'Go thou and do likewise.'"

GOD MARKS THE UNBETTERED CHILD. Philip Henry, speaking of an unfilial and wicked son in his neighborhood, charged his children to observe the providence of God concerning him. "Perhaps," said he, "I may not live to see it, but do you mark if God does not send some remarkable judgment upon him in this life, for thus violating the fifth commandment." But he himself lived to see it fulfilled soon after, in a very singular providence.

RELIGION AT HOME. "Let them learn first," says Paul, "to show piety at home." Religion begins in the family. One of the holiest sanctuaries on earth is home. The family altar is more venerable than any altar in the cathedral. The education of the soul for eternity begins by the domestic. The principle of love, which is to be carried through the universe, is first unfolded in the family.

PARENTS SHOULD KEEP UP SYMPATHY WITH THEIR CHILDREN. Parents must never put away their own youth. They must never cease to be young. Their sympathies and sensibilities should be always quick and fresh. They must be susceptible. The most love that which God made the child to love. Children need not only government, firm and mild, but sympathy, warm and tender. So long as parents are their best and most agreeable companions, children are comparatively safe, even in the society of others.

ONE CHILD. Bishop Beveridge has truly and strikingly said, "Who knows but the salvation of ten thousand immortal souls may depend on education of single child."

THE BOY WHO UNDERSTOOD THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT. An old schoolmaster said one day to a minister who came to examine his school, "I believe the children know the Catechism word for word."

"But do they understand it? that is the question," said the minister.

The schoolmaster only bowed respectfully, and the examination began. A little boy had repeated the fifth commandment, "Honor thy father and mother," and he was desired to explain it. Instead of trying to do so, the little boy, with his face covered with blushes, said almost in a whisper, "Yesterday I showed some strange gentlemen over the mountain. They sharp stones cut my feet; and the gentlemen said they were bleeding; and they gave me some money to buy me shoes. I gave it to my mother; for she had no shoes either, and I thought I could go barefoot better than she could."

## THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT.

"Thou shalt not kill." Exod. 20: 13.

"Life is the richest boon on earth that's given; 'Tis price and sacredly regard the gift—'Tis life own, or others. Let thy neighbor live. Be followed as thou own. Thine own waste not, by trifling with thy health; by surfeiting, intemperance, excess; by grief that wears, or passion that eats; let it be very well. Cherish thy being, but its very soul, Life's worth is measured by its use alone."

OUR OWN LIFE AND THAT OF OTHERS. If you would properly appreciate the life of others, love your neighbor as yourself; if you would persevere your own, be moderate in diet, abundant in exercise, courteous of fresh air, diligent in business, and contented in spirit in all things living for God.

DEATH THE PENALTY OF MURDER. The declaration of God to Noah, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed," was manifestly designed to be the law of God as to the punishment of murder. But even if understood merely as a prediction, or as an assertion of fact, it has thus far in the history of the world, been singularly verified. Very few murderers escape a violent death; so few, that the fact has passed into a proverb. And the proverb, that "Murder will out," includes the almost uniform conviction, not only that it will be discovered, but avenged. And so the experience of the world declares. Hundreds of cases might be given, in which a retributive providence has followed the murderer, pressing closer and closer upon him, till at last it has sent his soul to a lost eternity. "Blood not deceitful new shall not live out of their days."

PROVIDENCE AGAINST THE MURDERER. A gentleman, at the point of death, gave the following account of his case. Dr. Lake, his physician, "About a fortnight ago, I was riding over Moorlow Heath, where several boys were playing cricket, when one of them, hitting the ball, it struck me on the foot, causing severe and increasing pain. Arriving at Brentford, I went for a surgeon, who was for cutting it off, but unwilling to suffer that, I went on to London. At London, I consulted another surgeon, who advised cutting off the foot, but not being willing to hear of this, the next day the notification struck up into the leg, as now, I fear, it has into the body." Dr. Lake asked if he knew the boy who struck the ball. He answered, "Ten years ago, I was riding over that same heath, when an old man ran by my horse's side, begging me for alms, saying he was almost famished. I bade

him begone; but as he still kept by me, I threatened to beat him. Finding he took no notice of this, I drew my sword, and in my anger struck him a blow which killed him on the spot. A boy about four years old, who was with him, screamed out that 'his father was killed.' His face I perfectly remember. It was that boy who struck the ball against me, which is the cause of my death."

## TERMS.

The "RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER," is published every Friday, at **Seven Shillings and Sixpence** a year in ADVANCE. See terms to clubs &c., on last column fourth page.

AGENT.—MR. WILLIAM CARR, Ambrosian artist is authorised to receive subscriptions for the "RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER."

## Religious Intelligencer.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 6, 1860.

## REVIVAL AGENCIES.

Among the peculiar characteristics of the Christian activity now existing in Great Britain, none are more important than the prominence given to lay preachers and female labour. Both have been signally owned of God in the great revivals of the last year. The most prominent lay preachers are Brownlow North, Mr. Grant, and R. Radcliffe, Esq. In nearly every place where these men labour religious awakenings follow; dead and unsanctified professors are aroused, and impenitent sinners are convicted of their guilt and lost condition, and brought to believe in Christ.

And these men go everywhere,—as the door opens,—preaching the word. In churches, chapels, halls, houses, and open air, they hold forth the word of life; and without being recognized as clergymen, but as plain Christian men, they get access to thousands who could scarcely be reached by the ordinary means used by the ordained ministry. Some idea may be formed of Mr. Radcliffe by the following extract from a private letter from London, published in a New York paper:—

"I have had," says the writer, "the pleasure and profit of hearing that man of God, Reginald Radcliffe, Esq., of Liverpool. He is the man for the times. He cries aloud and spares not—lifts up his voice like the sound of a trumpet, and shows the people their sins. He generally gives two addresses the same evening, one to the church and the other to sinners."

"Multitudes have been awakened to see the sandy foundation on which they were building their hopes for eternity, and have sought the Lord in earnestness and truth. We attend whenever he preaches near us. He invites Christians to assist him in conversing with the impenitent."

The same letter refers to Miss Marsh, the author of "Captain Hedy Vears," and "English Hearts and English Hands," who appears to be an extraordinary woman in the cause of God. The letter says:—

"I had the great pleasure of attending one of Miss Marsh's meetings, and heard her address the working men. It was held in a large shop, beneath the railway arch. The place was crowded, and had a sprinkling of those who were not working men and their wives. We were admitted by the favor of Rev. Mr. Fleming, at whose house she stopped. Miss Marsh is a noble, fine-looking woman. The first sentence she uttered, which was only thanking them for their attendance, was accompanied with such power, that two men near us were completely overcome. She prayed the second time, before speaking; also closed with prayer and the benediction."

"She does not speak in churches, but in shops, barns, and such places. She presses upon the audience a present salvation. She sits while speaking. Her language is beautiful, but simple, and very persuasive. Oh! it was a great treat to be permitted to listen to her. Her principal field of usefulness is among the young men of the navy and the working men. The night before, she addressed 700 young men of the navy at Portsmouth. She is engaged for three weeks to come. Women are doing a great work in this day."

We are of opinion that Christian activity has long been greatly diminished by not properly recognizing these two agencies referred to. These are scripturally "THE GIFTS" which in every church where found, should be encouraged. While, however, in some they have been disallowed; in others they have been pressed beyond their measure, much to their own injury, and the detriment of the cause of Christ. That both extremes are giving way, and thence returning to their scriptural rule, is a matter of much satisfaction.

## NEW F. C. B. MEETING HOUSE IN CARLETON.

The Free Baptist Church in Carleton has been organized a little more than five years, during which time they have held their meetings, partly in a room in a private house, and partly in the "old meeting house." For the last two years and upwards they have enjoyed the entire use of the old house, but as this is now a very old and cold place, as well as too small to comfortably contain their increasing congregation, they have resolved to make an effort to build. Experience has taught us that persons, especially in town, who are not particularly connected with any congregation, prefer going to meeting in a respectable place, and we are satisfied that if we as a church fill the place that God has designed for us to occupy in the Christian community in Carleton, the time has fully come when we should arise and build. Our Church has not only decided to do so, but have actually gone to work at it in good earnest. A site having been previously secured, the foundation was built last summer, and in February, headed and led on by our whole-hearted brother, Deacon D. W. Clark, they went to work at the frame, and this week have succeeded in getting it raised. Size, 40 x 70 feet. It is an excellent good frame with a basement the whole size.

It is a very heavy undertaking for a small church, especially for one that is by no means wealthy, to build a house of this size in town; and believing that many of our brethren and friends who feel interested in the prosperity of the cause of God wish us success in our effort, we take this method of soliciting their aid, to assist us to go on and finish. We are anxious to be able to occupy the basement by next fall.

Our brethren have put their own shoulders to the wheel nobly, and now call upon their friends for help. Any amounts however small will be thankfully received and acknowledged. Donations can be addressed to either G. A. Harley (Pastor of the church), St. John, Box 132, or Mr. D. W. Clark, Carleton.

## PERSONAL.

We are aware that it is a step from the ordinary path, but we deem it due to our brother and co-editor, to publish the following extract from a letter received from a Minister of the Gospel belonging to another denomination from ourselves, with whom we are in a friendly private correspondence. Knowing our correspondent to be a gentleman of good judgment, and one who is highly educated, and whose acquaintance with the religious press of these Provinces and the United States is by no means limited, we think it but due to brother McLeod to let our readers know the appreciation such gentleman have for his labours, and the very high opinion held of him abroad as an editor. Although we were not at that time personally acquainted with our brother, and knew nothing of his struggles in connection with the establishment and early editorial management of the "Intelligencer," yet from our first acquaintance with the paper, we have admired its catholic, unsectarian and independent course, and since our connection with it, have laboured to carry out its motto, and sustain its reputation. The following is the extract:—

"I admire and love Bro. McLeod. I look upon his course in connection with the 'Intelligencer' as unexceptionable, going far beyond that of any conductor of a newspaper with whom I have had any acquaintance. Conscientiously attached to a denomination confessedly prejudiced against education and jealous beyond reason of those preachers who felt it to be their duty to cultivate their minds; he has proceeded with so much combined prudence and perseverance, that the recognized organ of this same denomination is at once denominational and unsectarian. You and others have rendered him efficient help; but to him, chiefly, the credit of which I speak belongs."

We are happy to say that at present there are many in our denomination who are not prejudiced against education, but who are warm advocates for advancement and intellectual improvement.

G. A. H.

MONTHLY UNION PRAYER MEETINGS.—The Carleton Union Prayer Meeting for this month was held on Monday evening in the Methodist Chapel. The house was crowded full, and deep solemnity pervaded the entire audience. The Pastors of the four churches engaged in the Union were all present, and took part in the services. A good number of the members also spoke and prayed, and all so much alike that we think strangers could not discover any denominational distinction. The interest in these meetings has not diminished, and we believe the Union is becoming stronger. We regard this as one of the best, if not the very best of the series we have attended.

REVIVALS.

The religious interest in this city still continues. On last Sabbath Messrs. Robinson and Bill baptized six persons. The Union Prayer Meetings are not so numerously attended as formerly, but a good interest and influence still exists. The most remarkable feature yet occurring in connection with the cause in this city is the opening of Engine Houses for prayer. In No. 2, adjoining the Court House a meeting has been held every morning between the hours of 7 and 8 o'clock. They are generally numerously attended and some of the meetings have been very interesting. We learn also that No. 3 has since been opened for a similar purpose. Surely the hand of God must be in this movement, and our fervent prayer is that the great Head of the Church may own and bless abundantly his own cause.

PHYSICAL MANIFESTATIONS.

The following letter, giving knowledge of an extraordinary work just commenced in the County of Restigouche is published in the Visitor. The Lord increases his own work.

DURHAM, Restigouche, March 24th, 1860.

DEAR VISITOR:—A revival of religion has broken out here this week, in many respects similar to that in the old country. The people are struck down and remain insensible for a short time, and whenever they come out of it, at once rejoice in God. Several have professed religion, and many are under deep concern of mind. Those who have found peace go from house to house praying and exhorting. Every night there is a prayer meeting and the people are so anxious about their souls that they go and come until nearly day-light; some do not know what to make of it. There is no minister here, but a Mr. Crandall, a Baptist, has been labouring among the people here at Campbellton. They have sent for him, as he resides at Campbellton, a distance of 40 miles. We want more ministers here. Is there no one to come among us?

This revival commenced under peculiar circumstances. I will write you again respecting the commencement of it.

## REFS PIPES.

REVIVAL IN NOVA SCOTIA.

PORT MEDWAY, N. S. March 24th, 1860.

Messrs. Editors:—I feel happy to be able to communicate to you the cheering intelligence that we have lately had a great Revival in our village. I say a great Revival, because I have heard some of the oldest inhabitants say that they never before saw such an out-pouring of the Spirit and general Union which seems to characterize this happy event in this place. The old, the middle aged, and the young have been brought to bow to the mild sceptre of King Emmanuel. Many backsliders have been reclaimed, and many have found peace in believing. The revival commenced under the labours of our beloved Pastor, Elder Ezra Crowl a newly ordained minister of the Free Christian Baptist Church. His zeal for the cause of his master, and love for poor perishing sinners are so great that I am afraid his physical strength will soon fail, but he seems willing to spend and be spent in the cause of Christ. He commenced his meetings about three weeks ago; for the first few days there was not much apparent benefit, but he persevered, the Church was crowded, and sinners began to call for mercy. The fire soon spread and kindled a flame in our brethren of the Baptist Church in this place now under the Pastoral care of Elder Phelps. The two ministers then united their efforts for the salvation of souls. Meetings were alternately held in the Free Christian Baptist Meeting House, and the Baptist Meeting House, and although there has been a great awakening, much yet remains to be done. Several vessels were in our harbour loading with lumber for the West Indies at the time. The crews attended meetings, the wind happened to be ahead several days after loading, during which time a Captain of one vessel and a

mate of another found peace with God, and were baptized before leaving. Fifteen have been baptized by brother Crowl, and united with the Free Baptist Church, and I think more will soon be added; nine have been baptized by Elder Phelps and joined the Baptist Church. I have also to say that we are not the only ones enjoying the good; the Rev. Mr. Black a Wesleyan mission agent stationed on this circuit informed us last Sunday from the Pulpit that in the neighbouring village of Petitrevère their Branch of Christ's Church were also enjoying a share. He said within the three last weeks fifteen had been taken into their connection at Petitrevère, and forty in the county of Lunenburg. I hope the good season may continue.

Yours respectfully,

A CHURCH MEMBER.

## CANADA CORRESPONDENCE.

Sabbath Desecration.—Post Office Order—French Population—Geary Laws.

CORRUPT, March 30, 1860.

The Sabbath Reformation Society has protested for years against the Post Office desecration of the Lord's day, and many persons, not formally connected with the Society, have joined in deploring the evil. It is pleasant to be able to record its abatement, at least so far as Western Canada is concerned. The following circular will be read with interest:—

"To Postmasters in Canada West:—

"1. Referring to Article 9 of the Regulations of this department, Postmasters in Canada West are informed that they are relieved from the obligation to open their offices for the delivery of letters, &c., on Sundays.

"2. The Letter Box for the posting of letters must nevertheless be kept accessible to the public at all times, and, as directed by the regulations, should have an opening in the road or street for this purpose, so that letters may be posted during the night, or when the office is shut.

"3. When under the authority of this order, an office in Canada West is closed to the public on Sunday, it must be closed to all persons alike, and no exceptional or partial delivery to particular individuals can be sanctioned.

"But how does it happen that Lower Canada is not included in an arrangement which commands itself to the consciences of so many well-disposed and patriotic persons? Is a question which the reader may naturally ask, and to which it is not easy to offer any other answer than that Lower Canada is French and Papal to a great extent—an answer seemingly the result of prejudice; but a little reflection, added to a slight acquaintance with some facts in our Canadian Legislation, can lead, in the writer's judgment, to no other conclusion. The French were guaranteed their language when they submitted to British authority; and their laws, so far as they did not conflict with English law. Naturally sensitive, as a conquered people may be expected to be, and keenly alive to the rapid increase of the English-speaking population, and the progress made in the industrial and educational departments of Western Canada, it is not surprising that intense prejudice should arise against the legislation suggested by the English; and to ally French suspicion as well as to secure French votes, it seemed necessary to exempt Lower Canada from such enactments. It is also well known to all persons residing in Roman Catholic countries that Popish views on the sanctity of the Sabbath materially differ from Protestant belief; the former requiring the earlier portion of the Lord's Day for religious purposes; but permitting recreation after a certain hour, and such business as Protestants deny to be lawful. Hence in some of the rural districts of the Lower Province, the Parish priests being Postmasters, it has been the custom to deliver mail matter after the celebration of Mass—the thought of its impropriety being impossible from the Popish point of view. Arrangements requiring the closing of the Post Offices in these districts, would be regarded by the habitants as grievously oppressive, and would become of necessity most unpopular.

Popish theology, therefore, begets difficulty in connexion with any attempt to provide for the sanctity of the Sabbath. To enforce an outward sabbath-keeping is beyond the province of human government; but it is demanded of a Christian legislature that it remove all hindrances to resting the Sabbath day, according to the commandment, by setting free from Sunday labor persons in his employ, and affording them the opportunity of devoting its sacred hours uninterruptedly to religious occupation. It also seems to come within its province to restrain citizens from such occupations and engagements as hinder the piously disposed from comfortably discharging their Sabbath duties. Up to this point the authority of human government appears to be indisputable; many will dispute the right to go beyond it.

Agitation for the re-enactment of the Usury Laws does not meet with favor in the more intelligent commercial circles of our Province. Only last year brought us free trade in money (the Banks excepted) and it is urged that longer time should be given to the experiment. An argument of greater force is the notorious evasion of Usury Laws, and the impossibility of preventing it. The conscientious, unwilling to resort to subterfuge, and unwilling to violate the laws, naturally withdraw their money from the less profitable investments of loans and employ it where it will bring in a heavier per centage; thus throwing the business of lending money into the hands of the unscrupulous, who do not fail to play well the part of all monopolists.

be home on a certain day by a certain train. He went by that train indeed, but a corpse, and a corpse that did not cause any to say, 'a good man has fallen.'

About the time of the Lawrence calamity, a tenant house was burned in Elm street in this city; several persons perished in the flames, while others either killed themselves or became maimed for life by precipitating themselves upon the pavement from the third and fourth stories of the burning house. Night before last, near the site of the Crystal Palace, another tenant house was consumed by flames in the dead of night. Ten at least perished in the flames, and others were very severely injured by the fire or by falls. The firemen and policemen were early at the fire, but too late to prevent the mournful calamity. Among the fire engines came one that is worked by steam. In vain, however, did it come, for in the darkness some unseen hand cut the hose that otherwise would have conducted the large and rapid stream that would have soon extinguished the flames. How could depravity go further?

There have been several murders on water of late in this vicinity. One of these scenes of blood is one of the most diabolical on record. A sloop known to sail manned by the captain and three hands, was picked up in the bay the other day covered with blood. The captain and two hands were acquainted with each other, and the two latter were brothers. They were also neighbors to the captain. They took on board a man named Hicks, alias Johnson, and he seems to have succeeded in killing the other three, and robbing the vessel of its money. The alleged murderer has been arrested. The captain's watch was found on his person, besides several other things, which serve to fasten the guilt upon him. About the same time another sloop was picked up which affords by the blood upon it the evidence that it has been the scene of a similar crime. In this case the alleged murderer has also been arrested, but the evidence so far does not seem so strong against him as in the former case.

I believe that speaking in general terms, it is safe to say that crime is rapidly increasing in and about our great cities, and the force of religion is less and less felt. Sabbath-breaking, intemperance, and gambling are the fruitful sources of deeds of blood. Yet many of the Churches have been moderately revived during the winter. Some have been largely blessed.

You who are less acquainted with our politics, might have supposed the Union at an end previous to the election of Speaker in Congress. The initiated understood that the general bluster made about dissension in case a Republican is elected next November. At all events, if the Slave holders propose to break up the Union on that account, they are very likely to have a chance to try to put their threats into execution, as it is now almost a foregone conclusion that the Republicans are to have the next President. I judge there is but a chance of their defeat in case that Douglas is nominated by the slave-holders; even then there is hope for the Republicans.

Your readers will be glad to hear that the preaching of Rev. Mr. Guinness is attended with a measure of success in this city, though with far less in Philadelphia. Mr. G. is now about twenty-four years of age. He is not a man of much learning. He sometimes makes statements in the pulpit that startle one with unexpected ignorance on his part, yet in the Scriptures he is very well read and only that. His heart however, is in his work. He has felt Christ's power in his own soul, and accepts it without wavering that his power will go forth to heal all who will approach the same Saviour. Whatever his secret views may be, he pleads with men as with responsible agents who can approach Divine Salvation in Christian moment. He pleads with them "Now is the accepted time." In private he is moderate in his bearing, more so than in the pulpit. He sometimes speaks in the pulpit in an assuming way that one regrets to hear, but he will have more wisdom as he grows older. I listened to him one evening in Mr. Burchard's church where, for instance, he addressed his hearers as if they were utterly ignorant of the doctrine of the atonement, though, as he observed, they had attended preaching many years. He then preached on the subject, and we must say it was on the whole a feeble presentation of that great doctrine—feeble as compared with what those hearers had listened to very frequently. But these things are only as they were spoken on a most useful and devout preacher.

His style of delivery is for the most part, except in prayer, colloquial. His thoughts are common place. But he has the most useful of all faculties in a preacher, the power of making hearers feel what they already know. His sincerity is beyond question. His faith in the Bible manifestly unbending. His chief power to impress mind, aside from a good voice and delivery, consists in peculiar devotion to Christ—in much prayer to God.

Perhaps if I should hear him a few times more, I might give a different opinion in some respects, but I give it you now as it is after hearing him two or three times.

Yours truly,

D. M. G.

CIVIC ELECTIONS.—The Elections for Aldermen and Councillors took place on Tuesday last. This event seldom excites much interest in the city. The only interest of Tuesday on this side of the harbor was in King's Ward, where T. W. Anglin of the Freeman, was candidate for Alderman, and P. D. Quinn, of Dock Street, a candidate for Councillor. They were opposed by T. M. Reed, and T. R. Jones. The latter were elected by large majorities. The Freeman of yesterday reflects much on his Conservative friends for not supporting him as he expected, also on religious prejudice which he says influenced voters.

The following are the names of the gentlemen elected:—King's Ward: Reed and Jones; Queen's: Foster and Lockhart; Duke's: McGrath and Wilson; Sidney: Trontowsky and Cosseter; Quays: Dunham and Mosher; Brooks: Gough and McCormick; Wellington: Peters and Collins.

The Noonday Prayer meeting at Smith's building will be held at 3 o'clock, this day, (Friday), so as not to interfere with the services of the various churches.

## FREDERICTON CORRESPONDENCE.

FREDERICTON, April 4th, 1860.

The Session which was expected for some days to be formally closed on to-morrow the 5th instant will be extended in all probability into next week, which arises principally from the Railway investigation committee not being unanimous in their conclusions upon the character of the evidence before them. Four members of this committee have reported that after the most searching investigation which the time at their disposal would admit, they find no evidence of fraud or malappropriation of the public money and that both the Commissioners and Chief Engineer have endeavored to act judiciously and prudently and have exercised a sound discretion and maintained a careful supervision in the construction and management of this important work, and that the Chief Engineer had performed his duty to the best of his judgment and ability, but hint that had an Engineer of more practical experience been engaged in the first place, some saving might have been effected, that the Road will cost more than the public was led to believe, but that the Road will not when completed cost more than roads of a similar character in other countries.

That it appears from the Chief Commissioners report as well as from the evidence before the Committee that the sum of £1,067,171 0s. 0d. is estimated to complete the Road from Saint John to Shediac in a thorough manner and recommend that the Commissioners and Government to endeavour to economise the salaries of the Land Appraisers which is at present an annual charge of £862 0s. 0d.; that the appraisers had in some instances awarded too much Land Damages to some parties, while others had been robbed by having land taken from them, without receiving any equivalent, and also that the numerous charges made against the Commissioners and the Chief Engineer of incompetency, bad management, and malappropriation of the public money, had not been sustained in evidence before the Committee, and that the Chief Commissioner, and Chief Engineer manifested a ready and willing promptitude in affording information and explanation whenever called upon. The evidence taken before the committee is directed to be printed in the daily journals, and the public will be able to judge of the conclusions arrived at by the different parties of the Committee.

Three members of the Committee have come to conclusions quite opposite from the above, not I presume from the evidence given before them in open Committee. As this report is filled with dark and vile insinuations obtained from individuals who have been prowling about the committee rooms and lobbies of the house during the hours of business, and in the dark hours of the night have concocted, assassinated like, these dark and foul insinuations which are contained in a report signed by J. W. Lawrence, E. Williston, and John McIntosh, who declare that they have arisen about party feeling in discharging a public duty, which in their opinion the Legislature and the country must approve. Mr. Lawrence, in justification of the Report submitted by himself, laboured hard to substantiate its correctness and faithfulness, which has evidently been based upon communications from disappointed contractors, and discharged employees by the Chief Commissioners and Chief Engineer, and not from evidence given before the Committee. Williston followed, reiterating the arguments which had been belabored into him by the party he so much delights to honor.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The past week has not been the least important of the Session—for as the contemplated prorogation draws nearer a disposition is manifested to press on with the public business by a corresponding rate of acceleration. You will excuse certain long words occasionally, by way of variety, as this is not a crime very often committed by "our special correspondent."

A vast amount of private and local bills have been passed through both branches in a hurried way. The Legislative Councils are also busy—I mean those of that House who are now present, as about half of the Lords have left the business for which Her Majesty appointed them, and have quietly gone home. Query, did they take pay for the whole term? This is not, of course, a very important question, but as this body is made up principally with men of learning and ability, it is desirable that the country receive a greater share of their attention; and certainly their position, and importance, demands a dignified and careful attention to their duties. Of course it may occasionally happen that members of either branch are necessarily required to obtain leave of absence, but these should be exceptions, not the rule.

Hon. M. Botsford, in Council, moved a set of resolutions, condemnatory of Railway operations, and made a lengthy speech on the subject which was most successfully replied to by Hon. Mr. Wark. In fact, the speech of the latter gentleman was very clear, precise and conclusive, and presenting facts incontrovertible. Mr. Botsford's resolutions were lost; yeas 6, nays 8.

In the Assembly, Mr. Fisher's Bill for taking the Census in 1861, has passed—yeas 16, nays 10. The Executive authority to prepare Schedules and appoint one or more unaniversaries in every Parish or district, who will receive ten shillings a day for the faithful performance of the work. Mr. McClellan has given notice of a resolution, requiring amongst other returns, a complete classification of the people on a denominational basis.

A Bill in amendment of Probate Law has passed. A Bill relating to inspection of gas and gas meters in the City of St. John passed. A very interesting Fishery report presented by Mr. Williston and adopted.

A Bill relating to lands of War department, passed; as also a Bill introduced by Mr. Gilbert relating to the better securing of the liberty of the subject.

Several Mining and other Bills from Albert passed.

In consequence of our day of publication being a holiday (Good Friday) this week, our paper therefore goes to press on Thursday evening. In consequence of this change our usual Fredericton correspondence received on Friday morning has not of course come to hand in time for this issue.—Ed. Int.

MURDER AT GRAND FALLS.—Another foul murder has been perpetrated at the Grand Falls. A man by the name of Morphy, said to belong to King's County, and having a brother in this city, was shot at a house of ill fame on Friday morning last. He and another man visited the house, and sought entrance; and on persisting were fired upon from within by another named Xavier Willet. He only lived fifteen minutes. Williston and the woman have both been apprehended, and acknowledge the crime.