

# THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.

The *Nor. W.* of the 15th of March is to hand. It is waging a fine war against the Customs duties and the mode of collecting them. They carry on business "out there" in a very primitive fashion it is evident. The *Nor. W.* says:

"Four per cent. is charged on the invoice price of all goods imported from Great Britain. There is no exception made of any kind, class, or species of goods. In regard to importations from the United States, there is this distinction, that whereas four per cent. is paid on goods purchased at New York, there is no other port of entry, only three per cent. is levied on goods purchased in the interior, as at St. Paul for example. A few years ago, it was five per cent on goods from the States."

"Now, with the present, that although it is now the practice to make a distinction, as above indicated, regarding American goods—charging sometimes £3, sometimes £4 per cent—this is in fact contrary to law? This is really the case, and it just shows the free and easy, careless and irregular manner in which matters of importance are handled in the Red River. The law on our miniature statute book, relating to the subject, distinctly fixes duty at four per cent on all American goods. There it stands, without limitation, amendment, or proviso, and yet we have the collector following another scale? What is the use of making a law unless it is faithfully carried out? and if at any time an alteration, amendment, or repeal seems necessary, why not alter or repeal in the proper way? We would like to know by what authority the present law is violated. In ordinary circumstances, we should fix upon the chief Executive; but we have a system so peculiarly Red River, that we would not in the least be astonished to find that it is a whim of the Collector himself."

"A great obstacle to the efficient collection of the revenue is the distance at which the collector resides from Fort Garry. How can we expect a collector to do justice to himself or the revenue who resides fifteen miles from the port of entry? Last spring, Governor Macdonald issued a notice to all importers that if they did not settle with Mr. Doss for their duty shortly after the arrival of their goods, these would be liable to seizure as contraband. The collector's work? Not a word. It was considered too inconvenient to run 15 miles for such a disagreeable duty, and so few or none went."

"Our very primitive system of imposing a uniform duty on every kind of goods is also open to objection. Four per cent on cloth as well as on blankets as well as on silks—on tea and sugar as well as on coffee and tobacco—on penknives and hoes—on wine, rum, tobacco, pepper, and everything else? This has the advantage of simplicity, which, we believe, is the chief recommendation of the present system. But it is a disadvantage in that it is in harmony with our present system."

## ORIGIN OF THE RED-MAN.

The *Nor. W.* publishes a report of a very eloquent lecture delivered by Mr. Frank Larned Hunt upon the Red Man. In the course of his remarks the lecturer said:—"There has been a vast deal said, surmised, and conjectured about the origin of the North American Indians; some actually maintaining that they are the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel—others that they are the branch of the Adept family. To a third supposition, that they are of Tartar origin—crossing to the New World and spreading over it from Behring's Strait. I do not so much as to say that they are not descended from their faces as to leave, in my mind, at least, scarce a doubt. In a conversation I had the happiness to enjoy, one evening, with Pere Faver, of the Roman Catholic mission at Fort William, Lake Superior—a man of fine powers of mind and one of the—if not the most accomplished Ojibwa scholar now living. I mentioned this belief. He at once confirmed it, and spoke of an early Jesuit missionary upon his lake, when he was transferred to Tartary, to his astonishment, and in one of the villages of that country a woman he had known in this. They mutually recognized each other, and in answer to his inquiry she said she had been taken prisoner, passed from village to village, across Behring's Strait, and was at last left here by her captors. This same Father, stricken by a similarity of the languages, prepared a list in which the words of the respective tongues, Tartar and Algonquin, being placed side by side, showed without doubt a common root of derivation. The testimony from the truthful scholar was more conclusive to my mind than the piled up theories and vague speculations of a college of savans. How many centuries they took to traverse and occupy this immense extent of country—how long the time which grew into tribes—by non-intercourse acquire dialects of their own—we know not. But with their habit nothing could be more natural and easy, and with the abundance of game and means of life came rapid increase of numbers, sufficient as their wants and inclinations prompted, to reach all parts of the country, even to the broad Atlantic, where now their very name is tradition."

## THE INDIAN WOMAN.

Mr. Hunt paid an eloquent tribute to the charms of the Indian women. He says:—"Of the native women of Red River what can I say? I have seen 15,000 of them; and in taking into one of them for the days that are here and those to come, I have been evincing my admiration. And I will venture a prediction. That as now, as then more in the future, there will be a constant race of women—who, with this strange dash of Asiatic blood in their veins—which never chills—their wondrous eyes of hidden depth, of slumberous power—their frank, hearty and affectionate manners—who will surpass them either in power of fascination, or ability to retain what their charms have won." (Applause.)

## BIRTH.

At Aurora, on Friday the 10th inst., the wife of ROSE KYLE, Esq., of a daughter.

## TORONTO MARKETS.

### THURSDAY, April 25.

Wheat.—5200 bushels was the extent of the supply which suited the following prices. The prices paid for the best samples were from \$1 10 to \$1 20 per bushel.  
Spring Wheat—1700 bushels in market, which sold at from \$0 97 to \$1 00 per bushel.  
Barley.—sold at from 45 to 50c.  
Oats.—2300 bushels were off at 48 and 50c per bushel.  
Oats—at 25 and 27c per bushel.  
Hay—sold at from \$11 to \$14 per ton. Straw \$5 to \$7 per ton.  
Flour.—Superfine extra sold at \$4 65 to \$4 70. Extra \$4 50 to \$4 65. Family (Spring) \$4 45 to \$4 55. Family (Fall) \$4 35 to \$4 45. Extra \$4 25 to \$4 35. Double Extra \$4 25 to \$4 30. Butter.—Fresh is in fair supply at from 13c to 20c per lb.  
Pork—is in fair request. For hogs averaging 200 lbs \$5 50 and \$5 90 has been paid, and the same averaging 250 lbs \$5 and \$5 60—the latter being the extreme figure.  
Apples.—Common varieties \$1 and \$1 25 per barrel. Better grades \$1 50 and \$1 25 per barrel.  
Eggs.—Fresh from wagons 10 to 12c per dozen. Poultry—Vary in price from 30 to 32c.  
Sheep—are in demand at from \$4 50 to \$6 each.  
Lamb—are plentiful at from \$2 50 to \$3 each.  
Calves—are in good supply at \$4 to \$5 each.  
Beef—Hides—\$6 00 per 100 lbs. Sheep and lamb skins \$10 per 100 lbs. Calveskins 10c per lb. Tallow, \$7 per 100 lbs.  
Timothy Seed—\$2 80 a \$3 per bushel.  
Clover Seed—\$1 75 per bushel.

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In all Sizes, in all Colors, in all Qualities, and at all Prices, at

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Richmond Hill, April 25, 1861. 126-f

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A careful and orderly always in attendance Aurora Station, April 1861. 126-ly

## NOTICE.

THE Co-partnership heretofore existing between JAMES G. THOMPSON and GEORGE L. GARDEN, under the firm and style of Thompson & Garden, Merchants, King, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. The business will be carried on as usual by G. L. Garden, and all debts due to the firm will be paid to him, and all debts owing by the firm will be settled by him.

JAMES G. THOMPSON  
GEORGE L. GARDEN,  
King, April 11, 1861. 125-4

The undersigned, in returning thanks to those who have honored their patronage on the late firm, respectfully solicits a continuance of their custom.

**GEORGE L. GARDEN.**  
King April 10, 1861. 125-4

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Proprietor,  
Markham, April 19, 1861. 125-f

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Maple, April 10, 1861. 123-3

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April 8, 1861. 124-4

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Letters to be prepaid  
Toronto, April 12, 1861. 124-1ly

## Jas. F. Brown,

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## Letters

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APRIL 1, 1861.

Baynton, Orin  
Cober, Peter  
David, G.  
Collins, Mary J.  
Garbut, Mary Ann  
Harris, John L.  
Keale, Francis  
Lee, Mrs.  
Lyon, Sarah  
Morton, Thomas

Ratcliffe, Elizabeth A.  
Riley, John  
Reagan, Martha [2]  
Sivory, Robert  
Seager, Nancy  
Storey, John W.  
Skinner, T.  
Simpson, Wm.  
French, Wm.  
Wilson, Thos. [2]

M. TEEFY, P.M.,  
124-2m

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