

OUR EUROPEAN LETTER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BERLIN, Dec. 31st, 1878.

The correspondence between this and United States Governments relative to the expulsion from Germany of M. Baumer, the naturalized American citizen, has been published. In it the German Government maintain their right to expel M. Baumer, in order to prevent the evasion of military service, and declined paying any damages for his expulsion.

A part of the Berlin Press is much offended at what it calls the false or exaggerated reports that are spread abroad about the vexations and difficulties of travelling in Germany. I have not seen many of the reports in question; but those which I have seen were not exaggerated. In regard to Berlin in particular, my advice to foreigners would certainly be to stay away, unless they have urgent business or have provided themselves with abundant papers, and are not ruffled by daily, not to say hourly, police visits. No appearance of respectability, no probability of good character and lawful business take the place of the most formal and exact papers of identification and legitimation when travellers have to deal with the police under the new system. The rigor even extends to the Provinces, although the obligation of passports had not been formally introduced except in Berlin; and only about a week ago a Swedish gentleman of faultless demeanor and excellent antecedents had to send to the Embassy here in great haste to get a passport and escape the threatened expulsion. If this sort of thing is possible in the interior, what must be the severity of the officials here at Berlin! A capital case has come to my knowledge; and as it illustrates not only the petty rigor but also the amazing stupidity of some of the under officials, it deserves to be recorded. An elderly lady, the widow of one of the finest scholars in America is living here with her son, who is pursuing his studies at the University, and learning authorized socialism of Professor Wagner. As she came to Berlin before the reintroduction of the passport system, she is legally and strictly not affected by it. Nevertheless the police have utterly ignored that fact, and have pursued the poor woman as remorselessly as if they expected in her the possibility of a Charlotte Corday or a Lucretia Borgia. One sergeant of Police has made himself particularly active in probing the dark secrets of the lady's past career; but his learning and intelligence being inferior to his zeal, he one day became the hero of the following incident: The son of the lady possesses a passport which, however, as a student, he is obliged to deposit with the authorities of the University, receiving in exchange a student's card, as it is called; this he one day showed to the sergeant, who had been again urging upon the mother the expediency of her expending the required amount for a passport, if she wished to enjoy the advantage of living in Berlin. The card, as a scholastic document, was naturally in Latin, and certified that the bearer, Mr. So-and-so, was a student in the *Universitas Berolinensis*. The grave official scrutinized the instrument with a puzzled and suspicious look. "What does that mean?" said he, pointing to the above words. The young American explained that they were Latin for "Berlin University." "What, that thing," continued the sergeant—"Berolinensis, that stands for Berlin; but what is that 'o' there?" I am afraid my young friend laughed directly in the face of the law. Whether the unfortunate lady has since got her passport, or has been expelled as a dangerous character, I cannot say; but her experience is such as may befall the most innocent person who comes to Berlin unprovided for the state of siege. At the same time there is something to be said on the other side. It is not only self-evident that the German authorities have a perfect right to impose such regulations as they please upon travellers but it is also unhappily true that many Americans, particularly naturalized Americans, make themselves unnecessarily obnoxious by the ill-temper, the impatience and rudeness which they show under such restrictions. It is of course, annoying enough to be stopped and catechised *en route* by illiterate and stupid policemen; but such officials are in general only carrying out their literal instructions, and nothing is gained by storming about, throwing Magna Charta into their eyes, and shouting English oaths in a loud voice down their throats. Such demonstrations but surprise and irritate the most innocent official, and make him instead of a solicitous friend a troublesome enemy. It would, undoubtedly be better for Germany if England and America could make her laws for her, but since Germany herself is not prepared, for

such an improvement, the Anglo-Saxon traveller can only submit to what he finds here. The better grace with which he does this, the better will it be for him.

Several commissions have been recently appointed to inquire into the condition of the principal kinds of industry and trade, with a view of obtaining in their reports a guide to future commercial policy. It is remarked that in these Commissions, without exception, the Protectionist party are in a majority, and it is apprehended that they will, in accordance with their known principles, report in favor of higher duties upon imported goods. The Commission appointed some time ago to inquire into the state of the cotton and linen trade are understood to be in favor of higher duties than are at present levied upon the finer qualities both of cotton and linen goods imported into Germany. They have not yet presented their report, but it is understood that it will be to that effect. Louis.

ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

We have just received a letter from Mr. Jas. Johnson, our late bandmaster, in which he gives us an account of his trip to the Old Country, which may be of interest to some of our readers. After leaving Woodville he spent a few days with his friends in Lindsay. He writes:—

I left Lindsay at 4 p. m. on Tuesday, 26th of Nov. Arriving at Port Hope at 7 o'clock, I took tea, and spent two hours viewing the town. On boarding the Grand Trunk I noticed the seats all turned and it looked as if the passengers had turned in for the night, as most of them were sleeping. We left Port Hope at half-past ten and twenty minutes later reached Cobourg, where we stopped for refreshments. Not long after re-entering the cars sleep overtook me, so I fixed myself as well as I could, as I thought for the night, but I had not been long in the land of dreams, before the conductor came yelling in my ears, "Ticket! ticket please!" I showed him my ticket and laid down again thinking I would be alright now for a time, but it was not long before another official came around and shook me by the shoulder, shouting for us to show our tickets again. I had scarcely got settled back into my seat, thinking to catch a couple of hours sleep, when some one went through the cars saying "Fifteen minutes for refreshments." I arose and partook, and in a few moments we were again on the wing. At nine o'clock we arrived at Montreal. Having several hours to wait, I rambled through the city where I found everybody busy preparing for the reception of the Marquis of Lorne and H. R. H. the Princess Louise. At the station I made the acquaintance of a young man named William Green, who was going to London on the same ship as myself. We arrived at Point Levi at eight in the morning, where we changed to the Intercolonial. On our arrival at River du Loup we met the Royal train, when the Mayor presented an address to the new Governor-General, both the Marquis and the Princess standing on the platform amidst hundreds of people. After the Marquis made his reply they proceeded to the Royal car amidst cheers for the Queen, the Governor-General, and the Princess. On their departure all the people sang "God Save the Queen." We left River du Loup immediately after the Royal train and arrived at Moncton at five o'clock in the morning, where we had refreshments, for which we paid a good price, such as 15 cents for a cup of coffee and 10 cts. for a sandwich, but even at that price they are thankfully received, having had nothing to eat for 18 hours. Here we had to change cars again. The scenery along the Intercolonial Route is very picturesque. As we pass down through the valley, we see the rivers with their peculiar bends, and the little farm houses perched on the sides of the mountains, and cattle and sheep grazing on the hills. Nova Scotia is a magnificent country. We are now 60 miles from Halifax at a town called Truro. On passing the station I noticed a man with bagpipes playing "The Campbells are coming." I heard he was to play at the station on the arrival of the Marquis of Lorne, but the poor man did not get there in time, so he contented himself with playing as we passed. After traveling for some time through cuts in the hills, which are arched over with lumber to keep the snow from blocking up the road, we arrived at Halifax. Halifax is a fine city, with a population numbering 35,000, and when we arrived was decked out in holiday attire. It resembles the town of Portsmouth very much, only on a smaller scale, with its men of war and shipping. We took a walk up to the citadel, and had a splendid view of the city, the harbor and the Town of Dartmouth, which is on the other side of the harbor. There appears to be a great deal of business done here. The people are very soci-

able to strangers. The *Polynesian*, on which we sailed is a very fine ship, of 4,000 tons burden and 800 horse-power, with twenty furnaces, under command of Captain Brown. The crew numbers in all 100, and are busy shipping beef and mutton for Liverpool. We left the wharf at 5 o'clock, which was later than we expected, with 60 passengers on board, and steamed down the harbor, passing the battery at the mouth of the harbor. Sunday morning we took a stroll on deck before breakfast, which we got at half-past seven, or "seven bells." At 11 o'clock we had church in the cabin, when the services were conducted by the mail agent, there being no minister on board. Everyone seems to be in good spirits; the weather is very mild. On Monday morning we reached Cape Race, Newfoundland, but there was not much to be seen but high cliffs and mountains. It looks to be a very desolate country. We were all on deck amusing ourselves when the Captain called our attention to some whales spouting up great streams of water. Shortly after this we began to feel the effects of sea-sickness. The weather was very cold, and the wind blew fearfully. After suffering all the horrors of sea-sickness, I crawled on deck Wednesday morning, to find the sun shining and the weather a great deal milder, but in the afternoon we had a bit of a storm, and the sea rose to mountains high, and the ship tossed about in a terrible manner. Of course we had to go below. We tried to sleep that night but it was impossible, the shouting of the men and the rattling of chains were something fearful, but we put in the night somehow. We came on deck Thursday morning with cheerful hearts; the wind had changed a little and the water was much calmer. All that were able came on the upper deck and stayed the most of the day. The sea calmed down and the moon shone out very bright. There being some good singers on board we held a concert at night. * * * On Monday morning we arrived off the north coast of Ireland, and as the sun was rising the scenery looked grand. It is very rugged and mountainous, the high peaks rising one above the other are covered with snow, while the valleys are all green, with little white cottages here and there all along the cliffs. We followed the shore till we arrived at Moville, which is quite a town, but built round a hill, so that we could only see part of it. After landing the mails and passengers we proceeded on to Liverpool. We passed the Isle of Man at 10 o'clock at night, but it being full moon we had a good sight of it. We came to anchor 16 miles from Liverpool till morning, as the water was low. At 8 o'clock the weather became very foggy, but we weighed anchor and steamed to within 4 miles of the landing stage, where we were met by the Company's tender, which landed us. After passing the customs we proceeded to the station and took the express for London. After five hours railroading we arrived at Easton Station, 205 miles from Liverpool, where I parted with my friend Mr. Green. Next morning I took the train for Portsmouth, where the boat was waiting for us. We were soon at Ryde where I took the train for Brading, the end of my journey. On the 11th of Dec. I was among my friends and family.—J. J.

We intend placing several accounts in Court next week if not paid before. It may be yours.—It will pay you to see. Jas. A. Mitchell & Co.

LEG BROKEN.—On Monday last as a girl named Robinson was going home from school she fell and broke her leg. If the snow by-law was properly carried out no doubt this accident would not have occurred.—*Guardian*.

SWINDLING IN THE COUNTRY.—Frequently we notice in our exchanges the tricks resorted to by sharpers in order to swindle the farmers, and they meet with comparative success. Their only safe course is to deal exclusively with those whom they know to be both honorable and responsible. Last week two men in a buggy begged in and about Catawqui for produce in aid of an imaginary widow in distress. The farmers all gave something, and upon comparing notes found that the poor widow had many different names, and that they had probably helped to feed two swindling rascals. They pursued their begging tour in the direction of Odessa.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Captain Vincent went as usual to perform his duties at the schools on Monday evening last, and not finishing, went again after supper, taking his lantern with him and locking himself in. Mrs. Vincent, from her residence, saw the light in the school house at a late hour, but not making his appearance at his dwelling, she went to her friends in search of him, but it was not till search was made, and an entrance effected through one of the windows of the school, that the Captain was found lying on his face on the floor quite dead, the broom being beneath him. The doctors gave it as their opinion that deceased had died from heart disease, and that he had passed away without a struggle.—*Uxbridge Guardian*.

NORTH VICTORIA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Eleventh Annual Meeting of the North Victoria Electoral Division Agricultural Society, was held in Campbell's Hall, Glenora, on Wednesday, the 15th inst. The chair was occupied by Thos. Smithson, Esq., the President of the Society. The Secretary read the following Directors' report:—

Your Directors, in submitting for your consideration the Annual Report of the Society for the past year beg leave to state that although the yield of cereals fell considerably below that of the previous year, there is notwithstanding, reason for thankfulness to an overruling Providence that there is yet within our borders bread enough and to spare, and the Fall Show of 1878 was after all, a highly successful one. The number of entries were considerably in advance of that of any previous show, although in quality—the grain especially that of the Spring crops was much inferior to the samples shown in 1877. In roots and vegetables, however, the exhibit was good, and the same is true with respect to domestic manufactures and ladies' work.

Your Directors would also refer with pleasure to a new departure from the custom hitherto followed, and which cannot but commend itself to the members of the Society, as calculated to work to the future advantage of our Fall Shows, namely, the strict adherence by the Secretary to the published rules of the Society, in not receiving any entries on Show Day, thus enabling the Judges to go to work at an early hour, and giving a longer time than could otherwise have been afforded for the public to view the articles on exhibition in the inside department.

Your Directors have also to report the erection during the past year, on the Show Grounds, of a commodious shed for the accommodation of Horses, Sheep and Pigs, at a cost to the Society of one hundred and fifty-six dollars.

We have also much pleasure in acknowledging the usual annual donation of two hundred from the County Council and forty dollars from Hector Cameron, Q. C., M. P.

Another matter of much interest to the Society is the arrangement entered into with the Agricultural Society of the South Riding of Victoria for holding an annual ploughing match alternately in the North and South Ridings. Last Fall it was held in the South and was entirely successful and free of expense to this Society, all the prizes consisting of private donations with the exception of a small bonus from the Municipality of Mariposa.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN McTAGGART, Secretary.

The financial report was then read and approved of, after which the meeting proceeded to the election of officers for the current year, with the following result:—President, Thos. Smithson, Fenelon; 1st Vice-President, A. H. Carl, Cobocouk; 2nd Vice-President, Wm. Ashman, Eldon; Directors—Jno. Daniel and Donald McKenzie, Fenelon; Donald Jackson and Wm. McKenzie, Eldon; George Rumney and Charles Bowin, Somerville; Jas. Mumberson, Laxton and Digby; Edward Lytle and John King, Bexley. Auditors:—G. W. Millar and A. Morrison, Woodville.

Delegates to the annual meeting of the Agriculture and Arts Association: Thomas Smithson and A. H. Carl.

For soliciting subscriptions for Ploughing Match.—M. H. Berkeley, Jas. Stuart and J. G. Moynes.

Immediately after the Annual Meeting the new board of Officers and Directors were called together, when Jno. McTaggart was appointed Secretary; Nelson Heaslip, Treasurer, and John Daniel, delegate to the Central Exhibition.

Next meeting of Directors will be held on Tuesday, the 17th June next, at Victoria Road Station.

JNO. McTAGGART, Secretary.

The annual report of the Cannington school board shows the expense of their school for last year to be \$2,858.64.

WEEK OF PRAYER.—Last week was duly observed in Uxbridge as the week of prayer, meetings being held in most of the churches.

Oshawa, as a town, has elected its first Town Council. Only two experienced councillors were elected; all the rest were new men. Every ward was contested.

THE WHITBY GAZETTE says that three tramps were sentenced by Major Harper, J. P., to four months at hard labor. Good for Whitby. Make them work and their fellow-tramps will give the town a wide berth.

THE Thorah municipal election was postponed on account of the snow being too deep to get their ballots in time. It is said to be the first time this has occurred and we hope it will be some time ere it happens so again.



The Advocate.

"Pro Bono Publico."

WOODVILLE, JANUARY 23, 1879.

THE THORAH REEVESHIP

As will be seen by reference to our Beaverton correspondence, a protest has been entered by Mr. Geo. R. Proctor, the defeated candidate at the late municipal election, against Mr. G. F. Bruce, the Reeve elect, taking the seat. From what we can learn the ground of protest rests on the fact of Mr. Bruce being one of the securities for the Collector of taxes at the time of his election. When the old Council accepted Mr. Bruce as surety for the collector, he (Mr. B.) held the seat of Deputy-Reeve of the Township, and no objection was taken, but when he was nominated for the Reeveship, it was hinted that this was a disqualification in the eyes of the law. To avoid, if possible, any fuss in the matter, Mr. Bruce requested the then Reeve, Mr. John Proctor, to call a special meeting of the Council to cancel his surety, Mr. Ross having found another gentleman who was qualified and willing to act as such. This Mr. Proctor refused to do, and so Mr. Bruce went to the polls, and was elected by a good majority. We have no doubt, could the judge give a decision adverse to Mr. Bruce, that on his re-appearing before the electors of Thorah he will be returned with an overwhelming majority. Mr. Bruce has always served the township well, both as Councillor and Deputy-Reeve, and the people of that township will not see him ejected from the Reeve's chair on such a small pretext.

The body of the late A. T. Stewart, which was stolen some time ago from the family vault, is reported to have been returned to, or rather has been delivered to Judge Hilton, after the payment of \$50,000 through a firm of New York lawyers, to a party or parties unknown. That the identification has been entirely satisfactory, and the remains had been placed by Judge Hilton in a secure vault, there to wait for final removal to the vault under Memorial Cathedral, at Garden City, Long Island. Judge Hilton was cited by a gentleman, who in the course of conversation naturally referred to the delivery of the body. The question was put to him point blank if the body had been found, in answer he said that he preferred not to talk about it at all. So far as can be learned, it is certain that to no one did Judge Hilton deny the fact that the body had been recovered, and so far as human testimony can be relied upon, it is certain that Mrs. Stewart has, on several occasions, and to several persons said, that the remains of her husband had been delivered to Judge Hilton, and were placed by him in a secure although temporary resting place.

dry Goods and Crockery at cost at Jas. Mitchell & Co's.

THE North Ontario contested election trial will take place at Whitby on Thursday, the 24th Jan.

MARKHAM firm has received an order for four hundred waggons from a Winnipeg merchant, to be delivered this year.

Sunday a team belonging to Mr. Whippshaw, was being driven over the ice on Lake, when the horses broke through and were frozen to death. The span was saved at over \$250.

THE PRICE OF WHEAT still keeps low, and we are informed by Mr. Learey, of the Cannon Mills, that there is little or no demand for either wheat or flour at present. Considerable quantities of wheat have been brought into market lately, and Mr. Learey tells us that his available store-room about filled, and though he still continues flouring, he regrets that the part of what has been manufactured for the past two months remains unsold. The prospect of a better market in the future is not at all encouraging.