

FREDERICTON, (N. B.)
TUESDAY, 4TH DEC. 1827.

Alms House and Work House.
COMMISSIONER FOR THE WEEK,
CHARLES LEE, Esquire.

SAVINGS BANK.
TRUSTEES NEXT WEEK,
HENRY G. CLOPPER, ESQ.
JAMES TAYLOR, ESQ.
GEORGE MINCHIN, ESQ.

We are happy to learn that since our last a favorable change has taken place in the complaint we then observed His Excellency the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR to be labouring under, and that His Excellency was this morning much better.

As misrepresentations will not be likely to do good and may be productive of much mischief, we feel it our duty to persevere in attempting to correct some others which have lately met the public eye relating to what is called the

DISPUTED TERRITORY.

In a former number will be found some strictures on publications in the Eastern Republican, printed at Bangor in the State of Maine. Since then we have read in the Boston Palladium, an article containing statements so very incorrect, that we cannot avoid expressing our surprise to find such in the columns of any respectable Journal, more especially when their tendency will probably produce much mischief. In justice however to the Palladium, we must admit that the article alluded to, appears therein without note or comment, as an extract from another Bangor paper, called the Bangor Register. We give it entire—

From the Bangor Register, October 31.

DISPUTED TERRITORY.

Since our last, Mr. Wilson, from Houlton, passed through this town; he confirms the account of the existing difficulties in that territory, as published in our last, and relates many other grievances of which our citizens have to complain; he informs that Mr. Baker has been sentenced to six months imprisonment and to pay a fine of 150 pounds, and, as he understood, the only offence charged against him was refusing to permit the passage of the British mail over his lands.

Mr. Dalton, from Aroostic, came in company with Mr. Wilson, and he gives a melancholy account of the oppressions and sufferings of the inhabitants of that settlement. He says that the British officers are in the habit of executing precepts—issuing from British Magistrates, within the American territory—and taking and carrying away every species of property, even to the last cow—and selling the property at auction; that they come with a posse armed, and threaten to come with force enough to carry off all the inhabitants to Fredericton Jail—that their proceedings are in all respects violent and oppressive. He states that, in consequence of this state of things, he has sold all his property for what he could get, and quit the country; that he raised this year 150 bushels of wheat 200 of potatoes, 75 of corn, and many other products of the earth had a decent house and barn, & farming utensils, 20 acres cleared, that he sold all for 184 dollars 38 cents—on credit principally—that he made this sacrifice solely on account of public difficulties—and had it not been for them he would not have taken 500 dollars for his property. He also states that the inhabitants are in constant fear, and dare not sleep in their houses. We understand that the statements were made under oath, and have been enclosed to the executive. We hope and trust some effective measures will be taken to protect and vindicate the rights of American citizens.

We have nothing to do with any grievances which the Citizens of the State of Maine, or of the United States, labour under, which proceed from any act or omission of their own Government.—We know of none of that description, but if any such do exist, the people have a just right to complain. We charge the Printer with giving publicity, most incautiously, to a verbal statement of a Mr. Wilson—grossly false, and in itself incredible.

We must insist that every Editor of a Paper has a character to maintain for veracity, which is of the utmost importance to him.

We can say with certainty that Mr. Baker has not been tried, and of course has not been sentenced.—This same Mr. Baker (who, we believe, is called by his Party General Baker) was arrested under a Warrant from the nearest Magistrate, issued against him and two others for a high misdemeanor. He might have given bail to the Magistrate for his appearance at the Supreme Court to take his Trial, but that would not have produced his release from custody, for the Sheriff had a process against him for debt, and hence the necessity of his being brought to Fredericton, and hence the probable cause of his continuance in Prison. He was proceeded against at the last Term of the Supreme Court, by information exhibited by the Attorney General—upon which he was arraigned—and to which he pleaded Not Guilty—and he was then told in open Court that Bail in £100 would be accepted for his appearance at the next Court, in February, to take his Trial—and ever since he has had, and still has it in his power to liberate himself from imprisonment, at any time, upon those terms—and we have reason to believe he would long since have been released but for the other cause of detention. His trial will, we have good reason to believe, take place at the next Court; when, we presume, it will be fully known for what offences he is prosecuted, and when it will probably be made to appear that one of the charges against him is for "refusing to permit the passage of the British Mail"—not "over his Land"—but up the River St. John in a Canoe.

The Editor of the Bangor Register will not, we think, venture to say that Mr. Baker and his party had the authority of the Government of the United States to resort to acts of violence or stratagem, to wrest from the British Government a possession which it has ever held, to a Territory which has always been claimed as a part of the British Dominions.

Why not, then, rather encourage Baker and others within the "Disputed Territory" to submit patiently, as good Citizens and Subjects, to the laws of this Government, & receive their protection, until the question of RIGHT is settled by the TWO NATIONS. How idle it is to talk of protecting and vindicating the rights of American Citizens, as such, individually, in a Territory which has never been in the possession of the nation to which they belong!

As Mr. Dalton's statements are represented to have been made under oath, we will not say much on that subject at present. We cannot however forbear conjecturing, that when the contents of his affidavits shall be disclosed, it will appear that he is one of those now under prosecution for intrusion on the Crown Lands; and that, in the business of the Cow, the story will read something in this way:—That a Judgment was recovered against one of the Settlers of the Restock, for a small debt, and under the Magistrate's Warrant, the Constable took a Cow in Execution, and was quietly driving it away, when he was attacked by a large armed party, who rescued the Cow, and took the Constable into custody, with an intention of sending him a Prisoner to some place in the State of Maine; but a Mr. Johnston, the Justice elected by those people, refused to grant his Warrant for that purpose, and the poor Constable was thereupon released, but the Cow detained.

There were three ways of adjusting the difference in regard to the Boundary. The first by reference to Commissioners appointed by the two nations:—That has been

tried, with great labour and expence to the parties, but unfortunately the Commissioners could not agree; and the Umpire, appointed under the provisions of the Treaty of Ghent, has not decided the question. The second is by Negotiation, and while that is depending we must think the People of both Countries should remain perfectly quiet, and use their utmost endeavours in promoting and preserving Peace and Harmony among one another, with a determination, cheerfully to submit to the decision of their respective Governments; and in the mean time to discountenance any artful insidious attempts, or any acts of violence, by obscure unauthorized individuals, to effect any change in the actual possession of the "Disputed Territory."

Should the attempt, by Negotiation, prove abortive, then, and not till then, will it be necessary to think of the third and last way of settling matters: and that must be a national concern.

If Great Britain shall think herself not sufficiently powerful to maintain the possession of a Territory to which she may believe she has a just claim, she must yield it up; but when that takes place, it will be to the UNITED STATES; and we are quite sure the possession will, in that case, be taken and received in a way more consistent with the dignity of that nation, than has been lately attempted by Baker and his Party at Madawaska; and by the party composed principally of British Subjects on the Restock; which the Public Journalists of the neighbouring State seem disposed to justify: and in this we must be permitted to say; they do not consult the respectability, either of the national Government, or of their own State.

Baker and his Party of a dozen or twenty, hoist the American Flag, claiming possession of an old settled place, and say such acts are authorised by their Government. In this we know they state falsehoods; and we think they should be treated with contempt by every one of their fellow citizens.

The example of Baker and his Clan in rescuing a prisoner out of the hands of the Constable encouraged another set of about two dozen squatters on the Restock (five sixths of whom are British Subjects) who have, it seems, chosen a Magistrate and set up for themselves, to rescue property taken in Execution, and (to go a little further) make a Prisoner of the Officer!! Can this be the right way for a nation to take possession of a "Disputed Territory?" We answer without hesitation—No—It would be disgraceful to Savages—and fortunately their conduct is not sanctioned by either of their Governments.

All attempts to inflame the public mind, under such circumstances, we pronounce to be unjustifiable; and it is with extreme regret we read certain Toasts and Sentiments, having that tendency, given by respectable persons, at a public Dinner in the neighbouring State.

MELANCHOLY.—An afflicting circumstance happened in the upper part of the Parish of Prince William on the 30th October last. Late in the afternoon of that day, a man named RICHARD STEERS went into the woods to seek his Cattle, which had strayed; and as he did not return home during the whole night, fears were excited for his safety. Accordingly, intelligence having been communicated to one of the Magistrates in that Parish on the following morning, a number of the inhabitants went in quest of him, and were not in the woods but successive days; when at length they were returning homewards, not having made any discovery of the object of their anxiety; three of the party, taking a short cut through the forest, discovered Steers lying face down upon the ground about 2 1/2 miles in rear of the barony, the summer residence of His Honor the Chief Justice. The poor man, we understand, was greatly distressed, part of his flesh having been torn off by the wild beasts, and it is supposed, that having lost himself in the woods while in pursuit of his cattle; and the night which was so in upon him and prevented his extricating himself,

being very cold, the unfortunate man thus came to his melancholy end. An Inquest was held upon the body.—Verdict—Deceased perished, in consequence of being exposed to the cold all night in the woods.

In noticing the above occurrence, we cannot help admiring the conduct of the worthy inhabitants of Prince William, who so humanely exerted themselves in behalf of their fellow creature.

TO THE EDITOR,

SIR.—Your notice to the public—cordially inviting to your columns the most trifling communication, tending in any degree to promote the general welfare of the Inhabitants of this highly favoured Province, which from recent discoveries of treasures in the Earth appears by nature profusely bountiful, and only requires diligence to discover and labour to possess them, has induced me to offer you the following appropriate remarks from an English writer in the Philadelphia Magazine, who, in adverting to the riches of the earth, thus elegantly invites us to industry and research:—"Though nature is gay, polite, and generous abroad, she is sullen, rude, and niggardly at home; return the visit, and she admits you with all the suspicion of a miser, and all the reluctance of an antiquated beauty retired to replenish her charms—bred in antediluvian nations, she has not yet acquired the European taste of receiving visitors in her dressing room, she locks and bolts up her private recesses with extraordinary care, as if not only resolved to preserve her hoards, but to conceal her age, and hide the remains of a face that was young and lovely in the days of Adam. He that would view nature in her address, and partake of her internal treasure, must proceed with the resolution of a robber, if not a ravisher. She gives no invitation to follow her to the Cavern. The external Earth makes no proclamation of the interior stores, but leaves to chance and industry, the discovery of the whole. In such gifts as nature can annually recreate, she is noble and profuse, and entertains the whole world with the interest of her fortunes; but watches over the capital with the care of a miser. Her gold and jewels, lie concealed in the earth in caves of utter darkness—the hoards of wealth, heaps upon heaps, mould in the chests, like the riches of a Necromancer's cell:—It must be very pleasant to an adventurous speculatist to make excursion into these Gothic regions; and in his travels he may possibly come to a cabinet locked up in some rocky vault, whose treasures shall reward his toil, and enable him to shine on his return, as splendid as nature herself."

Kingston, 16th November.

Miramichi, Nov. 20.

A singular fatality appears to have lately attended the Pilot Boats belonging to this port. In the late severe gales, M'Eachran's boat drove from her anchor at Point Sapps, and is doubtless lost, as she has not since been heard of; two persons were on board at the time, M'Eachran's son and Patrick M'Rae, of Chatham.

In the same gales, Raphael Cassie's boat was blown off to sea, and lost, but fortunately no hands were on board; and nearly all the other Escuminac boats were driven on shore.

On Sunday week Mr. Wallace's boat was taken adrift by the ice, and sunk near Middle Island. At the same time Cameron's boat was sunk from the same cause near the Custom-House, but was afterwards got up.

We are sorry to add, that during the tempestuous weather alluded to above, a loaded Schooner, supposed to be from Pr. Ed. Island, was seen to upset while trying to enter this Harbour, and sunk immediately with all on board.

MARRIED.

At St. John, on the 29th Nov. by the Rev. B. G. Gray, Mr. William Jones, to Miss Sarah Addison.

DIED.

At St. John, on the 18th Nov. in the 38th year of her age, Miss Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Robert Clarke.

At St. John, some days after a short illness, Mr. James Rogers, aged 56 years.

At Waterbury, Quebec County, on the 15th Nov. Mr. Jacob W. Dykeman, aged 30 years—in consequence of falling from the frame of a Grist Mill, then erecting.

TIMBER PETITIONS.

For sale at this Office.