

sail of vessels building there, which would lead to the introduction of many persons who during the winter would require relief. His Honor the Speaker is concerned, he believed His Honor the Speaker started from the same cause; and he knew one House in that parish, who had been taxed in one year £100.

Mr. L. A. WILSON said, so far from the learned member for Gloucester being correct in stating that the poor law was a grievance, the whole difficulty was caused by the absence of any settlement. It was not long since that a waggon load of paupers was sent up from Queen's to Fredericton; and upon enquiry it was found they had paid the man at Gagetown to bring them up; and the authorities here paid him to carry them back again. This unfortunate description of persons he said, were sometimes put on a raft and sent down from the river, and they were forwarded from hence St. John by steamboat; and they sometimes sent them back again. All this arose from there being no kind of settlement law; and could not possibly happen if residence gave a claim upon a parish for support. With reference to the Bill before the Committee, when the establishment of an almshouse and penitentiary was at first contemplated at St. John; it was done with reference to the out parishes, and the buildings were to be made larger and more commodious on that account; and he put it to the Committee, if it would not be unjust to exempt those parishes from the operation of the law; for if the present Bill were to pass, they must grant relief to any one who should apply; and if that course were pursued in the present instance, the different parishes in York might apply for the same exemption. He should like to see a settlement law introduced; and with reference to the Bill then before the Committee, would move that the farther consideration of it should be deferred till that day three months.

Mr. BROWN knew that it was the practice of the House not to interfere and pass Bills of a local nature, when they were opposed by members of a County; and consequently that under consideration would probably be lost; but as an individual he could not agree with the majority; and thought that the erection of the buildings alluded to had reference to the dense population of the city of St. John. That at St. Andrews did not extend to the whole county, in that of York various parishes were exempt; and it appeared to him to be wrong in the present instance to include St. Martins in the assessment for the buildings about to be erected in St. John; and it was a pity it had ever been extended beyond that city. With respect to the disposal of the poor for which the people of St. Martins had been blamed, he found upon looking into the law, that it provides that paupers should be placed where they would be the least expensive to the parish; and that were they to act in any other way, they would be acting contrary to law. As far as he could see, the Bill before the Committee was a reasonable one, yet he was fearful there would not be a majority in the House for passing it.

The Chairman was about putting the question; when Dr. WILSON interrupted him, and said he hoped the friends of the Bill were not to be put down by the hurried manner in which it was attempted to dispose of it, but that their arguments would have their proper weight; and altho' the member who introduced the measure, might not be considered as competent as other hon. gentlemen to support it; yet that the Committee would make those concessions which were due to him, and also to others who were disposed to support the Bill. The hon. gentleman said he did not consider the arguments of the opponents of the present application as tenable; and it did not follow from what they had stated that a parish like St. Martins, was to be coerced into a measure to which they were opposed; and strong reasons had been adduced why they should be relieved from the operation of the present law. The hon. gentleman who introduced the Bill and petition, had discarded largely upon the granting of tavern licences, which however useful to St. John, on account of the paltry funds which they produced, were found extremely detrimental to St. Martins. If the magistrates of St. John thus deliberately imposed tavern licences upon that parish, the Committee ought to be jealous of a law which went to impose an unnecessary tax upon the people of that parish. The hon. gentleman said he was afraid from the determined opposition which was manifested, that the Bill would be lost; he did not think it advisable therefore to take up more of the time of the Committee, but should vote in favour of its passing.

Col. ALLEN said that subsequent to the establishment of the almshouse at Fredericton; a Bill had been introduced for exempting certain parishes, which regularly passed the House and was lost in the other branch of the Legislature. He was at first alarmed, in consequence of what had been said about the selling of paupers in St. Martins; but from the explanations that had been made, he found it was only what had taken place in other parishes under the law. The hon. gentleman here stated what took place formerly in Fredericton when the Magistrates refused to sanction the estimates of the Commissioners, which they deemed very extravagant; and which they persisted in rejecting, notwithstanding a rule of the Supreme Court; thus showing that Commissioners were liable to make high estimates, to meet the expenses of which remote parishes, that were not interested, were called upon to pay.

Mr. STREET made a few remarks to shew the impropriety of hastily taking a question; as his mind had been altered since the hon. member for Westmorland addressed the Committee, and more particularly from having possessed himself of that gentleman's notes.

After a few desultory remarks, the question was then taken, and the first section was agreed to; but subsequently the Bill was lost by a majority of one or two, upon an amendment of Mr. End, which went to remove some technical objections that existed against the Bill in its present shape.

The House then resumed.  
SATURDAY, MARCH 14.  
Audit Office.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, for the consideration of a Bill to establish an Audit Office in the Province, Mr. Hill in the Chair.

Mr. STREET said the Bill before the Committee was one of importance, and to which he had given much attention. The present was not the first time it had been before the House, and the necessity for some such measure was quite obvious. He did not mean by this to make any reflection upon the Committee of Public Accounts, or the Chairman of that Committee, whose talents and attention all would admit; and its introduction did not arise from any want of confidence in either; but it was not a legitimate and proper mode of auditing the accounts; and a Board of Audit would form a very necessary and proper check. And he would ask if the course were proper, as at present pursued, by which members who had the expending certain portions of the funds of the Province were afterwards engaged in auditing their own accounts. He said there is at present an Auditor General whose duties are confined to the accounts connected with the receipts and expenditures of that part of the casual and territorial revenues, which is appropriated to the payment of the Civil List of the Province. Consequently all monies the expenditure of which was cognisable by the Legislature,

were audited in the manner which he had described. The object of the Bill was not to do away with that office; but to create a check. In addition to which,—and he hoped what he was about to say would not be construed into a reflection,—the present mode gives the Chairman of the Committee for public accounts, an influence in the House which he ought not to possess. He did not say this from disrespect, because he considered him a very efficient member; but that was a natural consequence arising out of the situation which he held. If the plan now proposed were to go into effect, the accounts would be audited by a person recognised by law, a return would be made to the Governor, it would then be submitted to the Committee of public accounts, and they would detect any mistakes. The learned gentleman said he thought he need not say more to satisfy the Committee how desirable it was to have the proposed alteration introduced; because the Committee was not infallible, and at present there was no chance of errors being detected; for he believed no one would deny that they sometimes crept in. The mode proposed would remove this difficulty, and also the objection to members auditing their own accounts. He had therefore turned his attention to the subject and brought in the present Bill; and that the committee might the better understand it, he would read it in his place. The learned gentleman here read the Bill explaining its provisions. These he said were the details of the Bill; and it would be the duty of the Auditor and those persons having the collection and expenditure of the funds of the Province, to have returns made out at fixed periods; and in filling up the blanks due regard would doubtless be paid to such time as would be most proper and convenient for carrying the objects of the Bill into effect. The accounts being audited and laid before the House within a certain time after the sessions opened, would greatly expedite business, and enable the committee to check any error which might be committed by the auditor, and as he had before remarked remove the difficulty attending members auditing their own accounts, where they had money to expend. Those were the reasons which induced him to bring forward the measure, and which the Select Committee had unanimously recommended. In their Report they called the attention of the House to the duties of the Auditor General, which were merely those he had already stated, and that it was not his province to investigate the receipts and expenditure of those funds which were under the control of the House. That question however might come up during the discussion; and it might seem desirable to unite the two offices; but he did not see how it could be effected, unless the present incumbent were to receive a retired allowance. That course however he thought the House would not be disposed to adopt; and therefore the Bill was confined to the office as connected with the receipts and expenditure of the Provincial revenue. The Bill he repeated was an important one; and no person was better qualified to bear testimony to that fact, than the chairman of public accounts; and who he was satisfied would not differ with him as to its necessity. He should not longer trouble the committee, having thus given them a general outline of the principles of the Bill and the effect which it was likely to produce.

Mr. BROWN said before the Bill was disposed of, he thought it would be proper to review proceedings, and see if they would be acting consistently in passing it; unless a change should have taken place in the minds of hon. members. If the committee would turn their attention to the Journals for '37-'38, they would find a despatch from Lord Glenelg who desired that the audit office should not be established until the representatives of the people should have an opportunity of objecting; which went to shew that he approved of the appointment, yet that it was to be subject to the opinion of the representatives of the people. What was the determination? It was resolved that the despatch afforded great satisfaction, but although the House applauded the anxiety thus manifested by his Lordship, yet they deemed it inexpedient to make the appointment; and it was subsequently Resolved by the House, that the appointing an efficient auditor with the chairman of public accounts would meet every wish of the Assembly. These were the proceedings during the first session of the present House. Since then nothing had been done, and a temporary auditor went on conducting certain accounts, and the others were taken up again by the Committee as usual. As one member he said he approved of the measures at that time recommended, and thought it very proper to establish a Board to take up the accounts of which the chairman of public accounts should be one, and which during the recess should inspect the accounts. If they were to pass the Bill, the House would be in the dark, the same as before. He recollected when he first came to the House, that they endeavoured to get rid of an auditor, whose appointment did not answer the purpose; and any one made under the present Bill would have the same result. The Committee should therefore adhere to the principle which was then laid down, and the chairman of public accounts should be one of the Board of Audit which the present Bill contemplates. With reference to the influence alluded to, which that gentleman was said to possess; he was not aware of any. He could not undertake to say how it was with other members, but with reference to himself he could declare solemnly that the hon member for St. John never spoke to him but once with reference to his intended vote and then he refused his request; and if it were the same with other members as with himself, that gentleman possessed no influence in that way. With reference to what had been formerly suggested in reference to the Board of Audit, he still continued of the same opinion.

Mr. HANINGTON saw no necessity for the passage of the Bill. The manner in which the accounts were arranged and audited, was highly satisfactory to the House; he believed the only complaint that had arisen, was that they were not audited in sufficient time. That was not the fault of the Committee, but was owing to the accounts not being sent in sufficiently early. The roads were all completed early in the autumn, yet they were seldom forwarded till the meeting of the Legislature; which would not be remedied by the appointment of a Board of Audit; this difficulty must exist so long as the practice continued of sending in accounts at so late a period, which rendered it impossible to make up the Report till towards the close of the Session. He hoped the Bill would not be entertained by the Committee, and should move that the farther consideration of it be postponed.

Mr. PARTELOW said situated as he was, he felt disposed to make but few remarks. There was one portion of the accounts,—those belonging to the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurers, the control and auditing of which he did not think the House were disposed to part with.—At present he said the accounts were audited by seven or eight gentlemen, and different members of the Committee take up separate portions of the accounts; and in that manner the Committee examine them minutely, which could not be done so satisfactorily in any other way; why then were not two auditors appointed, as it would involve entirely too great a responsibility for any one person to have the sole auditing of accounts of so great importance. At present the accounts are examined by other members of the Committee, and afterwards they are handed to him as their chairman, to enable him to make up the Report. The auditing of accounts containing

receipts and expenditures to the amount of £100,000; ought never to devolve upon one individual.

Mr. WELDON as one of the Select Committee to whom this subject had been referred, had his doubts with reference to the present Bill; and having been in the House from '27 to the present time, he could speak as to the manner in which the accounts were audited by the late Auditor, who was certainly a very capable man; but the Committee of Accounts found themselves as much in the dark as ever; and the accounts were more confused after they came out of his hands than before. After all, the expenditure on the great and bye roads, were the principal items which they had to examine; and he thought that could be properly done by a Committee of the House assisted by an officer. He had suggested the appointment of an inspector, who would take up the accounts, and afterwards make his report. It was not his object however to give up the supervision of the accounts, which he felt satisfied the House ought not to part with. There were objections to the Treasurer's accounts being audited by the officer contemplated in the Bill. The learned gentleman repeated his conviction that the accounts had been better audited since they were submitted to a Committee of the House; but he was still of opinion, that were an inspector appointed, it would render a system of auditing the accounts complete, which is carried on at but trifling expence to the Province; and he thought while they retained their present chairman, the service could not be performed more satisfactorily than at the present time. If the Bill were retained, he should object to some of the details which he need not then mention. He said much always depends upon hon. members getting the accounts forwarded, by the early part of the session. This year they had come in very promptly; and experience had shown that if the returns were made regularly and in proper time, the mode of auditing at present pursued were better than any other.

Hon. Mr. JOHNSTON was satisfied the difficulty chiefly arose from the circumstance of the accounts not being before the House in proper time; and when the multiplicity of those accounts and the minute calculations were considered, it was very evident, they could not be taken into consideration till late in the session. There were two ways of obviating the difficulty that suggested themselves to his own mind; one of which was to require parties by law to make returns by a certain day to the chairman, that they might come in a week or ten days before the session commenced. Either pursue that course or adopt the measure proposed by this Bill. If this were thought preferable, one suitable person ought to discharge the whole of the duties of auditor; and he believed that was what was contemplated by the Bill. But as to giving up the supervision of accounts by the House, that was certainly not intended, or that the auditing of accounts by such officer should be considered final; and with reference to the Treasurer's accounts, he perfectly agreed with what had fallen from the hon. member for St. John. That officer could not make up his accounts before the middle of the session, and he must then attend with his vouchers, and be examined. The accounts must either be referred to the Chairman of public accounts at an early date, or another person must be appointed to receive and audit them. He thought one or the other necessary.

Hon. Mr. CRAVE said the present was an important subject; he was glad the discussion had taken place, because it would lead to measures being ultimately adopted, that would produce a better state of things; but he did not think it advisable to pass the Bill at the present time. The appointment of an officer formerly had not been found to answer public expectations; and if the reason was asked, he had not obtained the necessary information. In 1827 a decided improvement took place, and the auditing the public accounts had been put into a train that was very satisfactory; and he thought there was no disposition to abandon it, until the House was convinced they could find a better. If he were asked what had produced such a state of things, he would say it was the appointment of a committee of public accounts, which aided by their Chairman were enabled to come to a correct conclusion. The difficulty mentioned by the hon. member for Queen's of accounts not being forwarded in time had been seriously felt; and notwithstanding all that had been done, they did not reach in time to be taken up and reported upon early in the session. There was one point which he said had not been sufficiently dwelt upon; there was already an Auditor, and altho' he was appointed to examine the receipts and expenditures of the casual and territorial revenue, he did not see why he should not be called upon to perform other duties, such as are contemplated by the Bill under consideration. Till that was ascertained he was not favourable to its passing.

Mr. WILSON did not consider the Bill as called for; under other circumstances he might agree to it. While he was up he said he would take the opportunity of stating, that if a few hundred copies of the Bye road expenditures were struck off, it would act as a wholesome and salutary restraint; the people would then see to what useful purposes the funds of the Province were applied, and in what manner they were expended.—He thought the Bill however was not called for at the present time; and as long as the practical working of the present system was found to answer every useful purpose, he considered any alteration as uncalled for and unnecessary.

Mr. STREET was surprised at what had fallen from the hon. member for Kent, which was completely at variance with the Report; and when it was compared with that document, the Committee must be satisfied he never intended the Bill should pass. Mr. S. said the impression seemed to be that it was intended to do away with the supervision of public and private accounts, but that was not the case; as he had before observed, they must be submitted to the Committee appointed by the House, who would check the accounts, and correct any errors, that might escape the Auditor. There was at present no law authorising the auditing of those accounts, and in 1838 the House expressed their disapprobation of a Board for that purpose. He thought the Committee had better report progress. With respect to the Treasurer's accounts, he was prepared to strike out that part of the Bill which referred to them if they were deemed necessary; and this could be done without altering the Bill at all.—He hoped the hon. member for St. John would go into the principles of the Bill, as no person knew better than himself that there should be some check upon the auditing of public accounts. At present notwithstanding all that had been said, it was obvious that it is done by one individual; as no one will take the trouble to go over them.—They should be audited first and then revised by a Committee appointed by the House, and in that way a salutary check would be introduced. The learned gentleman repeated he hoped the Bill would not be summarily disposed of, but that the Committee would report progress; and if ultimately the Bill should not be adopted, yet something might grow out of it.

Mr. JORDAN had no doubt as to the upright intentions of the learned mover of the Bill; but at the same time he saw no evils arising from the present system, which called for its introduction. The only difficulty that occurred, it appeared to him arose from the late period at which the accounts came in. He thought some mode might be pointed out to remedy the evil; but from what he had heard, he deemed the appointment of an

auditor would only have a tendency to create confusion.

Mr. PARTELOW said that having been called upon by the learned member for Northumberland, and allusion to himself having been so pointedly made; he felt that he was bound to trouble the Committee with a few remarks. And first, he said he was not aware that he possessed any influence, other than that which arose from being an old member, and acquainted with the details of the House; and he would defy any gentleman to say that he ever attempted to controul him; he trusted he should not be considered egotistical, in declaring that until the present system came into operation and which had been introduced by himself, the accounts had never been made up, or examined in a proper and efficient manner; and down to the year 1830, they exhibited a complete mass of confusion. During the following year he said he introduced the present system, which had the reputation of being clear and comprehensive, and adapted to the most common capacity, in exchange for the former mode, which was a most unbusiness like one. At that time, altho' an auditor was appointed by law, yet he found accounts that had not been audited from 1820 to 1828, and there were track loads of them lying in a complete state of chaos. When he undertook the arrangement of the public accounts he said he did not expect to derive any emolument; the House had however thought proper to grant an annual sum, which he had no hesitation in accepting. With reference to the question more immediately before the Committee, unless more time were afforded after the accounts came in, it would in future be a matter of impossibility to audit them during the Session; and if some plan could not be devised, by which that could be effected, he would not undertake to do it again. In fact the accounts had so multiplied, that unless more time was given he would not run the risk of endangering his health by such close application. He had no objection to the Bill which had been introduced; but if any improvement had taken place in the auditing the public and private accounts of the Province, he was willing to believe that some credit was due to himself for having introduced the present system.

Mr. END rose to support the motion for deferring the farther consideration of the Bill till that day three months. Since the present system had been in operation, he said the auditing the accounts had assumed a healthy character; and the public were satisfied with the manner in which it was conducted; he therefore would not legislate for the sake of legislating. With reference to the influence which the hon. chairman was stated to exercise, he admitted it; but it was a legitimate influence, and arose from his talents and business-like habits. In what state were the accounts when that gentleman took them in hand? for his part he would rather have undertaken to eat them, than to have reduced them into order; and if the system had been reduced into shape, were they according to Lord John Russell to relinquish it because it had worked well; for his part, he was quite content with what had been done; and hoped that in the present instance, he would not be told he was opposed to all improvement. He put it to the Committee in perfect seriousness—was there any necessity for alteration, or the substituting another system for that which is one of simplicity, and which any man acquainted with the common rules of arithmetic could understand. If any plan could be devised by which the accounts could be brought in during the recess, he would agree to it, but he would not abandon the present system of auditing them.—The learned gentleman said he did not wish to make any remark that might seem invidious; but there was nothing in the recent appointments to satisfy him, that were the Bill to pass, the auditing of accounts would be more effective than formerly. It was far from his wish to interfere with the prerogative, but they had a right to calculate upon probabilities, and he would let well alone. Talent he said was like water,—it would find its level every where; he considered that House as a good school, and if a man possessed it, the discovery of it was soon made; the Chairman of public accounts was quick and ready; and when he (Mr. End) saw cause for complaint, he should not hesitate to say so; but he hoped when a Bill which had only newly to recommend it came under consideration, that the Committee would deal with it in a summary manner.

Mr. STREET said he was satisfied that even those members who opposed the Bill, were glad the subject had been brought under consideration. He would just call the attention of the Committee to what had fallen from the hon. member for St. John, who said it was impossible that the accounts could be properly audited during the session of the Legislature. If that were the case, then it followed that something was necessary to remove the difficulties and evils complained of. His object in bringing in the Bill was to produce that effect, and which the statement of the hon. members proved was required. He had not intended any thing personal in his remarks; but had declared his sentiments boldly; and had stated that the present mode of auditing the accounts, gave a member that influence which he ought not to have, and which must naturally arise from his position in the House, and he was satisfied he did not stand alone in entertaining that opinion. He concluded by again expressing the hope that the Committee would allow progress to be reported.

The motion for deferring the farther consideration of the Bill for three months, was then put and carried.

LONDON, Feb. 15.

Accounts from India ever and anon remind us of the uncertain and costly tenure by which the British hold their Asiatic dominions. A series of expensive and bloody wars, with acquisitions of fresh territory, is deemed indispensable to the preservation of our empire in the East. An overland mail from Bombay brings the story of the last of these warlike operations, in the form of a despatch from Lord Auckland to the Secret Committee of the East India Company. This despatch, published in the Extraordinary Gazette on Thursday, states the particulars of the storm and capture of Kelat by the British troops, commanded by Major-General Willshire. The Governor-General considers this achievement highly important, as it not only vindicates the "national honour," but confirms "the security of intercourse between Sindh and Afghanistan," and promotes "the tranquillity of the restored monarchy."

From the general orders issued by Lord Auckland, we learn the nature of the Khan Kelat's offence. Through professing amity with the British Government, he instigated the tribes in the neighbourhood of the Bolan Pass to commit "outrages and murders" on the followers of the Army of the Indus. To "exact retribution," and to make arrangements for future security, General Willshire was directed to march upon Kelat. He arrived at Grancee, eight miles from Kelat, on the 12th of November. His force consisted of 1166 rank and file, with the necessary number of officers belonging chiefly to the Second or Queen's Royal Regiment, the Seventeenth Regiment, the Thirty-first Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry, with Sup-

pers, Miners, Pioneers, and Horse Artillery. The force, though small, appears to have been well selected for the duty.

On the morning of the 13th of November, General Willshire left Grancee for Kelat. The Khan's troops attacked the British on their march, and there was skirmishing till within a mile of Kelat. Heights on the North west face of the fort were covered by infantry, with five guns in position, and protected by small parapets. General Willshire lost no time in driving the enemy from their post, and at the same time occupying gardens and enclosures on the North-East of the town. An attempt was made to enter the town through the gates at the same time with the fugitives from the heights, but it did not succeed the assailants dashed rapidly forward from the heights, and from the enclosures, under a heavy fire from the walls of the fort and the citadel, which were thronged with men. Finding the gates closed, they withdrew under cover of some small buildings, while two guns from the heights were directed upon the defences above the gate, and four others from different positions upon the gate itself.

After a few rounds, half of the gate was knocked down; and a body of the troops, commanded by Major Pennycook, quickly gained an entrance into the fort, and fought their way up to the walls of the inner citadel,—the enemy behaving with the greatest bravery, and disputing every inch of ground. Meanwhile, another detachment had forced open the Western gate and advanced to the citadel. After some desperate fighting, an entrance into the citadel was forced; and there the Khan himself appeared at the head of the remnant of his troops, and was killed; sword in hand. The entire possession of the citadel was soon gained, though the enemy kept up a fire from detached buildings. The brave garrison consisted of about 2,000 men. Their loss in killed was very severe, and several hundred prisoners were taken. General Willshire says the place was stronger than he had supposed; and that the "towering height of the inner citadel was most formidable both in appearance and in reality."

The loss of the British in killed was 31, in wounded 108. Lieutenant Gravatt was killed; Captain W. M. Lyster, Captain J. Sealy, Lieutenant J. W. G. Holdsworth, and Adjutant Simmons, severely wounded, and Lieutenant D. J. Dickinson slightly wounded. All these officers belonged to the Second or Queen's Royal Regiment. Captain S. C. Bourchier, of the Seventeenth Regiment, was wounded severely; Captain Saurin and Ensign Roper, of the Thirty-first of Native Infantry, the first slightly, and the second severely wounded.

Rear-Admiral Sir Fred. Maitland, Commander of the naval force in the East Indies, died on board the Wellesley, at sea, on the 30th November.

The advance of a large Russian force—fifty battalions—upon Chiva, is mentioned in the *Bombay Times* of December the 7th. Mr. Macnachten had ordered the Bombay troops not to return to Bombay, but to stop at Gundava.

The Governor-General had ordered a donation of six months' full pay to every officer and man who crossed the Bolan Pass.

#### NORTH EASTERN BOUNDARY.

The following correspondence between the Secretary of State and the British Minister, in relation to the Boundary Question, was communicated to Congress on Monday.

Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Fox.  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.  
Washington, March 6, 1840.

By the directions of the President, the undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, communicates to Mr. Fox, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, the enclosed copy of a report made to the Governor of the State of Maine, by the agent, commissioned on the part of the authorities of that State, to ascertain the precise character and extent of the occupation of parts of the disputed territory by troops of Her Britannic Majesty, and of the buildings and other public works constructed for their use and accommodation.

By that report, and the three depositions which the undersigned informally communicated to Mr. Fox a few days since, he will perceive that there must be some extraordinary misapprehension on his part of the facts in relation to the occupation by British troops of portions of the disputed territory. The statements contained in these documents, and that given by Mr. Fox, in his note of the 20th of January last, exhibiting a striking discrepancy as to the number of troops now in the territory, as compared with those who were in it when the arrangement between Governor Fairfield and Lieutenant Governor Harvey was agreed upon; and also as to the present and former state of the buildings there. The extensive accommodations prepared and preparing, at old and new stations, the works finished, and in the course of construction, on the land and on the water, are not in harmony with the assurance the only object is the preservation of a few unimportant buildings and storehouses for the temporary protection of the number of troops, her Majesty's ordinary service can require to pass on the road from New Brunswick to Canada.

The undersigned will abstain from any remarks upon these contradictory statements, until Mr. Fox shall have had an opportunity to obtain the means of fully explaining them. How essential it is that this should be promptly done and that the steps, necessary to a faithful observation on the part of her Majesty's Colonial authorities of the existing agreements between the two Governments should be immediately taken, Mr. Fox cannot too fully understand.

The undersigned avails himself of the occasion to renew to Mr. Fox assurances of high consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

Mr. Fox to Mr. Forsyth.  
Washington, March 7, 1840.

The undersigned, her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the official note of yesterday's date, addressed to him by Mr. Forsyth, Secretary of State of the United States, to which is annexed the copy of a report from Mr. Benjamin Wiggin, an agent employed by the State of Maine to visit the British Military post at Lake Temiscouata; and in which reference is made to other papers upon the same subject, which were informally communicated to the undersigned by Mr. Forsyth a few days before; and the information contained in the said papers is considered to be materially at variance with that, which was conveyed to the United States Government, by the undersigned in his official note of the 26th of last January.

The undersigned had already been made acquainted, by the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, with the circumstances of Mr. Wiggin's visit to the military post at Lake Temiscouata, where the officer in command very properly furnished to Mr. Wiggin the requisite information upon all matters connected with the