HARNESS.

THE Subscriber would respectfully inform his friends and customers, and the Public generally; that he has on hand and is prepared to manufacture **HARNESS** of every description; from the lightest driving to the heaviest team.

Also, on hand, a large assortment of COLLARS, WHIPS, BLANKETS, &c., which will be sold at prices to suit the times. ☞ Inspection Invited.

T. FINLAY, (Successor to R. & T. Finlay,)

CHARLOTTE STREET - - - - - - - - SAINT JOHN

General Business.

NEW STORE.

THE Subscriber would beg leave to intimate to the inhabitants of Chatham that he has opened a shop in the place lately occupied by C. O. Ericson, he will keep constantly on hand—

Dry and Pickled Fish,
Corned and Fresh Pork,
Corned and Fresh Beef.

GROCERIES—in Tea, Sugar, Soap, Tobacco, etc.

And having imported a Sausage Mill from the U. States, I am prepared to fill orders for

SAUSAGES,

in large or small quantities, at the lowest possible rate.

STEPHEN WHITE.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

TO be sold at Public Sale, on FRIDAY, the 3rd day of August next, in front of the Registry Office, Newcastle, between the hours of 12, noon, and 5 o'clock p. m.:—

All the Right, Title and Interest of John Devereaux and Catherine Devereaux, his wife, and John Lane, in and to all that Lot or Tract of Land situate lying and being on the South side of the River Miramichi, in the Parish of Chatham, known as Lot No. 41, bounded on the upper or westerly side by lands owned by the late William Hay, on the lower or easterly side by Lot Number 40, formerly occupied by John Stewart, deceased, which lot 41 extends in front 60 rods, and contains in the whole 300 acres, more or less.

Also, the Right, Title and Inte est of the said John Devereaux and Catherine, his wife, in and to all that Piece or Parcel of Land situate, lying and being in the Parish of Chatham, known as part of Lot Number 35, and bounded as follows: commencing on the Westerly side of the road or street leading from Water Street to the Wellington Road, called Henderson Street, at the South-Easterly angle of the piece of land owned by Caleb McCully, being 54 feet Southerly from the corner of Water Street; thence Southerly along the West side of Henderson street, aforesaid, one hundred feet; thence Westerly on a line at right angles with the last mentioned line 90 feet; thence Northerly on a line parallel with the Westerly side of Henderson Street aforesaid, 98 feet, or to the Southwest angle of the piece of land formerly owned by James A. Pierce; thence Easterly along the rear lines of the said James A. Pierce and Caleb McCully's lands 90 feet, or to the Westerly side of Henderson Street aforesaid, being the place of beginning; being the same land that was conveyed to the said John Devereaux by Robert McCalmont and others by Deed, dated the 6th August, A. D., 1856.

Also, all the individual Right, Title and Interest of the said John Devereaux in and to the said last mentioned land aforesaid, and being the land and premises on which the said John Devereaux at present resides.

The same having been seized by me under and by virtue of several Executions issued out of the Supreme Court, and out of the County Court of Northumberland, against the said John Devereaux and Catherine Devereaux, his wife, and John Lane, and against John Devereaux and Catherine Devereaux, his wife, and against John Devereaux individually.

JOHN SHIRREFF,
Sheriff of Northumbl'd.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Newcastle, 20th January, 1877.

Glasgow House.

THE Subscriber has in Stock, a full and complete assortment of

STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS,

Embracing some Lots which are worthy the attention of close cash purchasers.

—ALSO IN STORE—

A Large Stock of English TEAS,

(different grades.)

TOBACCO,

(different brands.)

FLOUR,
FISH,
MOLASSES,
PORK,
LARD, &c. &c.

ll of which are offered at low rates.

WILLIAM MURRAY.

Chatham, Nov. 15th, 1876.

1, 1½ and 2 Inch
Seasoned Pine Lumber,
FOR SALE.
WM. MURRAY

WANTED.

Oats, Homespun, Country Socks and Mitts.
WM. MURRAY.

ARGYLE HOUSE.

OWING to a proposed change in our business, all parties having accounts with us will oblige by settling the same before

THE 1st OF MARCH.

NIDDRIE & WILSON.

Land Sale.

THE Subscriber offers for sale his property on the Richibucto Road, about ten Miles from Chatham, known as the Brophy Farm, containing fifty acres, more or less, fifteen of which are under cultivation. There is also a good Barn on the premises.

For further particulars apply to
JAMES KERR, (Bartibogue)
411 CHATHAM.

Just Received.

LADIES NEW FALL HATS,
LEATHER, SCALE and ELASTIC BELTS,
BALL KNITTING COTTON—
White, Drab & Brown.
BLACK AND COLORED SILK

DRESS BUTTONS.

Cashmere and Wool Shawls
IN GREAT VARIETY.

New Fall Dress Goods---with Trimmings to Match.

LADIES' LINEN AND LACE
COLLARS AND CUFFS,
Tooth Brushes,
Combs,
Braids,
Switches
and Pads.
THE LATEST NOVELTY IN PAPER COLLARS,
DONE UP IN TIN PAILS.
☞ Call and Examine! ☜
W. B. HOWARD,
COMMERCIAL HOUSE.
Chatham, Aug. 30. 1876.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,
Ottawa, Jan. 30, 1877.

AUTHORIZED Discount on American Invoices until further notice, 8 per cent.

J. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Customs.

NOTICE

IS hereby given, that a Bill will be introduced at the approaching Session of the Local Legislature, to authorize a further assessment of $1200 in the County of Northumberland, for the purpose of erecting Market Houses in the Towns of Newcastle and Chatham.

SAM'L THOMSON,
Secy.-Treasurer.
Co. North'ld.
Dated 1st Feb., 1h

General Business.

THE BANNER WEEKLY

Of the Maritime Provinces.

ENLARGED IN SIZE. REDUCED IN PRICE. IMPROVED IN FORM.

PRICE $1.00 A YEAR.

The most popular Newspaper in the Maritime Provinces is the

WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.

It consists of eight pages, of forty-eight columns, and it contains summaries of

1. The General News of the World.
2. Parliamentary and Legislative News.
3. Editorial articles of the "Daily Telegraph."
4. Religious News; notices of Temperance Movements.
5. Weekly Sermons by Dr. Talmage or others.
6. Select Tales and Original Sketches.
7. Market Reports; with Departments of
8. Farm, Garden, Household, etc.
9. Correspondence from different parts of the World.

Published at $1.00 a year in advance. The *Telegraph* will hereafter stop at the date to which it is paid up. News of interest to the country solicited from correspondents. Approved advertisements taken at moderate rates.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

is the most complete newspaper in the Maritime Provinces. It is published at 50 cents a month or $6.00 a year in advance, being less than two cents a copy. A discount is made to pastors of churches, teachers in the public schools, postmasters, and telegraph operators.

Send for Specimen Copies.

WILLIAM ELDER,
Editor & Proprietor.
tf ST. JOHN, N. B

London House,

CHATHAM, N. B.

The Balance of my

Fall and Winter Stock

of Dress Goods, Prints, Cottons, Flannels, Tweeds, Cents' L W Underclothing, Hosiery, Scarfs, Clouds, English and Canadian Tweeds, selling at a reduction on former prices.

Also — HARDWARE, Cutlery, GROCERIES, Canned Peaches, Tomatoes, Oysters, Peas and Beans, Sardines, Pickles, Sauces, Spices, etc., etc.

WHOLESALE:

Flour, Corn and Oat Meal, Tea, in chests, hf.-chests and quarter boxes, Granulated Sugar, Tobacco, Soap, Paper Bags and Wrapping Paper. A choice lot of Fancy Toilet Soap; at low prices for Cash.

R. HOCKEN.

Chatham, 18th Jan, 877.

WHISKIES. WHISKIES.

730 CASES Scotch and Irish Whiskies, Bagots, Hutton & Co., Dunville, Burke's, Stewart's, Bulloch, Lade & Co., Thorne & Cameron.

DANIEL PATTON.
SAINT JOHN.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned at Moncton, N. B., and marked "TENDER FOR FENCES," will be received until six o'clock, p. m., on THURSDAY, 15th instant, for the erection of about 28 miles of Fence, between Halifax and Pictou Landing, and between Dorchester and Painsec, and for about four miles of Fence on the Windsor Branch

Forms of Tender, with specification endorsed thereon, may be had at all Booking Stations between the above named points

The names of two solvent and responsible persons, willing to become sureties for the due fulfillment of the contract must accompany each tender

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender, and no tender will be noticed unless made upon the printed form supplied.

C. J. BRYDGES,
General Supt. of Gov't Railways.

Railway Office, Moncton, Feb. 1st, 1877.

Wholesale & Retail.

MOLASSES, in puncheons,

TEA,

(in Chests and Half-Chests,)

TOBACCO AND SOAP,

(in boxes,)

PARAFINE OIL,

(in casks,)

Linseed Oil, Putty and Paints.

DRY CODFISH,
HERRING,
FLOUR,
MEAL, &c., &c.

ALSO:

A Quantity of Seasoned Pine Lumber,

1, 1½ and 2 inch.

PINE AND CEDAR SHINGLES.

An Assortment of

IMPROVED COOKING STOVES.

F. J. LETSON,
WATER STREET.

Chatham, 10th Feb., 1877.

WORTH KNOWING!

Where to Get the Best Bargains in

DRY GOODS,

Boots, Slippers, Rubbers,

GROCERIES,
WINES, &c.,
PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES.

GLASS AND HARDWARE.

Gold Jewelry & Electro Plate,

Parafine Lamps and Oil.

THE LARGEST AND CHEAPEST STOCK IN NEWCASTLE.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
JAMES BROWN.
Newcastle, Feb. 15th.

MIRAMICHI FOUNDRY

Machine & Boiler Works,

CHATHAM, N. B.

THE Subscriber manufactures to order all descriptions of

Brass and Iron Castings and Machinery,

INCLUDING—
Steam Engines and Boilers,
Gang and Rotary Saw Mills,
Flour, Thrashing and Bark Mills,
Shafting, Pulleys, Flanges,
Steam and Water Pipes,
Railway Castings, etc.

And has on hand assorted sizes of—Ship's Windlasses, Capstans, Winches, Warping Chocks, Side Pipes, Pumps and Cabooses, together with a variety of

Cooking, Hall and Parlor Stoves and Holloware,

Cemetry Railing, School Desk and other Castings, Wrought Iron Pipes and Fittings, Boiler Mountings, Globe, Check, Safety and Steam Valves,

ALSO.—

A good assortment of Spur and Bevel Gear, Friction and Pulley Patterns.

AGENT FOR JUDSON'S STEAM GOVERNORS.

We sell these Governors at manufacturers' prices, with freight and duty added.

☞ Estimates on application.

JAMES W. FRASER.

WE MANUFACTURE
SUPERIOR DOUBLE EDGERS.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N B, every THURSDAY morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day.

It is sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher) for $1.50 A YEAR, or 75 CTS. FOR 6 MOS.—the money, in all cases, to accompany the order for the paper.

Advertising.

The advertisements in this paper are placed under classified headings.

TRANSIENT RATES.

$1 per square, or inch, for 1st insertion.
35cts. per square, each time, for all insertions after the first.

LOCAL COLUMN, or reading matter advertisements 20% more than above rates.

LOCAL, COMMERCIAL AND YEARLY RATES.

In order to secure the advertising patronage of business men and others on the North Shore—and to give them the benefit of a large circulation in the Counties of Northumberland, Kent, Gloucester and Restigouche, Bonaventure and Gaspe, their advertisements will, on arrangements being made therefor, be taken at CONTRACT SCALE RATES, which are as low as those of other weekly papers in the Province.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers very superior inducements to advertisers.

Address
Editor 'Miramichi Advance," Chatham, N. B.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1877.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Correspondents wishing to communicate with the Editor personally will, during the session of the Legislature, please address him at Fredericton. Ordinary business and other correspondence may be addressed, as usual, to this office and will receive prompt attention.

OUR EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENT is so occupied in an extended general report for the press of the Province on the Budget, and also in keeping up with current business in the House that his daily record of matters for the ADVANCE has been somewhat neglected.

Editorial Correspondence.

FREDERICTON, Wednesday, Feb. 21.

AN IMPORTANT MATTER.

This afternoon an important question was before the House—the claims of the Province and the City and County of St. John in the Penitentiary. Mr. Marshall handled it well, showing that in 1842 the Province obtained the Penitentiary from St. John County and that one stipulation in the contract was that St. John City and County should have, in perpetuity, the right to send its short-term prisoners there and have them cared for at Provincial expense. The Dominion took over the Penitentiary at Confederation, with the obligations of the Province connected therewith still attached to it. Now it seeks to give the prison back to St. John, as a present, and thus rid itself of the responsibility of caring for our short-term prisoners and Mr. Marshall's object is to prevent the wrong which it thus sought to work upon the Province. The Attorney General, however, went beyond the strong points made by Mr. Marshall and his brief speech which I have fully reported will be admitted as containing points which are at once important and unassailable. It is as follows:—

Hon. Attorney General said it was well that this matter had been opened up in the House by the hon. mover of the resolution, for if the different counties of the Province were in danger of having their rights infringed upon the House should take such action as was open to it for protecting them. He did not propose to discuss the question at any length, but while concurring generally in what had been said by his hon. friend he thought it might be well to refer to a question connected with the latter part of his remarks. He could hardly expect that anything he might say would materially affect the policy of the Dominion Government, but, it seemed to him it ought to deal differently from what it had done in reference to penitentiaries. He disclaimed any idea of making the point a political one, for it must be remembered that the Dominion Government's policy was the same under the late as it was under the present administration—the former having initiated and the latter maintained it. The British North America Act has imposed upon the Dominion Government the management and maintenance of Penitentiaries and it seemed clear that the care of all prisoners convicted on indictable offences was meant to be included within the general government's duties in that connection. The Dominion Parliament establishes the procedure in Criminal Law and has the right to say what the punishment of all indictable offences shall be, and it does not seem right in principle that while the Provincial Legislature has nothing whatever to say in respect of these matters and while the Government which has such right is also charged with the care of those connected under the laws it makes, the Provinces should virtually be held liable to maintain and provide for such proportion of those convicted as the general Parliament may determine. On the same principle the Dominion Parliament has the power to throw charges upon the Provinces by the creation of statutory offences not being offences of common Law and fixing the penalty at a period less than two years. By their policy in the matter the Dominion Government draws the line where it ought not to be drawn. If it may assume the right to draw the line at two years why not, on the same principle, make it ten years. By this policy, it obliges the provinces to care for the class of criminals whose maintenance is the most expensive while it retains to itself only those who are in a measure self-supporting, for it is a well known fact that a very small proportion of the criminal classes have trades, and before short-term prisoners can learn them sufficiently to enable them to be productive their term expires and they are released. It is different with long-term prisoners for they remain long enough in prison to acquire trades and work skilfully at them, being thereby self-sustaining. The true rule seems to be that all persons convicted upon indictment should be cared for in the penitentiary, whether their term of imprisonment be long or short. There is, also, more or less, of an influence brought to bear on those charged with the administration of justice to lead them to be governed, to a greater or less degree, by the provisions of the Dominion Law in dealing with prisoners convicted of indictable offences, and although this influence may, in many cases, be scarcely realised by those who are swayed by it, yet it causes long-term sentences to be passed when, under other circumstances they might be shorter. He had made these observations, not with the expectation of changing the settled policy of the Dominion Government but with the hope that at some distant day that might be done which he thought ought, in right, to be done now.

Mr. Elder also made a capital and telling speech on the subject which is a more important one than it is yet generally recognised to be.

Thursday, Feb. 22.

Nothing but routine this morning. The Speaker gave notice that in future he will enforce the understood rule that no bill, petition or notice be read at the Clerk's table without being properly endorsed.

After recess, Mr. Willis moved a resolution relating to lands obtained from railway companies by the Government for settlement, as follows:—

For a statement of the quantity and location of all lands obtained by the Government or the Surveyor-General's Department from the New Brunswick Railway Company for settlement purposes, the date of transfer, the extent to which lumbering has been permitted on such lands, or any part thereof since negotiations for transfer were commenced, and the names of the licensee or licensees; also a detailed statement of the moneys on account of stumpage, or in any way connected therewith received from the licensee or licensees of such settlement, lands, or any person in his or their behalf, or any person whatever, together with the name or names of the person or persons from whom such moneys were received on account of such stumpage; also the names of the person or persons by whom surveys of such transferred lands were made, and the amount paid for or in consideration of such survey.

The Surveyor-General said that as it was pretty well known that at no time had the Government obtained any such lands as those referred to in the resolution, he could not understand why it was moved.

Mr. Willis pressed the motion, which was passed, and Messrs. Willis, Covert and Crawford were appointed a committee to prepare and present an address.

Mr. McLeod moved a resolution for papers relating to Mr. Willis' resignation, as follows:—

For copies of all correspondence in any wise relating to the resignation of the Hon. Edward Willis as a member of the Government of this Province.

The motion passed, and Messrs. McLeod, Burns and Stevenson were appointed a committee to prepare and present an address.

Mr. Tweedie moved a resolution relating to the Northumberland lands, as follows:—

For copies of all applications made to the Governor by any Railway Company for any land within the County of Northumberland up to 19th February, 1877; all Minutes and Orders in Council made thereon, and orders of survey and instructions issued by the Governor or Surveyor-General relating to the same, and particularly all applications made by or in behalf of the New Brunswick Railroad Company for lands situated within the said County of Northumberland up to said day, all Minutes and Orders in Council made in respect to such applications; all orders of survey and instructions issued by the Government or Surveyor-General relating to the same; also all returns on reports of survey made under or by virtue of such instructions or orders of survey; also copy of the agreements made between the Government and the New Brunswick Railroad Company, dated on or about the 13th day of August, 1875.

The motion passed, and Mess. Tweedie, Covert and Kelly were appointed a committee to prepare and present an address.

Mr. Swim made an enquiry relating to the payment of bye-road money to Burke Archibald, of Northumberland, as follows:—

Whether any bye-road money for the County of Northumberland was paid upon an order of Burke Archibald, Esq., Bye-Road Commissioner bearing date 1st March, 1876, and to whom paid and under what circumstances.

The Provincial Secretary replied as follows: On the 1st of March, 1876, the hon. member for Northumberland exhibited to me a written order signed by Burke Archibald, commissioner for the building of portions of Cove bridge in Northumberland County, requesting that the sum of $100 be paid to the hon. member, Mr. Swim, for him. A departmental cheque for $100 was accordingly made out, and as all departmental cheques are for greater security made payable to order, the cheque was made payable to the hon. member on order to enable him to draw the money and transmit the amount to Mr. Archibald. The amount, therefore, of this $100 should have appeared in the Auditor-General's report, page 143, as a charge against Burk Archibald and not against the hon. member, as it stands. The error occurred in consequence of the bye-road warrant, which was subsequently issued to repay the Provincial Secretary's department. This and some other bye-road advances inadvertently setting forth in the memorandum on which the warrant issued in the name of the hon. member instead of Burke Archibald. The hon. member was not a bye-road commissioner for Northumberland in the year 1876.

Mr. Burns made an enquiry relating to payments to Seizing Officer Ellis as follows:

Whether the Government or Surveyor-General have paid or agreed to pay, or accepted the draft of Robert Ellis, Seizing Officer, Gloucester, for the amount claimed by him as balance due him on account of seizures in Gloucester in 1873.

The Surveyor-General said that neither the Government nor the Surveyor-General's Department had paid, agreed to pay, or accept any such claim or draft as that referred to.

Mr. Tweedie moved an enquiry relating to correspondence as follows:—

For all correspondence between Chas. S. Ramsay, Inspector of Schools for Northumberland County, and the Chief Superintendent of Schools or the Board of Education, in reference to School Districts Nos. 1, 8 and 9, Parish of Chatham, and on all matters connected with said Districts, and all other correspondence, orders and minutes of the Board of Education relating in any way to those Districts.

The Provincial Secretary said the papers would be brought down without an address.

Mr. Tweedie moved an enquiry relating to the Government borrowing money from the Maritime or other banks as follows:—

If the Provincial Government has, at any time, since 31st October, 1875, procured a loan of any sum of money from the Maritime or any other bank doing business in this Province, and, if so, at what time or times such loan or loans were made, and the amount, and for what purpose such loan or loans were procured.

The Provincial Secretary said the Provincial Government has not at any time since 31st October, 1875, procured a loan of any sum of money from the Maritime or any other bank doing business in the Province, except a loan from the People's Bank for the Normal School building, and on which loan there has been advanced by the People's Bank to date the sum of $30,037.26.

The Government think it right to state that on the 1st of September, 1876, they undertook to hold in reserve a portion of the Albert Railway subsidy to be paid to the Maritime Bank on terms and conditions set forth in a letter of that date forwarded to the Maritime Bank by me, as Provincial Secretary, by directions of the Government. A copy of the letter which I now read will show the action of the Government in the matter:—

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
1st September, 1876.

To the President, Directors, &c., of the Maritime Bank, St. John:—

GENTLEMEN,—It having been represented to the Government of New Brunswick by A. E. Killam, Esq., the contractor for the building of the Albert Railway, that your bank is making him advances to purchase the rails, etc., for the railroad, and he is desirous that $140,000 of the provincial subsidy should be held in reserve to be paid to your bank on account of the rails purchased, I am instructed to state that the Provincial Government will withhold as requested by Mr. Killam, and with the sanction of the Albert Railway Company the said sum of $140,000 for your bank, subject to the following condition: That such sum shall be payable only upon the company being entitled to receive the sum under the contract and out of the final money due the company under the contract.

I have, &c.,
JNO. JAMES FRASER.

The House will preceive that in no sense is any loan to the Province from the Maritime Bank either asked for or contemplated by the latter.

Mr. Tweedie moved a resolution relating to the payment to Mr. Geo. Botsford as follows:—

For a detailed statement of the dates of payment and the different amounts paid at such dates included in the sum of $3,171.40, stated to have been paid to Geo. Botsford, together with a statement of the particular service on account of which the amount has been paid; also copies of all correspondence between the said Geo. Botsford and the Government, or any member thereof, and Minutes and Orders of Council, receipts, memoranda and papers relating to this matter.

The Provincial Secretary said the papers would be brought down without an address.

Mr. Dow introduced a bill to increase the facilities for collecting small debts in Fredericton, with the petition of a large number of business men in favor of the same.

The Provincial Secretary in reply to a question asked by Mr. Willis, yesterday, said he expected to submit the Educational report to-morrow, and, perhaps the Agricultural report.

A bill sent down from the Legislative Council, requiring constables to give security before entering upon their duties, was read a first time.

Mr. Barker committed a bill to amend the Act relating to the election of Councillors in York, Mr. Rogers in the chair. As explained by the mover, the bill provides for the fyling of intending candidates' names with the Secretary-Treasurer before nomination, and after some discussion, progress was reported, with a view of ascertaining if the new Municipal Act of the Government would not render the measure unnecessary.

Hon. Mr. Crawford, from the Law Bill Committee, reported recommending a bill relating to Parish Courts, which was committed. It was so amended by the mover as to provide that a non-resident might bring a suit in any parish in the county where the defendant resides. After some discussion, progress was reported, in order that its phraseology might be changed.

Mr. Covert committed a bill to revive and continue the Central Railway Act. Agreed to

Mr. Austin committed a bill to amend the law relating to the sale of spirituous liquor in the parishes of Lancaster, Simonds and St. Martins (St. John), Mr. Burns in the chair.

After some twenty sections were passed, with very little discussion, the Attorney General said it was not within the Province of this Legislature to pass some of the provisions in the succeeding sections.

Progress was reported.

Mr. Dow endeavored to present the petition of Samuel Dayton and others asking for free ferries in York. It was ruled out of order as involving a charge on the revenue.

Mr. Johnson desired to be heard on the subject of printing the agricultural report in French, but was ruled out of order as no resolution or other matter for action before the house had been brought forward by him on the subject.

Friday, Feb. 23.

This morning, when Mr. Covert's bill to revive and continue the Grand Central Railway came up in routine, Mr. Austin moved that its third reading be postponed until this day three months.

Mr. Davidson spoke in favor of Mr. Austin's motion, followed by Messrs. Covert, Butler, Burns, Crawford and others against, and after an animated discussion the motion was lost and the bill read a third time.

The debate was carried on until a quarter to eleven, when the vote was taken on going into Committee of Supply. Without a division the House went into Committee of Supply, Dr. Dow in the chair, and formal resolutions were reported back to the House and adopted.

HON. MR. FRASER'S BUDGET SPEECH.

The order of the day being called at twelve o'clock, the Provincial Secretary moved that Mr. Speaker leave the chair. He said that before asking the House to go into a Committee of Supply, it was customary for the gentleman offering the motion to put it in possession of facts relating the financial position of the country. He was especially glad of the opportunity to address the House on the present occasion, because he felt he would be able to satisfy hon. members, as well as the people of the country, that the adverse rumors respecting both the financial condition of the Province and the conduct of those directing its affairs were not justified by facts. Those rumors, he felt satisfied, had originated in a quarter not far from where he now stood, and having been directed chiefly against his department, were evidently given to the country with the design of injuring him, and, if possible, pulling him from the position he occupied. Hon. gentlemen knew he never sought the position, but it was pressed upon him by his constituents and present colleagues, and having performed the important duties devolving upon him with such ability as he was able to exercise, with a view of discharging them faithfully, he felt that these references of a personal character made before going into the matter more properly before the House, would be excused. He had been pressed by both personal and political friends to come out in the press and repel the charges which had been so maliciously circulated by certain papers, but he knew that if he did so, the editorial writers were in a position from which they could hurl their base and baseless assertions back upon him; so he thought it best to allow their untruths to go undignified by challenge from him, knowing that here in this place, and in a proper and constitutional way, he could lay bare the facts, and let the country judge between him and his slanderers. On a former occasion, in the present term, he had gone more in details into the accounts and estimates than he proposed doing now, chiefly because of so many new members, and it was desirable that such matters should be placed before them in such a manner as to enable them to understand them fully; but on this occasion that was not necessary. During the past year there has been considerable depression of business in the Province, as well as in the Dominion, the United States, and the Mother Country. When there are dull times people look for something to attribute them to, and they are generally put down to the Government, which as a matter of course accepts the responsibility on its merits as a foregone conclusion. But New Brunswick has not fared worse than its neighbors in the matter, for our harvest has been good; and though financial disaster has overtaken some of our merchants, business has the advantage of, at least, being on a sounder basis than before, while the aspect of commercial affairs has of late been somewhat brighter, promising a future to which we look forward with reasonable hope. Of course the government does not take credit for this, any more than it accepts blame for the dull times. In view of what had during recess gone forth to the country in reference to the finances of the country, he felt that in view of the fact that there was nothing on the part of the government to conceal, it would be better to give a full and comprehensive statement of its affairs to the House, and hence the promise in the speech of His Honor, of not only the usual financial statement to the end of the fiscal year, but also the addition of a statement of receipts and expenditures from that date to the day of the opening of the legislature. These statements had been for some days in the hands of hon. members, and the government was willing to be judged by them; but he had heard it rumored that some persons expressed doubts even in reference to the correctness of those statements, and especially that referring to transactions since the close of the fiscal pear. These persons had intimated that those statements were not to be relied on as showing the true state of the country's finances and the balance to the credit of the province. He could not understand the motive for such aspersions, unless he attributed them to his enemies who desired to poison the public mind through unworthy motives. He would merely ask those who knew him if they believed he would come before the country with a false statement or be a party to any deception in so important a trust. It had even been stated that the balances claimed, if not entirely false, had been placed in the bank by members of the government who had been obliged to discount their own notes to enable them to put a fair statement before the country, and that the money was really borrowed from the banks. These stories were base untruths, and he was glad of the opportunity now to stamp them as such, and he had the right to ask the House and the people of the country to believe him when he stated that the accounts presented were correct and true and not fraudulent, and that he knew of no errors in them. He would ask if it was to go abroad that the president and directors of the People's bank at which the government keep its accounts were of such a character as would lead them to join the government in practising deception on the country by putting forth false statements in reference to their business, and while he asked if any honest man could believe this, he would say let us have no more of these charges made only for political effect, which are huge wind bags that have been punched by the financial statements submitted to the House. Now what are these statements and what is it that has caused the confusion in the minds of some honorable members and led to the misapprehensions which have been spread over the country? It is their confusing the accounts and not observing the difference between warrant and departmental accounts, that is between the amounts drawn from the bank by warrant and amounts drawn by the different departments on their credit at the bank. Going back to last year's accounts members will find that the balance at the end of the fiscal year, 1875, was $81,355.87, but to get at the net balance you must deduct the amount of over expenditure on the Public Works Department accounts $7,981.37, and on Immigration account $1,035.54, leaving on warrant account at the bank, after the settlement of the accounts of the year 1875, the sum of $72,339.16. In the same way take the warrant account for 1876. The balance shown in the accounts before the House is $128,876.71, and deduct over expenditure on Public Works, Mining and Immigration accounts, amounting to $15,828.07, and we have as the true balance for 1877 $113,048.64, if all these liabilities were paid. Now what is the net gain of the year? It is the difference between the above net balance of 1875 and that of 1876, or $40.709.48. To come out of that he should say there was a small sum to pay claims on account of the Centennial Advisory Beard, but the gain of the year may be put down in round numbers at $40,000. Some of the rumors are that the balance and gain are fictitious. They are true and correct. True, they are not all in cash, but where and what are they? The answers are in the statements laid before the House, showing that they are in cash or the equal of cash. Now proceed to examine these statements so that there shall be no more doubts and false rumors. By the additional statement laid on the table pursuant to the speech, it is shown that between the close of the fiscal year and the opening of the session on the 8th inst., $264,159.39 were received, making the total amount on hand the day of opening of the Legislature, including the balance at the end of the fiscal year, $393,036,10. Now the natural question is where is that balance, and of what does it consist. The papers laid on the table show that the warrants drawn between 31st of October, 1876, and the day of opening were $105,985.87, the details of which are shown. The cash advanced on bye-road accounts is $10,944.56, details of which are being prepared; loans to School Boards, $27,978.55, details of which are on the table, and balances due by Agricultural Board for advances, $6,503,64, and little amounts loaned to Agricultural societies, $315; advances on account of erection of school houses, $1,135; advances on account of stumpage collection, $25; balance of over-expenditure on diamond borer, $545.16; amount paid on account of the Botsford matter, $3,171.40; amount of mortgage assigned by Commercial Bank, $1500; advanced to George Thompson, $505; Legislative expenses, Jury fees in Gloucester, expense of delegation to Ottawa, balance of Immigration account, over expenditure on works account, $15,041.18, and $37,496,37 advanced on works account since 31st October last, details of which are on the table; advances to Educational Department, $1,340.80, all of which, with cash in the bank, $175,444.90 make up the total amount as above stated $393,036.10, which the members could see balanced the account. In explaining such of the above items as needed explanation, the Provincial Secretary said the advance to the Agricultural Board was on account of the stock purchases last year, the purchases having exceeded the grant. The amount would be paid back out of this year's grant. The loan to societies was small, and those which had received the sum needed it, and would pay it back out of their share of this year's grant. The amount advanced on account of erection of school houses was understood by members. No warrant had been drawn for it, but it went out in small sums by checks, which were charged against the Educational account, and after a time a warrant would be issued for the aggregate sum. Members would understand that a warrant could not be given for every little sum needed, and that this way of dealing with the matter was just the same as would be done in ordinary business. These checks stood as charges against department accounts until a warrant was issued for them, when they passed from the department accounts at the bank, and became a charge against the Receiver-General's account. The advances on stumpage account were to pay current expenses connected with scaling, etc. The advances were placed in the hands of Messrs. Jack and McCallum, who had the supervision of scalers and paid them, and at a stated time, these advances by check were put together and a warrant drawn for them. Of course, scaling must go on with the business of the country, and scalers must be paid. The over expenditure on the Diamond borer will be returned when the application for that service is made. An address for papers in the Botsford matter had been granted, and the particulars would come before the House when explanations could be made. Regarding the fifteen hundred dollars, as Commercial Bank mortgage, he might say that if the amount was placed on the other side of the return, as some members might think would be the correct way, it might be better out. If it were so placed it would have to be deducted from the year's balance, $128,876.71, which would leave the balance at the bank precisely as it appears in the statement before the House. At the time of the failure of the Commercial Bank, it owed the Province ninety thousand dollars, but the Government deemed it best not to press too hardly for payment so long as it was secured. In the public accounts the money thus owing was always treated as a balance in hand, while the interest paid upon it appeared as current receipts. The indebtedness was gradually diminished, and a few years ago the bank desired to wind up its affairs and offered $4,000 in mortgages, which was accepted three years ago, as the accounts show. The principal of these mortgages was treated as a balance in hand while the interest went to current account. The advances to Mr. Thompson of the Education office, were on salary account, and are treated as claims equal to cash. He applied for the advances, as he was in need of them, and they were made on that account. Respecting Legislative expenses, hon. members knew that advances must be made to meet them, for the Legislature comes together after the end of the fiscal year and before the appropriations can be made, expenses must necessarily be incurred and some of them paid. The Gloucester County Treasurer owed eight dollars and seven cents, balance left of a loan by the Receiver General after paying jury fees in 1876. He will refund that amount. The Gloucester debt to the Province was incurred in connection with the troubles in that country in 1875 and when the trials came on and their expenses had to be paid, the County Treasurer had no funds and the loan was made at the instance of the Attorney General. The debt is one for which the county stands good, and is a legitimate asset of the Province. The item of four hundred dollars for expenses of the Ottawa delegation, needs no explanation just here, and the advances to the Board of Education are known to be an ordinary charge. There is a small balance of $1,464.36 in the Provincial Secretary's office, which he had not before mentioned, and which would make the total receipts as stated above. Hon. members would thus see that all matters connected with the finances of the province were fully, faithfully and clearly set forth and accounted for. He had desired to lay before the House, in response to the request of Mr. Burns, the statement of the People's Bank, in account with the Province, up to the 8th inst., the day the Legislature met, but the other day he laid the statement to the 7th on the table, and promised that of the 8th, which he now held in his hand, the statement of which showed that the balance to the credit of the province on that day was $175,444.90; but in order to ascertain how much of that was available, there must be deducted, on account of the Normal School loan, $29.137.26, and special loans to School Boards of St. John and St. Stephen, $17.000, leaving net cash available, $130,772, which included the $1,464.36 already stated to be in the Provincial Secretary's office, and $78.93 which lay at the credit of the Chief Superintendent of Education. Taking up the bank statement of the 7th and 8th respectively, he said it would be seen that there was to the credit of the Surveyor General, on the 7th, a total of $289.129.83, and on the 8th, $287,914.14. To get at the balance, to the credit of the province at the bank, deductions on the Department account must be made as shown in the statement, namely, a debit of the Public Works Department on the 7th, $51,580.09; on the 8th, $52,984.24; debit of Provincial Secretary on the 7th, $54,960.29, on the 8th, $54,975.25: debit on the Normal School account on the 7th, $29,137.26, and the same amount on the 8th; debit, also, advanced to St. John and St. Stephen School Boards, $17,000, which stood at the same amount on both days, and there remained to the credit of the province in the bank on the 7th, $136,452.18, and on the 8th, $133,817.39, and yet it was said in some quarters that there was not a dollar in the treasury. In the face of these figures, could such slanders on the province and its Government be believed. He said they were not justified by the facts, and the people would believe they were not. Turning to the question of indebtedness, he said, to arrive at the liabilities of the province on the 8th inst., the following must appear: Provincial debentures alloat, $333,000, issued prior to the 31st of October last, and $66,000 since, or a total of $399,000 on debenture account. Then, there was the estimated cost of the Normal School, $50,000. He proposed, when the latter item came up for a vote, to give the House full information as to what had been done under that head. He would also deal with the loans to the St. John and St. Stephen School Boards. The amount required to meet the existing railway obligations, a statement of which was on the table, $387,000, made up by $900, as a balance in full on the Petitcodiac and Elgin railway, $76,000 on amount of the Saint Martin's and Upham Railway, and $11,000 on the Grand Southern. The Albert Railway subsidy, as hon. members were already aware, was to be paid out of the moneys lying at the credit of the Province with the Dominion, and did not, therefore, become a Provincial liability. Coming to the assets of the Province, he said they consisted of $26,362.15 due from counties on account of school loans. The members were familiar with the way in which these loans were made, and if the above amount were paid and added to the balance on hand at the end of the fiscal year, the balance would, in round numbers, be $154,000 instead of $128,000. Then there was the amount due on the Botsford bond, $5,179.20, to which more particular reference would be made bye and bye. There was also DeLucy's bond and interest, $372, and the Howard property in St. John, secured on account of a copper coin indebtedness. That was a bond secured in the name of the late treasurer, Beverley Robinson, and is estimated to be worth $5,000. The corporation bonds of St. John and St. Stephen were held for the school loan of $17,000. When the loans were made the Government borrowed the money at 7 per cent, and those corporations gave bonds to pay the loan back with that interest. So the Government stands merely as guarantors of the loan. The St. Stephen loan is also secured by deposits of school debentures, part of which have been sold and gone towards the liquidation of the debt, while others are upon the market for the