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 orsmall quantities, at the lowest possible rate.

STEPHEN WHITE.

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the Legislature of this Province, at the next meeting, for an Act authorizing the erection of a Boom and maintenance of the same at the Mouth of Barnaby River, in the Parish of Nelson, in the County of Northumberland, for securing and rafting of lumber brought down said River, and levying and collecting fees for booming and rafting such lumber.

RICHARD HUTCHISON.

Douglastown, 3rd January, 1877. 6 y 25.

1876. WINTER SALE. 1876.

To Purchasers of Staple and Fancy

DRY GOODS.

GRAND

Clearance Sale,

AT NO. 7 MARKET SQUARE.

THE SUBSCRIBER having determined to sel his Large and Well Assorted Stock at a TREMENDOUS SACRIFICE, for Cash, would respectfully call the attention of intending purchasers to the SPECIAL PRICES quoted below.

10,000 yards American and Domestic GREY SHEETINGS, at 6, 7, 8, 8½ and 9 cents per yard.
5,000 yards WHITE COTTONS, from 7 to 12 cts. per yard.
10 pieces WHITE TWILLED SHEETINGS. 90 inches wide, for 35 cents per yard, former price, 50 cents.
20 pieces half bleached SWANSDOWN very heavy, from 13 to 17 cents per yard.
50 pieces Black, Brown, and Steel WINCEYS, from 10 to 17 cents per yard.
8,000 yards COTTON and HINDOO SHIRTINGS, from 14 to 20 cents per yard.
8,000 yards Blue, Brown, Scarlet, Grey and White FLANNELS, from 25 to 40 cents yer yard.
20 pieces TWEED SKLATINGS, 45 inches wide, at 30 cents per yard, former price 50 cents.
50 pieces English, Scotch and Canadian Tweeds, from 75 cents to $1.00 per yard,

Together with an endless variety of other goods, too numerous to particularize, will be cleared out a unheard of prices.

Call early and secure Bargains.

P. J. QUINN, - - No. 7 Market Square.

P. S.—Gent's Custom Garments of every description made on the Premises by experienced workmen, and satisfaction guaranteed.

BUTTER,
Groceries, Provisions,
MILL SUPPLIES, &C.
ROBERTSON & McANDREWS,
Water Street, Chatham.

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.

All 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.

WANTED.

A Competent Carriage Blacksmith.

☞ GOOD WAGES PAID. ☜

Apply to the Subscriber.

WM. SIMPSON.

Chatham, Jan 22, 1877.

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.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,
Ottawa, Jan. 30, 1877.

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

J. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Customs.

LATE WORKS

JUST RECEIVED AT THE

Miramichi Bookstore.

HAROLD, Tennyson's Dramatic Poem;
Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay—by his nephew, George Otto Trevelyan, M. P.
Ten Years of My Life—by the Princess Felix Salm Salm, (the Canadian Princess).
A Mad World—by an Amateur Lunatic.
My Little Girl—by the Authors of "Ready-money Mortiboy."
The Queen of the Regiment—by Catherine King.

D. G. SMITH.

Chatham, Jan. 31, '77.

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., 1877. 1h.

DAILY EXPECTED PER BELLE BARBOUR,
10 Puncheons
Copper Distilled Kentucky Bourbon.
DANIEL PATTON.
SAINT JOHN.

General Business.

WHISKIES. WHISKIES.

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

DANIEL PATTON.
SAINT JOHN.

London House,

CHATHAM, N. B.

The Balance of my

Fall and Winter Stock

of Dress Goods, Prints, Cottons, Flannels, Tweeds, Gents' 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.

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.

A LUCRATIVE BUSINESS.

☞ WE WANT 500 MORE FIRST-CLASS SEWING MACHINE AGENTS, AND 500 MEN OF ENERGY AND ABILITY TO LEARN THE BUSINESS OF SELLING SEWING MACHINES. COMPENSATION LIBERAL, BUT VARYING ACCORDING TO ABILITY, CHARACTER AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE AGENT. FOR PARTICULARS, ADDRESS

Wilson Sewing Machine Co., Chicago,
827 and 829 Broadway, New York, or New Orleans La

$2500 A YEAR. AGENTS WANTED on our Grand Combination Prospectus, representing **150 DISTINCT BOOKS** wanted everywhere. The Biggest thing ever Tried. Sales made from this when all single Books fail. Also, Agents wanted on our MAGNIFICENT FAMILY BIBLES. Superior to all others. With invaluable illustrated Aids and Superb Bindings. These Books beat the world. Full particulars free. Address JOHN E. POTTER & CO., Publishers, PHILADELPHIA.

$66 a week in your own town. Terms and $5 outfit free. H. HALLETT & CO., Portland, Maine.

A FAVORITE

WINTER RESORT,

JAMAICA.

Six to seven days voyage from New York by the Atlas Company's steamers, will convey you to the finest climate in the world, where there is a choice of temperature and the most beautiful scenery, amid Mountains, Valleys, and winding Rivers. The climate is dry and warm, highly recommended by physicians as being specially adapted for invalids, and also a favorite resort for tourists.

The Atlas Company's British built, first-class Iron Steamers, carrying the British Colonial and United States Mails, leave New York twice a month.

FARE(Saloon), $50 AM. GOLD.

APPLY TO

D. BATTERSBY, Agent, 138 St. James St., Montreal.
JOSIAS BRAY, 67 Yonge St., Toronto.
PIM, FORWOOD & Co., } General Agents.
56 Wall Street, New York.

$55 to $77 a Week to Agents. Samples FREE. P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

$12 a day at home. Agents wanted. Outfit and terms free. TRUE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

STAMMERING cured by Bates' Appliances. For description &c, address SIMPSON & CO., Box 5076, New York.

$1175 PROFITS FROM $106 25 on one contract in 20 days by the late decline in stocks. The judicious management of

STOCK CONTRACTS

on the privilege plan always ensures a good return; often ten times the investment in as many days. Send for information and the "*New System of Assured Profits*," free.

Gold and Stock Brokers. } T. POTTER, WIGHT & CO., 35 Wall Street, New York

25 EXTRA FINE MIXED CARDS, with name, 10 cts postpaid. L. JONES & Co., Nassau, N. Y.

$500 A MONTH to Active Men selling our Letter Copying Book. No press or water used. Sample copy worth $5 00 free. Send stamp for circular. Excelsior Manufact'g Co., 99 Madison and 132 Dearborn Street, CHICAGO.

$5 to $20 per day at home. Samples worth $5 free. STINSON & Co., Portland, Maine.

THIS IS NO HUMBUG. By sending 35 cts., with age, height, color of eyes and hair, you will receive by return of mail a correct photograph of your future husband or wife, with name and date of marriage. Address W. FOX, P. O. Box 250. Fultonville, N. Y.

50 WHITE BRISTOL VISITING CARDS, with your name finely printed, for 25cts. Samples 3c stamp. No postals. 100 AGENTS WANTED. Address A. W. KINNEY, Yarmouth. N.S.

YOUNG, ACTIVE MEN

MANUFACTURERS, MECHANICS, CARPENTERS, &C.,

Thre or five wanted in every county to introduce the local manufacturer and sale of a new, valuable patent,

"THE CHAMPION HOGSHEAD AND BARREL CARRIAGE."

Ingeniously arranged; durable; retails $1.50 to $4.00, giving large profits without competition. Long needed by all dealers in Hogheads, Barrels or Kegs of Molasses, Syrups, Oils, Liquors, Cider, Vinegar, or other liquids, whereby they can handle and drain the *entire contents* with the greatest ease and safety **No tilting or waste.** Less room, and easily moved. The six New England and four Middle States already sold, and thousands will testify to its utility and economy.

TERMS: Enclose to my address P. O. order or registered letter for **Ten Dollars** and I will remit by express Drawings, Specifications, Circulars, and Patterns for small castings complete, with my license to manufacture and retail *one hundred* carriages, and a small royalty beyond that number. If not as represented, your money refunded. This is no toy or humbug, and there is neither experiment nor risk. For references as to my responsibility, integrity or the merits of my invention, the Mayor, President of Banks, Editors of Press, or any honorable man of Augusta, Maine, my residence and home, or any number given in Boston or New England. Address JOSEPH N. PARKER, Patentee and Owner, Augusta, Maine.

SEEDS! **SEEDS!** SEEDS!

☞ My catalogue of Field Garden and Flower Seeds, &c., &c., for 1877, is *now ready*, and will be mailed (free) to all applicants.

WILLIAM RENNIE.
TORONTO. CANADA.

DEAFNESS RELIEVED. No Medicine. Book free. G. J. WOOD, Madison, Ind

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.

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.

OWING to the delay of trains by the storm we are without editorials and other matter intended for this issue.

IS IT SO?—A Correspondent asks if it is true that the Riviere du Loup Railway Company is having a survey of Timber Lands made in Northumberland County. We shall endeavor to ascertain as soon as possible, but cannot think that the company will be allowed any allotments in this county.

COL. JOHN O'MAHONEY who was Head Centre of the Fenian Brotherhood of America is dead. John kept a dry goods establishment on the Bowery at the time he was the "Sinter" and it is said that even the immense patronage that his position gained for him did not save him from drifting into bankruptcy.

"THE BANNER DAILY AND WEEKLY:"—Attention is directed to the advertisement of the St. John *Telegraph*, which appears in this issue of the ADVANCE. We heartily commend the papers to the patronage of our friends, as the best in the Lower Provinces. Mr. Elder's enterprise in the way of special telegraphic news is certainly deserving of general public support and those who can afford to take another paper besides the ADVANCE will get their money's worth by subscribing for the *Telegraph*.

Editorial Correspondence.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 8th.

After a very comfortable ride over the Intercolonial Railway at night and a journey at the rate of twelve miles an hour over the consolidated E. & N. A. Railway to Fredericton Junction a number of North Shore people were glad to get out of the dilapidated cars of the latter line and reach the Capital an hour after over the Fredericton road, last evening. We wondered why the *Watchman* man, who seems to have been specially ordained for the mission of abusing railways, had selected the well-managed Intercolonial as the object on which to pour out the vials of his wrath, to the neglect of a more deserving road—especially when he is in so good a position to speak of the merits of the wretched "Western Extension." Surely, he has no object *now* in sparing it.

This being the first day of the Legislative Session it cannot be expected that its record will present any great variety to interest the general reader, and the channels of intelligence having not yet opened up to any appreciable extent, either socially or politically, my readers will, no doubt, characterise what I may have to write in the same terms as Mr. Covert did the "Speech" last session, by pronouncing it "a meagre bill of fare."

As is usually the case in winter, the Hotels are filled to their utmost capacity and the Barker House proprietors were obliged to decline scores of applications for accommodation, while the Queen and other houses also had their share of surplus chances to dispose of rooms.

The streets presented a decidedly animated appearance to-day, the weather—especially as the hour for opening the Legislature approached—being delightful. There was a fair display of showy teams speeding about together with a lot of the shabby-genteel and dilapidated class which can only be found in this goodly city, where aged vehicles, if not the admiration of the population, are treated with a respect and consideration worthy of their years. After dinner it was announced that some difficulty with bandsmen, which had threatened to interfere with the musical element in the opening programme had been overcome—a sufficient sum per man to wake their slumbering loyalty having been promised—so that the city breathed easier and felt that nothing would be lacking to render the proceedings at 3 o'clock worthy of the occasion.

Heretofore there has been such crowding about the entrance to the Legislative buildings on opening days by the "great unwashed" that it was positively unpleasant for either ladies or gentlemen to pass in and out and I have seen the lobbies and upper chamber vestibule so packed with humanity in dirty, ragged and odoriferous clothing that members, of the Lower House have been prevented by the jam from waiting upon the Lieutenant Governor when commanded to do so. To-day, however, there was a creditable change, the city policemen being on duty aided by special policemen in regulating admissions and keeping the passages and lobbies sufficiently clear to admit of those movements which once puzzled Hon. Mr. Willis so much, viz., ingress, egress and regress.

THE OPENING.

His Honor arrived at three o'clock precisely. He was saluted by Capt. Beckwith's Field Battery, two guns having been placed for the purpose in front of the buildings, and by an infantry guard of honor, composed of members of the 71st Battalion and Cadets of the Military School under command of Captain Cropley, as stated in the official Report. His Honor was accompanied by his aides, and the High Sheriff, Coroner and prominent officers of Militia escorted him to the Throne where, being seated, the usual directions for the summoning of the members of the Lower House were given. In the meantime His Honor the Speaker accompanied by the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, all in their robes, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, entered from the Speaker's room into the Assembly, where the Speaker, after bowing to both sides of the House from the steps, assumed the Chair.

THE SPEECH.

Beverley R. Jouett, Esq., Usher of the Black Rod, being admitted in the usual form, announced to the Speaker that it was His Honor the Lieutenant Governor's pleasure that the House attend forthwith in the Upper Chamber.

The House, headed by the Speaker, then proceeded to the Upper Chamber where His Honor the Lieut. Governor delivered the following speech:—

"*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:*

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

"It is with great satisfaction I again meet you in General Assembly, that I may have your valuable assistance in the preparation and passage of such Measures as may be deemed necessary for the public interest.

"It has pleased Divine Providence to bless our Province with an abundant Harvest during the past year. The blessing thus granted has counteracted to a very considerable extent, the unhappy consequences that must otherwise have resulted from the continued depression in our Trade and Commerce, and demands our grateful acknowledgment.

"During the course of the Summer, I visited various localities in the Province, where I had not previously been since my appointment as Lieutenant Governor. Everywhere I found a loyal, and to all appearance, a prosperous Population; and from whom I received, as the Representative of their Sovereign, a cordial and hearty welcome.

"In accordance with a Resolution passed by the House of Assembly during the last Session of the Legislature, I sent a Delegation from my Government to Ottawa, to confer with the Dominion Goverment respecting the continuance to the Province of the Special Subsidy of Sixty Three Thousand Dollars per annum; and the settlement of the equitable liabilities of the Dominion to the Province upon unadjusted claims was likewise urged by the same Delegation. I trust that the just expectations of New Brunswick in regard to these demands may be realized at an early day.

"Acting under another Resolution of the House of Assembly, I made application to the Privy Council of the Dominion with the view of obtaining the opinion of the Judges of the Supreme Court with regard to the powers of the Legislature of this Province in the withholding of Licenses to sell Spirituous Liquors. The correspondence upon this subject will be laid before you.

"As Provincial Exhibitions are calculated to inspire confidence in our Agricultural resources, and stimulate the various Manufactures and Industries of the Province, I would invite your attention to the desirability of holding such an Exhibition during the current year.

"The Municipal Incorporations already established in some of the Counties having been found to work satisfactorily, and largely to conduce to more efficient administration of local affairs, I would ask you to consider whether the system might not with advantage be extended to other Counties of the Province.

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

"I have given directions that the Accounts of the Receipts and of the Expenditure of the past year, and a detailed Statement of the Receipts and Payments of the current year up to the opening of the present Session, should be laid before you. I trust that you will find that the Estimates of Expenditure for the current year have been prepared with as strict a regard to economy as is consistent with the requirements of the Public Service.

"*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"Having every confidence in your loyalty and in your devotion to the Public Service. I feel assured that your deliberations will tend to the advancement of the public good."

The Speaker and members having returned to the Assembly Chamber the Speaker reported upon the vacancy that had occurred in the representation of the City of St. John consequent upon the death of the late Mr. Keans and on motion of Mr. Elder, seconded by Mr. Flewelling, directed the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to bring in the return of the Sheriff of St. John upon the writ issued to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Robert Marshall, Esq., who had been returned to the seat vacated by Mr. Keans. The return being brought in and read, showing that Robert Marshall, Esq., had been again elected and that gentleman having been brought in by Messrs. Elder and Flewelling the usual oath was administered to him by His Honor Judge Wetmore, and he took his seat.

On motion of Mr. Ryan, Speaker appointed Messrs. Ryan (Albert) Covert, Robinson, Burns, Elder, Smith and Swim, Committee on Public Accounts.

The Speaker having read the Speech delivered by the Lieutenant Governor Dr. Dow moved the Address in reply thereto, which was seconded by Mr. Marshall and made the order of the Day for Saturday next at twelve.

On motion of Mr. Fraser Dr. Dow was made Chairman of Supply.

Mr. Marshall was added to the contingent Committee in place of the late Mr. Keans.

The Provincial Secretary informed the House that pursuant to Resolutions passed last session, referring the matter of arranging for a Synoptic Report of the proceedings of the House to the Governor-in-Council, an arrangement had been made for the work with Mr. D. G. Smith, the terms of which would in due course be submitted to the House. In the meantime, he moved that a seat on the floor of the House be provided for Mr. Smith under the direction of His Honor the Speaker. Hon. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion.

In reply to Mr. Willis, the Speaker said the arrangement of the Governor-in-Council in the matter was final and the Provincial Secretary's motion then passed.

The Speaker called the attention of the House to the Rule adopted last session as well as to previous rules relating to Local and private Bills and said it would be well for members to bear the importance of observing them in mind, especially as no private bill can be introduced after fourteen days from the opening of the session unless recommended by the Committee.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 9th.

This has been almost a dull day at the House. There was however one matter of interest to members and a few others brought up, but of that, more anon.

THE CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

got tired, last session, of ordering the payment of the excessive charges made by several Fredericton concerns for stationery supplied to the House and, acting on its recommendation that an importation of the chief articles needed be made, a supply that will last two sessions was ordered through Messrs. Everett & Butler, St. John, whose bill of $418.08 therefor was ordered to be paid. The contingent Committee also made the usual recommendations in respect of franking etc.

DELAYS IN FORWARDING PRIVATE BILLS.

The Provincial Secretary brought up the subject of the introduction of Private Bills, which are generally kept back so as to delay the session materially. He gave St. John a quiet rap over the knuckles for the customary lateness with which its Corporation measures are forwarded and it is to be hoped that our esteemed friends Mayor Smith, Clerk Peters and the other members of "the St. John Parliament" will take the hint. It is a fact that while country people, like ourselves, get their bills ready with fear and trembling lest they may be an hour or a day late, those dashing city men get their bills up when it suits their convenience and a half dozen of them come to the Capital with long faces and good clothes on and, after attending church with the pious members of the Bills Committee—who are largely the majority—they succeed in having their flimsy excuses for their tardiness accepted and after their neglect and laziness are condoned their bills are put through and they go back to St. John laughing in their sleeves at the "pious frauds" they have perpetrated on the Legislative Magi. The Bills Committee know how their predecessars have been bamboozled by the excuses of Messrs. Smith, Peters and their predecessors in office, but they seemingly cannot resist their blandishments and, as a consequence, St. John business is put through whenever it is convenient for its corporation representatives to present it. While speaking on the subject to-day the Secretary said that most of the Departmental Reports were ready and would be laid on the table as soon as the Address was passed, and he hoped that this bill matter would receive the attention it deserved.

THE SPEAKER CALLED AWAY.

After dinner to-day Dr. Dow, as Chairman of Supply took the Chair, the Speaker having been called to St. John on urgent private business.

A MATTER OF "INTERNAL ECONOMY."

"A little unpleasantness" came up for settlement right away. It appears that when the late Mr. Keans died, his desk which is in a desirable location in the Chamber—next to that of the chief commissioner—was applied for by several members who were not in such good positions, Messrs. McLeod of Kings and Swim of Northumberland being among the applicants. When Mr. Marshall was elected he wrote to the Sergt.-at-Arms to put his name on the desk of his predecessor. But it appears that the Sergeant-at-Arms had promised it to Mr. McLeod, that gentleman's application being the first which reached him. Mr. Marshall, however, had the key of Mr. Keans' desk but when he went to unlock it the key would not fit and it was then found that Mr. McLeod's desk had been put in place of it and that Mr. Marshall was expected to take the spot on the floor vacated by the member for Kings. The question was a delicate one and the pros and cons were debated, the opposition generally siding with Mr McLeod, who occupied Mr Keans' old seat at the opening Mr. Marshall taking the desk of Mr. Theriault who was absent and seconding the Address therefrom. Last night or this morning however Mr. McLeod's desk was moved back to its old place and the members as they arrived saw Marshall sitting in the contested seat, the Keans desk having been placed there. Then Mr. McLeod was out of place and he sat in vacant seats until after dinner when Mr. Tweedie moved for a Committee to take into consideration the internal arrangement of seats in the Assembly and Messrs. Tweedie, Baker, Murchie, Flewelling and Burns were appointed. Subsequently, while the Committee were out deliberating, Mr. Butler moved a resolution referring to the dispute and seeking to give the Committee power to settle it, but as the names of the disputants were included in the resolution it was deemed objectionable and Mr. Butler substituted another for it, which was that the Committee be authorized to hear and report to the House in reference to any existing dispute to any seat in the House.

Soon after the passing of the above Mr. Tweedie reported from the Committee recommending that the practice heretofore prevailing of assigning by the Sergeant-at-Arms of vacant seats to the first applicant be adopted for the present and future guidance of the House, provided that members re-elected may retain their seats and that Heads of Departments be accorded the customary privileges. The Report was adopted. This, of course, is an intimation that Mr. McLeod will have the seat in dispute, and it does seem hard for Mr. Marshall to get properly into the place of his predecessor.

MR. WILLIS.

Hon. Mr. Willis does not appear to be very friendly with either Government or Opposition and it is probable that he feels that, like the McLeans at the Flood, he is "in a boat of his own." It is generally expected that he will endeavor to take a leading part in the Maritime Union agitation which seems to be gaining headway as a matter of practical politics. To-day Mr. Willis gave notice of an address calling for correspondence between the Governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on the subject which—as is well known the two Governments have, for some time been considering more or less.

A GLOUCESTER BILL.

Mr. Ryan of Gloucester introduced a bill to amend the Act authorising the Municipal Council of Gloucester to raise money by way of loan to pay off its public debt.

THE FRENCH AND THEIR CHAMPION.

It may be remembered that Mr. Johnstone, who is always endeavoring to further the interests of his French constituents, effected the passage of a Resolution at last session affirming the idea that it would be to the advantage of the French people of the Province if they were enabled to read the Agricultural Report in their own language and recommending such preamble to the consideration of the Government. To-day Mr. Johnstone followed his former effort up by asking the Provincial Secretary if the Agricultural Report was to be printed in French as well as in English.

The Secretary said he did not understand the resolution referred to as directing the Government to do as the Hon. gentleman desired.

Mr. Johnstone said he claimed it was the duty of the Government to have the report referred to printed in French, thus according to the people speaking that language the same consideration they have in the Upper Provinces. What he asked was a small matter and the right of the French people.

The Secretary said he would give Mr. Johnstone an answer in due course.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 10th.

To-day has been quite an interesting one in the Legislature, the Address in Reply to the Speech having passed both Houses without division, but not without criticism. Dr. Dow, as Chairman of Supply being in the chair in the Speaker's absence, could not move the address, and there was some speculation as to who would take his place. Meantime the business of the morning went on slowly, as is usual in the earlier days of session.

SHAPING FOR THE SESSION.

Mr. Willis gave notice of Resolution for an address praying that in addition to the "detailed statements of receipts and payments of the current year up to the opening of the present session" a full and particular statement of various works in progress or partially completed, on which payments have been made, and of all allowances for extras in or on account of the departments on any public works or services and a detailed account of the fundal and floating debts of the province may be laid before the House, also: like notice for copies of all documents, memoranda of agreement and despatches in anywise relating to or connected with the Provincial Branch of the Immigration Department in London or the continued representation of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in London.

The fact is that the promise of the Government to lay not only the usual accounts for the financial year, but also accounts of receipts and expenditures up to the day the House met, has taken the Opposition by surprise and doubtless rendered some ammunition laid up by them, for the Session, useless; it will, however, be fired off all the same for the leaders of the party, being comparatively inexperienced in parliamentary strategy, make up in sorties and brilliant charges on the enemy for what they lack in generalship.

KENT AND HER CHAMPION.

Mr. Johnstone of Kent is determined that his county shall not be forgotten if he can help it. He appears to have discovered, a few days ago, that the names of two gentlemen appeared in the *Royal Gazette* as having been added to he Commission of the Peace for that County. Mr. Johnstone says the names are not on the Valuators' List of Ratepayers in any of the parishes in the County and to-day he wanted the Government to tell him who they were and where they resided. The Secretary said he would make enquiries and then answer the hon. gentleman.

The Debate on the Address.

At twelve o'clock Mr. Swim rose in his place and said that at the request of the mover of the address he moved the order of the day. It is quite probable that Dr. Dow would have made a speech had he been in his place to move the address, but one was not expected from Mr. Swim, it being customary on such occasions for the mover of the Order of the Day to follow the course taken on this occasion.

MR. MARSHALL'S SPEECH.

Robt. Marshall, Esq., the new member for St. John, being the seconder of the Address, had an opportunity to make a speech, and he availed himself of it, acquitting himself very well indeed. Of course there is little to be said on such occasions, unless some great measures are foreshadowed. The Speech this year being innocent of any such characteristic Mr. Marshall's remarks were brief and well chosen. The official Report gives them correctly as follows:

In seconding the Address, Mr. Marshall said that he considered himself fortunate in having the opportunity of echoing it, feeling that it met with the endorsement of a large majority of the members of the House. He was sure it would be a matter of gratification to the House as well as a matter of equity to the people of the Province should the central Government meet the reasonable demands of this Government in regard to the special annuity of sixty three thousand dollars, as well as the other financial matters yet unadjusted between the respective Governments, in such a liberal and generous spirit as might be calculated to promote the best interests of this Province and yet not militate against the interests of the country at large. It was gratifying to him to know that the extended tour of His Honor through this his native Province had proved so agreeable to himself, and it was still more gratifying to know that the warm feeling of respect and regard felt for him personally by the people is only exceeded by their profound attachment to our country, her laws and institutions. All Legislatures must take a deep interest in the finances of the countries they govern, and it was only proper that Her Majesty's loyal Opposition in the House should exercise a stern criticism in all that relates to the financial aspect of the Province. It must, therefore, have been a pleasant surprise to them to learn that not alone the accounts for the financial year ending with October but statements of receipts and expenditures up to date are to be submitted forthwith for general information. This new departure would tend to facilitate the business of the House and must of necessity lessen sessional expenses. The inauguration of a uniform system of local government for the Counties of the Province was a measure which all must admit to be surrounded by grave difficulties, yet in view of the progress in Ontario under municipal rule, it would seem the time had come when this Province might successfully grapple with this somewhat complicated subject. Several Counties having successfully adopted this system it gave promise of advantage under more general and extended working. Our General Sessions had in time past done good work, and the gentlemen composing them should have nothing but good words spoken in reference to them in view of the valuable time they have devoted to the public interests. Nevertheless it must be expected that a system more suitable to the requirements of the day should be established by law, and such a system, he felt assured, would be found in a well conceived and comprehensive municipality act.

I do not propose to give a report of the whole debate which followed and occupied most of the remainder of the day but as the remarks of the Provincial Secretary and Mr. Burns embraced the gist of the discussion, I shall give them quite fully and condense the others.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.

Mr. Covert, who still holds the position of Leader of the Opposition, opened the case for that side in a speech that was quite cleverly conceived and well delivered. So far he appears to have added no verbal idiosyncrasies to the collection of words and phrases upon which he has been wont to draw in making points against the occupants of the Treasury benches, and, indeed, his speech, on this occasion, was marked by a tone of respectability and freedom from vindictive balderdash which was in pleasant contrast with the utterances of the gentleman who, in the last House, occupied Mr. Covert's desk and position. He treated the Address as meagre in matter and measures and indicating that the Government had no policy save that suggested by himself and other gentlemen on the floors of the House. He was of opinion that Government only meant to humbug the people with the Railway Subsidies Act, in as much as that measure was now rendered inoperative by the policy pursued. He claimed the Government had been insincere in the matter from the first.

THE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

Hon. Mr. Fraser replied to Mr. Covert, his remarks being as follows:—

The Provincial Secretary said it seemed difficult to satisfy some hon. members.—Last year the leader of the Opposition found fault with the speech on the ground that it contained too much. Now it contained too little. He believed Mr. Covert had used the word humbug unadvisedly, and he would say that the Government had not humbugged the people in any matter. The hon. gentleman should have remembered the remarks made by members of the Government when the subsidies act was discussed, the financial condition of the Province was then fairly set forth. It was stated that even if the $63,000 was not continued, the Province would be able to meet its railway obligations, if its unadjusted claims were fairly met. He (the Secretary) claimed what he then said held good now for our unadjusted claims, which amount to between six and seven hundred thousand dollars still stand for settlement. He had stated at that time that the lines completed would only be in fair progress by the time the next census was taken, which would probably give us an increase of subsidy to the extent of some $32,000. That would show that the Government did not expect to be called upon to provide for any money, more than a small part of the three hundred miles contemplated till 1881, for they did not and could not forsee that the Dominion Government would take a course that would force the matter of railway construction by loaning the companies rails. Under the unforseen impetus thus given, however, all the subsidy authorized by the act was applied for in two years, and the Government found it had to decide between the suspension of its powers in regard to the railways and running the risk of imperilling the ordinary services of the province. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition would have the Government build the railways at the expense of those services.

Mr. Covert, "I say the Government should have foreseen the difficulties the secretary now pictures. It, however, made fish of one interest and flesh of another, according to locality, and then shuts down on the subsidy grants."

The Provincial Secretary maintained that the Government had foreseen all that men in their position could reasonably be expected to foresee. They could not foresee that the Dominion Government was going to step in with its additional rail subsidy. It was only reasonable for the Government to expect that a few of the shorter lines would be undertaken before 1881, but when the others pushed forward it was prudent to let them wait till the result of our claims upon the Dominion Government was reached. The circumstances of the matter had been explained to the railway companies interested, and while the interests of his own county, as well as that of the leader of the Opposition, were involved, he thought neither should press unduly for what ought not, on general grounds, to be done just now at all events. He was especially in sympathy with the case of the Richibucto company, and only regretted that he could not assist them just now. So far as the remarks of the hon. leader of the opposition on immigration were concerned, he thought if public men were to be expected to notice and reply to charges which individuals might choose to make against them in the papers, their time would be occupied to the neglect of more important concerns. If any hon. gentleman thought there was anything in the charges referred to, he had only to move for proper enquiry into them and the Government, which challenged the closest investigation in the matter, would be willing to have the facts as they are go forth to the world. It is not usual to put the same words and expressions in the speech year after year, or His Honor the Lieut.-Governor might have particularized to a greater extent on points referred to by the hon. member for Sunbury. All the reports will, however, be brought forward as usual, and with little loss of time. These will show what has been done in the agricultural as well as other departments. He was glad to see that the hon. gentleman from Sunbury was still leader of the Opposition, although he had heard that the position had been assumed by a St. John representative. That gentleman had some Farmers' Leagues in his county, and he should not find fault with the proposed exhibition, for those bodies favored it, as he observed from a perusal of the report of their late meeting.

Mr. Covert said he did not want it to go abroad that he opposed the exhibition. What he believed was that it was but a small measure of justice to the important interest it was intended to serve.

The Secretary resumed, saying that the speech was not so barren of matter as the hon. gentleman tried to show. It contained reference to subjects of practical moment. The establishment of a municipal system was a matter that had been brought up before, it is true, but like that of Maritime Union, which Mr. Willis had advocated, it required that the people should be educated gradually up to a proper appreciation of its importance in its bearing upon their interests. Some counties have adopted it and found it to work advantageously, and others evidently desire it. The time had come, he believed, for the enactment of the measure proposed. The Government having been charged last session by the hon. gentleman with legislating too much—was now accused by him with being barren in measures, so he was hard to please, but if he would suggest subjects on which measures were required, he felt that every reasonable facility would be afforded for furthering his views as well as those of the House generally.

MR. BUTLER THROWS HIMSELF OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT SHIP.

Mr. Butler followed the Provincial Secretary, claiming that he could no longer support the Government in view of its slighting his County (Queens) in the matter of the Central Railway and neglec