

it must also be taken as the act of his Executive. A bill passed by both branches of the Legislature, was actually restrained at home by the desire of the very Government whose members had agreed to pass it. The bill now before their honours had been passed by a sweeping majority of the lower House, and its rejection in this branch at present would only be the means of shortly bringing it up in a shape which some hon. members might consider far more objectionable. Perhaps the whole question had assumed a degree of importance to which it was not entitled for its local character; but the action of the Government had given it importance in endeavouring to crush it at home; and besides all this, it could not be denied that £500 to a Judge was far better, from the conditions on which they received it, than £600 would be for either the Provincial Secretary or the Surveyor General.—(To be Continued.)

Monday, March 8.

The Council to-day went into Committee on a Bill to extend the Act on Municipal Corporations to the County of Carleton.—Hon. Mr. Saunders in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Botsford would object to this Bill. He would not sanction such alterations in an Act which passed only in the last Session, and which had not yet an opportunity for trial. He thought that one general Act was enough, without burdening the statute books with a number for each County, as in the case of the incorporations of Agricultural Societies. There never should be local legislation where a general Act would serve the same purpose. Further than this, he could not see the reason for making changes in a bill which had not yet gone into operation; and he could assure their honours that if the present bill were agreed to, there would in the course of time be a new one required for every County in the Province, and all manner of changes would be required, and that in cases where these alterations were not in the slightest degree necessary.

Hon. Mr. Connell said, he had understood the hon. member to be favourable to the suggested clauses as desired by the people of Carleton, but now that a bill is come in embodying those changes, the hon. member at once opposed it. This bill was what he had asked for at the time the original one was framed; but although he could not then obtain for Carleton all that the people desired, he was nevertheless informed that when alterations were required there would be no difficulty in obtaining them. This was such a bill as the people of Carleton required; for some of them previously had strong objections to Municipal Corporations, and had only given over their opposition in the view of obtaining those amendments, which after all were not the whole of what the country required. In this bill there were only three alterations from the old one; the first was an alteration from July to May for the ensuing meeting, and a provision that the annual meetings be afterwards held on the last Tuesday in December. The next is, the power of electing Commissioners to expend the road money, with such guards as the Government might require for its proper expenditure; and the last was, that the duties of Secretary and Treasurer now to be performed by the same person, be divided, so that even the appearance of anything improper, in connection with the two offices being held by the same individual, and the possibility of the embarrassment of the Secretary drawing checks for money on himself, should be obviated. He saw no reason why any hon. member could refuse to Carleton what was asked in this bill; for such a request, affecting no other part of the Province, could only be refused by those who were unfriendly to the principle of Municipal Institutions altogether. So far as relates to the safety of the people, this bill gave an additional guard beyond the other; for in the old one the Treasurer was not required to give bonds, whereas this made such a preliminary necessary previous to his instalment in office. Once more he would observe that the bill could not affect any other part of the Province. Those who did not like its provisions would have no occasion to accept them. Here the hon. member read the petition on behalf of the bill from the County of Carleton.

Hon. Mr. Odell would not object to the alteration of time as contemplated in the first section; but he would not make such material alterations as those which followed, to a bill which was passed only last year, and which had not yet been tried. If this were done it would encourage every County in the Province to come with a number of alterations suitable or unsuitable, as they might be, and the statute books would be burdened with Acts which must create ultimate confusion throughout the Country. With regard to the clause about the Secretary and Treasurer, it was impossible to know whether it ought to be mended till it got a trial.

Hon. Mr. Brown would not object to the question of time, nor to the division of the offices of Secretary and Treasurer, but he would not wish to make local alterations which other Counties might find no disposition to join in.—The clause however which gave the bye road grants to the disposal of elected Commissioners, did not go far enough; for it was his (hon. Mr. B's) opinion, that the whole of the road money

should be placed in the same hands; for that was one great reason why the Legislature had conceded the point of Municipal Corporations, in order that they (the Legislature) might get rid of local legislation. He would increase the power of the people, but he would also increase their responsibility, in all that belonged to themselves, and if any thing turned out wrong the fault would be their own. This principle might be applied all over the country, and in this very year; it had been last year applied by Captain Robinson in his own Parish, and had done extremely well. These were the points upon which he would agree with the bill, but on the other alterations he must oppose it.

Hon. Mr. Chandler here stated, in answer to a question from Hon. Mr. Steves, that the grant in the bill did not go direct to the Commissioners. It went first to the Corporation, and was by them transferred to the Commissioners.—[Hon. Mr. Connell—"We would have taken it so, if we could have got it?"]

Hon. Mr. Steves would support the clause if it were in the bill; for the County of Carleton being the first to adopt those Municipal usages, deserved the greatest credit, and should be treated with the greatest consideration. Carleton had adopted a great reform principle, and in so doing should receive every reasonable facility. He would not at the onset meet them by a refusal, when he was conscious they deserved every encouragement.

Hon. Mr. Chandler would much rather see the power vested in the Corporation than in a Commissioner, for the latter might refuse to act, or die, and then the place must be vacant till the next election.

Hon. Solicitor General said, it appeared to him that disuniting the offices of Secretary and Treasurer would be beneficial, as the Secretary sits in the Council and votes; and it afterwards a difference arose between the Council and the Treasurer, the Council would have nothing else than their memory to depend on, as the Secretary would not be called upon to give evidence against himself in the person of the Treasurer. If the principle of the united office were adopted all over the Province, it would require so many acts to amend the law; but as it now required only a single amendment in the case of Carleton, there was little trouble to be anticipated, as the amendment might be incorporated with the bills as they were required. The Government cared nothing for the patronage of expending the money; all they wanted was to place it in such hands that there would be a thorough responsibility in its outlay. They wanted suitable men under good bonds, and would be most happy to be done with the trouble which it involved. He would therefore try this principle for Carleton, and in doing so other Counties would have the benefit of their experience.

Hon. Mr. Odell would rather hand the money over to the Municipal Council, and let them elect the man whom they wanted. The bye road Commissioner is generally a popular man, and as his duties are not very arduous, these might be added. The experiment proposed in the bill should not, he thought, be hastily adopted.

Hon. Col. Hatch said, there were thirteen Counties in the Province, and if they all, on adopting the Municipal bill, should follow the example of Carleton, then there would be thirteen Acts on the Statute Book where one general law would be sufficient. If the amendments were proper, it was in a general law they should be adopted.

Hon. Mr. Botsford was pleased to find that the views which he entertained on this subject, were generally entertained by hon. members; and now he would ask, if the bill to which this professed to be an amendment, had not last year received all the consideration and assistance which could be bestowed upon it by both branches of the Legislature, with the example of Canada to aid their deliberations? And he would further ask, what could be the motive for the alterations sought in this bill, previous to its having a practical trial? One hon. member had stated that if the clause for paying over the money to the bye road Commissioners, were inserted in the bill, he would support it, but this, in his (Hon. Mr. B's) opinion, was the most objectionable scheme which had been named, because it would be making the County money subject to a local expenditure, a measure which if carried would be fatal to the several interests of the Province. He would have no objection to give the money raised by direct taxation to be laid out by local Commissioners; but he would never consent that funds raised from the general revenue of the country should be disposed of in the same way. The whole result of human experiment was against such a dangerous experiment. It would injure the character and standing of men whose sole power should extend no further than that of expending the money raised among themselves. Further than this he would never go, for he saw no way to make the Commissioners responsible. ["They are responsible to the people," by Hon. Mr. Connell.] He (Hon. Mr. B.) did not recognize that kind of responsibility, for he judged that where the outlay of the revenue is concerned, the Executive alone should ever be responsible. This was a point which, even in the democratic States of America, had never been

contended for; all they ever got for local control was the money which was raised by direct taxation. Otherwise it must be a scramble between different interests in the country for the largest share. The character of man must be estimated, not according to any fanciful idea of perfection, but as nature made him and as experience proves him. The object for establishing Municipal Institutions, could never have been that of securing large grants from the Province Treasury; and if any disposition of that kind were manifested, the sooner it could be met and defeated the better. It was under these considerations—the former long and careful consideration given to the old enactment—the absence of all reason for amending it previous to its trial—and the consciousness that some of the clauses were not calculated to amend the present law, but on the contrary to injure it, that he must vote against the present bill in every particular, except so far as related to the time of holding the general meeting.

Hon. Mr. Brown had given much attention to the present subject, and his hon. friend having done the same, it was somewhat strange that they had arrived at different conclusions. If the principle for expending money raised by direct taxation were extended to any men or body of men, he could see no reason why money raised in a different way, but still off the people, might not with equal propriety be placed in the same hands. There was no reason to suppose that one sum would be properly expended, while the other must be thrown away. One great Municipal Corporation was to relieve the Legislature from the task now imposed upon it, of portioning out small sums of money to the different locations for the roads, and in the event of the old usage being still retained, that most desirable intention would be defeated.—There was no other view of the question than that it was money owned by the country, and designed for the use of the roads; and there could be neither impropriety nor danger in handing it over in one lump to the individual elected by the people for its expenditure. Why would they not be as likely to place it in proper hands, as if it were directly expended by the men chosen by the Government? Besides this, he would place the party having charge of the money under bonds, just in the same manner as the money is granted at present. The connection between the supervisors and workmen on the roads was always most narrowly watched; for those who were overbid at the sales were always watchful enough to detect any wrong doing which might occur, besides their being personally interested in the progress of the roads. The great balance or majority of every community were always interested enough to watch the few who got the contracts. He must therefore again express his wonder that there should be any occasion for placing two sums of money which lay side by side, and intended for the same object, under different systems of management in their expenditure.

Hon. Mr. Wark thought that a general, not a local law, would be the best; and with respect to time, he would prefer seeing a day fixed by the Government, by proclamation, for each County, as they all might not wish to hold the meeting on the same day. The Government would of course fix the day to suit the interests of the respective Counties. With respect to the appointment of two officers as Secretary and Treasurer instead of one, he thought that the offices being vested in the same person would, from its economy, be more popular; and that detail should be left with the Council. With regard to the election of Commissioners, no doubt many persons would seek for those situations; and there was little doubt that the most popular applicant would be the man who was the easiest and slackest in superintending the statute labour.

An Act to amend the Act for the Establishment of Municipal Authorities so far as regards the County of Carleton:

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly, as follows:

1. That the first election for Councillors under the Act made and passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the establishment of Municipal Authorities in this Province," shall take place on the first Tuesday in this present year, and the Annual Election for the same purpose shall be on the last Tuesday in December in every year, the first of which shall be on the last Tuesday in December of this present year, which Election shall be in lieu of the several times specified in the said recited Act for holding the same.

2. The provisions of this Act shall only extend to the County of Carleton.

THE TELEGRAPH HOAX.—The *N. Y. Courier* states that Mr. D. H. Craig is the author of the false despatch containing a report of Louis Napoleon's death; and avows the object to be to hoax and punish somebody who steals the news at Boston. This may all be very well so far as the thief is concerned; but it cannot repay the losses of those who acted on the news of the markets in the same despatch, and it ought not to increase the public confidence in Mr. Craig's despatches.—*Boston Journal*.

## ENGLISH NEWS.

### Arrival of the Pacific!

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

(By Telegraph via Quebec.)

The steamer *Pacific* arrived at New York on Sunday at 2 o'clock, P. M.—Breadstuffs were slow of sale. Wheat 2d lower, and flour 6d. to 1s. lower. The Manchester market continued firm with a moderate business going forward—stock light. Money market steady. Consols closed on the 9th, at 97 1-2.

The Elections in England were progressing in favour of the new Government. Since the sailing of the Niagara, Mr. Harris, for Stanford, and Mr. Whiteside, for Enniskillen, have been returned.

A serious mutiny took place on board of the packet-ship *Queen of the West*, immediately after hauling out of dock at Liverpool, on the 6th. The captain, Hallett, was badly beaten, but assisted by his three mates, armed with cutlasses, he quelled the mutiny, and had the crew brought before a magistrate at Birkenhead, where they were convicted and punished by fine and imprisonment. The affair caused great excitement. The vessel sailed for New York on the 9th.

FRANCE.—Reports state that the President contemplates abolishing or seriously modifying the conscription of the army. The treaty between the Government and the Bank is very satisfactory to commercial men. It is stated that the question between the two branches of the Bourbons is once more on the tapis, with the certainty of a satisfactory termination. The *Presse* states that the Swiss staff officers now in Paris have been ordered to return forthwith to Switzerland.

SWITZERLAND.—The difficulties between the French Government and the Swiss Confederation have been arranged for the present.

SPAIN.—Much regret is expressed at the contemplated resignation of Lord Howden.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Late accounts from the seat of war were more satisfactory, as the contest was soon expected to turn in favour of the British troops. It is generally rumoured that Sandilli is about to retire from the position he has hitherto held.

### STILL LATER!

BOSTON, Thursday, March 25, 4 P. M.—The *Eureka* arrived at New York at 12 o'clock to-day. Cotton had declined 1-8d. same as stated per *Pacific*. Flour 6d. to 1s. lower. Corn was dull.

The war at the Cape of Good Hope is ended!—The Kaffirs having surrendered unconditionally.

Lord Derby was expected to lay his policy before the Lords on the 15th.

A large and formidable meeting of Lord Derby's opponents was held at the residence of Lord John Russell on the 12th inst.

The French news is unimportant. All natives of Poland residing in Greece had been ordered to quit the country.

DEATH OF SIR JOHN HARVEY.—A telegraph despatch to the News Room yesterday, announces the death of His Excellency Lieut. General Sir John Harvey, K. C. B. K. C. H., Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia. This melancholy event took place at half past 11 o'clock. The gallant veteran entered the army in 1794, and served with distinction for a long period. He will be generally remembered in these colonies, having at different periods been Governor of Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and lastly of Nova Scotia, which latter appointment he held until his death. During the American war of 1812, Sir John served with distinction on the frontiers of Canada and New Brunswick, and at the battle of Stony Creek, where he commanded the British army, his prowess, gallant bearing, and generous feelings, won the admiration of Gen. Scott, who then commanded the American army, and ever after they retained the warmest feelings of respect towards each other.

We learn that Sir John was in his 75th year. The death of his estimable lady last summer wore upon his feelings, and the change produced in his deportment was at once marked and striking. His loss will be deeply regretted by all who were acquainted with the gallant chief. His demise places at the disposal of the Commander-in-chief, the Colonelcy of the 59th foot.—*New Bruns.*

REMARKABLE CASE.—The *Charleston Aurora* states that William W. Sandford of that city, who has been sick for two years, and was supposed to be in a decline, took some Indian medicine which caused him to cough and retch violently, when he threw from his stomach a LIVING SNAKE, about eight inches in length! almost perfectly white, with sharp black eyes.—The story is a little damaged by a misfortune which befel his snakeship, who, it is alleged, crawled immediately into the fire, and was nearly burnt up. Mr. Sandford drank water from a brook in Maine, some two years since.