

BYE-ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

We give below the extracts of an Act passed at the last Session, respecting the roads, &c. In our paper of the 17th ult., will be found a Government Notice on the same subject.

Extracts from the Act 14 Victoria, Chap. 14.

II. And be it enacted, That the several sums of money granted for the Bye Roads in the several Counties of this Province in and by an Act made and passed in the thirteenth year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to provide for opening and repairing Roads and erecting Bridges in the Province*, and not drawn from the Treasury and expended, as provided in and by the said Act, (save and except such parts thereof as are hereinbefore re-appropriated,) be and the same are hereby re-appropriated for the improvement of the said Bye Roads, and shall and may be applied and expended as directed in and by the said Act, on or before the first day of October next.

III. And be it enacted, That the said several and respective sums of money and every part thereof, shall be expended under the direction of such Supervisors and Commissioners as His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, may be pleased to appoint, and shall be paid to the several and respective persons who shall actually work and labour in making, completing and repairing the several Roads and Bridges, or in furnishing materials therefor, at the most reasonable rates that such labour and materials can be provided; and every Commissioner so to be appointed shall as early in the season as may be, carefully examine the parts of the Road where any sums of money are to be expended, and shall lay out and mark off such allotment or allotments as may conveniently be contracted for, in order that the making or repairing of the same may be let by auction to the lowest bidder; and in all such cases, such Commissioners respectively are hereby required to put a sufficient number of notices, not less than ten days previous to such sale, in three or more of the public places in the neighbourhood where the work is to be done; which notice shall specify and describe the work to be performed, and also the place, day and hour when and where the same will be let by auction as aforesaid; and it shall further be the duty of such Commissioners respectively, to attend personally at the time and place so appointed, and there to let out to the lowest bidder such allotment or allotments, and at the same time to enter into written contracts for the faithful performance of the work, in time and manner set forth in such contracts; and in cases where the work required to be performed cannot be conveniently let at auction, it shall be the duty of such Commissioners to agree with fit and proper persons to perform the same by days labour; provided that in no case shall more than one quarter part of any Grant be so expended; and the said Commissioners shall severally keep an exact account of such moneys, and shall produce receipts in writing of the several and respective persons to whom any part of the said money shall be paid, as vouchers of such payments, and render an account thereof in duplicate, upon oath, (which oath any one of the Justices of the Peace in the several Counties is hereby authorized to administer,) one copy of which, with vouchers, to be transmitted to the Secretary's Office on or before the first day of December next, to be laid before the General Assembly at the next Session, and the other copy to be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Peace in the respective Counties, for public information.

IV. And be it enacted, That the before mentioned sums of money shall be paid by the Treasurer out of the moneys in the Treasury, or as payments may be made at the same, by Warrant of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council.

V. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners intrusted with the expenditure of the said several and respective sums of money, shall for their time and trouble be allowed to retain at and after the rate of five per centum out of the said money so intrusted to them respectively, together with a reasonable compensation for actual labour and work performed by them on the said several Roads and Bridges.

VI. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners shall expend the said several and respective sums of money on the Roads on or before the first day of October; provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent any Commissioner from expending moneys after the first day of October, when it shall be necessary to expend the same for building Bridges, removing rocks, stumps, trees, or other obstructions.

VII. And be it enacted, That none of the before mentioned sums of money, or any part thereof, shall be laid out or expended in the making or improving any alterations that may be made in any of the said Roads, unless such alterations shall have been first laid out and recorded.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all persons who may be appointed Commissioners for the expenditure of money hereinbefore granted, and before entering upon the duties of his office, shall respectively enter into a Bond to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, to the satisfaction of the Executive Government, for the due performing his duty as such Commissioner, and the faithful expenditure of and due accounting for such moneys as shall come into his hands as such Commissioner.

COOLING DOWN.—Thomas Winslow and Ezekiel Hubbard of this town, who have just returned from the "North ern Mines," requests us to state distinctly, that in their opinion, a man who can earn twelve and a half cents a day at home, had better stay there, rather than go to Canada, expecting to realize that amount by digging gold. They say there is undoubtedly gold there; but not enough to warrant a rush. They both came home without bringing the first specimen, though they say they dug and prospected for three days. A scarcity of specimens seems to be quite general among those who have returned.—*Hallowell Gaz*

ENGLISH NEWS.

[From Wilmer and Smith's European Times, June 7.]

ST. ANDREWS AND QUEBEC RAILROAD.

On the 31st ultimo the first annual meeting of this company took place in London, Mr. Featherstone in the chair. The Secretary read a report, of which we give the following abstract:—"The Directors were happy to state that considerable progress had been made in the affairs of the company during the year. The act of incorporation obtained, with the approval of the Company in New Brunswick, from the Government was very advantageous to the class A shareholders. They were by it absolved from any liability beyond the amount of their shares. The whole expense of the act, which did not exceed £500, had been paid by the company in New Brunswick. A deed of grant had been obtained, which had secured a moiety of the Crown Lands comprehended in the grant of the Colonial Government; also a moiety of any future grant by them, with a stipulation that the Directors should have the option of selecting such moiety as they might deem most desirable for the class A shareholders. A deed of arrangement had, moreover, been entered into by the Directors and the Local Board, by which all lands, goods, income, &c., of the company should first be applied in payment of a dividend of 6 per cent, to the class A shareholders in the subscribed capital until the opening of the road to Woodstock, and afterwards of a perpetual fixed dividend of 7 per cent, and of an equal division of the further profits that might accrue after class B shareholders should also have received a similar dividend of 7 per cent. The Colonial Government had recently subscribed for 2500 class B shares, amounting to £50,000. A bill had been introduced into the House of Assembly in New Brunswick for doubling the grant of land on each side of the railway. That portion of the 10,000 acres of land received as a bonus which Mr. Archibald Sharpe had returned to the company was being sold at £1 per acre, and it was hoped that a valuable colony would soon spring up there. The construction of the line, as far as circumstances would admit, had been proceeded with satisfactorily. About 10 miles of railway had been completed—the most expensive part of the works on the line. To expedite the works it would probably be found necessary to make one or two calls during the summer. The statement of accounts showed that the receipts from the commencement of the line to the 31st March, 1851, amounted to £23,752 19s. 9d. and the expenditure to £22,746 15s. 6d., leaving a balance of £1006 4s. 3d. The report was unanimously adopted, and the directors and auditors were re-elected. The meeting was then made special, for the purpose of adopting a resolution empowering the directors to take all necessary steps to obtain, in the present session of Parliament, authority to enable them to divide the shares of the company into two classes, one to represent the land value, and the other the money value of such shares. A resolution to this effect having been unanimously agreed to, the business terminated.

GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.

On Saturday the charge for admission to the building was 5s. Owing to the attractions of the drawing room, of a review at Woolwich, and of the other festivities connected with the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, there was a smaller attendance of visitors than usual, the number being only between 15,000 and 19,000, and the receipts being £1771 12s. 6d. A considerable sensation was created in the building by the appearance among the visitors of a Spanish family, dressed in their picturesque national costume. They were accompanied round the interior by Lord Ranelagh, and were stared at and crowded round with a perseverance and impudence which said very little for the good breeding of the assemblage.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert with the Princess Louisa arrived at the building about half past nine, walked to the English nave, and, having ascended the Canada staircase, proceeded to the sections of food, vegetable and animal raw produce, and arms and accoutrements, at the back of the south gallery. This being the first occasion on which the Queen and the Prince visited the Exhibition for the purpose expressly of meeting the exhibitors, the latter also were present; and the royal visitors devoted a considerable time—about an hour—to the inspection of the three sections which they had come to examine. Having concluded these sections they proceeded along the lower gallery to the east, crossed over to the north gallery, and walked along the back of it, and round the transept gallery, into the north foreign gallery, from which Her Majesty descended to the door in "Holland," her usual place of exit. Among the objects which in the south gallery attracted the notice of the royal party was the stand of the Chevalier Claussen—at which are shown specimens illustrative of the various uses to which flax, when treated by his newly patented process, may be applied. Prince Albert, who has for several years devoted his attention to the cultivation and preparation of flax, evinced the deepest interest in the matter, and, having expressed a desire to witness the process by which the fibre could be turned into a cotton like substance, his wish was at once complied with by M. Claussen. Some coarse and dark-coloured flax-tows was accordingly placed in a glass tube, in which was a weak solution of carbonate of soda; and having remained there for a few seconds, it was placed in another vessel containing a solution of chloride of barytes, when it immediately began to expand and swell in all directions like a sponge—in consequence of the mechanical action of the gases produced by the combination of the chemical substances employed. The flax was thus converted into a cotton-like substance. Her Majesty and the Prince having expressed their admiration of the simplicity of

the whole process, proceeded to inspect the various articles displayed by the Chevalier Claussen, which had been manufactured from the fibre so treated—including yarns formed entirely of the flax, or mixed with cotton spun on cotton machinery, dyed various colours; calico formed from the yarns; flannel, and cloth made of a mixture of flax and wool, the former, when prepared under this process, being capable of being milled. The royal visitors remained for some time examining these various specimens. After having left the stand, and proceeded a short distance, one of the party in attendance returned with a request to be supplied with a few small samples of the flax cotton in each of its stages—a request which, we need hardly say, was most readily and cheerfully complied with by the distinguished inventor.

The total number of visitors who entered the building on Monday was 47,800. The entire amount of money received at the doors was £2129 1s.; the amount realised by the sale of season tickets was £13 12s.; making the total £2142 14s.

The attendance of the public at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday was again immense. The number of those who paid the shilling admission fee was 48,302, and besides there were present the season ticket holders and exhibitors and attendants. Simultaneously with the operation of the reduced rate of admission, the executive committee have issued a popular guide to the exhibition, price twopence. In this guide (a small quarto of thirty-two pages) is included a plan of the building, with a general account of the arrangement of the objects exhibited; directions for inspecting them with most advantage, and much local information, important on visiting a structure so extensive as the Crystal Palace.

On Wednesday, the receipts at the Crystal Palace amounted to £2500 16s., and £18 18s. was taken by the sale of season tickets, which still continues. By the police returns 55,254 people visited the building during the day, a considerable portion of whom were evidently from the country.

It was naturally expected that the unfavourable state of the weather on Thursday would tell seriously on the number of visitors at the Crystal Palace, but it would seem that the class of people who now flock there are less sensitive to the changes of the barometer than their superiors. To a certain extent they have succumbed to the skyey influences, and the receipts at the doors do not show the same progressive increase as on former days, but the amount taken does not fall short of that on Wednesday, and is reported to have been £2,566 17s. From the sale of season tickets £18 18s. was received, and the police returns state that 55,059 persons entered the building. The only new feature of the Exhibition was the display in the Belgian department, of a very rare and precious collection of jewels, by Mr. Hope, including an immense pearl, shaped like a man's hand, and said to be the largest in the world.

There has been recently a riot at Farnworth, caused by an attempt of Mr. G. Young, a noted Protectionist, to bring back the late Sir Robert Peel's tenantry from the Free Trade principles in which, during the last years of his life, they were educated by him. Free Trade triumphed, but disgraced its victory by violence and personal aspersions.

The Cotton market is looking up.

FRANCE.—From his late conduct the President has shown that France would be ruled again by a tyrannical Bonaparte if Louis Napoleon had the intellect or judgement of the mighty Butcher who was check mated at Waterloo.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—The *Calcutta Englishman* copies the following from a Sydney paper of February 8th:—"The Brothers has made a very quick run from Honolulu of 29 days, one of the quickest passages on record.—Captain Stavert states, that the day prior to his departure, the British consul had received intelligence of two vessels wrecked in St. George's Sound, supposed to be Sir John Franklin's, and that two of Her Majesty's brigs were despatched to ascertain the truth of the assertion."

SEVEN DAYS LATER.

The steamship *Europa* arrived at Halifax on Tuesday morning, about 9 o'clock, with 92 passengers, 25 of whom landed at Halifax. She left Liverpool on the 14th ult., and experienced strong head winds.

The Cotton market had slightly advanced; sales of the week 46,810 bales. The market for Breadstuffs was more active. Flour had advanced 1s per barrel, and Indian Corn 6d. per quarter.

Trade in the manufacturing districts continued to improve.

Freights were dull and vessels plenty.

TIMBER MARKET.—The demand for logs continues limited, dealers acting with caution, and only purchasing for present wants. A large stock of Quebec and St. John Yellow Pine on hand, which merchants will be anxious to work off, so that the prospects for importations this year do not at present look very satisfactory. The low price of Baltic wood will contribute to some extent in damaging the market for Colonial. Spruce Deals are in request, and sell readily, to arrive, at the current rates.

PARLIAMENTARY.—The Army and Navy estimates have been voted by Parliament, including £300,000 for the expenses of the Kaffir war. The latter vote was opposed by Mr. Hume and others, on the ground that the Colonies should furnish the money for their own protection. Mr. Anstey's motion respecting the State prisoners at Van Dieman's Land had been withdrawn. A new measure for Chancery Reform had been introduced. Doubts appear to be entertained whether Government will proceed with the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill.

A new league is being formed for a reform in the monetary and currency laws, based upon the free banking system of New York. It has met with great favour in London and Liverpool.