

The Carleton Sentinel

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1854.

merely paying attention to the phraseology, and correcting any mistakes they might contain; for if they discussed the merits of every law as they passed along, and every member proposed an amendment to a section he did not like, they would never get through. If, while passing through the book, any Hon. Member saw a principle embodied which he considered wrong, the proper course for him to adopt would be to seek to amend it by bringing in a bill for that purpose, and that bill would go through the regular routine. Hon. Members would know when it was coming up for discussion, and not be taken by surprise as they were to-day on entering the House and finding a discussion going on in reference to a most important amendment, which amendment was moved when nearly all the Members were absent, not expecting anything of the kind.

Mr. Porter had hoped that he would never hear another word about this foolish question of Municipal Corporations. The people did not want it. Some restless spirits might, but the great mass of the agriculturists did not, and they were so indifferent about political movements, generally, that they would not attend public meetings. Whenever a county decided in favor of a Municipal Corporation, under the present law, it was not settlers, but the idle set that hung about the shire towns who carried the vote. They might alter the law, and establish simultaneous polling in the different parishes, but the same objection would remain in force—one half of the rate-payers would not attend, although they might not have more than five or six miles to travel. He did not want to see the community disturbed by frequent elections, where it was all holla and hurrah.

Mr. Smith considered it a waste of time to discuss the subject at present; he had been absent, not thinking anything important would be brought forward to-day while in committee on the codified laws, and was quite surprised when he came in and found this discussion going on. In reference to the changes proposed, he had no objections to the principle of simultaneous polling in the different parishes,—that would be an improvement, as it would save the people the inconvenience of travelling to the Shire Town; but he would not support the principle of allowing the majority to decide a question of so much importance, and he should therefore support the old law in reference to this point.

His Honor the Speaker protested against the whole proceeding; the debate had taken Hon. Members by surprise; he was in the House not long ago, and finding but very few Hon. Members present, and that the report of the Law Commission was in the hands of the Hon. Attorney General, and the Hon. Member who was Secretary to the Law Commission, he did not dream that any motion of importance would be made, and had gone out for a mouthful of fresh air; but he was surprised on his return to find the committee discussing the subject.—This was not the time to discuss it, and he agreed with the remarks made by the Hon. Secretary on that point. Since he was on his feet, however, he would say that the inhabitants of the county he had the honor to represent did not want Municipal Corporations, and he believed they never would. What had occurred in 1842, he would ask? The Government of Sir William Colebrooke had been shattered to pieces by attempting to enforce Municipal Corporations on the Counties; it created a tremendous excitement over all the Province, and it was at once discovered that the people did not want the measure, and could not be coerced into it. He had no fault to find with the law as it stood,—he was willing to incorporate every County that wished for it, as they had a right to exercise their own opinion in the matter. But he claimed for the people of his County the same freedom of choice, and he contended that they were quite as capable of judging what was best for themselves as were the inhabitants of any other County. His liberality was real, and embraced a wide range; he was willing that every County should choose whatever form of local government fitted them best.

Mr. Boyd said he highly approved of the amended chapter; the principle having simultaneous polling in the several parishes was a good one, and the majority should rule. Under the present system, when a two-thirds vote was necessary, the old fogies that infest every County could, by the exercise of their influence, and by misrepresentations, obstruct the vote; but, notwithstanding what had been said by his Hon. colleague, he felt quite sure that a majority of the rate-payers in Charlotte wished the County to be incorporated. At all events, his Hon. Colleague did not speak the sentiment of the people of St. Andrews, and if the next general elections were to be decided by this measure—he meant whether the candidates were for or against—that Hon. Gentleman would get but very few votes in St. Andrews.

The Loyal Protestant writer in this place, who figures so largely in the St. John Freeman, must feel particularly gratified, and highly honored, to find his lucubrations in the same paper, and immediately following, the treasonable and traitorous remarks of another correspondent to that Journal. We would like to ask the writer if he would dare hold forth such language, as is here expressed, to the people of Carleton, or even to his Protestant friends? Yet by supporting and encouraging the Freeman, he sanctions the rebellious writings of the Editor and his numerous correspondents.

How much of a Protestant—how much of a British subject can that man be who exultingly exclaims,—“England’s difficulty, is Ireland’s opportunity.” The “Carleton” correspondent to the Freeman does not exactly use the words himself, but he writes for, and assists to support, the paper which does. He claims to be a Protestant, and wishes to be thought loyal, but disappointed ambition, and the loss of a few shillings, (not his own,) has brought him to associate with characters who could pen, and Editors who could publish such language as we too frequently find in the Freeman.

If we could spare the room we would give the communication of “Carleton” to our readers, many of them would instantly recognise the author, and would despise him as he deserves. The following is the communication referred to as being in the same paper, and in the same column with “Carleton,” a man who denies both his religion and his country.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMAN.

“The War-god stamps his foot, and England feels the shock, Red battle waves her sword and Exiles see the flash.” SIR.—Permit me, through the columns of your widely circulated and highly influential journal, to congratulate my exiled country-men on the first fruit of the “War.” I mean the release of WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN Esq. God be praised! Amen. Let us “bide our time,” and let us remember that “England’s difficulty is Ireland’s opportunity.”

“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN,”

and no money returned!

I remain yours,

AN IRISH “SAVAGE.”

P.S.—Is the “release of Mr. S. O'Brien,” intended as the “Bounty” for those young Irish “savages” who may be offered “the Saxon shilling?” If they accept it as such, they are certainly not fit for domestic legislation.

[Yet it seems your brother “savages” accept it in some numbers. It is not certain that S O'Brien will be allowed to return to Ireland.—ED.]

We return our thanks to the Editor of the Advocate, for his kind wishes, and flattering notice of our paper, and feel happy in having it in our power to return the compliment, by saying that, his paper has lately been much improved both in size and appearance, and we reiterate the wish expressed by us on its first appearance that “it may go on and prosper.”

We have received a copy of the Reports of the Board of Commissioners, and of the Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum of New Brunswick, for the year 1853.

The Commissioners express great confidence in Dr. Waddell, the Medical Superintendent of the Asylum, and acknowledge the services rendered by the Rev. Wm. Scovil, A. M., Chaplain to the Institution.

The number of patients remaining on the 31st Dec. 1852, was - - - - - 132 Received during the year ending Dec. 1853, 92

Discharged, 75; died, 22. - - - - - 97

Remaining in the Asylum on Dec. 1853. 127 The buildings are insured to the amount of £8,000.

The sum required for the current year’s expenses is estimated at £3,500.

Number of patients from from each County in the Province for the year.—Victoria, 1. Albert, 1. Restigouche, 1. Carleton, 7. Gloucester, 3. Kent, 1. Northumberland, 14. Sunbury, 3. Queen’s 1. Kings, 12. Charlotte, 23. Westmorland, 9. St. John, 112. York, 27.

We are not prepared to give our opinion, this week, on the late appointment in this County. Contradictory statements are afloat, and we prefer being sure to sorry. In our next we will be enabled to lay the whole matter before our readers, and we ask them to suspend their judgment until then.

“An Appeal to the Public, from well Authenticated results of the Maine Law,” is the title of a pamphlet received by mail.

The Authors undertake to prove from facts and figures, that drunkenness, pauperism and crime, in those States which have adopted the law, have materially decreased. They also go into the political economy of the law, its effects on public peace, order, morals, and religion. The leading objections to the Maine Law are taken up and handled with ingenuity and talent. The appeal is interesting throughout, and will probably in a short time be within the reach of all who wish to read it.

The Communication of “A Querist” will be inserted if the writer will allow it to go over his own name. Such charges should not be made over a fictitious signature. If they are true, he has nothing to fear from giving his real name, if they are false, they should not, of course, appear.

A most singular report from Canada will be found among our Telegrams. Our readers will believe as much of it as they please.

The Anglo American for March is received. It contains a view of the City of Fredericton, and a slight notice of the leading men about town and in the Legislature. We will give this notice in our next.

Report of the Hon. Surveyor General.

Crown Land Office, Fredericton, February, 1854.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

I have the honor of submitting to your Excellency detailed Accounts of the transactions connected with the Crown Land Department for the year ending on the 31st December, 1853.

These Accounts consist of the following classes:

- 1st. Receipts for Timber and Lumber.
2nd. Receipts for Land sold.
3rd. Receipts for Contingencies.
4th. A return of the amount of Labour performed upon Roads and Bridges, in payment for Land, under the provisions of the Act 12 Victoria, cap. 4, generally known as the Labour Act, and that of Act 12 Victoria, cap 19, known as the Commutation Act.

These several returns are so prepared, as to exhibit a full and comprehensive statement of all the detailed information relating to each class, yet as that information is necessarily spread over a large surface, I herewith submit a condensed report of the Returns of each class, together with such explanatory remarks as may bear upon them.

FIRST.

“Timber and Lumber.”

Table with 2 columns: Licences prepared during the year, (from 1st May,) and No. Licences. Rows include Square miles under Licence, Square miles sold at and over 50s. per mile, Square miles sold below 50s. per mile, Amount received for Licences since 1st May, and Average rate per square mile.

These numbers comprise only the Licences issued &c. for the year commencing 1st May 1853 and ending 1st May 1854, but the inclusion of all Licences issued within the entire year 1853, would not materially alter the sum total. Total amount received for Timber and Lumber from all sources in the year 1853, £8,668 0 10.

No Material change had been made, since the passing of the Export Duty Law, until last year, in the Regulations establishing the rate of mileage notwithstanding that the Trade of the Province had in that time greatly changed its character: and finding that the staple commodity of New Brunswick was in great demand, and realizing high prices, the Government deemed it their duty to secure to the public some participation in the increasing profits of the Lumber Trade. The upset rate of mileage was therefore advanced from ten shillings to twenty shillings per square mile, thus realizing for the Province a considerable increase on the sale of Timber Berths, without causing any additional expenditure.

Great complaints having been made by those engaged in the Lumber Trade, that the practice of annually putting up all the Timber Berths to public competition, bore injuriously as well upon the Trade as upon the Revenue: the expense incurred in building camps, erecting dams, cutting roads, and other matters incident to the business, being so great, that they would prefer paying an increased rate of mileage, if they could thereby secure the right of renewal for a longer period than one year.

The Government in order to meet in some degree the views of the Lumbering interest, determined to offer the Timber Berths at Auction, at the upset price of twenty shillings per square mile, giving to the purchaser who bid it up to 50s. or more per mile, the right of renewal for three

years at the rate at which it was bid off. 97 persons, holding 962½ square miles, are accordingly entitled to the privilege of renewal under this regulation.

The introduction of this rule, and the increase of the general upset rate of mileage, will explain to some extent why the Revenue from Timber and Lumber has been so much greater than in former years.

In connection with this subject, I beg to state to Your Excellency that a simple, and inexpensive but I believe efficient rule, has been adopted for the discovery and prevention of trespasses upon the Timber Lands of the Crown.

Instead of the former system of employing Inspecting or Seizing Officers at a certain rate per diem for their services, the compensation for time and service in examining, seizing, and reporting all Timber, &c. cut without Licence, as well as for collecting the money, and paying it over to the Receiver General, is one fourth of the sum recovered by the Seizing Officer.

The general effects of this supervision has already been felt, and it will no doubt preserve to the Government, or to the bona fide Licences, a large quantity of Timber that otherwise would have been unlawfully taken away.

Although the Receipts for Timber and Lumber are so large, yet they would unquestionably have been greater, were it not for the operation of a practice which prevails to a considerable extent among applicants for Licence, namely, when two or more persons desire to compete for a Timber Berth, they mutually agree to bid it off in the name of a person having no interest in the transaction: and after the sale they retire and compete for it amongst themselves, the proceeds of the private sale being divided amongst the competitors.

How far this practice, or system (for it is now so prevalent as almost to deserve that title) may be deemed a fraud upon the public, I know not, nor am I able to propose to Your Excellency any measure by which it can be entirely abolished, but if the Trespass Law could be so amended as to withhold the legal remedy from any other than a bona fide Licence, having a direct and beneficial interest in the Licence; and if any Licence obtained in the above manner should be declared to be fraudulent and collusive, and be made voidable by the Governor and Council, on proof of its character, I think the practice would at least be sensibly diminished.

To be concluded.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel.

SIR:—I have seen a communication in the St. John Freeman signed “Carleton”, wherein the writer seems to approve of the alteration contemplated by the Assembly in taking evidence before our Courts, and flatters himself that if the practice obtains, the gentlemen who now represent this County would expose the motives that have actuated them, in seeking Legislative honors.

It does not require a vast deal of penetration to discover the author of that communication. He evidently belongs to the party recognised here as “obstructives”, men who endeavor to throw every obstacle in the way of the improvement in the system of managing our local affairs that the people are endeavoring to introduce.

He also appears to have lost sight of the effect upon himself, should the system be so much approved, be personally applied. If it were so, we might possibly hear what was the motive that induced a Trustee of schools for Woodstock Parish in the past year, to withhold and retain monies, that had been legally assessed, collected, and paid over to him, when the same was properly demanded for the teacher employed, in the full belief that the money so collected was to form a part of the salary. We might also be told under that system of procuring evidence, whether the money had been disbursed by him for other than the legitimate purpose, as one of the gentlemen demanding it, told him to his face; and more than all, we might be told what was the motive that influenced the Government to appoint an Inspector of schools for this County, without consultation with either of our Members and consequently without their knowledge or consent.

Yours &c., A LOWER WOODSTOCKER.

March 15th 1854.

A BRIGHT BOY.—“Father,” said little, Teddy, “how can the sea run when it’s all tied,” (tide).—“It don’t run, my child,” replied the father, “it sets still. How can it set when its got no bottom?” Teddy was led out of the room by the hair of the head.