

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Fredericton, February 16th.

There was some talk about a copying press which from the statements of hon. members was bought for the use of, and paid for by, the Legislature, and which had disappeared; the fact came out that Mr. Tibbitts, at the last session of the Legislature of which he was a member, took a press from the House which he claimed as belonging to himself, and this was all the result of the talk.

A Bill was introduced by Mr. Grimmer to amend act imposing tax on unimproved granted lands.

The object of this amendment is to make lands of residents, when such exceed 300 acres, subject to tax as to non-resident lands.

Mr. Costigan moved for a committee to make arrangements for publishing debates of the House in English and French languages. Mr. Costigan had voted against the resolution of an earlier day because it did not embrace the provision for French debates, and brought forward this resolution, now, in order to give hon. members an opportunity to say on the two propositions in order of debate.

The motion was lost, as also one by Mr. Young to have a portion of the journals printed in French.

Mr. Williston gave notice of motion providing that the 47th rule shall not apply to bills, amending bills of a private nature, on which the fee has once been paid.

ORDER OF THE DAY ADDRESS.

The address was passed without any amendments being offered, or much discussion elicited. On the paragraph relating to railroads coming up—

Mr. SMITH said, I do not rise for the purpose of embarrassing the passage of the address, but I desire to state that in allowing the address to pass without objection, it must not be supposed that I am going to say anything which is contrary to the policy of the Government, or that I am going to say anything which is contrary to the policy of the Government, or that I am going to say anything which is contrary to the policy of the Government.

Mr. ANGLIN there is certainly nothing objectionable in the speech because there is nothing at all in it.

On the 7th paragraph being read—

Mr. McPHELIN said, I cannot see the necessity of introducing this question of Post Office Money Order in the speech or the address, because the Post Office Money Order is a full power to introduce that system with the concurrence of the Executive, which certainly has never shown any disposition to interfere with the head of a Department in carrying into effect any salutary measure.

POST MASTER GENERAL, I have no such power; no more power in the premises than any hon. member of this House.

Mr. SMITH, The Post Master-General has no such power without Legislative action first had.

ATTORNEY GENERAL, It is clear that the existing law gives the P. M. no power to make such radical and fundamental change in the operations of his department, nor was it so intended when the law was passed. If he had the power there could be no impropriety in introducing it in the speech.

Mr. STYLES, The P. M. G. has just as much power to do this as to impose a fine of seven cents on letters.

On motion of Dr. Vail a committee, comprising Messrs. Vail, Smith and Anglin, was appointed to prepare the present mode of admitting students, Attorneys and Barristers at law.

Mr. MYNO introduced a bill to facilitate the cutting and carrying away of Lumber from Crown lands. This bill is very similar in its general provisions to the bill introduced by the same gentleman last winter. Its provisions are—and our readers will readily understand the points of difference—that of last year's bill is that the License shall issue between May and July without competition, if desired at double upset price; the general annual sale to be the same as now, afterward Licensees at double upset price, without competition when desired. Parties improving the navigation of streams to have Licensees continued one to three years, in proportion to expenditure.

A Bill relating to Streets and Bridges in the Town of St. Andrews was agreed to by the House in Committee of the whole.

Mr. LINDSEY introduced a Bill to amend act relating to the Alms House, Woodstock—the object of this bill is to provide for the publishing of the accounts annually, and for providing against Magistrates neglecting or refusing to make return of poor money collected by them, as in case of mismanagement.

Mr. YOUNG introduced a Bill to divide the Parish of Shippegan, and to establish a new Parish therein.

On motion of Mr. SKINNER a committee was appointed to take into consideration the present scale of mileage to members, with a view to its equitable adjustment.

Committees on Fisheries and Mining interests appointed.

Dr. Dow introduced a Bill having for its object, to extend the limits of the Gaols in the Province to the extent of the several Counties—a step in the right direction.

The committee appointed to wait on his Excellency, to ascertain when he would be prepared to receive the House with the Address Reported, that his Excellency would receive them at one o'clock on Thursday.

Mr. SMITH, It does appear to me extraordinary that his Excellency has delayed receiving our address until Thursday. There may be good reasons for the tardiness although, judging from rumors abroad, they are very trivial, especially in view of the great delay in public business produced.

Box, PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, There is nothing in the present state of affairs to prevent the House proceeding with the public business; there are bills before the House, and they may be discussed and disposed of. The fact is Government House is not in a condition for the reception of this House to-day, and that of last year's session, that his Excellency would receive them at one o'clock on Thursday.

Mr. MONTGOMERY, It certainly appears to me strange that, after the address has passed this House without opposition, amendment or discussion, the reception of the House with the address should be so long to the injury and delay of public business.

Mr. McPHELIN was surprised, now, that the ship of state was going on so smoothly, to hear the hon. member from Westmorland who, like a rat leaving a sinking ship, had deserted the Government, complain in the way he had. He said the Executive have all the right and power to advise his Excellency as to when he should receive the address—

the gentleman from Restigouche being a Presbyterian has no respect for fast days, but I being a Baptist, as we could not be received to-day am not displeased, with my papistical ideas, that his Excellency concluded not to receive the address to-morrow—Ash Wednesday. I shall wait upon his Excellency on Thursday with unbroken delight. When my hon. friend from Westmorland, Mr. Smith, was premier and the Provincial business was delayed day after day, he did not then show so much anxiety about it, I like to say.

Mr. ANGLIN, I rise to ask if there are none of the important documents or papers, that are to be brought before the House which could now be submitted to the hon. members might employ the time in looking over them—the time might, thus be usefully occupied.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, We have no public accounts or reports ready, yet, to bring before the House. By Monday next, I hope, however, that all the reports, various public documents, Estimates of revenue and expenditure, with accounts of the past year, will be laid before you, and as well, the correspondence, very voluminous, which will be printed for the convenience of members, relative to the Inter-colonial rail road. Therefore the delay in receiving the address does not impede public business which, on the part of the Government, will be in a more forward state than usual, nor can one over additional expense result.

Mr. SMITH, I don't know why the hon. member from Kent, should go back into the past in order to accuse me of delaying public business. I have never seen him display any great haste or anxiety for pushing the public business through, in fact, judging from his course frequently, I might be led to suppose that he would rather be here elsewhere or, as he would be laid before you, and as well, as not. It has been said that the delay in receiving

## American News.

By Telegraph to the "Carleton Sentinel."

Bangor, Feb. 16

Arrived at New York yesterday.

Remained over difficulties between British and United States Governments owing to alleged seizures of British vessels too near Bahamas.

Navy Department has official report of the rout on 3d inst. of Confederates, reported over 4000, under Wheeler, Forrest, and Wharton, surrounding Col. Hardings force at Dover on Cumberland river, several gunboats conveying transports up river over a terrible fire upon them causing instant retreat; 140 Confederates left dead.

Gen. Banks about ready to take the field at New Orleans.

A small steamer has gone through Vicksburg cut off.

Viceroy of Egypt is about sending 1000 black soldiers for French service in Mexico.

Schoner De Hart reported 30th chased by privateer Retribution off Cape Tiburon.

Kansas people agitating putting down traitors called copperheads among them.

Alabama sailed from Kingston at night, Jan. 20th. Florida escaped, chased gunboat Sonora off Bahama Banks.

Five brigades of Confederates are reported to have left Fredericksburg for Charleston.

More schemes on foot for insulating Vicksburg and passing far left. Forces engaged in cutting Levees and overflowing country.

Federal forces are in full strength around Vicksburg; Canal six feet water, current rapidly increasing.

Arkansas refugees state that 300 Jayhawkers delaying conscription were in Clark County Mountains and one thousand more in Montgomery Co.

New York Times reports McClellan applying for active service.

Tribune's Washington despatch mentions important but vague rumors from Confederate sources that Bank's fought 7 miles below Port Hudson, Confederates falling back to Port Hudson.

Official statement of all the officers commanding the blockade squadron off Charleston utterly refutes statement of Confederate officials, and reflects severely on Foreign Consuls who gave it their sanction.

Com. Blake, of Hatteras, under date of Kingston 21st Jan., gives official account of the action with the Alabama, from which, it seems engagement was warmly contested.

Memphis letters mention a reign of terror in Northern Alabama and Northern Mississippi, Guerrillas with bloodhounds pursue Union men fleeing to avoid Northern Conscription. Thousand Unionist rescued Corinth and are forming a regiment.

Number of Unionists shot and killed. Three women were torn in pieces by bloodhounds.

BANGOR, 18th.

Work on canal at Lake Providence and Yazoo Pass progressing.

Skirmish, successful to Federals, occurred near Bolivar Tenn. 15th.

Advices from below Memphis state Confederates at Port Hudson communicate with Gulf, via Atchafalaya River. Queen of the West will intercept that movement as soon as repaired.

Million bales cotton represented below Helena awaiting Gen. Grant's permission, for shipment.

New Orleans agrees say new advance preparing to Teche country from Breckenridge.

Harriet Lane reported still at Galveston; large numbers of troops collected at Charleston to defend city. Citizens generally left anticipating attack.

Mutiny recently took place in which several North Carolina Regts. were engaged. Ring leaders shot by order of Beauregard.

New Monitor gunboat Indianapolis near Vicksburg blockade.

BANGOR, 19th.

Confederates represented working industriously on fortifications opposite Palmetto and along Rapidan neck.

Jackson's force reported two miles south of Fredericksburg.

Frankfort, Ky. despatch says secession sympathizers attempted to hold convention there yesterday ostensibly make nominations August election, delegates from forty counties present. House Representatives refusing them their Hall they resorted Theatre; Col. Gilbert formed Regt. from Theatre, dispersed, no assembly declaring such gatherings inadmissible within his military jurisdiction.

Connecticut Democratic State convention assembled yesterday at Hartford.

Four hundred and fifty delegates present. T. H. Seymour, bitterly opposed to War, nominated for Gov. Convention took strong ground against the administration.

Rumors of French mediation still circulate. Some authorities say they are authentic. It is reported that Drouyn de Lhuys has instructed the French Ministers at St. Petersburg, London, Vienna and Berlin to sound those Courts upon the fitness, not of mediation, but of simple counsels, which might be given to the belligerents, advising them to name Commissioners to examine, with or without an armistice, upon what basis an arrangement might be made to pass from the war.

Another authority says Drouyn de Lhuys is preparing a note for transmission to Washington recommending compromise.

The steamer Georgiana had left Liverpool and Holyhead for Nassau, with large supplies of arms, ammunition, &c., and various necessities for the Alabama, which vessel she is called a tender.

The London Times opposes the scheme for the English Government contracting heavy liabilities for the Canada and Nova Scotia Railway. It says it had better wait and see what becomes of the American Republic before setting up such a costly defence.

Napoleon has distributed to the French exhibitors their awards from the London exhibition. He made an unusually liberal and pacific speech.

The new Archbishop of Paris has attacked England and Russia for not joining France in mediation in America.

The draft of the Senate's address to the Emperor expresses regret that the proposals of France for mediation were thought premature by other powers.

Threatening insurrections have broken out in Poland, in the provinces around Warsaw. Similar attacks were made on the troops in their various cantonments. Many soldiers were killed.

A second massacre of St. Bartholomew was said to have been intended. At latest accounts Warsaw was tranquil, and energetic measures had been taken to suppress the revolt elsewhere.

Latest by way of Queenstown.—Liverpool, Jan. 29.—The Globe notices as the most interesting points in the American news by the Aea, the growing feeling in Richmond, New York and Washington, favorable to some sort of direct negotiation for the settlement of the dispute between the North and South.

The Shipping Gazette remarks that should the French Emperor's proposal be rejected, he has left himself, apparently, but an alternative to recognize the South and raise the blockade.

It may be taken for granted that the offered negotiation will be rejected at Washington, and the Gazette asks what follows, the compulsory cessation of hostilities or a maritime war with the North?

Can this country afford to let the French Emperor proceed alone in his American policy, or is he acting upon an understanding with her Majesty's Government? These are questions of great importance, and we hope their solution is not far off.

London, Jan. 29.—Napoleon's new offer of mediation, it is generally thought by the English journals will prove acceptable.

Warsaw, Jan. 28.—The telegraph and railway

By the Act passed during the last Session, the Active Militia force was fixed at not less than one thousand men; I am happy to inform you that the public spirit of the population has called into existence a body of Volunteers exceeding in strength the amount prescribed by Law, and has thus relieved me from the necessity of having recourse to a draft to complete the required number. The martial spirit which has been displayed by those who have voluntarily undertaken novel and, in some cases, irksome duties, convinces me that the men of New Brunswick are sensible of the necessity of fitting themselves, if need be, to discharge the sacred obligation of self-defence, and merits the expression of my warm approval.

I recommend to your serious attention the present condition of the Fisheries of the Province. Reports which I have directed to be laid before you will go far to show that the River and Coast Fisheries are threatened at no distant period with extinction. I rely with confidence on your wisdom for the adoption of adequate remedies for the evils which menace with destruction this important source of Provincial wealth.

The introduction of the Post Office Money Order System in the neighboring Colonies, affording as it does increased facilities for the safe transmission of Money by the public, renders the question of its adoption in this Province worthy of your consideration.

Although the War in the United States still exercises a baneful influence throughout this Continent, I rejoice to be enabled to inform you that commercial enterprise has been directed into new channels, and is again reviving; a greatly increased activity prevails in our Ship Yards, and there are marked symptoms of improvement in other branches of industry.

The Province has been blessed with an abundant Harvest, and agricultural labor has been attended with success. It would, however, afford me pleasure to witness a greater amount of individual enterprise directed towards the development of the Mineral resources of the Province.

Since the recess, the new Silver Coinage has been received and put into circulation.

It affords me sincere gratification to assure you that, although the Income of the past year has fallen somewhat below the Estimate, the Receipts on every branch of the Revenue for the Quarter just expired, very greatly exceed those of the corresponding period for the last two years.

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

The Accounts of the Revenue and Expenditure for the past year will be laid before you, together with the Estimates for the current year.

The Act under which the existing Customs Duties are levied will shortly expire. The questions relating to the duties which will be levied on every branch of the Revenue for the Quarter just expired, very greatly exceed those of the corresponding period for the last two years.

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

It is again resorting to your assistance and advice, it is a source of satisfaction to me to reflect that content prevails throughout the Province, and that your deliberations may be directed to the consideration of the public good, free from the distracting influences of party factions or popular excitement.

The even and uneventful turn of public affairs in this Province during the past year itself evinces our fortunate condition. Living in undisturbed tranquillity, our personal liberties and property unmenaced by arbitrary violence or extortion, the enjoyment of unimpeded credit—and free from the pressure of those public burdens which the exigencies of War impose,—our thanks are due to Almighty God who has spared us from the calamities which have fallen so heavily on a neighboring and a kindred people.

The above it is not necessary for us to generalize—it is quite as needless and intelligently written as such State documents usually are, referring to everything and yet not in a way to invite disavowal. His Excellency appeared to good advantage, and delivered the speech well.

Having returned to their Hall the House formally proceeded to business; some committees were appointed, and then the notice of motion of the address in reply to the speech was made by Mr. McPHELIN seconded by Mr. BRYAN, and its discussion fixed for Monday next.

On the coming up to the number of Journals to be printed coming up—

Mr. SMITH moved that a committee be appointed to make arrangements for reporting and printing the debates of the session. A smart little discussion ensued. Mr. Smith urged that the country generally desired the publication of the debates, particularly so at this session, when matters of such grave importance were likely to be legislated upon, involving the expenditure of millions, and affecting the country in all coming time. It was not sufficient that the people know, as by the journals, how hon. members voted or what they actually did, but it was important that they should be informed as to the arguments upon which their votes were given and decisions based. As to the item of expense it was considered by the country as important, in view of the information desired, and the standing record of the proceedings of the Legislature afforded.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY contended that on economical grounds the House should forbear reporting and publishing the debates; the reports were anticipated by the daily telegrams and the newspaper correspondence, which contained a sufficiency of information with reference to their doings, to satisfy the people.

Mr. LINDSEY was in favor of the motion, provided a sufficient quantity of the debates were furnished to satisfy the demands made upon hon. members for them. People were very anxious to get the debates, but, on account of the small number which falls to the share of each member, a great deal of dissatisfaction arose out of their distribution. It had been stated that poor men who could not get the papers got the debates, but he found that the leading political and electorizing sergeants generally monopolized them. He could not very satisfactorily distribute 175 copies among 16,000 people, and unless there was a large number secured he could not vote for the resolution, but would rather give a fair sum, say one or two hundred dollars, to every paper which sent a Reporter to the House, as was the practice in Nova Scotia.

Mr. McPHELIN would go for the resolution if a provision for furnishing a portion of the debates in French were introduced.

Mr. RYAN was at one time favorable to having the debates published, but had changed his mind. He found the reports were not reliable; in his own case, he had written some remarks on the motions question which were not reported at all. Hon. members who, like himself, said little, did not care to have that little made less.

Mr. CROCKER was favorable to the motion, as also were Messrs. Montgomery, J. W. Gilbert, and Skinner.

Messrs. Kerr, Anglin, Styles spoke against it, and the resolution was lost 8—19.

February 14th.

A small quantity of foolscap will suffice to bear the record of this days proceedings in this Legislature. A few bills, of no importance to our readers were introduced and had a first reading; the only exception was a bill, introduced by Mr. Lindsay, to amend Cap. 53, Revised Statutes, of rates and taxes—the amendment is merely to supply an omission of words left out by the printer.

Mr. Lindsay also presented a petition from a number of inhabitants of Carleton and Victoria praying for Legislative action for the care and preservation of Salmon in the river St. John.

The Contingent Committee made a preliminary report, recommending that hon. members be allowed at public expense, \$8 worth of stationery each, during the session, and that they be restricted to this amount. The report was accepted and adopted.

Whatever character the House of Assembly may sustain in the country generally, and if the character is not the most favorable, we imagine the adoption of a resolution like the one referred to is a natural acknowledgment on the part of hon. members, that they are not to be trusted. The idea does seem to us most obnoxious to all that is high minded and

honorable, for a deliberative assembly, representing a Province like New Brunswick, year after year, to say by similar resolutions, not only to their constituents but, through their journals, to the world, that while called upon to decide on measures of the most profound importance; to devise ways and means of raising a revenue and, as well, to appropriate that revenue in the various channels of the public service, they are still unworthy to be trusted to take from the stationery chest according to their own judgment and honesty what they require.

The fact is while all respect is due to the attempts to economize by legitimate means, a system of pseudo economy is getting to prevail which, while it does not touch to any great extent the extravagance of the Departments and the Legislature, does tend to disgrace the Legislature and the country, and limit the circulation of intelligence and information.

Hon. members must feel that what we have written is true, and many of them would rather, we believe, surrender their own pay than have these resolutions go upon the journals.

In the Upper House there was nothing done today, there not being a quorum present.

THE RAILROAD.

Our readers may imagine that something definite must be known here, as to the prospects of the Inter-colonial Railroad but really, up to the present writing, the whole matter whether as to the nature of the bills to be submitted, or the attitude Canada intends to assume, is involved in doubt and obscurity; so much so that hon. members are rather inclined to avoid the question, than to run the risk of committing themselves to an opinion which may prove fallacious.

The correspondence, doings of the delegates to Quebec and England, and the material of these conferences are being prepared by the Secretary, and will soon—and it will form a mass of documents—be submitted to the House. From these a better appreciation of the position in which matters stand will be arrived at. The opinion is very general here, that the Canadian delegates did not, in England, act with candor towards their co-delegates, that the Canadian Government desires "to delay the matter as much as possible, the Western Province not being anxious for the consummation of the scheme, unless she gets something in the direction of Red River as an equivalent; and it is very currently stated by unprejudiced men that if bills are passed assenting in general terms to the "shortest and cheapest route," that Canada and the Imperial Government will manage it, so that their known predilections in favor of the North will be gratified, and the latter route determined on. However, we are anticipating, and all difficulty and risk, so far as the probabilities of route are concerned, may be avoided in the light of the information to be submitted by the Government. Let us only add that in the House there are, undoubtedly, three parties on this railroad question—Those opposed to all railroad extension in the Province—Those who will only go for specified routes—And those who will go for railroads without reference to route.

CENTRAL BANK.

Decisions in five cases, involving a very large sum of money, have been given by the Supreme Court, here, against the Central Bank. The principle involved was in this wise: The Central Bank received certain securities of Mr. John McIntosh, undertaking to pay certain liabilities; these the bank afterward refused to pay, alleging that the securities proved insufficient to more than pay its own demands. It said appeal is to be carried to the Court of Chancery in England.

CLERICAL PROFANITY.—Irreverence is becoming, or has become, a too-notable feature of the pulpit in the United States, and the war in the Union has tended to develop it; as instances—Father Taylor the well known sailor preacher prays thus, "Oh God, guard our dear President our Abraham the friend of God, like old Abraham." The Chaplain of the United States Senate the other day used these words—"We pray Thee that, if it shall be thy will, even the very processes of physical nature may be suspended for a time, while this fearful problem of republican liberty is being wrought out."

The Lecture by Rev. S. D. Lee Street, on Wednesday evening last was an interesting and instructive one, and listened to with marked attention by a very respectable audience. We are not informed as to who occupies the stand next Wednesday evening.

The Treasurer of the Lancashire Relief Fund acknowledges the receipt of the following sums:—

W. D. Hart	\$1 00	R. B. Ketchum	\$1 00
George Brewer	62	Wingate Weeks	1 00
George Jackson	50	W. H. Sisson	50
David Phillips	1 50	W. Richardson	50
J. R. Parsons	374	Evans Saunders	1 00
J. E. Esty	50	H. McGarden	50
William Watson	50	C. W. Ketchum	2 00
G. T. Hartley	1 00	W. Winslow	1 00
William Westall	1 00	T. B. Winslow	1 00
J. Fisher	6 00	P. Raymond	2 00
James W. Brown	1 00	John Wilson	4 00
William McIntosh	1 00	David Roberts	1 50
Samuel Hamilton	50	John Riley	1 00
Major Hamilton	50	Thos. Mainland	1 00
A. M. Broderick	72	James Knox	1 00
John Robinson	1 00	Thomas Cook	1 00
Hugh Day	1 00	Michael McGinty	25
Lewis Saunders	1 00	M. Fitzgerald	50
W. C. Hazen	1 00	Robert Pelky	25
M. McSwain	1 00	Thomas Corcoran	50
James Anderson	50	Thos. McCluskey	1 00
Wm. Kelly	50	Owen Saunders	1 00
Joseph Tucker	50	A. Stephenson	2 00
John Caldwell	2 00		

Collected and handed in by B. N. Richardson 1 62

W. P. Dibbler, proceeds of oats. sold 13 5

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Communicated.

[To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel.]

Sir,—I beg to hand you an extract from a letter from England respecting New Brunswick Cotton, and the export of Agricultural Produce.

"I have shown your specimen of Cotton to Mr. H—, he says it is of beautiful texture and quite strong, but that he fears it is deficient in strength, to illustrate which he twisted it up into a thread of the thickness of strong sewing cotton, and then broke it with ease. He also informs me that the same plant was very common in his youthful days, growing freely; on uncultivated ground, and may still be met with. I should have more faith in the export of Agricultural Produce, and really cannot see why it should not be made a profitable concern, though pork is unusually low here this winter, only selling at 5s. 14d. per cwt. of 140, but less than 7d. per lb. for any kind, and for choice cuts even more, the last market day 10d. per lb. was charged for beef steaks."

I shall just place these prices in contrast with the rate at which they can be purchased at Woodstock.

Balance for freight and profit	£1 17 6
On beef the margin for profit is larger.	
100 lbs. beef sold in England for	£2 18 4
100 lbs. do Woodstock for	18 9

Balance

£1 19 7

The prices quoted are in English money. With this you will receive a report of the Imports of Ba-

con and Hams into Liverpool, from North America and Canada. With these facts before us, I think the time has arrived when the Farmers should petition the Legislature to agree to the export of Cotton to the House, to enquire into the practicability of profitably exporting Agricultural Produce to England.

I am, yours truly,

JOHN FISHER,