

# The Gleaner

AND NORTHUMBERLAND SCHEDIASMA.

VOLUME V.]

Nec aranearum sane texus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.

[No. 28.]

MIRAMICHI, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 13, 1834.

## THE GLEANER.

### PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.

MONOPOLIES OF LAND.—FEBRUARY 21.

Mr Wyer brought forward a resolution, to the effect, that, as very extensive sales of land to single purchasers had lately been made in various parts of the Province, whereby large monopolies were created, which tended very greatly to the injury of poor lumbermen and to the Province generally, an humble address should be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, praying His Excellency to suspend such extensive sales, and to communicate with His Majesty's Government on the subject.

Mr Chandler said, that this was a very important resolution, and had been introduced so suddenly, that he was quite unprepared even to give an opinion on it. The House ought to have more time to consider the subject before coming to any conclusion. Certainly the practice described in the resolution was a very dangerous one, and required interference; but he (Mr. C.) would advise the hon. mover to give notice only of his resolution now, and to withdraw it for the present.

Mr Wyer, in reply, observed, that he had brought the resolution forward ten days ago, and had then put it off in compliance with the request of some hon. members. But he would mention that he himself knew of very large sales of Crown Land having lately taken place, in Charlotte County, where many thousand acres had been sold to Aliens, which was very injurious to the lumbering interest of this Province. He had given notice ten days ago of his intention to bring the resolution forward again, and he had now done so accordingly.

Mr Simonds corroborated Mr Wyer's statements, and considered that the subject was one on which hon. members might easily make up their minds, without further consideration. Great sales of Crown Land had certainly been made to foreigners, and thus the lumber on such land would all be in the power of foreign speculators, to the great injury of poor lumbermen in this Province. One great reason for passing this resolution, was, that the Crown Land Officer had intended to sell no less than 80,000 acres in one lot, but in consequence of urgent representations the sale was for the present suspended. Such a sale would have put almost all the best lumbering land in the County of Charlotte into the hands of foreigners; and it was the duty of the House to endeavor to put a stop to such sales for the future; for, on the same principle, the whole of the waste lands of the Province might be sold to foreigners. He hoped the resolution would pass without any objection.

Mr Partelow said, that he must reluctantly object to the resolution at present, because, when the hon. mover first brought it in, he gave the House no information on the subject; it was then put off till the returns of the Casual Revenue Accounts were made to the House, by which the fact of such sales could be ascertained. These accounts were since come in, and were before a Committee, to be examined and reported on. The hon. mover therefore, should wait till such report came in, because the Committee might, perhaps report that large tracts of land had been sold to foreigners, and then the question would properly come before the House, and it would certainly be a matter of grave discussion. But with respect to foreigners having already obtained large tracts of land, it would be easy for the House to nullify the injury caused by such monopolies, by laying a tax upon them.

Mr Weldon viewed such sales rather in the light of Mill Reserves, or purchases for the purpose of supplying mills with lumber, than otherwise, and would therefore pause before passing such a resolution. He was always rather inclined to facilitate than to prevent the settling of Americans in this Province.

Mr Brown corroborated and supported Mr Wyer's statements; and said, that if those extensive sales should continue, they would have the same effect as the great Timber Monopolies complained of last year. There could be no real difference between such large reserves and these large sales, except that the latter were in perpetuity, and therefore so much the worse. These sales might be called, large 'Mill Purchases,'

instead of 'Reserves.' It might be very well to withdraw the resolution for a time, to enable hon. members to make up their minds about it; but certainly it was a very proper resolution.

Mr Wyer, in reply to Mr Weldon, observed, that these American purchasers compelled the native lumbermen to pay a very high price for their lumber, because they could otherwise haul it to the Saint Croix and float it across to their own shores, which certainly was a very great and serious injury to the lumbermen of this Province.

Mr Street considered the resolution a very important and proper one, if grounded on sufficient facts, but he, for one, had not yet received sufficient information, and would therefore wish the hon. mover to postpone it for a little while.

Mr Wyer accordingly consented to withdraw the Resolution at present; but gave notice that he should move it on Friday next.

### MILITIA.

Mr Kinnear brought forward a long resolution, the object of which was, to have a committee appointed, whose duty it should be to inquire into the practice of the Mother Country, the sister colonies, and the United States, relative to their Militia, and to report thereon to the House at the next session. Mr. K. briefly stated that his own mind was by no means made up with respect to the Militia question, and in fact he had heard from almost every quarter complaints that the present system was highly inefficient and objectionable, and was therefore inclined to lean strongly to the opinions of those who opposed it, yet as the subject had again been so particularly recommended to the notice of the Legislature by the Rt. Hon. Sec. for the Colonies, he thought the House should at least gather all the information on the subject within their reach, in order to ascertain whether any system could be devised for this Province, so as both to meet the wishes of the Government and satisfy the people of this country.

Mr. S. Humbert seconded the motion on similar grounds; at the same time deprecating the present system.

Mr. Simonds would not object to the proposition, for merely obtaining information. He thought Mr Stanley's main object was that the usual provision should be made for the Inspecting Field Officers; and there might be no great objection, perhaps, to such provision, if their inspection could be confined solely to the Militia Officers. The Hon. Member then at some length repeated the opinions expressed by him on various former occasions, relative to the inutility of the present militia system, the waste of time and other evils connected with it, and contended that more good would be done by merely drilling the Officers regularly, and keeping them always in an efficient state, than by the present mode of calling out and exercising the men.

Mr Weldon thought the labors of such a Committee would be useless; the system of the mother country was totally different from that of this province, and quite inapplicable to it.—But as all the information to be derived from any of the sources mentioned in the resolution must be derived from the respective Executive Powers, who, no doubt would both think and advise on the subject in the same manner as the Executive of this Province, the resolution would be of no use whatever.

Mr Chandler thought the resolution very proper, because if the House thought the present system absurd and ludicrous, as it had been represented, it was at least their duty to get all the information they could on the subject, for the purpose of improving it. The hon. member then stated, as on former occasions, his own opinion in favor of the Militia system, and the satisfaction of the people of this county with regard to it.

Mr Slason continued that the Militia System, whether it was useless or not, could now never be altered, until all the branches of the Legislature could be brought to the same opinion about it. The only thing in the power of the House was the pay of the Inspecting Field Officers.—He thought the resolution quite useless, because all the information required might be derived from the different Militia Laws of the countries referred to, which were in the Library of the House.

Mr Street opposed the resolution, because he thought its only effect would be to postpone the Bill brought in by Mr Simonds till next Session; and then cause another long discussion; and he wished to see the subject promptly and finally decided.

Mr End at some length vindicated the Militia System as at present existing, and contended for the propriety of supporting it.

Mr Simonds, after replying to Messrs Chandler and End, moved as an amendment to the resolution, that that part of it which directed the Committee to report to the House 'at the next session' be struck out.

Mr Chandler opposed the amendment.

Mr Brown supported the original resolution, for the same reason that induced Mr Kinnear to move it, but at the same time, supported Mr Simonds' views of the inutility and inefficiency of the present system.

Mr Vail supported the original resolution.

Mr Gilbert ridiculed the Militia System and expressed his wish that it could be abolished.

Mr Wyer defended the system in animated terms.

The question was then taken on Mr Simonds' amendment, which was carried, 13 to 12; but on the question on the resolution as amended, the whole was negatived.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

FEBRUARY 27.—On motion of Mr Simonds, The House went into committee of the whole, on a bill to amend the Laws for the organization of the Militia. Mr J. Humbert in the Chair of the Committee. Mr Speaker resumed the Chair. The Chairman reported, that they had gone into consideration of the bill referred to them, and agreed to the same. Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the Bill engrossed.

On motion of Mr Wyer, The House went into Committee of the whole, on a Bill to provide for the safe keeping of the County Records. Mr Brown in the Chair of the Committee. Mr Speaker resumed the Chair. The Chairman reported that they had gone into consideration of the Bill referred to them, and agreed to the same with an amendment. Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the Bill engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr Chandler, The House went into Committee of the whole, in further consideration of Supplies to be granted for the Public Service. Mr J. Humbert in the Chair of the Committee. Mr Speaker resumed the Chair. The Chairman reported, that the Committee having gone into further consideration of the business referred to them, had passed a number of Resolutions, which he read, and they being handed in at the Clerk's Table were there again read, and are as follow, viz:

Resolved, That there be granted to Patrick Flanagan, a licensed teacher, the sum of forty pounds for teaching a School in the parish of Chatham for two years, ending February last.

To James Ross the sum of fifty pounds, for teaching the Westmorland Grammar School six months, ending in November one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one.

MARCH 1.—On motion of Mr End, Resolved, That the House do go into Committee of the whole, on a bill to regulate the removing of causes from the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas into the Supreme Court of Judicature in this Province, and for other purposes therein mentioned. And upon the question, it was decided in the negative.

Read a first time, a Bill sent down from the Council, For the further regulation of the formation of the Court of Governor and Council, for the determination of all suits and controversies, touching and concerning Marriage and Divorce.

Resolved, That there be granted to the Speaker of the House of Assembly, the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds for the present Session, and to each and every Member of the House of Assembly, for defraying the expences of attendance in General Assembly, for every days attendance the sum of twenty shillings,—such attendance to be certified by the Speaker: Provided also that no greater sum shall be allowed for the attendance of any Member, for the present Session than fifty pounds: And for travelling charges of the Members the sum of twenty shillings per day, allowing twenty miles for each day's travel, to be also certified