

HIGHLAND NORTH BRITISH SOCIETY.

A MEETING having been held in November last, for the purpose of forming a Society in Miramichi, in connection with the Highland Society of London, a committee was appointed to carry out the views of those present, by preparing a Constitution, and nominating Office Bearers for the first year.

The committee having concluded their labours, requested their Secretary to call a public meeting of Scotchmen and their descendants, friendly to the object, on Wednesday the 13th instant, for the purpose of finally organizing the society.

Accordingly, on Wednesday morning, the sons of Caledonia might be seen, assembling from the different settlements, to join their countrymen in Chatham and its more immediate vicinity. The day was most auspicious; and smiled on their laudable and patriotic exertions in the cause of union, good feeling, charity, and general philanthropy. Lowlander and Highlander, rich and poor, mingled in the throng, evincing the devotion and warm attachment ever cherished in the hearts of Scotchmen towards their countrymen and the land of their birth. Cold and apathetic indeed, must have been the Scotchman that was unmoved by the Pibroch's shrill sound, as the men of Black River passed along, preceded by their Piper, playing the enlivening airs of his native hills. Who could hear unmoved the sound in this far distant country, separated as we are, by a 'world of waters' from the land of our birth, but must have called to remembrance with a thrill of delight, the happy period, when strolling o'er Scotia's heath clad hills, the sound of the bagpipe stole upon the ear, heard amidst the silent majesty of Nature, and creating by its distant reverberations, those feelings in the mind, that must be felt to be described.

The Rev. Mr. ARCHIBALD having been called to the Chair, addressed the meeting in his usual happy style, expatiating on the good results to be expected from the formation of the society, and stating his conviction of its brilliant success from the large and respectable attendance. Nothing more than a mere sketch of the proceedings can be given, the writer of this not having it in his power to add the speeches delivered. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting, among others, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Rankin, Dr. Key, Mr. Cassels, Mr. Goodfellow, Mr. Porter, &c. &c. &c.

Mr. James Caie, in proposing the constitution of the Society, spoke at considerable length with reference to its origin, the spirited conduct of Lieut. Col. McDonald, and concluded as follows:

"I said, sir, at the outset, that I was warmly attached to this society, and will explain the causes of my attachment. They are first—because its grand design is to do good, and second—because of its efficiency to enable us to do good. That its object is a good one, cannot surely, by reasonable men, be denied; nor do I conceive, that this assertion requires from me any proof or illustration, but that such societies afford an efficient mean of doing good, may be disputed. Be it then remembered, that however distinguished any people may be, for acts of benevolence or deeds of valour, their separate disconnected efforts will avail but little. Justly famed as Britain has ever been for patriotism, how very unavailing would be their efforts to force from Britain's shores a landed foe, if each true hearted warrior, apart from his countrymen, unsheshted for that purpose his solitary sword. Brave and devoted as Britons confessedly are, a band of coward-hearted foreigners, in defiance of their bravery and devotion, would doubtless prostrate their proud palaces, and lay their aged altars in the dust: but when united, in fleets and armies, what foe dares to invade Britain's coast, or land upon her shores. None—for thus united, union is its strength.

But, sir, this society contemplates something nobler, better, than even the uniting of Scotchmen and their descendants together, it contemplates the extension of Education, the increase of Knowledge among them. The praise I have bestowed on the army and navy of Britain must have been withheld were that navy and army devoid of discipline—their commanders ignorant of naval and military tactics, and the natives of Britain unskilled in arts and sciences. It is the supremacy which a superior knowledge of these, aided of course by the native valour and genius of her sons, that has ever made Great Britain GREAT—the admiration of her friends, and the terror of her foes. Her wisdom has made her powerful—her bible, happy. And what sir, but this, does this society aim at? Its design will be to make us, as a body—more united, more enlightened, & therefore more powerful, wise and happy. It would promote harmony, disseminate knowledge, and alleviate, in extreme cases, the wants and sufferings of Scotchmen and descendants in this their adopted country—a country distant, far, it is true, from fair Scotia's shores, but whose distance, though great, removes not that happy land one foot from our affections. Scotland, sir, to us is as near and as dear, as when many of us played

among its wild flowers and 'snuffed its callar air,' for who will deny that
 'Scotia's sons are aye the same,
 The mountain sons of liberty;
 And, still on many a foreign shore
 Maintain their ancient chivalry.'"

The Rev. Mr. Turnbull seconded the motion, and spoke in the most energetic manner in favor of the Society.

The Chairman then read the following Rules, which were passed unanimously, and adopted as the constitution of the Society, viz.:

1. That the Society be called, "The Highland North British Society of New-Brunswick."

2. That the chief objects of the Society should be the promotion of education, and the diffusion of useful knowledge amongst Scotchmen and their descendants in this portion of New-Brunswick, and likewise to extend relief to destitute cases amongst countrymen as the Committee may decide on, or the funds of the Society may warrant.

3. That the Office Bearers be elected annually, and that they shall consist of a President, three or more Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, two Secretaries, and sixteen Directors.

4. That the Office Bearers be the Committee of Management of the Society, of whom seven shall be a quorum.

5. That every person subscribing annually Five Shillings, shall be a member of this Society, and every person subscribing Five Pounds, be a member for life; and that the subscriptions be paid on admission.

6. That persons desirous of becoming members, shall hand their address to either of the Secretaries, to be proposed at the first meeting of the Committee of Management.

7. That the Office Bearers, and such members as desire it, shall on all Public occasions wear scarfs of the Highland Tartan, those worn by the Office Bearers to be the Tartan selected by the Society.

8. That after payment of the incidental expenses, the remainder of the funds be paid and applied towards the objects of the Society, under the note and direction of the Committee of Management.

9. That there be a general Meeting of the Society on the 13th day of January in each year, and if such day shall happen on a Sabbath, the Meeting shall take place on the succeeding day, and that they be held alternately in Newcastle and Chatham.

10. That at such general meeting, the accounts of the Treasurer, having been first audited by the Committee of Management, shall be submitted to the Society, and the Office Bearers elected for the ensuing year.

11. That to facilitate the transactions of the Society, it shall be in the power of the President, or in his absence, of the senior Vice-President, on any urgent occasion, and upon the requisition of any ten members, to call a special general meeting, of which public notice shall be given.

12. That the Annual Report of the proceedings of the Society be prepared by the Committee of Management, and submitted to the general meeting.

13. That the Committee shall meet at least twice a year, and that the Secretaries, together with the President, shall be authorised to call a Meeting of the Committee when necessary.

It was then resolved unanimously, that the following Gentlemen be elected Office-Bearers for the ensuing year.

President—James Gilmour, Esq.;
 Vice Presidents—Alexander Fraser, Junr., Esq., Dr. Alexander Key, R. C. McDonald, Esq., and Alex. Rankin, Esq. Directors,

Rev. Robert Archibald, Chatham;
 Donald Fraser, do.
 Alexander Goodfellow, Bartibog;
 David Johnstone, Douglstown;
 George Kerr, Chatham;
 Roderick McLeod, Tabisintac;
 Alexander McLaggan, South West;
 Donald McKay, North West;
 Alexander McBeath, Chatham;
 John McDonald, Bay du Vin River;
 Joseph Russell, Chatham;
 Gavin Rennie, do;
 Angus Sinclair, Black River;
 Christopher Wishart, Douglstown;
 Rev. James Souter, Newcastle;
 Dr. Peter Taylor, Chatham.
 Treasurer—Robert Cassels, Esq.
 Secretaries—James Caie, Esq., Chatham; and Neil McLean, Newcastle.

Dr. Taylor then moved the following Resolution, seconded by R. Cassels, which passed unanimously:

That a vote of thanks be presented to Roderick C. McDonald, Esq., for his patriotic zeal in promoting union and good feeling amongst his countrymen in British North America, and particularly for his able and manly address to his fel-

low countrymen in this place; also, for the beautiful Banner which he has presented to the Highland North British Society of New Brunswick.

Mr. Caie then presented the Banner, after which the Secretaries took down the names of those present as Members of the Society—several of whom were life members.

Dr. Key moved the following Resolution; seconded by Alex. Rankin, Esq., which passed unanimously:

That a Committee be appointed to communicate the proceedings of this Meeting to the Highland Society of London, and to solicit admittance as a branch of that highly honorable body, and that Messrs. James Gilmour, Alex. Key, Robert Cassels, Neil McLean, James Caie, and Rev. R. Archibald, be said Committee.

Moved by Mr. Gavin Rennie, seconded by Mr. Malcolm McNaughton, and passed unanimously:

That the proceedings of the Meeting be inserted in the Gleaner.

The Rev. Mr. Archibald having vacated the Chair, Dr. Key was called to it, and a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation to the Rev. Mr. Archibald, for his impartial and able conduct in the chair.

In concluding this hasty sketch of the proceedings of the Meeting, it may not be irrelevant to remind our countrymen who were prevented from attending, that it is the duty of every true hearted Scotchman to come forward and rank himself under the banners of the Society; aid with his countenance and support, so truly patriotic and benevolent a design, give strength and stability, by immediate union, until the slender plant has acquired sufficient vigour to grow into a mighty tree; under whose wide spreading branches his children's children may recline, and learn to venerate the land from whence their forefathers sprung.—Communicated.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

A very important question has been brought under the consideration of the American Government, which we think probable will lead to very unpleasant differences between that nation and Great Britain. We allude to the arrest and imprisonment of a Mr. McLeod, who was engaged in the destruction of the American Steamer Caroline, which vessel was occupied in conveying munitions of war from Buffalo, to the rebels on Navy Island, during the recent disturbances in Canada. Mr. Fox, the British Minister at Washington, has written a letter to the American Secretary of State, on the subject, in which he declares—"that the burning of the Caroline was an act done by authority, and those who were engaged in it, acted under the authority of those in power in Great Britain;" and upon this ground, very justly demands the release of Mr. McLeod.

We have given all the particulars as they have transpired, in another page.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION, AGAIN.

We perceive, by the Canada papers, that the Governor General has declared that he will not remove the troops recently sent to Madawaska, and send in their stead a Civil posse, as recommended by Sir John Harvey. The papers which furnish this piece of news, thus infer that Lord Sydenham must have received positive instructions from the Home Government, that the territory is to be kept, and the recent report of the British Surveyors acted upon. A gentleman who arrived here by the Stage on Tuesday evening last, informed us, that he travelled with the individual who bore the above named communication from the Governor General to our Lieutenant Governor. What will our neighbours in Maine say to this?

CENSUS—COUNTY NORTHUMBERLAND.

Parish of Ludlow.—Inhabited Houses, 81; by how many Families inhabited, 91; Houses now building, 5; other houses uninhabited, 10. Population—Males above 16 years of age, 208; Males under 16 years of age, 112; Females above 16 years of age, 131; Females under 16 years of age, 147; people of colour, 1. Total of persons, 599. Place of Worship, 1. Mills—Grist Mill, 1; Saw Mills, 4. Estimated quantity of Cleared Land, 1656 acres. Stock—Horses, 97; Neat Cattle, 372; Sheep, 653; Swine, 383.

Parish of Blissfield.—Inhabited Houses, 68; by how many Families inhabited, 71; Houses now building, 2; other houses uninhabited, 1. Population.—Males above 16 years of age, 182; Males under 16 years of age, 136; Females above 16 years of age, 105; Females under 16 years of age, 122; Total of persons—545. Mills.—Grist Mill, 1. Estimated quantity of Cleared Land, 2333. Stock—Horses, 100; Neat Cattle, 551; Sheep, 995; Swine, 458.

Parish of Blackville.—Inhabited Houses, 195; by how many Families inhabited, 199. Houses now building, 3; other houses uninhabited, 14. Population.—Males above 16 years of age, 415; Males under 16 years of age, 347; Females above 16 years of age, 263; Females under 16 years of age, 336; People of Colour, 2. Total of persons, 1357. Places of Worship—Church of England, 1; Presbyterian, 1; Baptist, 1; Roman Catholic, 1. Mills.—Grist Mill, 1; Saw Mills, 4. Estimated quantity of Cleared Land, 3048 acres. Stock.—Horses, 111; Neat Cattle, 929; Sheep, 1480; Swine, 652.

Ship News.

PORT OF ST. JOHN.

Arrived, Dec. 29, ships Ellen Bryson, Greenock; Albion, Cork; Amazon, Waterford. Jan. 3, ship Liverpool, London. 10, ship British Queen, Liverpool. 13, barque Brothers, Newry. 14, barque Hebe, London.

Cleared—ship Fingalton, London; brig Talent, Glasgow; ship Jane, Liverpool; William Hanington, London; Ben Nevis, Liverpool; Harmony, New Orleans; Abigail, Liverpool; brig St. Mary, West Indies; Pink, Belfast; Comet, London; Stillman, Greenock; schr. Harp, Barbadoes; Essex, Portland.

Shipwreck.—We have been favored with the following information by Mr. Doggett, Wreck Master of Grand Manan:—Wrecked on the 24th Dec. on Wood Island, near Grand Manan, the ship John A. Black, Ewens, master, from St. John for Belfast, loaded with deals—vessel total wreck—materials and cargo expected to be saved.—St. Andrews Standard.

NOTICE.—Such of our Subscribers as have been in the habit of paying for their papers in FIRE WOOD, are again notified, that the 1st of February is the very latest date at which that article will be received from them. Cash will then be demanded. We insert this notice, as we have been compelled to purchase Wood, and are now out, although a much greater quantity than we require is due us.

A Quarterly Meeting of the CARPENTERS' and JOINERS' SOCIETY, will be held in Mr. Smith's School Room, on the first Monday Evening in February, at 7 o'clock. A punctual attendance is particularly requested, and all Members are required to pay in their dues. G. W. DWYER, SECRETARY.

MAHOGANY.

A Quantity of Superior BOARD and PLANK of large sized MAHOGANY, of different thicknesses, to suit purchasers; for Sale by GILMOUR, RANKIN & Co. Douglstown, 11th Jan., 1841.

TO LET.

The HOUSE presently occupied by John Stack, as a Tavern, in the Town of Chatham—possession to be given 1st June next. Apply to GILMOUR, RANKIN & Co. Douglstown, 11th Jan., 1841.

FOR SALE.

By the Subscriber, at his Establishment opposite Mr. John Hea's, and next door to Mrs. Martin's Hotel.

A Variety of GOODS,

Suitable for the Season, consisting of—MUFFS, BOAS, and Ruffs, of various kinds; ladies' & gentleman's Fur Gloves, Brouse & black Kid Shoes, Prunella Boots & Shoes, Silks, Satins, Flannels, Merinoes, &c. &c. Which, with his former Stock, will be sold at low price for Cash.

—Also, on Hand—

15 Quarter Casks good quality Sherry and Madeira WINE; PAINTS, and PAINT OILS, Seal Oil; FINE FLOUR, TEA, SUGAR, &c. &c.

A few good quality North West BUFFALO ROBES.

The highest price, in Cash, given for all descriptions of FUR.

J. SAMUEL.

Chatham, 1st December 1840.

New-Brunswick, SS.

To the Sheriff of the County of Northumberland, or any Constable within he said county:

Whereas Patrick Henderson, Administrator on the Estate of JAMES HENDERSON, late of Alnwick, in the county aforesaid, deceased, hath filed an Account of his Administration on the said Estate, and hath prayed that the same may be passed and allowed.

You are therefore required to cite the Creditors and next of Kin of the deceased, and all others interested in the said Estate, to appear before me at a Court of Probate, to be held at my Office, in the Parish of Chatham, within the said county, on Wednesday, the Third day of February next, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon, to attend the passing and allowance of the said Account of Administration on the said Estate.

Given under my hand and the seal of the said Court, this Fourth day of January 1841.

THOS. H. PETERS, Surrogate. GEORGE KERR, Register of Probates. for said County.