

# THE GLEANER.

And Northumberland, Kent, Gloucester, and Restigouche Schediasma.

Volume XII:

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

Number 24.

Miramichi, Tuesday Morning, February 23, 1841.

## THE GLEANER.

### LOCAL AFFAIRS.

#### A BILL.

To authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Northumberland, to erect a LOCK UP HOUSE, in the Town of Chatham, in the said County:

WHEREAS from the great increase of the Town of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland, and in consequence of the distance therefrom to the County Gaol, and the difficulty of crossing the River Miramichi thereto at certain seasons of the year, great inconvenience is oftentimes experienced by the Magistrates residing in the said Town, for the want of a Lock-up House or place of safe keeping in which to confine persons committing breaches of the peace, and other minor offences; For remedy whereof,

Be it enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, That the Justices of the Peace for the County of Northumberland, or the major part of them, may, and they are hereby authorized and required, at their first General Session of the Peace hereafter to be holden, to purchase a piece of ground in the Town of Chatham, on which to erect a Lock-up House; and to contract and agree with able and sufficient workmen for the erection and finishing of a suitable Lock-up House on the said piece of ground: And the said Justices or the major part of them, at any General Sessions of the Peace, are hereby authorized and required to make a rate and assessment of a sum not exceeding

Pounds, to defray the expence of purchasing the said Land, and erecting and finishing the said Lock-up House, each assessment to be assessed, levied, and collected in such proportion, and in such manner, on the Inhabitants of the said County as the said Justices or the major part of them may direct, which sum of Pounds, shall be assessed, levied and paid, agreeable to any acts now or which may hereafter be in force for the assessing, levying and collecting Public Charges.

And be it further enacted, That the said Justices of the Peace for the said County of Northumberland shall, and they are hereby required at any General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in the said County to make such rules and regulations for the custody and management of the said Lock-up House as may from time to time be necessary.

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the High Sheriff of the said County of Northumberland, or any other officer who shall have arrested or have in his legal custody any person or persons charged with any crime or misdemeanour whatever, for which such person or persons shall be liable to be committed to the Gaol of the said County to commit such person or persons to the said Lock-up House until he or they can be conveyed to the County Gaol. Provided always, that no such person or persons shall be longer kept or detained in the said Lock-up House than forty eight hours from the time of his or their commitment thereto.

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any Justice of the Peace for the said County of Northumberland, before whom any mariner or seaman shall be hereafter convicted under and by virtue of any Laws now in force, or that may hereafter be in force in this Province for the regulation of seamen, to commit such mariner or seaman to the said Lock-up House instead of to the County Gaol if such Justice shall find it necessary and advisable so to do: Provided always, that no such mariner or seaman shall remain or be longer confined in the said Lock-up House than four days.

To the Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable the Legislative Council, and the Honorable the House of Assembly, in General Session for the Province of New Brunswick, assembled:

The Petition of the undersigned Justices of the Peace for the County of Northumberland, residing in the Parish of Chatham; Respectfully Sheweth—

That your honorable body being so well acquainted with the locality of this County, and the inhabitants of Chatham having on several former occasions by their Petitions, pointed out the great necessity of a Lock-up House in the Town of Chatham, your Petitioners do not deem it necessary that the people generally should petition for that purpose at the present time, that it is only necessary that the subject should be brought to the notice of your honorable house by your petitioners, and for them to explain the want of such an institution.

Your petitioners would therefore beg respectfully to say, from their own knowledge, (some of them having acted for a long time as Magistrates) that from Chatham being a considerable sea port Town and manufactures carried on to some extent, as well as Ship Building, causes a great influx of strangers, particularly seafaring men, in the summer season; a description of persons who will on many occasions get intoxicated, and more particularly on Sundays, from which cause frequent collisions occur between them and persons residing on shore, and likely oftener from the knowledge that there is no place of confinement nearer than Newcastle, in the County Gaol, a distance of about five miles on the opposite side of the Miramichi River. From this known fact, many breaches of the Peace are committed, and in many cases the Majesty of the Law set at defiance, and persons going to and from places of Worship often insulted.

Your petitioners are ready and willing to testify their approbation of the good conduct of the inhabitants in general of Chatham, but from the knowledge that if they should aid the authority in suppressing riot, that when a drunken man who could not be quieted would have to be sent to Newcastle, and that they would have to assist in taking him there, consequently they are backward in rendering that prompt assistance that they would if a place of temporary confinement was established in the Town.

Your petitioners have witnessed many escapes from Justice of persons guilty of breaches of the Peace, Misdemeanours, Felonies, and one for Murder, solely from the want of a place of confinement wherein to commit the offenders till they could be taken to the County Gaol.

Your petitioners would beg further to state that it is their firm belief that the time is not far distant when the Magistrates will be found quite inadequate to keep the Peace at all, unless such a place be established by legislative enactment, for they find it impossible now in some cases to preserve it, and that at very great danger to their personal safety.

Your petitioners therefore humbly and sincerely pray, that the Bill read at the last General Sessions of the Peace for this County, authorizing the erection of a Lock-up House in the Town of Chatham, may pass your honorable House as Read, and that you will be pleased to grant a sum of money in aid of the erection.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

J. T. WILLISTON, J. P.  
WM. JOPLIN, J. P.  
WM. LETSON, J. P.  
P. WILLISTON, J. P.  
DUDLEY PERLEY, J. P.  
Chatham, 3rd February, 1841.

### AMERICAN JOURNALS.

From the N. Y. Sunday Morning News.

#### THE WAR MANIA.

Our citizens are constitutionally subject to mania of different descriptions—but the mania most dangerous of any, and the most difficult to cure without the subject carrying the marks of it to the grave, proceeds from our extreme thin skinnedness, and our sensibility on the subject of national honor—aye, national honor, as if our national honor could be promoted by our rushing unprepared into a conflict with one of the most powerful nations upon earth; and receiving in plain English, a sound drubbing, to cure us of the spirit of gasconade, which we inherit with our foreign extraction. We know this remark will be resented as offensive, but it is not so when rationally examined. Let us take first our sea-board—thousands of miles—entirely exposed, and we add, utterly defenceless of modern warfare. Let us take our navy—weak and insufficient—only a few ships in commission—what we have manned with difficulty from the inadequate supply of seamen—be rest in ordinary, or rotten. Our navy yards few and unequal to the emergency of sudden war—the most salutary measures for national defence obstructed or paralysed by party feeling, as in the case of the naval dock yard at Brooklyn, the last session of Congress. If we were then too poor to authorize its construction, have we since become rich enough to rush into a war? Our army, where is it? Echo answers where—a few soldiers hunting the Indians in Florida, and perishing ingloriously in its swamps and everglades. Our commerce exposed in every quarter of the world. Our merchants subject to sudden bankruptcy and ruin—and the whole history is told in a few words our preparations for war.

We know the sufferers under the war mania will talk loudly of our success during the revolution, of the glorious battle of New Orleans, of our naval victories during the last war—of the courage and patriotism of the American people—granted—all granted—but have they reflected that within a few years the face of war has been changed, the tedious operation of sieges abandoned. Every thing carried on now by 'coup de main,' and that which before required weeks or months, and even in the time of Napoleon was considered impracticable, is now effected in a few hours, by the late deadly destructive improvements and inventions in modern warfare. If they doubt this, let them look at St. Jean d'Acres, successfully resisting the great conqueror Napoleon himself, and battered about the ears of old Mehemet Ali in a few hours. Let them look at St. Jean d'Alloa, the citadel of Vera Cruz, dismantled and captured by the Bourbon boy, the Prince de Joinville, in short order. And what have we to compare with these fortresses. Oh! we have the battery to begin with, why it would not be a breakfast for a sloop of war with the Paixham guns; and a bomb or two thrown into the midst of it with the deadly precision of modern warfare, would soon render it untenable. The fortifications at the narrows—but have we reflected that the steamships which have lately visited us here commanded by British officers could pass them in the night, that those men are expert pilots, know all the soundings and depths of water, and might be employed against us with deadly effect, or if they did not choose to risk this, they could run in close with the land, put men enough on shore to carry these fortifications, or at least to keep them in employment while the steamboats come up to the city, and blow it about on ears, retiring as they came in, or they might land 10,000 men on the Long Island shore, and before we are aware of it, Brooklyn be in their possession, the work of ruin completed, and the enemy only traced in the devastation left to mark his progress. And the picture we have given of New York will serve for every seaport town through the Union. Our pursuits have been so peaceful and so entirely commercial, that preparations for war have been lost sight of; and it is, therefore, not only idle, but preposterous in us to speak of war, without a navy, without an army, our coast defenceless, our commerce every where exposed, and we may add, without knowledge, or at least without practical experience in modern warfare, and with experienced pilots in our cities and seaport towns, in officers of other nations, and foreign engineers well acquainted with the actual position and strength of every fortification in the United States. Why a single war with a powerful nation like Great Britain, if she put forth her energies, would, in our present defenceless condition, give us the work of half a century to repair.

We should be like a peaceful Quaker encountering a celebrated prize fighter, and although he might have all the courage and determination of the other, or even more physical strength, yet wanting his science, he would carry the marks of a combat of fifteen minutes with him to the grave. War is now emphatically a matter of science in which the practised and experienced fighter has all the advantage, and numbers or spirit is matter of little account. And if we take the Ocean, we will find ourselves unequally matched there again. Our enemies have learnt a sore lesson in the last War, and if we enter upon another with Great Britain it will be a war for glory, hand to hand and gun to gun in which Americans have no doubt as to results, but a war in which they will endeavor to cripple us and break us down in every way. Superior skill, superior force, will be brought to bear upon us—equal contests will be shunned, our few ships will be captured or compelled to hide themselves, and what equality will there be in a contest between one of our 74, and the British Queen and President, for example, fitted out with all the improvements of modern warfare she could not escape her, the Steamship would take her position, dismantle, capture, or sink her in an hour. It is well perhaps for the cause of humanity that war has become now such a deadly strife among nations, as to make the unprepared look aghast at the idea of entering into it. If we wish for war let us count the cost before we begin, and let

us place ourselves in a position for it before it comes. Let us recall the 24 millions loaned the states, and apply it to defence and preparation, before we venture to swagger and talk big. Let us multiply our steamships, and ships of war, let us fortify our coasts, and increase the ways and means of transportation from State to State. Establish dockyards and places as military depots, habituate ourselves to all the modern inventions in warfare, and then if war must come, and cannot be honorably avoided, we may enter into it with a hope of glory and success, but at present it is perfect nonsense to talk of it. Do not let our citizens be offended at plain and wholesome truth, we are no doubt a great people, a glorious nation, but let us bear in mind the saying of poor Richard, if you will not hear reason she will surely rap your knuckles.

From the New York New World.

#### COMMODORE NAPIER.

By the Author of 'Random Recollections.'

What man could be named, I should like to know, more deserving of a place in my portrait gallery, than the gallant sailor whose recent brilliant exploits in the East, are the theme of every tongue and the subject of universal admiration? The Commodore is a native of Stirlingshire, in Scotland, and still retains his northern accent as strongly as if he had only quitted the land of 'moor and mountain' a few months ago. He is a singularly kind hearted, good natured man. There is an openness and manifest sincerity in his manner, which renders him a favorite the moment you are introduced to him. He has no lofty opinion of himself; he appears as if unconscious that he had done anything out of the common way, or which merits distinction. Like Lord Nelson he knows not what fear is. He is quite as cool and collected in the heat of conflict, and when the roar of cannon is reverberating in his ears, as if he were sitting in his own cabin, smoking his pipe and quaffing his grog before going to bed.

I have said that Commodore Napier is an open hearted, straight forward man. The remark however, only applies to his conduct in his private or individual capacity. In all matters appertaining to the naval service, he preserves a rigid secrecy, even from his most intimate acquaintances. Even when they suspect from his motions, that he has some great enterprise in contemplation, and endeavour to learn what that enterprise is by putting ingenious questions to him, he invariably preserves his own secret. Previous to his undertaking the great expedition to Portugal, where he performed such brilliant exploits, his more intimate acquaintances shrewdly suspected that he was about to be engaged in active and important service, and anxious to ascertain what it was, used to put the question to him—'Napier, come, do tell us what you are going to be about.' His uniform answer was, 'You shall hear by and bye.' It is generally understood that he conceals all his intended military movements even from the nearest and dearest members of his own family.

The Commodore has on several occasions been a candidate for a seat in the Legislature. In 1833, he contested the representation of Portsmouth, in the Tory interest. In the course of his canvass, in answer to the question who he was, he gave the following rich and racy account of himself and his public services.

"In the course of my canvass," said the gallant officer, "I have been asked who I am? I'll tell you. I am Captain Charles Napier, who five and twenty years ago commanded the Recruit brig, in the West Indies, and who had the honor of being twenty four hours under the guns of three French line of battle ships, flying from a British squadron, the nearest of which with the exception of the Hawk brig, was from five to six miles astern: the greatest part of the time I kept flying double shutted broadsides into them. One of these ships, the Hautbolt, only was captured by the Pompey and Castor, the other two escaped by superior sailing. Sir Alexander Cochrane, my commander in chief, promoted me on the spot into her. At the siege of Martinique, the Aeolus, Cleopatra, and Recruit, were ordered to beat up in the night, between Pigeon Island and the main, and anchor close to Fort Edward, the enemy, fearing an attack burnt their shipping. At daylight in the morning, it appeared to me that Fort Edward was abandoned; this, however, was doubted; I offered to ascertain the fact, and with five men landed in open day, scaled the walls and planted the union jack. Fortunately, I was undiscovered from Fort Bourbon, which stood about one hundred yards off, and commanded it. On this being reported to Sir Alexander Cochrane, a regi-