

thrown throughout the city were arrested and imprisoned. But the impatient multitude would not wait until these miserable Israelites had been condemned by the forms of law; they eagerly desired a speedier and more summary punishment. They rushed to attack the prison, forced the doors, and dragged their trembling victims to an open space, which afforded sufficient room for the dreadful deed which they were about to commit. They next plundered the houses of the Jews, and collected from them, and from other quarters, a vast heap of combustible materials. Upon this pile they placed their victims, without regard to age or sex, and after having kindled the fire, they testified by the most savage shouts the pleasure afforded them by the spectacle of the sufferings of the wretched Hebrews. In all the bloody annals of Pagan or Popish persecution, there is not a deed that calls for louder indignation than this cold-blooded massacre of two thousand unoffending Israelites, for such, according to the most authentic accounts, was the number of the victims who perished in the flames. From this time till the period of the French revolution, no Jew was allowed to reside within the walls of the city; they might enter it during the day-time to transact business, but every evening at a fixed hour a horn was blown from the tower of the cathedral, as a signal for their departure. The spot where the terrible conflagration took place is now known by the name of Brand Strasse or Fire Street."

The proscribed people were also treated with great cruelty in England. At Norwich, Stamford, and St. Edmundsbury, in the reign of Richard Coeur de Lion, the Jews were plundered and massacred; but the most dreadful catastrophe of this kind took place at York, chiefly at the instigation of the clergy there, in which more than five hundred of the proscribed nation perished. Persecution continued to be carried on, at various intervals, till the year 1290, when Edward I. issued orders that the Jews should all depart from the realm, their effects being declared forfeited to the crown. The number of exiles is variously estimated at from 15,000 to 16,500. This edict continued in force for nearly four centuries, and throughout this period, if any Jews visited England, or resided in it, they did so secretly and at the hazard of their lives. Many Jews have nevertheless returned to, and settled in England, but the same prejudice against the Israelites still continues to a very great extent. Even at so late a period as 1753, a bill that had passed the legislature for the naturalization of the Jews who had been resident for three years in the kingdom, was so fiercely opposed by the people, that it was found necessary to repeal the obnoxious statute in order to appease the wide-spread discontent.

The volume before us contains a great deal of information as to the modern history of the Jews, and also gives a detail of the many fruitless attempts that have been made towards their conversion during the last few hundred years. We would commend a perusal of the book to all who take an interest in the history of this peculiarly ill-used and persecuted people.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF HER MAJESTY'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

May it please Your Excellency,

The happy intelligence of the birth of a Royal Princess, and Heir to the Throne, diffused throughout this Province the most lively and universal joy. On this most important and auspicious event, and the restored health of Her Majesty, we gladly embrace this opportunity of cordially responding to your Excellency's congratulations. For the continued health and happiness of our Gracious Sovereign, who has thus acquired an increased title to the love and affection of all her subjects, we offer our most devout aspirations.

We fully coincide in the opinion expressed by Your Excellency, that the degree of Commercial embarrassment which has lately occurred in this Province, is best remedied by the prudence and practical good sense of those whose individual interests are concerned, and a more perfect knowledge of the causes which have given rise to the late derangement in business.

We are happy to learn that the injury caused by the great conflagration of 1839 to the Commercial Capital of the Province is in a course of being so speedily repaired, and this is attributable, in a great degree, to the provision made by the Legislature, under your Excellency's special recommendation; and that the expectations formed of increased security being given to property in that rising city have thereby been so fully realized, as well as its health and beauty materially improved.

We are deeply sensible of the blessing of the late abundant harvest, and participate in the hope so earnestly expressed by your Excellency, that the inhabitants of this Province may soon cease to be dependant on the surrounding Countries for their supply of Bread, which we are confident can be accomplished by the industry of its agricultural population,

aided by an improved system of cultivation and the fostering care of the Legislature; and as connected with this important subject we shall anxiously apply our attention to any measure which may be subjected to encourage the introduction of a valuable class of Immigrant Settlers.

We thank Your Excellency for the intimation that a copy of a Circular Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the important subject of the Communication between the upper and lower Provinces, shall be laid before us; and Your Excellency may rely on our continued disposition to concur in any appropriation which may be made for the important object referred to in the Despatch. And we look forward with much interest to the arrangements which your Excellency has been pleased to inform us are in progress, for the improvement in the conveyance and reduction in the rates of Post Communications.

In obedience to your Excellency's recommendation, we will give our serious attention to the suggestions contained in the Report which your Excellency has been pleased to say shall be laid before us, on the subject of the Coast and Harbour Fisheries.

We fully acknowledge the paramount importance of the subject of Education, and we shall cheerfully bestow our most anxious consideration on any measure having for its object the improvement of the system on which it is now conducted.

Encouraged by the information already obtained by the Geological exploration of certain Districts of the Province, we shall willingly concur in any farther assistance which may be required to develop its mineral treasures, and we took forward with interest to the Report which your Excellency is pleased to say shall be presented to us on the subject.

We are gratified to learn from your Excellency, that favorable reports have been received of the training of several Battalions of Militia and Artillery Companies, and it will give us great satisfaction to join in any provisions having for their object the extension of a similar benefit to the whole Militia Force of the Province.

We are fully sensible of the lively interest constantly exhibited by your Excellency in the welfare of the Province; and your Excellency may be assured that any matter in which your Excellency may be pleased to communicate to us by Message, as also the subjects of any Despatches from the Secretary of State for the Colonies which may be laid before us, shall receive that deep and respectful consideration which is justly due to the source from which they proceed.

We lament with your Excellency that it is not yet in your Excellency's power to communicate to us any definitive arrangement of the Boundary Question; but we have every confidence that this important matter will ultimately be settled in favour of British claims, without any violation of that good understanding which it is the true interest of both Nations to preserve.

REPLY.

Mr President and Gentlemen,

I thank you for this Address, and I receive with great pleasure the renewed assurance of your disposition cordially to co-operate with me in advancing the objects of the Session.

ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Representatives of Her Majesty's Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the People of New Brunswick, thank your Excellency for the Speech at the opening of the present Session.

We receive with heartfelt pleasure the announcement of the restored health of our beloved Sovereign, who, possessing the strongest claims upon our duty and affection on her own account, has acquired an increased title to our love and loyalty, by the birth of a Princess Royal—the Heir to Her Mother's virtues, and to a Throne based upon the imperishable love of Her People, fulfilling under Divine Providence, the hopes which the Nation at large, and this Province in particular, had so ardently cherished—and in thus responding to your Excellency's congratulations, we know that we reiterate the well known loyal sentiments which have ever distinguished the Legislature and the People of New Brunswick.

The Commercial embarrassment which occurred in some parts of the Province during the past year, owing partly to the conflagration by which the city of Saint John suffered so severely in 1839, and to other causes well understood, we consider as a temporary evil, for which the practical knowledge of those whose individual interests are concerned, will soon find a remedy. In the meantime we rejoice, that the assistance of the Legislature, and the spirited exertions of the Citizens themselves, have so much increased the security, health and beauty of the Commercial Capital of the Province.

In the abundance of the Harvest, the blessing of Providence has indeed been liberally extended to this and our Sister Provinces, and generally to this great Continent during the past Season; and we join your Excellency in the expression of a fervent hope, that by due encouragement, and the adoption of proper measures, the inhabitants of this fine Province may soon cease to be dependant on other Countries for their supply of Bread. A well ordered system of Immigration, ensuring a steady and adequate supply of Settlers and Laborers, of good morals and industrious habits, would greatly tend to this most desirable end; and we

beg to assure your Excellency, that all measures proposed with a view to promote the Agricultural Interests of the Province, whether by direct Legislative aid and encouragement, the introduction of valuable Settlers, or the Survey of a part of the Wild Lands, shall receive our most careful consideration and attention.

We know that most of the Great Roads of Communication throughout the Province have, for several years past been rapidly improving, and we are pleased to learn that they are now admitted by travellers to be equal, if not superior, to those of the surrounding countries. It is our intention to provide for the gradual improvement and final completion of the Roads generally; and in so doing we shall pay particular attention to the important Line of Communication between Her Majesty's Upper and Lower Provinces, with a view of "meeting, by corresponding feelings, the exertions made by the Parent State, to promote a regular and rapid intercourse with the Colonies," by means of a Line of Steam Packets between England and Halifax, an establishment for which we are truly thankful.

We heartily respond to your Excellency's congratulations, upon the arrangements in progress, under the directions of his Excellency the Governor General, for the improvement of the Mail Routes and reduction of the Rates of Postage in British America.

The Report on the subject of the Coast and Harbour Fisheries, which your Excellency has promised shall be laid before us, will be received with particular interest, and attentively considered, with the view of rendering that great source of wealth productive and beneficial to the general interests of the Province.

The Education of Youth has ever been regarded by us as an object of paramount importance; and we shall not only continue to make liberal provision for its advancement, but shall also most heartily co-operate with your Excellency in every measure tending to the improvement of any part of the system under which it is at present conducted.

Diligent attention shall be given to the Report of the Geological Exploration; and we promise such farther assistance, to enable your Excellency to continue this service, as, on due consideration, its importance and utility may appear to us to require.

We are happy to find that the officers selected by your Excellency to superintend the training of some of the Frontier Battalions of Militia and of the Artillery Companies, report very favorably of their general progress and attendance during the late Season. Convinced that the improvement of this constitutional arm of our strength is of the greatest importance to the safety of the Province, we shall cheerfully make provision for the continuance of the system to such extent as may be deemed necessary.

All subjects communicated to us by Message shall receive our careful attention; and we thank your Excellency for the candid invitation freely given, to bring under your notice any matters appearing to us to be essential for the Public Interests, assured as we are of your Excellency's anxious desire to co-operate with us therein; and such copies of Despatches from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, which your Excellency may be pleased to communicate, shall receive from us that degree of respectful consideration which is due to the source from which they emanate, and to the anxious desire which is invariably manifested by our Gracious Queen to promote the interests and happiness of all classes of Her subjects in this Province.

We thank your Excellency for the assurance that full and detailed statements of the Provincial Receipts and Expenditures since the last Session are to be laid before us without delay, and are happy to learn that the Revenue is still in a satisfactory state; and your Excellency may rely upon our making provision for the Expenditure connected with the efficient Administration of the Government and Public Service, with due alacrity and liberality.

It is to us a matter of sincere regret that the Boundary Question still continues undecided;—We are glad, however, to be informed, that there is reason to believe that the result of the Explorations will be favorable to British interests, and that in the final decision of that important question, there will be no cause to apprehend any interruption to that good understanding with the neighbouring States, which your Excellency assures us is the sincere desire of both Nations cordially to promote.

CHAS. P. WETMORE, Clerk.

REPLY.

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen,

I receive your loyal and dutiful Address with great satisfaction. The terms of it leave me no reason to doubt the continuance, during the present Session, of that Legislative harmony which has hitherto so happily prevailed, and by which alone can the best interests of the Province be promoted.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, January 21.

The hon. Mr Weldon moved for leave to bring in a bill to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Kent, to levy an assessment to pay off the County debt. Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

On motion of the hon. Mr Crane, Resolved, That a committee be appointed, to whom shall be referred all Petitions for aid in promoting the Internal Communications throughout the

Province; also petitions for assistance to promote Communications by Packets or otherwise, with the neighbouring Colonies. Ordered, That the hon. Mr Crane, the hon. Mr Weldon, Mr Woodward, Mr End, and Mr Owen, do compose the said committee.

Mr Street moved for leave to bring in a bill, further in amendment of the Law and the better advancement of Justice. Leave Granted. The said bill being brought in was read a first time. January 25.

The hon. Mr Weldon, by leave, presented a petition from the Rev. James Hannay, together with George Platt, Alexander Roxburgh, and 102 others, inhabitants of the County of Kent, praying that the Line of Road laid out between the Grand Lake and Richibucto, may be established as one of the Great Roads of Communication, and be rendered fit for travelling, which he read. Ordered, That the said petition be received, and lie on the Table.

SALARY TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

Downing Street, 28th April, 1840.

Sir—I have received your Despatch, No. 15, of the 24th March, communicating the information that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick had unanimously voted that the Table allowance of £500 enjoyed by your predecessors, should be granted to you from the commencement of your administration, and to continue during your tenure of the office of Lieutenant Governor of the Colony.

I am happy to be able to convey to you, Her Majesty's permission to accept this addition to your official income. I cannot doubt that as the assembly thus feel the inadequacy of the Salary assigned to the Representative of the Sovereign in New Brunswick, they will hereafter display a similar spirit of liberality towards your Successor.

J. RUSSELL.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

Downing Street, 23rd May, 1840.

Sir—With reference to the latter part of my Despatch, No. 35, of the 10th March last, I have now the honor to convey to you the decision of Her Majesty's Government, on the Acts of the last Session of the Legislature of New Brunswick, which then remained undisposed of.

The Act No. 1237, for the improvement of the practice in the Court of Chancery, appears to be very objectionable for the following reasons:

1st. Because of the absolute power which it gives to the Judge, without supervision or control, to alter the practice and constitution of the Court.

2nd. Because of the very summary proceeding which it sanctions, of taking Bills *pro confesso*, on any default.

3rd. Because of the loose enactments which it contains respecting executing decrees, and conducting the examination of witnesses; and

4th. Because of its leaving the amount of fees to the mere discretion of the Chancellor and Master of the Rolls.

You will therefore make these objections known to the Legislature, and recommend the amendment of the act accordingly. In the meantime the decision of Her Majesty in Council on this Act will be suspended.

J. RUSSELL.

COLONIAL ASSOCIATION.

Downing Street, 4th June, 1840.

Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 28, of the 26th ultimo, transmitting an Act passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick, without a suspending clause, enabling the Lieutenant Governor to grant 100,000 acres of land to the British North American Colonial Association of Ireland, upon the condition therein specified, that is, by private sale, without an auction, at the rate of 3s. per acre. This is therefore a departure from the general principle under which the Crown agreed to transfer to the Lieutenant Governor and Executive Council the conduct of the business of settling the waste Lands of the Province. It is also an exception to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly, under which that power was created. Her Majesty's Government, have, however, not thought it necessary to advise the Queen to disallow this Act, on account of this irregularity, but you will consider yourself forbidden hereafter from assenting to any Act departing from the general law, in favor of any private person or body of persons, without previous reference to the Crown, or without a clause suspending the operation of the act for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure.

I enclose an order passed by Her Majesty in Council, on the 22d ult., leaving the Act to its operation, and I have forwarded a copy of the Act to Earl FitzWilliam, according to your request.

J. RUSSELL.

Downing Street, 30th June, 1840.

Sir—With reference to the Despatch which I addressed to you on the 4th instant, on the subject of the Act lately passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick to authorize the Lieutenant Governor of that Colony to dispose of 100,000 acres of Land, by private Sale, to the North American Colonial Association of Ireland, I desire to add that although I cannot doubt that it is the intention of the Legislature to apply the proceeds of this extensive Sale to the encouragement of Emigration, I wish, nevertheless, that you would, on the earliest occasion after the meeting of the House of Assembly, suggest to them the great benefit which the Province would derive from applying the proceeds of this sale to such purposes as emigration.

J. RUSSELL.