

knighthood upon him. Several foreigners of distinction has visited the work.

**ORIGINAL.**

"Facts are apt to alarm us more than the most dangerous principles."

JUNIUS.

MR PIERCE;

As Sir John Harvey has left the Province, it may be thought I should say nothing more on the subject of his administration; but as my remarks principally apply to the House of Assembly, and my business is to note their recent acts, and compare them with those of former years; I must be excused for occasionally making use of his name in his absence, which I shall do as seldom as possible. I have mentioned Sir Archibald Campbell, not because I admired him, or his administration, but as all things are good or bad by comparison, I consider his was good in comparison with Sir John's.

It is by beacons and land marks, that the wary mariner is enabled to avoid the rocks and shoals, and to guide his bark with safety to her haven; and if the present administrator of the government will but regard the independent Press, and the independent and disinterested constituency of the Province, as political beacons and landmarks, he will be enabled to avoid the rocks and shoals among which his predecessor became entangled, and discharge the duties of the important office he is called upon to fill, with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. If his Excellency will but condescend to read my former letters, he will find there recorded facts, from which he can draw his own conclusions; but whether His Excellency, or those whose business it is to correct abuses, will read my communications or not, I shall still proceed to record the doings of the honorable House, and perhaps hereafter offer some remarks; at present I must trouble you with a few more figures and extracts from the Journals.

In 1835 the House of Assembly addressed his Majesty, and stated as their opinion, that the salaries of certain officers, were entirely beyond the circumstances of the country to afford, and beyond those allowed officers of great responsibility, of provincial appointment; and referred His Majesty to a schedule, in which they fixed the governor's salary at £2,500 currency,—the Provincial Secretary at £600, and the indoor establishment of his office at £800. They further stated, "That the Treasurer of the Province (an office of great responsibility and labor) received an annual salary of £600 currency, per annum, besides allowances for a Clerk, Office hire, and contingencies of about £300." The Treasurer now receives £750, and last year the allowance for a Clerk and contingencies, amounted to more than £600, making a trifling difference between 1835 and 40 of £460. Last Session the following sums were voted by the House:

Treasurer's Salary,	£750,
Office Contingencies	163,
Clerk,	300,
Messenger,	150,

£1,363.

Here then, they allow £300 for one clerk, the sum allowed for the whole indoor establishment of the Secretary's Office, where three clerks are employed, and to whom the Secretary pays £440, or about £147 each. The total amount of the income of the Attorney General in 1839, including fees, was £875, out of which he pays the expences of his office, and in order to enable him to devote the necessary attention to the duties of his office, he is compelled to decline private practice. By these comparisons I do not mean to contend for large salaries, but for equity. Last Session the subject of salaries was again taken up, and the salary of the Secretary and Attorney General recommended at £600 currency, including fees; now if the duties of the Treasurer have become so arduous since 1835, as to make it necessary to increase his allowance, the duties of those officers must have also increased, and therefore there should be a corresponding increase of salary; but I am inclined to think the great moving cause of this increase is the fact of the Treasurer, and an honorable Member and Executive Councillor, having married sisters, who have the honor to be Nieces of the Honorable Speaker I hope I shall never see the Secretary of the Province, and the Attorney General, the humble slaves of the House of Assembly, and seeking additional compensation from them, for services performed. Let the salaries of all public officers be fixed, and let them be in proportion to the services required, and not to the connexion or interest of the incumbent.

The Members in providing for their friends, have not forgotten themselves, although they appear to have forgotten their arguments during the cry for retrenchment; they then fixed their own pay at fifteen shillings per day, but not to exceed £30; now they receive twenty shillings per day, and to extend to £50. Formerly the Clerk of the Legislative Council received £50, and twenty shillings per day, the ordinary length of the session then being fifty days, would make the salary £100—the present clerk receives £200. The Clerk of the House of Assembly formerly received £100, and twenty shillings per day—he now receives £200, besides a variety of perquisites included in the contingent bill. The Assistant Clerk of the Council received £25, and the Assistant Clerk of the Assembly twenty shillings per day—they now receive £100 each. Their Chaplain formerly received £20, but the present one is either a greater favourite than his predecessor, or his duties, from their accumulated sins, have become more arduous, as he gets £25. In 1832, the Chairman of the committee on Public Accounts (J. R. Partelow) received £60 for services performed by him during the recess—this has become an annual and increasing grant—last year it was £150.

Among the extraordinary grants of the two last sessions is £5,500 for widening the streets in the city of Saint John; £800 return duties on articles of American produce and manufacture imported into the Province, £700 of which is duty on bricks and fire-proof materials, imported into Saint John. There is another item of £15 to the Stageman to the House of Assembly, for duties paid on a pair of horses and a coach, imported from the United States. This grant I presume was made by way of encouraging the Agricultural interest of the Province; it may with truth be said, that that interest is not fairly represented. £12 15s is also granted for duties paid on manufactured American trunnels, imported from the United States for the great Bridge at Sackville—this is by way of encouraging the manufactures of the country. *The Grant is no doubt a very correct and proper one, as there is no wood in this country.*

In 1836 when you went to Fredericton and reported, and published the proceedings of the House daily, they made you the liberal allowance of £30; and at the close of the session resolved that they would, at their next session, allow £100 for the daily reports, provided two good and sufficient reporters were employed; this session they have granted Mr Ward £140 for reporting the debates in his newspaper, semi-weekly. The only charitable construction I can put upon this grant is, that they have allowed him £40 for the Reports, and £100 for his laboured Editorials, and incorrect statements; you were not the right stuff for them, or they would not have imprisoned you for telling the truth, which you are too much addicted to, to obtain their favour—Mr Ward suits them much better. Last year I am informed he received £150 as Assistant Emigrant Agent, an office as much required at Head Quarters as at Point Misco; and in addition to all this, they have voted him £50 for what they are pleased to call 'an account of New Brunswick,' but which the author calls 'an account of the River Saint John.' From the wording of this grant, and the manner in which we are treated on this side of the Province, one would really suppose the legislature considered the River St. John as constituting the whole Province. Then, if my information be correct as to the £150, Mr Ward has received out of the revenue of the Province £340 for writing in favour of the present (or I may now say the late) administration. I find £130 granted to Mr Chubb for printing Dr. Gesner's and Dr. Robb's Reports, not one copy of either, as far as I can learn, has found its way to this side of the Province; thus, by overpaying some editors, and prosecuting and imprisoning others, the House has pretty well succeeded in suppressing the free expression of sentiment. This year they have granted the enormous sum of £1,495 to John Simpson for printing. In 1831 £60 was granted for printing the Laws, this year £150 has been granted towards that duty. This and similar grants were formerly made to the Executive, but of late, during our 'new and improved constitution,' the house have taken the patronage into their own hands, and make these grants direct to the parties. In 1835 they allowed Mr Holbrook £35 for compiling the Census returns, a duty which could be performed in one week, this year they have allowed him £50 for the same service. These are but a few of the extraordinary grants of the house, and my heart sickens in recording such lavish expenditure of the people's money.

There are others that are worse than extravagant, evidently made with a view to obtain popularity, and influence electors.

During the cry against the Quit rents we were told that the King had no right to them; that he was merely a trustee, and held the lands for the benefit of his subjects. The Members of the house should recollect that they are our Representatives, and hold the revenues of the Province for our benefit as well as their own.

MONITOR.

Miramichi, May 3, 1841.

**SCHEDIASMA.**

MIRAMICHI.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 4, 1841.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The Courier with the Southern Mail arrived on Monday afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

THE TIMBER DUTIES.

The subject of the equalization of the Duties on Foreign and Colonial Timber, is again agitated in the mother country, and we understand, there is every reason to fear, that great exertions will be made by the friends of the measure, to carry it through Parliament.

Among our extracts to day, will be found the examination of Mr M'Gregor before a Select Committee of the House of Commons. This gentleman says, notwithstanding he is a warm supporter of the scheme, that the contemplated alteration of the duties would ruin New Brunswick. We thank him for this true remark. Deprive us of this trade, and you at once take from us, the means by which all classes of the people procure a livelihood.

By it, the emigrant on his arrival in the country, easily obtains labour. By it, the new settler is enabled to dispose of a few cords of lathwood, and tons of timber, cut on his own land, during the inclement season of winter, while all Agricultural operations are at a stand, which supplies him with the means of procuring the necessaries of life, while preparing his land for culture. By its operations the farmer obtains a remunerating price, and ready sale for all the produce of his farm, which encourages him to persevere in his calling. And by it, the merchant is enabled to pay the British Manufacturer for the large importations of Goods which are yearly shipped to the Province. Take from us this trade, and thousands who now make a comfortable livelihood will be utterly ruined, and compelled to seek a home in some other part of the world.

By the following extracts, which we copy from the Montreal Courier of the 19th ult., it will be seen that the inhabitants of Canada are bestirring themselves in this matter. The suggestions of the editor, in the last paragraph are well worthy the serious consideration of the mercantile body of this Province.

"A very respectable deputation of Merchants headed by His Honor the Mayor, waited upon the Governor General on Friday last, with a petition from the Montreal Board of Trade declaratory of the alarm entertained by that body at the reported intentions of Her Majesty's Ministers to propose to Parliament a reduction of the duties on Foreign Timber, and praying his Lordship's interference to prevent or postpone the Execution of any such intention if really contemplated by the Home Government.

"The hon. P. M'Gill, at the same time presented a petition from Bytown most numerously signed by the Merchants, Traders, and inhabitants interested in the Trade of the Ottawa River." This petition referred to evidence of an erroneous nature given before a Select Committee of the House of Commons respecting the Timber Trade of Canada, and pointed out the importance of this Trade as well to the British American Colonies as to the British Manufacturer at home, of whose commodities to the amount of Three millions sterling were annually consumed by this portion of the Empire. The petition also adverted to the utility of the Lumber trade in opening up the Agricultural resources of the country, its value as a Nursery for Seamen for the mother country in the 1200 ships which it annually brings across the Atlantic to the Port of Quebec, and the facilities afforded to emigration in the low rate in which vessels coming to the St. Lawrence for Timber could afford to bring out Passengers. The petitioners prayed his Lordship's interference to avert any change in the Trade, and if unsuccessful in that, to represent the propriety and justice of time being given to realize and withdraw the large amount of capital invested in the Trade before measures for its diminution or extinction should be carried into effect.

"His Excellency received the deputation in a very cordial manner. He said that he had not received any official information respecting the details of the measures alleged to be in

contemplation, but that it was his duty as the Representative of her Majesty in these Provinces to guard the interests of every inhabitant in them, and he had already written home to recommend that no changes might be made for which adequate time should not be given to the parties interested to prepare. His Excellency promised to forward the representations he had received upon this subject.

"It is only from the Budget statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that we shall learn the precise nature of the changes to be proposed, if any, in the regulation of the Foreign and Colonial Timber Duties.—From that statement we shall learn the exact financial condition of the mother country and her dependencies, and the projects of the State. In the meantime as rumours are abroad upon the subject, and considerable activity has been latterly evinced by a party which, in the interests of the British consumer, claims a new adjustment of the Timber duties, it is the business of all engaged in that trade in this Country to be stirring and in the field. It is the duty of every interest to be watchful over its own prosperity and rights; and representations sent to the Government and individual Members of Parliament practically setting forth the nature and extent of the Lumberer's operations, the number of hands employed, the capital invested, and the shipping engaged in the trade can do no harm, and may prevent the adoption of precipitate measures upon so important a subject."

ARRIVAL OF THE CREW OF THE BARK LARCH.

The arrival here on Saturday last, of Captain Evans, and crew of the bark Larch, wrecked last fall on the Magdalen Islands, has dispelled the gloomy forebodings entertained for their safety, as no intelligence had been received further than that the vessel had been wrecked.

Captain E. informs us, that as soon as it was practicable, Messrs. Cunards, owners of the bark, despatched the schooner Three Brothers, in charge of Mr H. Caie, from Shippigan to the Islands, to obtain some information respecting them. They all took passage on board the schooner, and after a very dangerous voyage landed at Shippigan.

The Larch was a total wreck. Two men were frozen to death, and most of the crew were, more or less, frost bitten. One man was lost this spring in the ice, while out on a sealing excursion, and another died on his passage to Shippigan, having been severely frozen at the time of the vessel's being wrecked, and had been ailing all winter. Captain E. a few days after the loss of his vessel, hired a small shallop, to convey himself and crew to the main land, but unfortunately, in a very severe snow storm on the day after sailing, she was wrecked in Pleasant Bay, and it was with much difficulty they saved their lives. He has resided all winter on the Islands, and gives a most lamentable account of the privations they had to endure.

THE SEASON.

We have experienced another week of most miserable, cold, wet weather. It is now about three weeks since we have had a glimpse of the sun, if we except about two hours on Saturday afternoon last, when he succeeded in blessing us with the warmth of benignant rays.

We have a gratifying piece of news to record to day. The report of a gun, on Mr Michael Samuel's wharf, about eight o'clock yesterday morning, announced the pleasing fact, that the ice abreast of Chatbam, had at length given way; but as the tides are low, and the wind all day blew strongly from the Eastward, it made but little progress in its downward course. This morning there is but little wind, and that little from the southward; the ice is fast passing down, and as the channel has been clear for some days past below Middle Island, we may safely calculate on again seeing a clear river, in the course of two or three days.

DISSOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The St. John Herald contains the following paragraph, and we should not be surprised, if the information it contains, proves correct.

"We have good authority for stating, that there will positively be a dissolution of the House of Assembly, during the summer. The grant of £1500 to Sir John Harvey has raised such an extended outcry in every part of the Province, that even the person to whom it was voted, had he remained, would have been obliged to grant the wishes of so numerous and respectable a body of the Constituency of the Province—by an immediate dissolution of the House."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Profile, Reform, and Jerry's Sister, have been received.

For remainder Miramichi Head, see page 267.