

document is ably drawn up, and the matter on one side of the question is treated with very considerable shrewdness, and exhibits much study of the object. Sir George Cockburn, however, discusses the question on one side only, he sets up boldly his own plan, and advocates it strenuously and ingeniously upon its merits, but he does not attempt to grapple with the many and vast objections which exist to it. He proposed that the whole paper and metallic currency of the nation shall be issued by the Government, and that all other paper issues payable on demand shall be gradually abolished. For the adoption of such a course he urges many cogent reasons, but he had not taken into account the temptations to abuse these privileges for party purposes, which would render in the hands of a tottering Government, or of a Ministry which had financial or political points to gain, their abuse more likely, and the currency less safe than were its machinery dependant on the management of companies. There are very many difficulties in the way of the adoption of a national paper currency which Sir G. Cockburn has not contemplated, or, at least, has not at all dealt with, but which we have not space to enlarge on to day.

ORIGINAL.

SIR WILLIAM COLEBROOKE'S ADMINISTRATION.

MR. EDITOR,

In my last of the 21st inst., I requested a careful perusal of the several Bills which had been so widely circulated through the Province by His Excellency's directions; and I shall now proceed to enquire into the merits of each separately, and of the whole of them, taken together as one plan or system for the future internal regulation of the Province. The better to do this I must here premise that the foundation stone of all this new and costly fabric, was to have been a loan of £500,000 by the Province, to have been expended in public works, under the direction of a Board of Works!—No one will be surprised, I think, at the rejection by the Assembly, of this proposition. It might be all very well some century hence to expend such a sum in building dry docks at St. John; cutting a Canal from the Bay de Verte to the Bay of Fundy; improving the navigation of the River St. John by cutting away the Falls at its mouth; or in furnishing locomotives, by which our rivers might be used in the winter season as rail roads, &c. But who can for one moment entertain a doubt of the inexpediency of such things, when the Province is already in debt, and a fearful depression of every thing like commercial interest not only presses so heavily upon the present welfare of the Colony, but would seem to forbid even the hope that our revenues will be sufficient to meet the ordinary exigencies of the government, including £15,000 per annum, which must be paid as a Civil List, without the additional enormous sum of £25,000 per annum interest upon such a loan. Touching this loan, Mr. Editor, it is rather odd (yet it accounts for Lord Stanley's anxiety to prevent any false hopes being raised as to a guarantee being given by the home government), that the Colonial Minister should have been importuned upon the subject by His Excellency ere he knew the wishes of the people or their representatives upon the matter. Sir William's advisers are sadly to blame for urging such a step. What? £500,000 to be borrowed to be expended upon public works by a Board of Works guided by our Executive, and leave (as the Municipal Bill anticipates) each County to provide, by direct taxation, for its own bye roads, schools, hospitals, and the incident expenses of a Corporation machinery? *Whew!* Such a plan is an outrage upon common sense, and must ever meet the same fate in the Legislature which it did last winter. It has been argued, that under the new and proposed style of things, the Assembly might grant money to each Corporation for its bye roads. Admit, Mr. Editor, that such could be done (though it is entirely contrary to the spirit of the scheme), how is the Executive to be induced to include such an item in the estimate, and if they did, where is the money to come from? The estimate, or rather a portion of an estimate with which this Executive favored the Legislature last Session, disposed of £100,000 of the revenue for ordinary and necessary expenses, without appropriating one farthing to the roads and bridges, either public or bye; and yet they kindly say to the people's representatives "After providing for our estimate, you may vote a sum for that purpose, if you think fit!" Where, I ask again, is the money to come from? £100,000 of the revenue had already, or rather would have been, burked by this precious estimate, and the Assembly might or might not have been permitted to lay out the balance upon the roads and bridges in the country. Will it be credited, Mr. Editor, that, in this identical and all saving estimate of these Initiative-Executive people, they had the coolness to insert, as a specimen of their economy, the sum of £1000 as the annual contingency of the Governor!!! And this is the body, the economical and patriotic body, into whose hands the people are called upon with all paternal and fostering anxiety, to entrust the appropriation of their money, viz. the public revenue, and are offered in return the glorious satisfaction of imposing direct taxes upon themselves for local and

some in the Assembly have been induced to support it; let them beware how they approach the hustings with such words upon their lips. What? Direct taxation for bye roads, schools, hospitals, &c. to enable a board of works to dig canals, blow up falls, build dry docks, &c. with £500,000 of borrowed money, and thus centralize in the Executive every spring of improvement? Let us view the plan in figures; first then comes £15,000 per annum Civil List, then £25,000 annual interest of the loan; then the ordinary expenses, per estimate £60,000 exclusive of roads and bridges, making in all £100,000. So much for the first part of the plan; now for the second. The Assembly were to borrow the £500,000 for the board of works to expend, and then to yield to the Executive the right of dictating to what purposes the ordinary revenue of the Province should be applied; and thus, and only thus, would our country be saved! Ha, ha, ha, ha! Don't you wish you may get it, Mr. Executive? The people of this country have been taught (tis true, by a very dearly bought experience) in the last four years crusade against an overflowing chest, that just in proportion as the Assembly is free from the Executive influence of Responsible Government, just so much the better will the public money be guarded. Suppose, for example sake, that the £500,000 had been at the disposal of the late administration, as I think I have proved in my former letter our ordinary revenue was, where would it now have been? Echo might answer, *where?* Or suppose that it had been under the control of a board of works, directed by the experienced eye of our present Executive, what might we expect to have of it at the end of twelve months? It is not improbable we might see *Micmac Colleges*, and *Milicete Villages* studing the forests of our land, entailing upon the Province an unceasing drain for support; we might also have large settlements of indigent emigrants, hired to live with us just long enough to extract from our coffers sufficient to pay their passage to the United States, or to become poor enough to call upon the keepers of some of the proposed municipal hospitals for support and relief; we might have also dry docks at St. John; a Canal at the Bay de Verte; Ship Navigation to Fredericton, or Locomotives on our Frozen Streams. I say, Mr. Editor, we might have all these desirable improvements, but we most assuredly would have interest to pay annually to the tune of £25,000 forever and a day. But it is time for me to turn to the Municipal Bill. By the 5th Section His Excellency has the appointment of Warden and Clerk, whom he may displace at any time, as well as dissolve the whole Council at his pleasure. By the 10th Section, every elector, before he can vote, must go to the Clerk's office within two months from the publication of a notice to this effect, and prove his qualification, pay 1s. and enroll himself. Apply this now to any County in the Province; take York, for instance: The Clerk might reside at Fredericton: a farmer lives, we will suppose, 40 or 50 miles from the Clerk's office, enjoying a quiet competence, or gaining by the sweat of his brow a scanty subsistence for his family, undisturbed either by the cares of politics, or the annoyance of party strife; he sees, or it may be by accident hears, that the Clerk of the Corporation has issued a notice, by which, unless he enroll himself within two months, he will be deprived of a franchise, which he has ever exercised, in giving his voice for those whom he may think worthy of the high trust of making laws; the only course left for him therefore is, to put in his purse 20s., mount his horse (if he have one), leave his farm, travel to Fredericton, prove his qualification, pay 1s., and return a member of the Corporation. This may be an acceptable prelude to change in the country, but I cannot view it so. But to proceed; when this has been accomplished, each Parish is compelled to choose a certain number of Councillors possessing a certain qualification: these Councillors are to be chosen every year, and are obliged to meet four several times in each year for six days together, and are liable to be convened so often as the Governor or Warden may think proper; a councillor when chosen is obliged to accept office and take upon himself all the duties as well as the incumbent expenses thereof, without any remuneration, or he must pay a fine of £10. Let us for a moment enquire into the workings of this section. The same farmer, whom I have taken as an example, is thus called upon to spend 24 days in each year from his farm, and it may be for twice that period, his expenses, including horse hire, outlay, and loss of time, would amount to at least 20s. per day, and thus he must calculate upon expending out of his own pocket, at the lowest estimation, about £24 cash every year, and for what? We are told it is to have the glorious privilege of taxing his County or Parish to make and maintain bye roads, to erect and repair bridges, to establish and provide for schools and hospitals, to pay the newly created officers of the new fangled Corporation, not to mention the high prerogative of appointing bogreaves, constables, and other district officers. There is another privilege, viz.: to be allowed to make public improvements

examination and approval also of this Board of Works, see sec. 45 and 50. If the people are willing to adopt this expensive and complicated machinery of County Government, to be sustained only by direct and increased taxation, in lieu of the cheap, well understood, and hitherto satisfactory method in use, for the purpose of supporting schools, bye roads, hospitals, &c. by a money tax on the County, and of giving the public revenue to a Board of Works to play with, it is more than I should have thought, nor will I believe until at the approaching election they choose such men only as will declare upon the hustings their adherence to the Municipal Corporation Bill, and its associates. In the 55th sec. the Board of Works stand forth in bold relief, but in all the sections it crops out sufficiently to shew it, in conjunction with the £500,000 loan, to be the key stone to all these new measures. There is one other feature in this Municipal Bill more objectionable I think than any other, it is that, which would appear purposely intended to weaken the ties, which I trust may long continue to bind us to our father-land; it is, that no person holding office, either civil or military, under our most Gracious QUEEN, shall be eligible to any Office in the County Corporation! Why is it that the people should be restricted in their choice of persons to manage their affairs? Why is it that a law should pass to create and perpetuate what never did exist in New Brunswick, viz: a distrust between Her Majesty's subjects in general, and those whom she may honor with her more especial confidence? Do His Excellency and his advisers hope by such means either to gratify a contented, intelligent, and loyal people, or to add lustre to a sovereign beloved by all who delight in the fame of Britain?

I have already, I fear, trespassed upon your columns, and will defer to another letter what I have to say.

A TAX PAYER.

May 28, 1842.

UNITED STATES.

Boston Daily Advertiser.

Maine Legislature.—The Legislature of Maine met at Augusta on Wednesday 18th inst. in obedience to the proclamation of Governor Fairfield. A quorum of both houses was assembled, and the Governor being notified thereof, communicated to them the objects of the special session by Message. The message was referred to a large joint committee, consisting of 9 members on the part of the Senate and 13 on the part of the house. Mr. Cavanagh is chairman of the committee.

The message was accompanied by the letter of Mr. Webster, Secretary of State, which has been already published. The Gov. in his message states the purport of the communication made to him by the Secretary of State by order of the President, and proceeds to present his views of the question submitted. He alludes to the fact that the alternative of a settlement by a negotiation for a conventional line proposed by the general government is the submission of the question to another arbitration, which the State of Maine has remonstrated against, and he believes will continue to remonstrate. This fact he says should be taken into consideration by the Legislature, in deciding on the question whether they will give their assent to a direct cession of territory for an equivalent. He is of opinion that if anything less is intended by the Representative of Great Britain, than the offer of a just and equitable equivalent for that portion of territory which that country has heretofore claimed as her own, nothing will be accomplished in the way of an adjustment. But if Great Britain is prepared to treat on these terms, by offering a fair equivalent for territory to be ceded, in other territory, privileges of navigation and other advantages, he does not see why the question may not be thus put at rest forever. He therefore thinks favorably of the appointment of commissioners, and cheerfully recommends the adoption of that course. The Governor expresses an earnest hope that the Legislature will confine themselves to this object of their session, and that they will come to a decision with as much despatch as is consistent with due deliberation.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

Large Iron Shaft.—A shaft of wrought Iron weighing about 16 tons, has been shipped from this town for the Great Western Steam Ship Company at Bristol, being, we understand, the largest piece of wrought iron ever manufactured in this or any other country. It was manufactured at the Mersey Steel and Iron Works in this town.—*Liverpool Courier.*

Dublin, April 30.—The Catholic Church.—The bulls for the consecration of the Rev. William Walsh, of Kingston, as a bishop in partibus and coadjutor to the Right Rev. Dr. Frazer of Nova Scotia, have arrived in this city. The solemn and sacred ceremony of his consecration will take place tomorrow, in the Church of St. Andrew, Westland row.

Presents to the King of Prussia.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Vurzburg Gazette* writes from that city, on the 19th inst. that Queen Victoria had sent the following presents to the King and Queen of Prussia:—1st. A cradle, with the figure of a nurse holding in her arms an infant, resembling the Prince of

seen allegorical souvenirs relating to the baptism of the Prince of Wales. 4th. Four boxes containing snuff. 5th. A dozen knives and forks, of gold, except the blades of the knives, which are of Damascus steel, and the handles ornamented with a crown set in brilliants. 6th. A stone vase, containing the rarest Indian fruits. 7th. Two extraordinary large legs of mutton.

Scotland.—Emigration from this part of the country for the United States continues unabated. Yesterday the ship *Pertshire* left the Broomielaw with her full complement of passengers, 214—being the largest number of emigrants that ever left the Clyde in one vessel for the United States. As it was known that the *Pertshire* would sail upon the day advertised a great concourse of spectators and friends of the emigrants lined the quay upon the south side of the river to witness her departure.—The passengers were all of a very respectable class, chiefly farmers, with their friends, and were in best of spirits from the handsome accommodation of the ship and the fineness of the day.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

General assembly.—The Queen has been pleased to constitute and appoint the Most Hon. John, Marquis of Bute to be her Majesty's high commissioner of the general assembly to the Church of Scotland.

The Moderatorship.—We understand that the Rev. Dr. Welsh is to be proposed as Moderator of the ensuing General Assembly. Our readers will agree with us in thinking, that a man better suited for taking the first place in our Ecclesiastical Court at a time so momentous as the present is not to be found. No minister of the Church stands higher in character than Dr. Welsh—and there are few so peculiarly fitted for the duties of the office by a knowledge of ecclesiastical law and history, and by business habits and business talent. Though perhaps a smaller matter, it would be gratifying too, at a time like the present, when supercilious wittlings and semi infidel worldlings can describe our Assembly as ruled by a fanatical majority, to see at its head, as the choice of that majority, one of the soundest judgements and most philosophic intellects of Scotland.—*Edinburgh Witness.*

The Circular to Bankers, of Saturday evening, April 30, says—The bankers who have engaged to take certain sums of money from the bank, at the rate of three per cent., complain of the difficulty of employing it safely. One in a large town, who is under no such obligation, told us that if offered £100,000 at the rate of two per cent., he would not take that sum on condition of lending it out among the manufacturers. Revival now will not be the same as in former years, and that the Minister ought to have known before he disturbed the commercial classes by his tariff. Money in the discount market is really of lower value this week than it was last, for the billbrokers are offered it at the rate of two and a half per cent.—They have not, however, yet lowered the rate to their depositing customers under three per cent.

The rate of interest on bills of exchange and notes discounted by the Banks of England, continued at four per cent.

The South Banking Company, an old and respectable establishment, has suspended payment. It is thought that ample funds to pay all their creditors are left.

The Renfrewshire Banking Company had stopped payment, and exhibited assets only to about one half the amount of its liabilities.

The Leith Banking Company, an old and highly respectable establishment, have suspended payment.

The house of Acremany, Morgan & Co., one of the heaviest importing concerns at Bristol, has again stopped payment, after a spasmodic attempt to resume.

The Duke of Wellington.—Sunday last was the birthday of the Duke of Wellington, who completed his 73d year, having been born in 1769.

The Duke of Wellington, is about to retire from public life.

The Niger Expedition.—A letter from one of the survivors of the voluntary exiles to the swamps of the Niger, dated from on board her majesty's steam vessel the *Wilberforce*, Island of Ascension, Feb. 14, states that very few are left to recount what they have seen and felt during the expedition. All the marines have died, with the exception of Sergeant Hodges, Privates G. Velley, D. Bloomfield, H. Gibson, and W. Innes; these had been attacked with African fever, and recovered, but the disease had made a permanent mark on some of their constitutions. It was expected that the *Wilberforce* would again go up the river very soon, but it was doubtful whether any would live to state the result. She would remain at the Island of Ascension for despatches from the government by a sixteen gun brig, which was daily looked for. The actual number of deaths is stated to be about seventy, all of them having happened in from four to six weeks. Mr. Waddington, of Liverpool, had been appointed boatswain of the *Wilberforce*, and was very highly spoken of. Those who are spared calculate on returning to Liverpool about August next.

The Secretary at War, Sir Henry Hardinge, has determined to establish savings banks throughout the army.

The Royal George.—The operations against this wreck, under the direction of Colonel Pasley, are to recommence forthwith. Three lighters, with suitable gear, are provided for this service. It is intended, if possible, to clear the whole of the remaining portion of this ill fated ship during the forthcoming season. The process will necessarily be tedious, and the progress slow, as the remains are embedded several feet in the mud.—*Hampshire Independent.*

Forty thousand emigrants were sent out to New South Wales last year, at a cost to the Colonial Government of £900,000. In future the average number of emigrants to that colony is to be limited to 10,000, and to Van Diemen's Land, 1500.

Nearly a whole family of children near Belfast in Ireland had been eaten up by hogs, who, ferocious with hunger had broken into the cabin where they were sleeping.

Projected Marriage of the Queen of Spain;