

of value could be discovered. The excellent ore of manganese now worked by the Gloucester Mining Association, when first discovered, was supposed to be antimony; and other instances might be mentioned where similar mistakes have occurred. It is also to be regretted that attempts have recently been made in the Province to secure leases of mines for the sole objects of speculation, and not for their actual working; but such things are common to all new discoveries, and can only be removed by time and experience.

## PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE. NEW BRUNSWICK.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

#### HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, February 14.

Mr Street by leave, presented a petition from Daniel Brockway, Contractor for building a bridge over Renous River, praying compensation for extra work performed in the erection of the said Bridge, which he read. And upon the question that the petition be received and referred to a select committee, to report thereon—yeas 10, nays 8. Whereupon it was carried in the affirmative.

Read a third time as engrossed, a Bill to increase the Representation of the county of Restigouche. Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Mr Street moved for leave to bring in a bill, further to extend the exemptions from Parochial and Militia Duties to the Firemen of the Town of Chatham. Leave granted.

#### February 15.

Read a second time the following Bill—A Bill to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the county of Northumberland to sell and dispose of Sheldrake Island.

Mr Barberie by leave, presented a petition from Robert H. Montgomery and Robert Ritchie, Overseers of the Poor for the Parish of Addington, in the county of Restigouche, praying to be reimbursed expenses incurred in the support of Sick and Emigrant Paupers for the years 1840 and 1841, which he read. Ordered, That the said petition be received and referred to the committee of Supply.

Mr Fisher moved for leave to bring in a bill to impose a Tax upon Wild Lands. Leave granted. The said bill being brought in was read a first time.

#### February 16.

Mr Street moved for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal an act intituled 'an Act 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,' and to make other provision in lieu thereof. The question being taken—That the Rule limiting the time for the bringing in Bills and presenting Petitions be in this instance dispensed with, and that leave be granted to introduce the said Bill, the House divided—yeas 7, nays 16. And so it was decided in the negative.

Mr Street then moved for leave to present a petition from Michael Samuel, as chairman of a Public Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Chatham, in the county of Northumberland, and on their behalf, praying that the bill to repeal the Act for the erection of a Lock up House, and to make other provision in lieu thereof, may pass into a Law. Upon the question for granting leave, it was likewise decided in the negative.

Mr Street then moved for leave to present four several petitions, viz—From Alexander McLaggan, Esquire, and 403 others, of the parish of Blackville—John Leslie, Esquire, and 373 others of the parish of Nelson—Donald McKay, Esquire, and 87 others of the parish of Nelson—Robert Doak, Esquire, and 199 others of the Parish of Blissfield, severally praying that no Act may pass authorizing an assessment on the County, for the erection of a Lock up House at Chatham.

Mr Rankin then moved for leave to present five petitions, viz—From John Nesmith, Esquire, and 399 others of the parish of Newcastle—John McDonald and 281 others of the Parish of Glenselg—Roderick McLeod, Esquire, and 200 others of the parish of Alnwick—Abel Pond, and 99 others of the Parish of Ludlow—Finlay McDearmid, and 108 others of the parish of Chatham, of a like prayer, against the passing of the said bill.

Upon the question for granting leave to present these petitions, it was decided in the negative.

#### February 17.

Read a third time as engrossed, a Bill for the better and more effectual Auditing the Public Accounts, Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

On motion of Mr Wilson, That the House do now go into committee of the whole on a bill to continue an Act, intituled 'an Act to prevent the destruction of Oysters in the harbours of the counties of Westmoreland and Kent.' To which the honorable Mr Weldon moved as an amendment—To expunge the word 'now' and insert 'this day months.' And upon the question for the amendment it was carried in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr Wilson, Resolved, That the house do now go into committee of the whole on a bill to continue an act intituled 'an act to continue several acts for the establishment and regulation of Boards of Health in the several counties in this province. To which Mr Hanington moved as an amendment—To expunge the word 'now' and insert 'this day three months.' And upon the question

for the amendment it was carried in the affirmative.

On motion of the honorable Mr Weldon, Resolved, That the house do now go into committee of the whole, on a bill to authorize the Trustees of Saint Andrew's Church, in the parish of Richibucto, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, to dispose of a part of a Tract of Land granted for the use of the said Church, and to vest the proceeds in other lands more productive to the said Church.' To which Mr H. T. Partelow moved as an amendment—To expunge all after the word 'Resolved,' and substitute the following—'That the consideration of the said bill be postponed until the next Session of the General Assembly, for the reason that the said bill is of a private nature, and the rule of the house which requires such Bills to be read in presence of the Grand Jury of the said county, not having been complied with.' And upon the question it was carried in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr Partelow, Whereas the practice that has obtained in this colony of charging Postages on Printed Newspapers, Journals of the Legislature and other printed Papers, operates oppressively upon the people of this Province, and prevents that free circulation of useful knowledge among its inhabitants, which in the opinion of this House it is desirable to disseminate; therefore Resolved, That a humble Address be prepared to be presented to the Queen's Most Gracious Majesty, praying that her Majesty will be pleased to adopt such measures in the Post Office Department, as will ensure the conveyance of all such printed Papers through the different Post Offices within this province free from any such charge. Ordered, That Mr Partelow and Mr End, be a committee to prepare the Address.

#### February 18.

Read a third time the following Bills, which were passed—To authorize the appointment of commissioners to examine into the state and condition of the several Banks in this province. To authorize her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Gloucester to assess the said county for the payment of the county Debt. To authorize the Justices of the Peace for the county of Northumberland, to levy an assessment to discharge the debts due by the said county.

Your committee recommend that the sum of £6 13 4 be granted to Margaret Sterling, widow of Wm. A. Sterling, a Licensed Teacher, for four months services by him rendered in teaching a School in the Parish of Saumarez, in the county of Gloucester, immediately previous to his death.

That there be granted to James DeBourke, the sum of £10 for teaching a School in the parish of Ludlow, in the county of Northumberland, from August to December 1839, and in the adjoining parish of Blissfield, in the same county, from December to April 1841, in all six months.

That there be granted to James Eaton, a licensed Teacher, the sum of £5 for having taught a School in the parish of Bathurst, in the county of Gloucester, for three months, ending November 1841, he having been prevented by ill health from completing his term.

The committee of Trade would recommend in lieu of the existing Parliamentary Duties, that a provincial duty of 2s 6d per Barrel should be imposed on all Foreign Flours, which they conceive would produce a greater amount of Revenue than that collected under the present system; and that they would consequently suggest that a clause should be inserted in the Revenue Bill, to be passed the present Session, imposing said duty, not to take effect however, until it be officially announced that the Imperial Duties have been repealed by parliament.

The petition of John Millar, Deputy Treasurer at Bathurst, praying that a grant may be made to him in consequence of the decrease of his income by the falling off in the importation of dutiable articles at that port, his commission for the last year being only £53 6s. being a decrease of nearly fourth fifths of the income for 1835, and which has been gradually decreasing since that period; there is no recommendation on this petition from the Province Treasurer: the committee recommend that the Treasurer (if he approve) may make such compensation or addition to his commission out of the grant for the protection of the Revenue, not exceeding £25 per annum, for the two past years.

## Colonial.

### NEW-BRUNSWICK.

#### St. John Observer, February 22.

Public Meeting at the Court House.—Pursuant to public notice, on Saturday, a numerous and respectable body of citizens assembled in the Court House, to take into consideration the present state of the affairs of the Corporation of this City. James White, Esq., High Sheriff, stated the object of the meeting, and after the public requisition to the Sheriff had been read, the meeting was organized by calling Thomas L. Nicholson, Esquire, to the Chair, and appointing John H. Gray, Esquire, Secretary.

Stephen Wiggins, Esquire, after some remarks, moved the following resolution,—

Whereas the Corporation of the City of Saint John, notwithstanding the possession

of a large property, is now in a most embarrassed state, and its credit utterly destroyed; and a large amount of valuable property belonging to the Corporation has been seized, and is now in the hands of the Sheriff of the City and County of Saint John, under an Execution issued out of the Supreme Court, against the Corporation for debts that they are unable to pay. And whereas, other suits have been brought against the Corporation for debts that they are unable to pay. And whereas, the citizens of St John have been kept in total ignorance as to the real state of the Corporate affairs;

Therefore, Resolved, That this meeting have no confidence whatever in the present management of the Civic affairs.

The motion was seconded by W. J. Ritchie, Esquire, who spoke at considerable length against the whole course of proceedings of the Corporation, and asserted their incapacity to conduct the important affairs committed to their charge. He was in favor of taking the civic affairs entirely out of the hands of the Corporation, and placing them in the hands of Commissioners to be appointed by the Government, who should thoroughly examine and report upon the same.

Alderman Peters did not attempt to exonerate the Corporation from all the charges brought forward, that as far as regarded the expenditure of the current year, he could vouch that the greatest economy had been used, and the debt diminished.

John H. Gray, Esq. replied to Alderman Peters, and strongly contended that the civic affairs had been greatly mismanaged; no person denied that, in numerous instances, the Corporation had done some good, but they had come far short of what they should have done with their extensive pecuniary means. The system was generally bad.

Wm. Wright, Esq., spoke in defence of the corporation. He said it must be admitted by all that the corporation were in difficulty, but would not the proceedings of that meeting increase their difficulty? He contended that the proper place to arraign the corporation was at the hustings, and deprecated the short notice given them for their defence. The corporation, however, certainly merited censure for not laying a statement of their affairs before the public. After some further remarks, Mr W. submitted the following amendment:

Resolved, That although in the opinion of this meeting the members of the Corporation would have done wisely to have laid before the public a statement of their accounts and thereby prevented the present excitement, there is yet nothing which affords just grounds for public alarm.

Resolved, That it is the duty of every citizen to attend the Hustings at the ensuing Municipal Elections, and to vote for no man who will not pledge himself to use his best endeavours for retrenchment and reform in public abuses.

George Wheeler, Esquire, proposed the following amendment to the amendment submitted by Mr. Wright,—

Resolved, As the opinion of this Meeting, that the Common Council of the City, as at present constituted, have forfeited the confidence of the community; and with a view to a reformation, we pledge ourselves to exert all our influence at the next charter election, to effect a thorough and a sweeping change.

J. M. Robinson, Esq., supported Mr. Wright's amendment, and spoke in favour of a change, but not for a 'sweeping' change.

Mr Wheeler's amendment being put, was carried by a large majority, amidst great cheering.

Mr. John Hooper submitted the following resolution, which being seconded, passed also by a large majority.

Resolved, That with a single eye to retrenchment in the impoverished state of the Corporation, every person offering himself at the next election, shall pledge himself to use his endeavours to reduce the Chamberlain's salary to £300.

Moved by N. Merritt, Esq., and seconded—that T. L. Nicholson, Esq. do leave the Chair, and that Lewis Burns, Esq. do take the same.

Whereupon, Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of the Meeting are justly due to T. L. Nicholson, Esq. for his gentlemanly deportment, and able conduct while in the Chair.

An adjournment was then moved and carried, and the meeting separated.

Several other gentlemen addressed the Meeting, *pro and con*, among whom were Lewis Burns, Esq. Mr F. M'Dermott, R. L. Hazen, Esq. and R. W. Burtis, Esq.

We are positively of opinion that some speedy but radical change ought to be made in the constitution of our civic institution; for there is no disguising the real difficulties under which the corporation is laboring at this time. While a portion of the public property is in the hands of the Sheriff for

debt, it proves clearly, if proof were wanting that the public credit must be at a low ebb indeed—and, as the debt cannot be far short of 100,000 Pounds, we can naturally conclude that unless some immediate steps are taken to restore the public credit, a still larger amount of corporation property must find its way into the Sheriff's hands, to satisfy the larger sums which are already past due. If means cannot be devised to restore confidence and the property is brought into the market, it must be positively sacrificed, and at last end in bankruptcy. We feel satisfied that unless some bold and sweeping measures are projected and immediately carried into effect, either by the Board itself or the Citizens, there cannot be the slightest chance of improvement.

In order to effect the wished for change, it would be necessary (provided the Board do not voluntarily show a statement of their accounts,) to have a Commission appointed to examine minutely the state of its general affairs preparatory to having the Charter modernized to suit the present wants and wishes of the citizens,—a measure which cannot long be deferred. The moment this desirable object could be carried into effect, the character and credit of the institution would be immediately restored; and then the necessary amount of money might easily and safely be borrowed in England on the most advantageous terms. That the city is possessed of a large amount of most valuable property, which would, if properly managed, not only pay all its debts, but leave a large surplus, is a fact which cannot be denied—Neither can it be denied that both in their official character and standing, the present Board, as a Corporate body, is absolutely bankrupt in credit, and cannot successfully carry on the business of the city any longer.—Therefore, if they would only make a virtue of necessity, and at once take the requisite steps to have their affairs properly investigated and fully laid before the public, that their constituents might know even the worst, (to which information they are certainly entitled,) with a view to getting the charter remodelled during the present sitting of the Legislature, they would even yet deserve well of their individual constituents and the country at large; for, their greatest opponents cannot but admit, that, if they have mismanaged the public affairs and shown a recklessness of proceeding in many respects, yet they have done much towards the improvement and general good of the city, for which proper credit should be awarded them.

#### From the Fredericton Gazette.

### Church Society of the Archdeaconry of New Brunswick.

February 10th, 1842, being the day appointed for the Anniversary Meeting of the Church Society,—on the preceding day the Clergy and Lay Deputies assembled in General Committee in the National School House; Divine Service having been celebrated in Christ's Church. Present, The Ven. the Archdeacon, Rev. Dr. Alley, Dr. Thompson, Frederick Coster, S. D. Leo Street, James Hudson, Wm. E. Scovil, J. Sedgwick Thompson, John M. Sterling, James W. Disbrow.

The following Gentlemen attended as Lay Deputies, the Hon. G. F. Street and A. Edwin Botsford, Wm. J. Bedell, George J. Dibblee, Charles Lee, Mark Needham, Wm. Pyewell, and Charles P. Wetmore, Esquires.

Read the accounts of Wm. J. Bedell, Esq., the Treasurer, made up to January 1, shewing a balance in his hands of £187 1s. 4d.

Read Mr Bedell's Accounts of the Funds set apart for 'Missionary Visits,' shewing that the amount of that Fund is £687 9s. 7d., of which £635 10s. 7d. is at interest on endorsed notes.

Read the Secretary's Account of the distribution of the Books imported in 1841 from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

Read a list of the Books now in the hands of the Secretary, remaining from the importation of 1839, 1840, and 1841, of the value of £25 11s. 4d. currency.

Read a statement shewing the operations of the Society during the past year.

Reports from the following Local Committees were laid before the Committee, viz. Saint Andrew's, Saint Stephen's, Woodstock, Kingston and Springfield, Miramichi, Glenselg, Bathurst, Shediac and Bay de Verte.

#### Resolutions of Appropriation.

Resolved, That such sum be taken from the Collections for General Purposes, as will make up, with the Collections limited to that object, the sum of £50, the same to be added to the Fund for 'Missionary Visits;' and that a sum not exceeding £100, be placed at the disposal of the Executive Committee for 'Missionary Visits to neglected places.'

Resolved, That such sum be taken from the Collections for General Purposes, as will make up, with the Collections limited to that object, the sum of £30, the same to commence a Fund for founding 'Divinity Scholarships,' to be put out at interest by the Treasurer.

Resolved, That the sum of £175 be placed at the disposal of the Executive Committee, for the 'Building and Enlarging of Churches and Chapels,' and that it be an instruction to