

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28, 1843.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The Courier with the Southern mail arrived on Saturday evening, at 7 o'clock.

British News.—During the week we have carefully perused our files of papers received by the last steamer, and have made numerous selections therefrom. A portion will be found in our pages to-day.

A highly Important Decision.—We are indebted to the Halifax Times for the following gratifying piece of intelligence:

"Privileges of Colonial Assemblies.—Perhaps the most important article of news received by the Packet, is the decision pronounced by Mr. Baron Parke, on behalf of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in the case of Kieley against vs. Carson, which our readers will recollect, sprung out of proceedings adopted by Dr. Kieley against Mr. Carson, Speaker of the Newfoundland Assembly, caused by an alleged breach of privilege of the House. This decision takes from Colonial Assemblies what they have long arrogated—the power of arrest, and the right of bringing a man before their bar, on a complaint by one of their members of contempt committed beyond its precincts: I will have the effect of adding greatly to the dignity of Colonial Legislatures—for members will be careful not to use language that may subject them to legal responsibility, or bring them in personal collision with those whom they might have supposed they were privileged to slander. The liberty of the press is also better secured—the Sergeant-at-arms being made by this decision quite a harmless personage in an Editorial view. We shall publish the grounds of the decision more fully next week. The *John Bull*, concluding a comment upon it, says:—"Thus from the fogs of Newfoundland, and the squabbles of its pretty House of Assembly, has come a case leading to a decision which sheds the purest light upon a great point of constitutional law."

Great Yield.—Mr. McKosh, who resides on a farm in the rear of Douglastown, has furnished us with a stalk of Barley, which was the produce of one grain. It contains 36 stems, from which 936 grains were obtained. It can be seen at our office.

Legislative Summary.—The Journals which have come to hand are to the 17th. A Bill has passed, after considerable discussion, for preventing Imprisonment for Debt under £5. A number of Petitions have been presented from this County, praying that an Act may pass authorising the appointment of persons residing therein, as Overseers of the Fisheries. Various petitions have also been presented, praying an alteration in the Charter of King's College. We understand that there is every prospect that this question will be speedily brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

A bill has passed, fixing the pay of members at 15s. per diem, while in Session. It appears that an attempt was made to include the pay of the members of the Council in the same bill, and to subject it to the same reduction, but without success.

A committee has been appointed, consisting of Messrs. Hill, Fisher, and Barbaree, to prepare an Address to Her Majesty, complaining of the exaction of a charge for the transmission of Newspapers and printed papers through the Post Office.

We take from the Sentinel of Tuesday last, the following summary:

Yesterday Mr. Brown gave notice, that he should move in a day or two, and upon which he intend dividing the House, a Resolution authorising the Lieut. Governor to send down a statement of the finances of the country, at the commencement of each session, with the amount to which appropriations might be made. Mr. Wark also gave

notice that he should as an amendment, offer a Resolution for appointing a Committee to report at the commencement of each session. This will bring up a discussion, on the result of which the question of a loan will probably pend.

The House again went into Committee of the whole on the despatch connected with the reappointed of Mr. Baillie, and after a debate of some length, progress was reported. There were several Resolutions mooted, and others will probably be moved, when the subject is again taken up. The House evidently will not agree to granting a retired allowance; and one that Mr. Brown read, not only assumes that position, but declares Mr. Baillie's unfitness of office, founded on the manner in which the Crown Land department was conducted while under his management, by which great loss accrued to the Province.

In reply to some remarks relative to the prosecution not being proceeded with to recover the sum of £8200 reported as deficient by the Commissioners appointed under the Act of the Legislature to investigate the accounts of the office; the hon. Mr. Simonds explained, that the Supreme Court declaring itself, incompetent to adjudicate in the case of public defaulters as in England, there being no equity jurisdiction,—and the Crown officers requiring a large amount of funds to subpoena numerous witnesses to prove payments, it was thought most advisable to stop the prosecution.

Mr. Williston upon leave given, introduced a Bill for regulating the Fisheries in the County of Northumberland, and stated at the same time, that not having received any information upon the subject, he should not express any opinion in its favour.

Since the above was put in type, we have been favoured with a copy of the Sentinel of Friday last, from which we obtain the following information.

We have much satisfaction in stating that the committee to whom the subject was referred, have recommended that the *Duty on Timber*, be levied at the shipping port: and the bill brought in, was read a first time.

On the 23rd, the drawing of the Committee to try the validity of the *Election in this County*, took place. The following gentlemen were drawn, Messrs. Hannington, Boyd, J. Earle, S. Earle, and Botsford; G. S. Hill, and A. Barbaree were chosen as referees; the former by Mr. Williston, and the latter by Mr. Street.

The house, after much discussion, have come to the determination not to grant Mr. Baillie a pension. He will, therefore, we presume, hold his situation as Surveyor General.

The following are extracts:

Hon. Mr. Simonds stated that a subject of importance, had recently occupied the attention of the Executive Council, which was the opening roads to new settlements, by means of the settlers themselves; a part of the purchase money being paid in labor in that way. This led to much conversation; and probably some measure will be adopted, that will lead to so desirable a result.

Yesterday the hon. Mr. Simonds brought down several Messages from the Lieut. Governor, communicating Despatches with reference to King's College, and the act for vacating seats of members of the assembly in certain cases. By the former of these it appears, that there is no necessity for any surrender of the present charter of the college; preparatory to granting another, and it recommends a draft of the proposed modifications be transmitted to England, preparatory to issuing another.

The despatch referring to the Bill vacating seats, alludes to the requiring members becoming Executive Councillors to do so; which is at variance with the law of England, and would prevent the Lieut. Governor selecting from among members of the Assembly his confidential advisers.

The Season.—The weather throughout the whole season, has been the most remarkable ever witnessed. At a very early period the cold was intense, and the snow so deep, that there was much difficulty in travelling. We then had a spell of unusually soft weather—rain fell in great abundance, the snow disappeared, and

the roads rendered almost impassable for the want of snow. During the last three weeks, the weather has been bitter cold, and a large quantity of snow has fallen.

Governor General.—The following intelligence from Canada, relating to the health of Sir Charles Bagot, is from a Montreal paper:

'We regret to find that His Excellency has had a fresh relapse, and that the most unfavorable symptoms of his disorder have recurred in an aggravated form,—it is sincerely to be hoped that the following account may be exaggerated,—we fear, however, taken in connection with the Bulletin, that it is but too true.

Kingston, February 24.

'An alarming feature in the health of His Excellency the Governor General has been clearly developed—dropsy has supervened, and in all human probability his days are now numbered. This most melancholy intelligence has cast a gloom over the town.—Drs. Widmer and Gwynne arrived during the week from Toronto—the former gentleman stopped but one night, the other is in constant attendance at Government House.—The regular physicians Drs. Sampson and Home, are also in attendance.'

'The following is to-day's bulletin—His Excellency the Governor General has since Wednesday last, experienced an increase of unfavorable symptoms which continue unalleviated this morning.

The following is the latest information respecting the health of the Governor General. It is dated Kingston, Feb. 14. 'His Excellency is much better to-day, an internal abscess has broken, and there are hopes of his ultimate recovery.'

Synod of New Brunswick in connection with the Established Church of Scotland.—We take the following extracts from the minutes of the above named body, which was lately convened at Fredericton.

'An Overture was brought up by the Committee on Bills, on the part of the Rev. John M. Brooke, to this effect: That the Rev. the Synod of New Brunswick do recommend to the several Ministers within their bounds, that, except in cases of necessity, Baptism shall not be administered privately.

After reasoning, the Synod unanimously resolved to recommend, that the object of this overture be carried out in all cases when it is practicable; and with this view they direct Ministers to make their people acquainted with the rules of the Church in regard to Baptism, as contained in the Directory for public worship appended to the Confession of Faith.

An Overture was brought up by the Committee on Bills, on the part of the Rev. John M. Brooke to this effect: That the Rev. the Synod of New Brunswick do recommend to all the Ministers within their bounds, that on the first Sabbath of March, or as soon thereafter as may to them be convenient, they direct the attention of their respective congregations to the subject of the Sanctification of the Lord's Day. The Synod unanimously adopted the overture and recommended accordingly.

King's College.—The Sentinel of Friday contains the following paragraph:

'The friends of general education throughout the Province will be highly gratified to learn, that a Statute of the most liberal character has been passed by the College Council. The effect of this enactment is the incorporation of all places of good education with the University of King's College; placing their Students, when adequately prepared for examination, on a par with those of the College itself; and without any religious Test, or other condition than the necessary intellectual and moral qualifications, freely admitting them to Degrees. We cannot of course undertake to say this improvement, vastly beneficial as it unquestionably is, supersedes all amendment of the College Charter,—but at all events, it goes very far towards the practical satisfaction of all classes and denominations.'

New Works.—We are indebted to the enterprising proprietor of the New World for copies of *The Life of Wellington*; *Francis of Valois*; and *Lights and Shadows of Factory Life in New England*.

We refer our readers to another page for prospectus of two other works which they intend publishing.

The interesting narrative furnished by a Shediack correspondent, and published in our paper a few weeks since, has been copied into a number of the Provincial papers.

The Editor of the Halifax Guardian complains that copies of the Gleaner containing the Letters of the Rev. Mr. Hudson, reflecting on that Journal, never reached him. Mr. Cooke, who directs and mails our papers, states, that they were forwarded to the Guardian office. The fault lies not with us—we had no interest to serve in not transmitting our Journal.

In future our paper will be put to press on the afternoon of Monday, in time to be forwarded by the Mail.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

The mail arrived yesterday afternoon. No St. John papers were received by us. The following is the only piece of intelligence which we perceive in the papers obtained. It is from the Halifax Morning Herald of Friday last:

'A deeply laid plot to murder the white inhabitants of Donaldsonville, Louisiana, has been timely discovered. It is said that the whole of the slave population of the place was concerned in it—and if it had not been for the information of a female slave, who was desirous of saving her master's family, and desired them to fly to New Orleans, all the white people would have been butchered.

On the information being received, measures were adopted to prevent the insurrectionists from putting their diabolical purposes into operation. Notwithstanding everything was done by the authorities, an attempt was made by the slaves to take possession of the town, but they were fortunately foiled. Several of the ringleaders have been secured.

CASUALTIES.—On Monday last a man named Hawkins, was found frozen to death in the rear of Port Howe. Likewise on Wednesday, another whose name was Major, was found on the road to the Tea Mile Creek, speechless, and died from the cold soon after. St. John Paper.

A GOOD CARGO.—A letter received from Whale Ship Java, of this Port, dated 25th October last, reports her at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, full, with 1500 barrels sperm, and 1500 barrels black oil, 16,000lbs. bone, to sail that day for Home.—St. John Observer.

KING'S COLLEGE, FREDERICTON.—At a Convocation held on Monday, 13th inst. Messrs. Edwin John Jacob and Henry Barclay Robinson, were admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of Arts.

DEATHS.

At Chatham, on the 19th instant, Mr. Michael Furlong, Teacher, aged 49 years.

On the Richibucto Road, near Bay du Vin, Mrs. Bridget Packett, at the advanced age of 91 years.

At Oak Point, on Saturday, the 25th instant, Miss Helen Davidson, aged 41 years. The funeral will take place on Wednesday next, at 12 o'clock, noon, from her brothers residence at Oak Point, to Bartibog Church yard, when the friends of the family are requested to attend.

On Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Campbellton, in the County of Restigouche, Robert Ritchie, Esq., of the Firm of A. Ritchie & Co., on the 84th year of his age, after a painful illness. His remains were interred in St. Johns Churchyard, at Dalhousie, on the Friday after, followed by a large portion of the inhabitants of this and the adjoining County of Gaspé, showing the high estimation in which he was held by all classes.

A meeting of the Board of Education for the County of Northumberland, will take place at the Office of the County Clerk, on Wednesday, the 1st of March, at Ten o'clock, A. M.

J. SOUTER, Secretary.