

obtained, of the commercial affairs of the mother country, is of a much more cheering and satisfactory nature, than we have received for very many months. On this theme, Charles Willmer's American News Letter, contains the following gratifying remarks:—

"The decided improvement which has lately manifested itself in the trade of this country will be viewed with satisfaction by our American friends; as, from their intimate connexion with us, a corresponding effect is certain of being produced upon their own interests. The firmness which has characterised this improvement entirely divests it of any feature which might lead us to attribute it to a mere momentary cause, and to view it as one of those bright streams of prosperity which might naturally be expected occasionally to visit us, even if our commercial interests were fast crumbling to decay. Such, we rejoice to say, is not the case; and we have no hesitation in attributing the present fortunate events to causes natural in their operation, and lasting in their effects. "The curtailment of manufacturing production which has, within the last few years taken place in this country, might reasonably be expected, in the course of time, to produce a reaction; and there can be no greater proof of the small amount of manufactured stock, than that the late unprecedented arrivals of cotton have produced little or no effect upon the market; and there are instances, and not a few, of large quantities being taken on speculation. "The improving state of many of the foreign markets, which have, for some years past, been languishing, and which, evidently shows that a reaction is at hand. In addition to this, the large exportations which have been recently made to the newly opened ports of China, and whatever may be their ultimate issue, would be favorably in removing a part at least of our superabundant stock, and giving an additional stimulus to the return of prosperity. "But there is one cause more without which those which we have mentioned would have proved themselves to be of comparatively little avail. We allude to the increased confidence which has recently shown itself, and which may, in a great measure, be ascribed to the late declaration of government, that it was not their intention, at present, to interfere with the existing commercial law. This, conjoined with the opposite extreme of conduct during the last session, and the mischievous effects produced by it, might reasonably be expected to have a beneficial effect. "The above are a few of the causes from the effects of which may consistently be inferred the present reaction, and the probability of its continuance and advancement. And we think it reasonable to indulge the hope, that the dark cloud which has, for so long a period, rested upon the once flourishing commerce of England, is fast disappearing before the bright beams of the sunshine of returning prosperity."

Under our China head, will be found the details of some disturbances which have taken place in Canton. Various causes are assigned for this outbreak. Dr. Southey, the Poet Laureate, has been acquitted on the ground of insanity. He is to be confined in a lunatic asylum for the remainder of his life. There appears to be no doubt that it was his intention to have taken the life of Sir Robert Peel.

Dr. Southey, the Poet Laureate, has been acquitted on the ground of insanity. He is to be confined in a lunatic asylum for the remainder of his life. There appears to be no doubt that it was his intention to have taken the life of Sir Robert Peel.

We have made copious extracts, to which we refer our readers for particulars. "The Season.—The weather during the whole of the week, has been very disagreeable, and should we be favored with three or four warm days, in succession, there is every probability that we shall have the satisfaction of seeing once more, the blue waters of the Miramichi, a sight which we have not witnessed since the middle of November last.

The Times of Tuesday, in speaking of the commercial affairs of that city, remarks:—

"The City, so far as any improvement in its commercial transactions is concerned, continues to languish, and it may in a great measure be attributed to the lateness of the season—the whole of the Eastern harbours are completely blocked up, which renders it impossible for vessels to come to this port for their outfit—and the season's trade will be full three weeks later than usual."

The West Indies.—The Halifax Morning Post contains the following lamentable account of another Earthquake in the West Indies:

"A note on the slate in Keefer's Reading Room, of advices from Bermuda to the 2nd instant, states that "the passengers by the steamer Medway report that on the 22nd March at half past three o'clock, a. m., when near Cuba, on their way from Jamaica to St. Thomas, two very severe shocks of an earthquake were experienced in an interval of ten minutes." "It also confirms the statement that a shock was felt at Jamaica on the 7th ult.; and gives intelligence of another on the 12th. It was reported at Kingston, Jam., on the 15th ult. that the Great Cyman Island had DISAPPEARED by one of the recent convulsions of nature! This is awful news, if true."

Her Majesty's Steamer Megara, from England to Jamaica, was wrecked at Bare Bush Key, on the 3rd ult. Intelligence has been received from St. Domingo, that President Boyer had abdicated, and embarked on board a British frigate on the 13th ult, which vessel sailed two days after for Jamaica.

The recent changes in the Government.—The St. John Courier contains the following comments on the recent changes in the Executive Council. We perfectly agree with our contemporary in his opinion, and hope His Excellency will speedily see fit to cause a similar sweeping overturn in the Legislative Council Chamber:

"It will be seen by an announcement copied from the Royal Gazette, that Robert L. Hazen, Esquire, one of the Representatives from this city, in the House of Assembly, has been appointed an Executive Councillor. The selection is certainly a very judicious one, as Mr. Hazen is generally acknowledged to be a gentleman of the strictest integrity and independence, and, besides standing high in public estimation for his legal talents, is a large landed proprietor. Under a late law of the Province Mr. Hazen must go back to his constituents for re-election; but as Lord Stanley has expressed his disapprobation of the enactment, it may be that the Home Government will disallow the Act. If not, the election will shortly take place.—John Montgomery, Esq., of the county of Ristigouche, has also been appointed to a seat in the Executive Council; to which also L. A. Wilmot, Esq., a member of the Assembly for York County, is likewise to be appointed. The reason of the latter gentleman's not taking the oath of office at the same time with Messrs. Hazen and Montgomery, is stated to be in consequence of the difficulty of holding the election in York County at present, on account of the bad state of the roads and the breaking up of ice on the rivers."

Proposed Dissolution of the Assembly.—The St. Courier of Saturday last, contains a Petition from the inhabitants of that city, which is being handed round for signature, requesting His Excellency to Dissolve the present House of Assembly. This paper introduces the petition to its readers with the following remarks:—

"A strong feeling of dissatisfaction pervades the whole community, in consequence of the conduct of our representatives during the session of the Legislature which has just closed, especially in respect to the impositions in the Revenue Law, and many influential persons are therefore desirous that the present House should be dissolved. A petition has accordingly been prepared, to be presented to His Excellency for that purpose, and as it will be handed round in a few days for signature, we give it publicity to-day, in order that all parties throughout the Province may be apprised of the movement which is on foot in the city."

We have not room for this document to-day, but shall insert it next week.

Distress among the Farmers.—We perceive by our exchange papers, that much distress exists among the Farmers on the Gulf Shore, from the scarcity of Fodder, which has compelled them to convert into food for their cattle, the necessaries of life. Many cattle have died from starvation. The St. John Courier contains the following paragraph, by which we perceive that much distress exists among the farmers of this Province from a similar cause. Hay with us, is scarce, but we have not heard of any sacrifice of cattle in consequence.

"We regret to learn that much distress prevails among farmers in several parts of the Province, owing to the partial failure of the Hay crop last season, and the great length of time which the ground has been covered with snow during the winter. Many cattle have in consequence died from want of food, and many more have been only kept alive by being fed

with the boughs of trees and such vegetables as their owners could spare. The great depth of snow in the woods still prevents farmers from turning cattle out to shift for themselves, and, to all appearance, some time must elapse before such can be the case to any extent.—It is truly gratifying in such a trying time to small farmers and new settlers, to notice the liberality of one of the monied institutions of the Province—the Bank of St. Stephen—in advancing \$650 for the purchase of Hay, to be distributed among those in the neighbouring Parishes who are unable to raise the means at present to purchase fodder for their cattle.—We learn from the St. Stephen Courant that Mr. George Lindsay of that place, having volunteered his services, started for the Kennebec River on Monday last to purchase a cargo of Hay, which he would have shipped immediately. The Courant very properly suggests the propriety of at once procuring a temporary supply of food for the starving cattle to keep them alive until the expected cargo of hay arrives.

"The black settlers at Loch Lomond have, we learn, lost many cattle—but we have heard of no measures being taken by the authorities for their general benefit."

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKETS, April 4 — Yellow Pine, St. Johns 1s 4½d a 1s 8½d; Miramichi 1s 2d a 1s 6d; Bay Chaleur, do; Richibucto 1s 1d a 1s 2½d; Nova Scotia and P. E. Island, do; St. Andrews 1s 2d a 1s 4½d; Red Pine, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 1¼ a 1s 4d; Spruce Pine 1¼d a 1s 1d; Deals yel. 2d qual. £10 10 a £11 10; 3rd do £9 a £10. Planks, St. Johns 2½d; N. S. 2½d. Staves—St. Johns and St. Andrews ash per M. £5 a £7; N. S. Red Oak and ash per M. £3 a £4.

PUBLIC MEETING AT DOUGLASTOWN.

At a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of Douglastown, held in the house of Mr. John Wyse, on Saturday evening, the 15th April:

JOHN PORTER, Esq. having been called to the Chair, and Mr. GEORGE M'NEIL requested to act as Secretary.

It was moved and seconded, and unanimously Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Matthew Lamont, John Robinson, and John Troy, be appointed to prepare and present to ALEXANDER RANKIN, Esq. Member in General Assembly, for the County of Northumberland, an Address, expressing approbation of his conduct during the late session of the Legislature, and while he has represented this county, and congratulating him on his return home.

Moved and seconded, and unanimously Resolved, That the Committee after waiting on Mr. Rankin, and receiving his Answer to the Address, shall call a public meeting of the Inhabitants, when the Address and answer shall be laid before them.

JOHN PORTER, Chairman. Mr. Porter having left the Chair, and Mr. John Wyse called thereto, it was unanimously Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Porter, for his able and manly conduct in the chair.

GEORGE M'NEIL, Secretary.

At a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of Douglastown, and its vicinity, held in the house of Mr. John Wyse, on Monday evening, the 17th April, 1843; about 200 persons present.

Mr. ALEXANDER MACKIE, having been called to the Chair, and Mr. JOHN BOYD, requested to act as Secretary.

The Secretary having read the Address presented to the Committee appointed for that purpose, to Alexander Rankin, Esq. and that Gentleman's reply thereto:

It was moved and seconded, and unanimously Resolved, That Mr. PENCE be requested to publish in the next Gleaner, the Address presented to Mr. Rankin, and his Reply thereto.

ALEXANDER MACKIE, Chairman. Mr. Mackie having left the Chair, and John Porter, Esq. having been called thereto—moved and seconded, and unanimously Resolved, That Mr. Mackie receive the thanks of this meeting for his able conduct in the chair.

JOHN BOYD, Secretary.

ADDRESS: MIRAMICHI, 17th April, 1843.

Sir, We cannot allow your present return from the arduous duties of Legislation in our behalf, to pass over without some open declaration of our satisfaction and thanks; satisfaction with your political conduct, and thanks for the great sacrifice of time and individual comforts, which these important services have caused you.

We know that it was with reluctance you first consented to become a Representative of the County, and are convinced that nothing less than a sincere desire to promote our interests, could have induced you to come forward at each succeeding election; and we are particularly thankful for the persevering and calm determination to serve us, manifested throughout the late troublesome and tumultuous election for this county. We feel this the more from the knowledge, that had you allowed private interest or individual ease to have the least weight in opposition to public good, you would have retired from the hustings with disgust; and we are happy to find that the House of Assembly, in which you are now our only representative, have thought proper to visit the offence of the rioting at the late election upon those only who instigated, and who intended to profit by it.

To point out particular instances of political forethought and disinterested wisdom, manifested during the sixteen years wherein you have represented this county in General Assembly, would be but a poor compliment to you, since the county has again and again expressed their con-

dence in you, and satisfaction with your political career; but we cannot allow you to suppose us ignorant of, or unthankful for, the disinterestedness you have manifested in declining the honor of a seat in the Legislative Council, as we know that you so declined from the knowledge that you could no longer be our representative in the Lower House; and from the just and laudable consideration that your services in the House of Assembly were better calculated to promote the welfare of the county wherein you reside.

Of your private character as a member of the community, and as a merchant, there is but one opinion. Your assiduous attention to, and uprightness in business, are loudly proclaimed by that success which alone follows industry and integrity. Your liberality is manifested by the success and prosperity of those who have dealt with your extensive house; and the encouragement held out by you to honest industry, has done much to promote the welfare and happiness of the community, and particularly of the poorer classes in your neighbourhood.

With these convictions we beg to express our thanks for your public conduct, and our admiration of your private character, and we do now most heartily congratulate you on your return to your home, and again welcome you among us.

We remain, Yours very respectfully, MATTHEW LAMONT, JOHN TROY, JOHN ROBINSON, Committee appointed by the inhabitants of Douglastown and its vicinity. ALEXANDER RANKIN, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

REPLY: MIRAMICHI, 17th April, 1843.

Gentlemen, On my return from my Public Duties, it is indeed gratifying to me to receive from you such an additional proof, that my conduct has met your approbation. The advancement of the Province has always had my warmest support, and especially the welfare of this County, in which I have so long resided; and while I am honoured with your confidence, it shall at all times be my study to merit it.

Requesting that you will convey to the inhabitants of Douglastown and its vicinity, my thanks for their flattering address, and my best wishes for their prosperity, I have only further to add, that either in a public or private capacity, I shall always be happy in using my most strenuous exertions for the good of my constituency.

I am, Gentlemen, Your most obedient servant, ALEXANDER RANKIN.

To the Committee.

AGRICULTURAL.—We have much satisfaction in publishing a highly interesting and gratifying Report of the Ristigouche Agricultural Society, which will be found under the proper head. It was printed in a small pamphlet form, at the Ristigouche Press, and forwarded to us by our attentive Agent in that County.

We shall publish in our next No. the Report of our Agricultural Society, not having room for it to-day, being anxious to put our readers in possession of the news received by the English mail.

Marriages.

At Campbellton, on the 10th inst. by the Rev. John Turnbull, Mr. ALEXANDER LESLIE, to Miss MARY ANN NYHAN, both of the Parish of St. Mary's.

At Indian Town, on the 12th inst. by the same, Mr. JOHN FOY, to Miss MARGARET STEWART, both of the same place.

Deaths.

At Richibucto, on the morning of Saturday the 15th inst. Mr. WARD M'DONALD, aged 51 years.

Mr. M'Donald was a native of Cork, in Ireland, from which city he immigrated to this Province in the spring of 1818. During the earlier part of that period, he was a resident of Chatham, Miramichi, and in 1831, removed with his family to Richibucto. Ward M'Donald was characterized as an affectionate husband, fond parent, and a warm hearted friend. His deportment was kind and courteous; his principles upright and immovable: he lived a favourite in every community to which he belonged, and died sorrowfully lamented by his disconsolate wife, a progeny of 5 young children, and many relations and friends.

On Thursday evening, the 6th instant, the Rev. Sanford Boies, Minister of the Baptist Church at Keswick, in the Parish of Douglas, York County, aged 30 years.

Shipping Intelligence.

CLEARANCES IN BRITAIN.

Sunderland, March 31.—Wave, Davis, Bathurst. William and Richard, Clark, Miramichi. Septima, M'Donald, do. Jubilee, Petty, do. Water Lily, Longstaff, do. Trent, Meldrum, Richibucto.

Jersey, March 23.—Dit-on, Balleine, Bay Chaleur.

London, March 30.—Hibernia, Miramichi.

Aberdeen, March 29.—Albion, Leslie, Halifax.

ENTERED FOR LOADING AT LIVERPOOL. For Dalhousie, the Grampian, and Zanoni. For Miramichi, the Importer.

A private letter from London, dated on the 3rd inst. states, that the Queen, the only vessel laid down for Miramichi, has been overhauled, and declared unseaworthy.