

Provincial Legislature.

Extracts from the Journals.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, April 1.

On motion of Mr. J. Earle, Resolved, That a humble Address be presented to his Excellency the Lieut. Governor, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to dispense, for the present year, with the two days Company Drill imposed upon the several Battalions of Militia of this Province, under and by virtue of Militia Law. Ordered, that Mr. J. Earle, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Wark be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

Resolved that there be granted to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government, for the time being, the sum of £50 to encourage the fitting out of one or more vessels, by Silvanus Powel, John Long and John Marshall, of Richibucto, for a Sealing Voyage; such sum to be paid to the said parties when it shall be certified to His Excellency that such vessels have been fitted out and actually engaged in a Sealing Voyage, and not to exceed the sum of fifteen shillings per ton of the tonnage of such vessels.

To the Sheriff of the County of Northumberland the sum of £25 for return of Members to serve in the present General Assembly.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY ROADS.

The sum of £37 12 6 towards ballasting, securing and improving the Bridge across Texas River.

The sum of £12 7 6 to Alexander Goodfellow and Richard Sutton, amount over expended by them in the erection of Barnaby's Island Bridge.

The sum of £15 to improve the Road and repair the Bridges between Black River and Escuminac.

The sum of £10 towards exploring and opening a Road from Point Du Car to Black River Church.

The sum of £25 to improve the Road and Repair the Bridges between Bartibog and Tabusintac.

April 2.

To the Reverend Michael Egan, the sum of £— towards remunerating him for his attendance to the spiritual wants of the Micmac Tribes of Indians for Miramichi. Upon the question for sustaining this Resolution, the Committee divided—Yeas, 10. Nays, 12. And it was thereupon decided in the negative.

April 3.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to amend the Charter of King's College. Resolved, that the Bill do pass.

On motion of Mr. Eme, Ordered, that the House do on Monday next, the eight instant, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole on the Report of the Committee of Privileges, relative to the discharge of James Doak and Thomas Hill, submitted to the House on the twenty sixth day of March last.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the being, the sum of £500 to enable His Excellency to adopt measures for the purpose of checking the farther spread of the disease reported to be prevailing in Tracadie and its neighbourhood, in the Counties of Gloucester and Northumberland.

To the Overseers of the Poor for the Parish of Richibucto, the sum of £— to reimburse them expenses incurred on account of John Tighe, a transient Lunatic Pauper. Upon the question for sustaining this Resolution, the Committee divided, and it was decided in the negative.

Mr. J. Earle, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor with the Address of the House of the first instant, requesting that His Excellency would be pleased to dispense with the two days Company Drill, imposed on the several Battalions of Militia in the Province, reported—that they had attended thereto, and that his Excellency was pleased to say, the wishes of the House should be complied with.

April 4.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to repeal an Act, intituled "An Act to provide for the greater safety of Passengers on board Steam Boats," and to make further provision in lieu thereof. Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the matters referred to them under their further consideration, the following Resolution was first moved:—"Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, That whatever advantages might accrue to the Province by the establishment of Free Warehousing Ports at Fredericton, Miramichi, and Dalhousie, as contemplated by the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with the Despatches accompanying it, laid before the House by command of His Excellency on the twenty sixth day of March last, yet the present state of the Finances of the Province will not warrant the House in making the requisite provision to carry the same into effect, independently of the consideration of the great reluctance which the House must feel in increasing the cost of the Custom House Establishment in this Province."

The question being then taken upon the original Resolution, the Committee divided as follows:—Yeas, 13. Nays, 15. And it was decided in the negative.

Two amendments were put and lost.

To His Excellency the sum of £1000 towards the support of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum for the year 1844.

On motion of Mr. Hill, Whereas the House this day, when in Committee of the whole on the Messages of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, passed the following Resolution:—

"Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, that the Parish of Saint Stephen, in the

County of Charlotte, from the great extent of its manufacture of sawed Lumber, its Trade and Shipping, which makes it an important Shipping Port in the Province, has a just claim to the privileges of a Free Port and Warehousing Port, and that the Lodge, so called, in the said Parish of Saint Stephen, should be included within the Port of Saint Stephen; and further

"Resolved, That the Port of Dorchester, in the opinion of this Committee, is fully entitled, from its particular situation, to the privilege of a Free Port;"

And the said Resolution having been adopted by the House; therefore

Resolved, That a humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to bring the subject of the said Resolution under the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

Colonial News.

Nova-Scotia.

Halifax Morning Post, April 9.

The Weather.—We had a lovely spring day on Sunday—the roads dry and walk-able for miles. Yesterday gave us a taste of "April showers."

Great Moose shooting.—At the head of Barney's River, a few days ago, a party of Indians shot nine Moose, three Caribos, a Bear and three cubs. William Sutherland, a settler, had the good fortune to kill a Moose. They have been very plenty during the winter.

April 11.

Mr Howe brought forward his vote of Want of Confidence on Tuesday, and Mr Doyle immediately moved an amendment, approving of the reasons urged for the retirement of the ex-councillors. This gave rise to no particular objection on the part of the members of the Government, except that it might be construed into a covert vote of censure on the Council of Lord Falkland, and modifications were proposed which were finally rejected by those who moved the resolution and amendment.

The consequence was the rejection of it by a majority of 26 to 22; and thus the House have been reluctantly led to a condemnation of the retired councillors, by the imprudence of their own friends, and with an accession of strength to Lord Falkland's Government.

Halifax Times, April 9.

Sugar Sticks.—Mr. John McDougall, Grocer, of this City, upon opening a hoghead of sugar last week, discovered in the centre 65 lbs. of cord wood, evidently of Nova Scotia growth. The mystery is—how did it get there, and for what purpose? We know that mackerel sent to the United States from hence, have turned to stone on the passage, the petrification assuming all the mineralogical quality of the granite or pebbles of the port at which they were packed—but that a hoghead filled with sugar in the West Indies, should upon being opened here, present in its centre a wood indigenous in this Province, is one of those freaks of Nature for which we can account on no principles of sympathy or mutual affinity. Query—May the master of the vessel, under a supposition that the sticks would turn to sugar barley or black rock on the passage, and not with any intention of defrauding the purchaser, have placed them in the position in which they were found? If the supposition does not prognosticate much for his knowledge of the transmutation of cord-wood—may it not be exposed as a highly laudable experiment, to increase the price of a native production? We are afraid, however, that nothing will come of it but suspicion.

Bermuda Gazette.

Bishop of Newfoundland and Bermuda.—We are authorized to state that official information have been received here that the Revd. Mr. Feild, is appointed Bishop of Newfoundland and Bermuda.

Halifax Morning Herald, April 12.

Slave Trade.—Complaints have been made by the Home Government to that of the United States, of the great facilities afforded to the slave trade, by the American shipping, employed in transporting to the coast of Africa, merchandise, equipments and other articles necessary for slave trade operations. The fast sailing vessels arrive at Bahia, and there sold; the masters engaging to take them to the coast under American colors—that a cargo of rum and tobacco is put on board and sent to some well known depot on the coast, where it is exchanged for slaves; that the American master then gives up the command—the slaves are put on board and Brazilian colors hoisted, and the vessel sails on her return voyage.

Highland Society Ball.—The entertainment came off on Wednesday evening last, and it fully sustained the high character given to those of previous years. The room was not only tastefully but elegantly fitted up—the walls on either side were covered with the banners of different societies excepting the Nova-Scotian, interspersed with mezzotints, paintings and drawings. At the head of the room was a splendid transparency of a Highlander and Lowlander, while immediately in front and between the two pillars was an arch with the words "Honi soit qui mal y pense," on the centre of which was a crown, the brilliant being made of gas giving it a dazzling effect. There was one thing that struck us an excellent joke.—the banner of the St George's society was placed immediately opposite that of the Irish and between them stood this transparency of the Highlander with his broad sword, and

the Lowlander with a long spear, as much as to say, we'll take care you two gentlemen don't hurt each other.

The quadrilles, waltzes and reels were kept up with great spirit till an early hour in the morning, when the company separated, some to go to bed, while others went to walk off their drowsiness, and reserve the sleep for last night.

We had almost forgotten to speak of the supper, &c. provided by Mr Ballour, but we suppose his well known attention to the public hardly requires our comment. It is merely necessary to say that the wines and viands were excellent.

The room was thrown open last evening to the public, and before 3 o'clock a thousand persons had inspected and given their verdict in favour of the good taste of our Highland friends. The Rifle Band, on the evening of Wednesday, was the one in attendance, and its soul stirring strains made every young heart beat with joy, while it infused new life into the aged of both sexes.

Halifax Markets.—Spring trade being about commencing, some shew of activity is visible in the market, although all admit that the spring of 1844, so far, is the dulllest experienced by the mercantile community for many years. Money continues to be a scarce commodity.

Several cargoes of molasses have recently arrived and first sold at 11½d per gall. in bond; 1s 5d is now asked.

Sugar, of recent arrivals, was sold for 24s per cwt, in bond; a shade higher is now asked.

Superfine flour is held at 32s 6d per bbl. d. p.; rye flour, 20s per bbl; corn meal, 17s 6d per bbl; oat meal, 12s 6d per cwt.

At the public sale of teas on Wednesday, congo brought 1s 10d per lb, tea money; souchong, 2s a 2s 1d per lb; hyson, 3s 1½d per lb; pouchong, 1s 7d per lb.

At the same sale gin brought 5s 6d a 5s 8d per gall; East India rum 3s 11d a 4s per gall; crushed sugar 6d per lb.

Fish and oil are scarce, and a price cannot be quoted.

Cod oil will command 2s per gall, and dog oil 1s 9d. per gall.

New-Brunswick.

St. Andrews Standard, April 10.

The weather for the last week has been fine, the snow has disappeared from our steets, and they are drying very fast. The ice in the River at St. Stephen took its departure on Friday night last, and vessels can now proceed up to the wharves.—There is yet in the woods upwards of three feet of snow.

Colonial Press.

From the Halifax Times, April 9.

NEW AMERICAN TARIFF.

THE alteration of the duty on Fish, contemplated by the American tariff, is one of such importance to the mercantile community of the Province, that it will excuse our again advertising to the subject. We do not pretend to any particular knowledge in such matters, or wish to parade that to which we may reasonably lay claim; our principal object being to keep attention alive to a vital interest connected with the prosperity of Nova Scotia, to which all others are inferior, and upon which they must depend for success. Unless it be desired that Nova Scotia should be reduced to the condition of a desert, the Fisheries must be sustained. Nature has been profuse in placing at our very doors the choicest products of the deep, and it is surely incumbent on the part of the people, that she suffer no disparagement by the small share that art has in making them an article of commerce. The people of other countries love our fish dearly, when they get them unsophisticated, as it were; they know them to possess qualities infinitely superior to those of a similar kind which other shores afford—and any inferiority they present in their eyes, will be placed to the discredit of their catchers or curers. Our merchants, we dare say, desire to be considered as No. 1's among their class—but foreigners will be very apt to infer their character from the appearance of their mackerel or herring, a critical inspection of which would often place the No. 1's among the 2's and even 3's in the commercial scale. For he it known, a dishonest or pliable inspector might easily have been tampered with under the recent law; and in some instances it was not wholly and entirely their fault, that the various qualities and conditions of the exports, did not answer expectation upon its arrival at the port to which it was consigned.

This duty of 25 per cent. will operate in one of two ways. It will either do away with all inspection—a consummation to be avoided; or, under its action, a rigid and honest inspection will be established, the benefit of which must be enduring.

If inspection is abolished, the character of the export will be for ever ruined, and the price reduced to a most unprofitable standard. A barrel of mixed fish in the United States will neither realize the price of No. 1's or No. 2's, though a proportion of both may be contained. A price very little above that of No. 3, a quality which does not suit the American market, will be obtained. But this is not all—if the export is confined to this quality of fish, though it will make the duty nearly correspond to that now levied on No. 1's, it will leave the inspection in the hands of the Americans, who will not fail to make it a high charge, and still further reduce the profit. The new tariff appears to be contrived to suit this view of the

case—to defeat all the good which our cruisers are likely to accomplish by keeping Jonathan away from the coast with his jigs and bait, when the mackerel are running—and to make us in reality fishermen for the Yankees, placing us with regard to them, in nearly the same position which our labouring fishermen now occupy with regard to the merchants who purchase their fish, and furnish them supplies. If this system be pursued the Americans will get the fish at their own price, and we shall lose all that makes the Fisheries valuable as a staple of commerce.

Under this system a barrel of good fish, equal to American inspection, would never command the same price, for the very reason that the Provincial reputation of the article alone would be sufficient to condemn it; and the only way to avoid the snare which brother Jonathan has laid for us in his new Tariff, is not to allow a barrel of fish to be exported from the Province, until its character is fully and honestly ascertained and marked, rendering further inspection useless. Those practices by which all kinds of fish bought in the lump have been packed off as No. 1's—by which No. 3's have been branded as No. 1's—by which when some honest Inspector has refused to brand a lot of fish, another has been found willing to do the needful—by which cods-heads, alewives, herrings, and even stones, have been packed down as mackerel for purposes of fraud—by which any indefinite No. of headings, highly branded, are sent off to be fitted to any and every description of fish,—must be unscrupulously swept away and unhesitatingly punished. Let us not however be misunderstood.—We do not mean to assert that such practices as we have hinted at above have been general. Even yet the names of many of our Inspectors upon a barrel, would be a sufficient indication of the worthiness of its contents in a foreign market; and the character of the generality of our Merchants stands too high to suffer from practices such as we have detailed, but which circumstances have made somewhat too common for the good of the country, or the character of its principal export.

The judicious protection of our Fisheries for the last two years, has stamped a value upon them which the Americans have been obliged to acknowledge by purchasing largely of the proceeds. The vessels they sailed, the men they employed, the material they consumed, having been superseded by our own, must all be taken into the account and added to the gain of the Province, as well as the fish they have bought; and calculating their gain, we shall probably think the employment of a cruiser well repaid, and begin to have some conception of the immense market that is opening to this branch of commerce, and the necessity of securing it to ourselves by wise and prudent enactments. So long as the Fisheries remain to Nova Scotia so long will they be valuable to the United States, and increase in value as that vast country becomes more thickly populated. To protect them then should be a chief concern—to protect our fishermen in their lawful occupation, and prevent them from being encroached upon by the trespass of foreigners—to give a character to the trade of the Province, by enforcing a just and equitable law, which would enhance the value of the only article of commerce that Nova Scotia possesses—is an imperative duty of the Legislature. And have they not done this? we think we hear some foreigner exclaim. For his satisfaction we are obliged to state, that the Legislature of Nova Scotia do not consider that an attention to this interest accords with the well understood wishes of the people. They have discontinued the grant to a revenue cruiser, which protected the Fisheries, so that there will be no let or hindrance more than formerly to a trespass on the coast—and there is now no Inspection Law whatever, and to all appearance there will be none—to secure those interests upon which the salvation of the Province depends.

Auction.

To be sold by Public Auction, on Monday, 20th May next, at noon, in front of the Subscriber's Store, in Chatham, for payment of the debts of the late ALEXANDER P. HENDERSON, late of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland, Merchant, deceased, in consequence of a deficiency of the Personal Estate of the said deceased for that purpose, pursuant to a Licence obtained from the Surrogate Court of said County:

All the Right and Title of the said deceased, in and to the Piece of Land, lying in the Town of Chatham, fronting on the north side of Water Street, thirty feet, and extending back thirty feet, on which piece of Land there is a dwelling House at present occupied by Mr. William White. Also—the Wharf and Blacksmith's shop, situate at the upper side of the Public Landing in Chatham, and extending from thence westerly forty feet, and from the bank of the River outwards, with the privilege of the water in front.

For further particulars apply to John M. Johnson, Esq., one of the Executors, or at the Office of G. Kerr, Esq., Chatham.

By Order of the Executors. Terms at Sale. JAMES JOHNSON, Auctioneer. Chatham, 17th April, 1844.

Notice.

All persons indebted to Phineas Williston & Brothers, are requested to pay the sums they respectively owe, to the subscribers, or to one of them, without delay, otherwise legal steps will be resorted to, to enforce payment.

J. Conard, M. Samuel, James A. Pierce, Assignees of the Estate of P. Williston and Brothers.

Chatham, 22nd November, 1843.