

appeared to know there was something going on; and to a fish, went gasping round their little world in slow and passionless excitement.

The grocers'! oh the grocers'! nearly closed, with perhaps two shutters down or one; but through those gaps such glimpses! It was not alone that the scales descending on the counter made a merry sound, and that the twine and roller parted company so briskly, or that the canisters were rattled up and down like juggling tricks, or even that the blended scents of tea and coffee were so grateful to the nose, or even that the raisins were so plentiful and rare, the almonds so extremely white, the sticks of cinnamon so long and straight, the other spices so delicious, the candied fruits so caked and spotted with molten sugar, as to make the coldest lookers-on feel faint, and subsequently bilious. Nor was it that the figs were moist and pulpy, or that the French plums blushed in modest tartness from their highly decorated boxes, or that everything was good to eat, and in its Christmas dress; but the customers were all so hurried and so eager in the hopeful promise of the day, that they tumbled up against each other at the door, clashing their wicker baskets wildly, and left their purchases upon the counter, and came running back to fetch them, and committed hundreds of the like mistakes in the best humor possible; while the grocer and his people were so frank and fresh, that the polished hearts with which they fastened their aprons behind might have been their own, worn outside for general inspection, and for Christmas daws to peck at, if they chose.

Colonial News.

New-Brunswick.

From the Saint John Courier, January 20.
PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of this Association and of persons friendly to Protection on Agriculture, Domestic Manufactures, &c. took place on Thursday evening last, at the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute. About five hundred persons were present. The object of the meeting was to appoint Officers, and to adopt other measures for promoting the intentions of the Association. Proceedings commenced by calling John Owens, Esquire, to the Chair; and Mr. J. W. McLeod having been requested to act as Secretary, the Meeting was organized; when

On motion of Mr John Berryman, seconded by Mr Andrew Scott, it was unanimously Resolved.—That the Members of this Association now present proceed to nominate a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, with a Committee to manage the business of the Association.

Mr Berryman alluded to the value of the Association, which they had formed on a preceding evening, as tending to charge the business of the Country, which had resulted in almost a general bankruptcy, to one of healthiness, and promotive of universal prosperity. Instead of our labours in the forest going to support the Mechanics and tradesmen of other countries, while our own were unemployed, he hoped to see, through the instrumentality of this Association, our own industrious classes constantly and profitably engaged. It should be our aim, in the advocacy of these interests that nothing of a selfish nature should animate us: for his part, he, as a citizen and a tradesman, felt for other citizens and tradesmen—he could sympathize with his fellow men throughout the country in the dreadful effects of the depression which prevails, and on that account, we should associate together to petition the Legislature that we may be allowed to work for ourselves. This, said Mr B is a young country, with all the imperfections and disadvantages attendant upon its youth and limited population, in the matters of trade and manufactures,—and he did not wonder, nor could any reasonable man, that foreign manufactures were cheaper than those of this country. And admitting that they were so, is it conducive to the prosperity of the Province to admit them for consumption here when our mechanics and artizans are suffering for employment by those means withheld from them. Certainly the grand object of this association is to encourage the Farmers, the Fisheries, the Manufactures and Mechanics of New Brunswick, by using all legal means, in obtaining full employment for every department of Provincial industry. We have resources equal to those of any other spot, and yet almost our whole population are in a state of bankruptcy; our interests, we have too much reason to believe, have been neglected in the Halls of Legislation. The time, it is hoped, will come, when the industrious classes will be able to send men from among themselves, who have community of feeling with them, and identity of interests.

Moved by Mr B. Ansley, and seconded by Mr C. H. Dimock, and Resolved,—That the office bearers do issue Circulars to the leading gentlemen, farmers, merchants and mechanics, to all parts of the Province, requesting them to become members of the Association, and to give in their support by the formation of branch associations within their district, or in such manner as may be deemed most beneficial to its interests.

Mr B. Ansley, in addressing the meeting, commenced by saying that the time had arrived when the people should be aroused to take care of themselves. The vessels of our merchants are afloat on every sea; and for whose advantage do they sail? for the benefit of the people of the mother country. Hence the occasion of a union of the mercantile classes with the industrial. The Farmer, too, as well as the

merchant should give his hearty support to this Institution, because it seeks to re-establish a market for his produce, to raise the price of the product of his farm, and to give encouragement to the agricultural interests of the Province. It is said by some that the population of this city has fallen off within the last two years by emigration 15,000; perhaps this is too large an estimate; there has certainly been a reduction of 10,000, of whom at least 5,000 have been working men, whose wages in the year, at the rate of \$2 a week each, would amount to £327,750—about double the value of all the shipping of the port. Now let us see what benefit these working men would have been to the Farmer in the year, if they could have been kept here. At the rate of 2lb. meat each per week, 1lb of bread per day, and 12 bushels potatoes per annum, they would have consumed—1000 head of cattle, 4000 hogs, 8000 sheep, 17,200 barrels of flour, and 120,000 bushels of potatoes, which at present prices, would leave £250,000 to be expended in other ways. I ask the Farmers if giving employment to these men and keeping them in the country is not yielding protection to their interests. Mr Ansley here alluded to the words of his resolution which spoke of Circulars being sent through the Country, and enquired—Does it need Circulars to arouse Mechanics to their duty towards their Country, themselves, and their families. He was sorry to say that it did.—He felt grieved to add that but fifty persons as yet had subscribed the Constitution. He could appreciate the difficulty with which the natives of the soil pushed themselves away from its destructive allurements, he could feel for those who had made this land of their adoption, and whose necessities obliged them to quit the friends and acquaintances of many years, to earn a subsistence in foreign countries,—and he could not but sorrowfully reflect upon the misery that awaited those who remained. If unprepared to remedy existing evils why stay we here! we can hope for no change of times that will better our condition—Unless united effort be now made, we must seek the home our friends have sought before us. Mr Ansley gave an instance of the prevailing distress among the operatives, in relating that on Tuesday last, a mechanic applied to him for work, offering to engage for 1s. 6d. per day. He told him (Mr A.) that he had no claim whatever upon him, but he thought he might get something for him to do. He wanted work, and he believed if he did not get work, he should go mad. He stated that he had a wife and three children who had been living five days on corn meal, and he himself was reduced to the necessity of begging in order to prevent them starving, Mr Ansley concluded by calling upon all to come up at once to the work.

Moved by Mr John McLardy, and seconded by Mr W. A. Robertson, and Resolved,—That the Committee do without delay proceed to business, and endeavour by all proper and legal means to carry out and effect the great objects for which this Association has been formed; and that they be invested by the Association with full power and authority for that purpose.

Moved by Mr Robert D. Wilmot, and seconded by Mr E. L. Jarvis, and Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Association that the rates of duties levied in this Province on Foreign Importations have been such as to waste the resources of the country, and by their unequal and oppressive operations, have inflicted the most serious injury on the farmer, the mechanic the fisherman, and every other interest of this Province.

Mr R. D. Wilmot, in moving his resolution stated that when he looked around him and saw the tenanted houses and stores, the labourers out of employ, mechanics compelled to work on the roads at 1s. per day, beef selling at 1½d to 2d per lb. potatoes from 7½d to 1s. per bushel, and numbers upon the streets begging;—when he saw the whole business of the Province prostrated, and a general bankruptcy staring us in the face, it was time, he thought, to consider what had caused such general ruin, and if possible to discover a remedy. Mr W. then spoke of the Timber trade and Shipbuilding as occupying the general attention of the inhabitants.—He said that in the prosecution of that trade we were wasting our resources,—we were building ships and sending them away, without receiving compensation, either individually or collectively.—Look at the Custom House returns of Imports and Exports—

In 1839, our Imports amounted to	£1435,474
and our exports to	701,839
Leaving a balance of	£733,635
to be made up in Freights and new ships,—and who will believe it was so made up.	
In 1840—our Imports were	£1257,300
and our Exports	639,349
Leaving a balance of	£617,951
to be made up in the same way.	•••••

It was supposed, said Mr Wilmot, that 10,000 of our labourers and mechanics had been driven out of the Province, to dwell among foreigners consuming their produce, and in many instances, manufacturing articles for the New Brunswick market, upon which we pay a duty on their importation in the country abounding in the raw material. Our sheepskins, even, said he, go to Boston with the wool on, and come back with the wool off, at an increased cost to us of 300 per cent.—and it is the same with many other articles.

Moved by M. H. Perley, Esq. and seconded by Mr. W. Bushe, and supported by Mr. S. M. Chamberlain, and Resolved,—That the Committee do forthwith prepare a Petition to the Provincial Legislature, praying that body to adopt such a Scale of Duties as will give just and equal protection to all classes of Her Majesty's Subjects, and lead to the development

of the extensive and valuable resources of New Brunswick

Mr. Perley, in proposing his Resolution, remarked—such a measure as the establishment of this Association has long been needed, and is now pressed upon us so that we can no longer resist.—We must call out for protection—equal protection. Mr. Perley called the attention of the Meeting to the Trades' Processions at the laying of the corner stone of the Hall of the Mechanics' Institution, and on the occasion of the visit of the late Lord Sydenham, then Governor General—There were present on those occasions about 1400 well fed well clad men—of whom 300 were Tailors—of these 300 there are now but 12 first class and 16 second class Tailors in the City of Saint John.—Where, in the short space of three years, have these 270 gone? On the same occasions there were 200 Cordwainers present; of these there are now in the City but 25 journeymen, moderately employed, and 20 working at cheap work. There were likewise about 300 House Joiners present, of whom scarcely a trace is now to be found. Looking at the number of consumers here lost, can we wonder that the price of farm produce is so universally depressed. The bone and sinew of this country are gone to enrich our foreign neighbors. Mr Perley next alluded to the timber trade.—Large parties, he said, had this season, left the Restigouche and its neighbourhood, for the country of the Upper Saint John, which he described as being alive with lumberers, who have received all their supplies from Canada and the United States, and are engaged in wastfully cutting our Timber, to Saint John next spring, probably to the extent of 125,000 tons, and thence to be shipped in English vessels, supplied in England with foreign provisions. Thus, said he, our valuable White Pine Forests are rapidly disappearing, and we are deriving no benefit from them,—and how, under such a state of wholesale destruction of our resources, can we expect to prosper. If one fourth of the men from the Restigouche could be prevailed on to go to the lumber camps, one fourth to prosecute the fisheries, and the remaining half to till the ground to raise food for the others, then might we expect better times—the result of a proper application of the industry of the country.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31, 1844.

ARRIVAL OF THE SOUTHERN MAIL.—The Southern mail reached the Post Office, on Monday evening, at 6 o'clock. We went to press to-day at two o'clock.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—Under our European head will be found a miscellany of the latest intelligence received by the Britannia.

LORD FALKLAND AND HIS LATE COUNCIL.—The Halifax Times of January 23, contains the following paragraph:—

"We learn from a source on which reliance may be placed, that Lord Falkland has received by the last steamer, Despatches from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying his entire approval of the recent proceedings of his Excellency."

SIR CHARLES METCALFE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.—The London Times of the 2nd instant, in remarking on the accounts received in England of the differences between Sir C. Metcalfe and his Council, and the warm approval of his conduct in vindicating the prerogative of the Crown, says—

"The 'responsible Government' men have moved and carried a sort of argumentative address to the Governor-General, intended, no doubt, to convey at once the fact of their own adherence to the ex Minister, and the conclusion that the principles on which that Ministry has been dismissed are wholly unconstitutional. The attempt at arguing Sir Charles into self condemnation was certainly unfortunate, and the address makers met their watch. His Excellency has answered them.

We have lately had occasion to express our own views on the subject of 'Responsible Government'; this working of the doctrine in practice having not confined the accuracy of our observations, but gone beyond anything we could have anticipated. The very thing has happened which might have been expected; it has two men, in speaking of 'the Responsible Government' of a colonial dependency, mean the same thing; and the ultra-advocates of the doctrine turn out to claim under it, as we ourselves declared that they must do neither more nor less than total Independence—an actual domination over the Executive Government, quite incompatible with the prerogatives of the Imperial Crown

How the extravagant claims made upon Sir C. Metcalfe are to be reconciled with the comparative moderate exposition of the responsible Government doctrine which appears on the face of the resolutions of 1841, we certainly are at a loss to conceive. The word 'Responsible' is not used once in those resolutions in connexion with the people of Canada,—it occurs only with reference to the Imperial Crown. The confidence of the people in the Ministry is declared to be requisite; but even the assistance and counsel of that Ministry are not required,

except the condition be first complied with, that the Governor be 'responsible to the Imperial Governor Alone.' Yet, in the teeth of this, what do the present ex Ministry of Sir C. Metcalfe now claim? A formal acknowledgement, and nothing less, that they, and they alone, shall name the provincial Administration. This is their first demand; and the second is even greater, viz., that they should controvert the Royal prerogative of assenting to, or rejecting, the bills enacted by them. Not even the British House of Commons, nor the Imperial Parliament itself has ever laid claim to any such powers as these. The voice of the crown in naming its own advisers at home is not an empty shadow. It is still an important power. Though not absolute, it exists; and any proposal for a formal abolition of it would be scouted. And yet a provincial Legislature would assume to themselves the whole of these powers, together with a control over the legislative power of the Crown, in derogation not only of the rights of the QUEEN, but also of the Imperial Parliament. And this is 'Responsible Government!'

Certainly Sir C. Metcalfe was not far wrong in claiming to be himself the better observer of the constitution of 1841, and insinuating that the framers of the address to him were not very clear in their apprehension either of his own views or of the charter which they talked about so loudly and magnificently.

The Governor General, however, has now exposed to the world what it is that these propounders of abstract principles really mean by 'Responsible Government,'—and he has further had the satisfaction of putting them completely in the wrong, even on their own showing, and on the footing of even their own charter, before the face of Europe and America. It is clear, that Canada cannot be governed in connexion with this country on any terms less responsible to England or more responsible to the local democrats, than those of the resolutions of 1841;—we are convinced that Sir C. Metcalfe is the man to carry those resolutions out, and to maintain their irrevocable FINALITY."

FIRE AT WOODSTOCK.—The Woodstock Telegraph, of Saturday, 20th inst. states:—

That on Sunday previous, between 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning a fire broke out in a new building owned by Mr James McCann, Merchant of that place. Owing to the strong wind which prevailed at the time and the ascendancy which the fire had obtained, the whole Village was in imminent danger, but thro' the perseverance of the inhabitants, the fire was arrested after it had consumed six buildings, three of which were barns. One old couple had a narrow escape for their lives, their house being on fire before they awoke, and it was only through the exertions of one of their neighbours and some of the soldiers stationed there, that they were able to effect their escape.

THE SEASON.—The papers by the last mail are unanimous in their accounts of the severity of the weather. The Quebec papers state that the thermometer was down as low as 30 below zero, and ranging from 15, 20, and 25, below freezing point, for several days previous. The Halifax papers make mention of the harbour having been frozen across, but the ice had been blown off to sea; there was good skating on the North West Arm at last accounts. The good folk of St. John are also complaining of the coldness of the season.

In Miramichi, "Jack Frost," has been almost too severe with us; the thermometer, has been as low as 30 degrees below zero, and up to the present time the cold is intense. We understand several persons have been severely frost bitten while travelling and engaged in the woods.

WEST INDIES.—The Yellow Fever, and Small Pox, were raging with great violence, at the last accounts from these Islands. The Lieut. Governor of St. Kitts, had been dangerously ill.

A Bermuda paper of December 27, has the following extract:—"A severe shock of an earthquake occurred at Dominica on the morning of the 2nd inst. Its duration, fortunately was momentary, but its violence is represented to have been equal to the one experienced in that and the neighbouring Island in the month of February last"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A communication signed "Felix," in answer to a letter which appeared lately in the Gleaner, under the signature of "Incola," has been received, but we decline inserting it, as we feel convinced a bad feeling would result from its appearance. The disagreeable proceedings mentioned as having taken place in the former letter, are highly censurable, and we trust the parties engaged, whether they walk in the higher or lower orders of society, will meet with a just punishment.

OUR SHEET.—Bankrupt Notices continue to pour in upon us, to the exclusion of more interesting, yet not as profitable, matter.