

trained up for the purpose in the Normal school.

In connection with the agricultural schools of Ireland and England, there are small farms of greater or less extent. The national schools in Ireland have little farms attached of five or six acres, which the master and the boys cultivate.

Legislative News.

New Brunswick:

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, April 9.

On motion of Mr Wark, Resolved, That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to rescind the second Regulation of the eighth June, 1844, for the disposal of Timber and Lumber, and to direct that in future applications for Licences be received at any time the same may be presented, and to make such other amendments in the said Timber Regulations, upon due notice being given, as the experience of the last year has proved to be necessary. Upon the question for sustaining this Resolution, the House divided yeas 14, nays 7—and it was thereupon carried in the affirmative.

Mr Boyd, from the Committee, appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with the Address of the House of the eighth day of April instant, relative to the claims of Matthew Carruthers for surveying and laying out Indian Reserves in the county of Northumberland, reported—That they had attended thereto, and that His Excellency was pleased to say, he would cause the desired investigation to be had.

United States News.

From the New York Express.

Dreadful Steamboat Accidents.—One of the most melancholy and heart rending accidents that has ever happened on our river took place last evening, in the Athens channel, nearly opposite this city. The Steamboat Swallow, Capt. Squires, one of the New York and Troy 6 o'clock line, which runs through without landing, while on her passage down blast night ran upon a small island, which was situated a short distance from the main shore, between the upper and lower villages.

We have visited the scene of destruction to-day, and a melancholy sight it is truly. The forward part of the boat is broken off by her forward gang-way, and her bows are thrown up nearly thirty feet, the rest high and dry on the island, some twenty feet from the water.

The crash must have been tremendous, as every part of the boat is broken to pieces and will be a total wreck. The loss of life is awful, and as yet no correct estimate can be formed as to how many have perished. We are informed by the Captain that there were 300 passengers on board. The scene that took place on her striking is indescribable. The gentlemen who had ladies in charge rushed to the Ladies' Saloon, and the ladies who were in it rushed to the door to escape—confusion and consternation were so great that a large number threw themselves into the river, and many must have been drowned. The accident took place about 8 o'clock in the evening; it was very dark and stormy, and the boat was under very moderate headway when she struck—had she been under full speed many more lives must have been lost.

Some who jumped overboard had a very narrow escape.—Miss Cornelia Plant, a young lady of Detroit, who was on her way to New York, under the charge of Mr C. H. Hincks of that City, left the boat on a settee and were both taken up a short distance below nearly exhausted.

A large number of boats from Athens and from this City, went immediately to the relief of the sufferers, and a number of persons were picked up. The steamboats Rochester and Express were just behind the Swallow when the accident occurred, and they came alongside and rendered all the assistance they could, and took most of the passengers on board.

The stern of the boat sunk almost immediately and must have carried a large number down with it. At high tide the water is clear up to the upper deck over the State Room, this afternoon at low water they succeeded in getting out six bodies—five women and one man. One was recognised to be the wife of George M. Coffin, of West Troy. The rest of the bodies were not recognised.

The John Mason has been down and taken all the baggage, and what furniture they could reach belonging to the boat.—We understand that it is the intention of the owners to take out her engines and machinery immediately, so that they can

raise the stern and obtain the bodies of those who were drowned in the cabins.

New York Sun, April 12.

More Pistalling.—Another bloody affray occurred at Hernandez, Tennessee, between T. J. Matlock, Esq., and his brother and overseer on one side, and Mr. Forrest on the other. It seems the Matlocks had a dispute with another person, when young Mr. Forrest made some interfering remarks; sometime after which he and the Matlocks met, when some exciting language rose between them, which induced one of the Matlocks to raise a stick to strike Forest, who immediately drew a revolving pistol, and set it to work as fast as possible, shooting both of the Matlocks through; the younger T. J., through the shoulder, and the upper part of the breast, and the other through the arm which has since been amputated; Mr. T. J. Matlock lies in a doubtful state; young Mr. Forrest also received a slight pistol wound in the arm. The most melancholy part of the bloody affray was the death of old Mr. Forrest, father of the other, who stood some yards off, during the affray, offering no interference; it is said he was deliberately shot down by Mr. Matlock's overseer, without the least provocation; other reports say the pistol was not aimed at him; the overseer is in jail. Mr. Forrest was a most worthy and estimable citizen.

Disaster below the Falls of Niagara.—Letters from Youngstown, Queenstown and Niagara, towns located on or near the margin of the Niagara river, below the Falls, report a serious destruction of property by an overflow of the river, from the breaking up of the ice in Lake Erie. Livingston & Co's correspondent writes: The depth of the ice and water is variously estimated, by letters from Lewiston and the Buffalo papers, at thirty to fifty feet. One letter, from the postmaster at Lewiston, says that the warehouses were swept from the docks; Youngstown sharing the same fate, and the water rising (April 4th).

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser says that the storehouses of Shepherd, Cornell and Tryon, at Lewiston, are carried away.

Respecting the Canada side of the river, the following paragraph from the Chronicle at Niagara, embraces all I have to give you. The extract is dated Thursday morning.

The wharf of the dock company is completely wrecked—many of the heavy piles supporting it are thrown down, and a portion of it is lifted several feet above the level.—Great fears were at one time entertained that most of the company's valuable stores would be carried away, and the steamers in dock, namely the City of Toronto, Transit, and Queen, with several smaller craft, were considered in great jeopardy. Happily the damages thus far sustained on the company's property is confined to that above mentioned.

The water, last night, rose four or five feet above the usual level, and Mr. Frazer, who lives on the wharf, removed his family and furniture to a place of safety, and all the goods were taken from the company's warehouse without damage. This morning the water has fallen to about its usual level.

So compact is the ice that persons have crossed hence to Youngstown upon it, and above the surface of the water, on the very spot where the Chief Justice Robinson was moored the previous day.

The Chief Justice came over yesterday but was unable to enter the harbor, and anchored off the fort. The violence of the gale, however, soon drove her off, and she returned to Toronto without landing either passengers or mails.

Colonial News.

Canada:

From the Sherbrooke Gazette.

We learn by a gentleman just from Stanstead, that \$20,000 was subscribed on Stanstead Plain in one day towards the stock of the Branch Rail-Road, from Stanstead following Crockett's survey, to intersect with the Portland line by Sherbrooke to Montreal. Our informant saw the names and amounts on paper, and was assured that the sum would be extended to \$70,000 or \$80,000, in Stanstead.

There was another north easterly snow storm yesterday the 8th April, which lasted the whole day. The quantity fallen upon a level is about five inches but it is much drifted. The depth of snow in the hard wood lands, where it does not drift

is still about four feet, and the fields are entirely covered, the snow, in several places being up to the top of the fences. The thermometer has been on some mornings, for nearly a week past, down to 15° below zero, and much new ice has formed in the river. If the fields are clear for agricultural labour before the first week in May, it is as much as can now be expected, and if there is a rapid thaw, there will be danger of destructive inundations, injury to mills, mill dams, &c.

The prospect of the opening of the navigation to Montreal, is not now much better than the prospect of the commencement of agricultural operations. Vessels may arrive from sea as soon as steamers from Montreal.

The Schooner Marie Dolphine, Capt. Joseph Blais, with a full cargo of fish from Baie-des-Chaleurs, and which had put in at Malbaie, (North Shore) last fall, on account of the lateness of the season, arrived here this morning, having sailed from the latter place yesterday morning. She reports the river below nearly free of ice; but a good deal of the batteries are still fast.

New Brunswick.

Fredericton Head Quarters, April 16.

Fire in Woodstock.—We are informed that on Saturday morning last, about 2 o'clock, a fire broke out in the county jail of Carlton, which in a short time destroyed the whole building. It appears that the jailer had been alarmed by the cries of the persons who were confined, and arrived at their rooms in time to let them out before the fire had gone so far as to injure any of them. The people of Woodstock appear to think there is some probability that the fire was the result rather of design than of accident, as it originated in one of the debtor's rooms where two persons were confined, and no cause could be ascertained which satisfactorily accounted for the circumstance having occurred.

The prisoners all escaped, and it is said that one man who was confined for horse stealing, when asked of a bye-stander why he did not get out of the Sheriff's way, coolly replied that he would go away if they would only furnish him with a horse.—It would appear that this worthless penchant for horseflesh is indulged under difficulties of no ordinary description. We understand there were only three persons in the jail at the time of its destruction—two debtors and the man we have just alluded to. One of the debtors, named Munro, was from Miramichi, and had been apprehended and put in jail, when on his way to the United States, at the suit of the Hon. Joseph Cunard. It is said the sum for which he was committed was of considerable amount.

Fredericton Loyalist, April 17.

The weather during the past week has been delightful, and the snow is fast disappearing from the cleared lands, although great quantities yet remain in the Woods. The ice on the River continues as yet perfectly firm, and there is every probability of its remaining so for some time yet; we should not be surprised to see a May-pole upon it this season. The communication between this and Saint John is now almost broken up, by the land route; which, with the bad state of the Roads, between this and Halifax will no doubt detain the English Mail some days longer than usual; it ought to be here on Saturday next.

St. Andrews Standard.

Defaulter.—James McNall for some years Collector of Taxes, for the Parish of St. Andrews, decamped to the United States, on the 1st instant, carrying with him over £150 of the County moneys which he had collected. He has been traced as far as Bangor, and hopes are entertained of his being caught, and the amount or the greater part of it being recovered.

We learn that McNall, the absconding Tax-Collector, was apprehended in Boston, and placed in safe keeping; and that after some time he was induced to give up part of the amount he absconded with.

Fredericton Loyalist, April 10.

The following is the Address from the Inhabitants of the County of Gloucester to Sir Wm. Colebrooke. This address is the one to which we referred last week, our informant having mistaken Gloucester for Restigouche, and the number 1200 for 2000. However, we are credibly informed that a similar Address is now on its way from Restigouche. To His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Sir William Macbean George Colebrooke, K. H. Lieutenant Governor &

Commander in Chief of the Province of New-Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.

May it please Your Excellency.

We the undersigned, Inhabitants of the County of Gloucester, most respectfully approach Your Excellency with renewed assurances of that attachment and veneration for our beloved Queen and the Glorious Constitution under which we live, which have ever distinguished us.

We cannot therefore, but view with regret the differences which have unhappily arisen between Your Excellency and the popular branch of the Legislature, and the disregard which Your Excellency has been advised to pay to the opinions, feelings, and judgement of that body.

In the recent struggle in which the House of Assembly has been engaged, we recognise the legitimate organ of the wants, wishes and opinions of the people contending for a Constitutional right, a right which has been conceded to the people of these Colonies by a beneficent Sovereign, during an Administration composed of one party in the State, and subsequently ratified and confirmed by an Administration of an opposite party, holding in other respects very different views from their predecessors on questions of National Policy.

Regarding then this right that the Government of the Colonies should be carried on according to the understood wishes of the people as expressed by their Representatives, as one bestowed upon the people of this Province unsolicited, and recognized by Imperial Statesmen of all parties, we humbly conceive it should not be lightly esteemed; nor be permitted to be invaded in silence; and we feel bound to sustain the House of Assembly in their efforts to defend it by every constitutional means in our power.

We further beg most respectfully to state, that upon this question we were cheerfully disposed to wait the decision of the Parent Government, but having discovered that attempts are now being made by interested parties to surprise the unwary and uninformed into an expression of approval of the course which the Provincial Government has adopted, and repudiation of the acts of our Representatives, we are compelled by a high regard to truth and justice to make this solemn declaration to Your Excellency, that upon no occasion have the Representatives of the People recommended themselves more to our confidence and esteem than upon this recent one, which has unfortunately placed Your Excellency's Advisers in hostility to the people at large.

James Ferguson, Charles Doucette, Sen. John Richey, J.P. John Chalmers, Wm. Molloy, Thomas Falle, J.P. James Young, Richard Blackstock, John Willis, Theophilus Desbrisay, Michael Parthele, Robert Gordon, M.D. Gavin Kerr, Charles Doucette, Jr. And upwards of twelve hundred others.

St. John Courier, April 19.

[The above address was accompanied by the following letter, and drew forth the annexed reply from His Excellency.]

Fredericton, 8th April, 1845.

May it please Your Excellency,—

We received by last night's mail an Address from the County of Gloucester to Your Excellency, on the subject of the unfortunate collision which has taken place between your Excellency and the Representatives of the People, consequent upon the reasons which induced the retirement of four of your Excellency's late Advisers, and we were at the same time requested to present the same to your Excellency, with an humble request that you transmit the same to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

We accordingly, in obedience to such instructions have the honor to accompany this communication with such Address, and respectfully request that your Excellency will be pleased to comply with the wishes of those persons who have affixed their signatures thereto, by forwarding the same to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

We have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's ob'dt serv'ts.

Alexander Rankin, Peter Stewart, Joshua Alexandre.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Government House, 9th April, 1845.

Gentlemen,—

I have this day been favored with your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing to me an Address from the county of Gloucester, which you inform me you have been instructed to present to me with a request that it might be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; and it be-