

ber and clearing of this country, most advantageously to be done by settlements, in which a number of families would find themselves in close proximity to one another.

In these general observations I ought not to omit the valuable Maple Sugaries which exist, and which are of such great importance to the poor settler, not only supplying his own wants, but frequently yielding a sufficiency for sale. These Sugaries are of such extent, and the article is so easily prepared for consumption, that I suggest to Your Excellency the possibility of its being an article of trade. In one instance (between the Golden Farm on the Madawaska and the heads of the Toquois and Squattick Rivers) I passed for several miles through a ridge of Maple totally free from other timber, with scarcely any underbrush; and it is not uncommon to find several thousand of these beautiful and useful trees on a space not larger than the size of an ordinary farm lot. The Canadians on the shore of the St. Lawrence are now becoming aware of the value of these Sugaries for domestic use, and come as far as 15 miles into the interior to seek for them, conveying the product of their toil to the nearest settlements on their Lands. These Sugaries situated within two or three miles from the St. John and Madawaska Rivers are generally worked, but there are hundreds, I might almost say thousands of them still untouched.

In consequence of the necessity for Timber passing the Grand Falls of the St. John in its course to the Port for exportation, the only description of Lumber which can be procured and brought to Market from the Upper St. John, are the different species of pine, as it is imagined that such heavy Timber as the hard woods would not float after making the plunge over the Falls. I shall therefore only state, that these latter (hard woods) are to be found on most of the streams in abundance. The principal tracts on which the Pines are now to be found extend from the St. Francis eastward to the Seignory of Lake Tamiacosta. This latter, being private property, has been almost exhausted of Pine Timber. About the heads of the Tolededy there is some scattered Timber, but not a very large amount. In other parts of the disputed territory the Pine Timber is scarcely worth mentioning as a source of Revenue.

Vast quantities of the Spruce Fir, which grows to a great height and very free from limbs, is of a tough and durable nature, and which will be exceedingly valuable after the more stately and handsome Pine shall have been removed, are to be found on all the streams with which this country abounds.

In travelling through the Lumber woods of New Brunswick, it has been with much regret that I have witnessed the sinful waste of large Timber, caused by the improvident habits of the Lumberers who throw down the largest trees, in which it is not uncommon to find a slight shake or little imperfection near the root. They then ascertain by cutting into the tree where this imperfection ends, and cut it off. They next remove the top below the first branch, or where there may be some fault, according to the Lumberman's notions, who only wishes to make a handsome stick, as he terms it, and perhaps taking 20 or 30 feet in length from the main body, rejects the remainder of a tree, generally 120 feet long, leaving that to rot on the ground, which in fact consists of the best of the Lumber.

This is an immense quantity of the most valuable article of trade to the Province, and one of the most useful to mankind, willfully and wantonly destroyed yearly, in some cases of a single tree amounting to as much as would make three or four thousand feet of the best and most beautiful boards.

There are moreover a considerable number of trees which are felled, and for some slight fault (almost amounting to caprice on the part of the Lumberer) which would prevent its being made into a handsome stick fit for exportation, are abandoned without even using any portion of them; and all this waste takes place in the heart of a country, blessed with an extent of water power and abundant sites for mills hardly equalled in the world, and which by giving employment to the lower orders, would thus secure to the country the riches that would ensue from that which is now destroyed to such a sinful extent. Moreover it should be remembered, that in a very few years the whole of the Lumber as now cut in the Province will be exhausted, and it is then that the loss of this principal article of trade will be most severely felt.

The reckless destruction of Nature's gifts is even carried to such an extent as to be acknowledged by any right thinking honest Lumberer as deplorable, and likely to be productive of serious results to the welfare of the Province.

The only excuse that can be offered why mills are not constructed on the Upper St. John is the difficulty of conveying small Lumber, such as Boards, Batts, &c. between the Upper and Lower St. John, and which likewise operates in preventing Spars for Shipping from being sent to the Markets.

Any Legislative enactment, therefore, for preventing this destruction, would appear in some measure to depend on the Navigation of the St. John being improved, and these remarks further impress on the Government the necessity of a Canal at the Great Falls; but at the same time it occurs to me to suggest that the abandoned Timber could be driven down the River in lengths as Saw Logs.

J. L. SIMMONDS.
Extract of a Letter from Sir James Alexander to Sir Wm. Colebrooke, dated Mr. Donald's, seven miles below the Forks of the Gaspeaux and Salmon River.

7th July, 1844.
Your Excellency will probably like to hear

how we have been progressing during the last month with the exploration and survey of the Line of the Military Road from the Bend and towards Bostown, and I now beg to send you a few lines relative to our proceedings.

Where I am now is not on the Line, but 20 miles below it; I came here to day with three men on two rafts or catamarans, (of 4 or 5 short spars each and propelled by poles) 13 miles, and seven in a canoe, to find out our second Depot of provisions (our first was at New Canaan Settlement,*) and to see the situations on the Salmon River for bridging it; the rest of the party I left at the "smooth rapids," Salmon River, or 13 miles above the Forks.

Our forest journeying from "the Bend" which we left on the 28th May, was prosperous; we found level country and nearly a straight line for the road for the 46 miles, the Bend to the Salmon River. We saw good land, some very good and some indifferent; but generally speaking many Farms could be established along the line, and in two or three places large Settlements, that is of 20 Families each, could be formed.

For road making we found hard materials everywhere; labour is now very cheap in the Country and the average expense of the road as far as the Salmon River, would be very trifling indeed, say 7s 6d a rod exclusive of the Bridges, at 16 1/2 feet, 22 feet road way, 8 feet ditches, 60 of skirting to admit sun and wind. In some places the extreme would be 6s 6d a rod, and in others 15s, where there are old Hemlocks and other old trees.

There would be few Bridges, and those required need not be expensive ones; one at New Canaan Settlement, the most so, and £150 would make a good one there, Log abutments 25 feet high, Stringers, King Posts and Braces, height of the river 60 feet, rise of Freshets 5 feet.

We passed between and avoided two large swampy savannahs, 4 and 6 miles N. W. of the Mountain settlement, (a ridge of beautiful hard wood, 7 miles N. W. from the Bend), we skirted some others, but these though called "Barrens" are very valuable, as they are the sources of the river, in the level Country we passed through; the moss rests on the rocks, and the whole acts as a great sponge, to collect, retain and give out the water in streams when discharged, a most wonderful arrangement of Divine Providence.

We did not see a single Settler, Lumberman or Indian, from the Mountain settlement to the Salmon River, only "a boundless contiguity of shade," with traces in it of Bears, wolves, karaboo, porcupine, skunk, &c.; we have heard the wild beasts but have not been annoyed by them.

J. E. ALEXANDER.
* I was much pleased with the New Canadian settlement, 30 farms scattered along a fertile Valley, a clear river running through the midst, people moral and religious, no Post Office, Store, Doctor or Lawyer there, no Minister. We had a desperate journey of 12 miles over burnt Land to get to it from the Line; on returning I discovered a new Lake.

Extract of a Despatch from Sir William Colebrooke, to Lord Stanley.

April 19th, 1843.
Referring to my Despatch, No. 18, of March 25th, forwarding Captain Crawley's Report of his survey of the line of the projected Canal to unite the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy, I have the honor to report that early in the last Session, I communicated to the Assembly an extract from your Lordship's Despatch, No. 76, of the 13th June, in answer to the application that the Surplus of the Civil List Fund, might be appropriated to the Main Road between Nova Scotia and Canada; I also laid before them the estimate framed by Capt. Crawley, for the survey which he was authorized to execute, a copy of which I herewith enclose.

To facilitate the Communication between Halifax and Quebec, at present so much retarded, is unquestionably an object of much general importance, both in a Military and Political point of view, but as a work of this magnitude is not likely to be accomplished for a considerable time, from the unaided resources of this Province, it would tend to the introduction of a better system, if the Survey of Line with proper estimates should be made under the direction of the Master General and Board of Ordnance, by which Her Majesty's Government would be guided in meeting the applications for assistance that may be made to it. Considering the importance of the work, and the aid that has been afforded to the Canadas in the undertakings in which they are engaged, I still entertain a hope that, if the Legislature should establish a better system they might be considered entitled to the same assistance.

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

February 11th, 1844.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to continue an Act for the regulation of Booms for securing Masts, Logs, and Lumber, in certain parts of the County of Northumberland. A Bill to continue an Act to lay a Tax on Dogs in a certain part of the Parish of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland. A Bill to continue an Act for the better and more effectual securing the Navigation of the River Miramichi, in the County of Northumberland, and to protect the Fisheries on the said River. A Bill to continue an Act, intitled "An act to repeal an act, intitled 'An Act for the better security of the Navigation of certain Harbours in the County of Northumberland, and to make more effectual provision for the better security of the Harbours in the Counties of Northumberland, Kent, and Gloucester.'" A

Bill to continue an Act to regulate the Assize of Bread in the Towns of Newcastle and Chatham, in the County of Northumberland. A Bill to continue an Act for the better regulation of the Office of Sheriff in this Province. Resolved, That the Bills do pass.

February 12.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to continue certain Acts relating to the Fisheries in the County of Northumberland, that are now expiring. Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Mr J. A. Street, by leave, presented a petition from Donald McKay, and thirty eight others, inhabitants of the Parish of Northesk, in the County of Northumberland, setting forth a very great injury resulting to the Lumbering Interests of the said County, by reason of the vast extent of Lands placed at the disposal of a few individuals as Mill Reserves on the Tide-way of the River Miramichi, and praying that measures may be taken for the breaking up of the Reserves complained of, in order that they be thrown open to public competition; which he read. Ordered, That the said Petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr J. A. Street, by leave, presented a Petition from William Henderson, Alexander Fraser, Junior, Henry B. Allison, and forty others, Trustees of Newcastle Grammar school, and other inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, praying for a continuation of the Grant towards the support of the Grammar school in Newcastle, taught by John Seewright; which he read. Ordered, That the said Petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

Mr Barberie, pursuant to leave granted, brought in a Bill for regulating the salmon Fisheries in the County of Resigouche; which was read a first time.

February 14.

Mr Engd, moved for leave to bring in a Bill to establish the Road leading from Bathurst, in the County of Gloucester, to the Northumberland line, via Shippegan, as one of the great roads of Communication of this Province. Leave granted.

Mr J. A. Street, by leave, presented a petition from William Carman, Junior, of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland, Esquire, Barrister at Law, praying an amendment in the Law regulating Juries and declaring the qualification thereof; which he read. Ordered, That the said Petition be received and lie on the table.

The House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to encourage the growth of Oysters in the Bay and Harbour of the River Miramichi. "Resolved, That the further consideration of the said Bill be postponed for three month."

European News.

From British Papers to the 4th February, received by the *Hibernia*, Steamer.

Since our last, the Queen and Prince Albert have visited the Duke of Buckingham, at his magnificent mansion of Stowe, and the Duke of Wellington, at Strathfieldsaye. The Royal progresses, as usual, were marked with the strongest demonstrations of loyalty and attachment to the persons of Her Majesty, and her distinguished husband.—The first named visit was one of state; the second was more of a private character. Since their return from Strathfieldsaye, Her Majesty and the Prince have been enjoying their usual riding and walking exercise at Windsor, as the weather has permitted. During the past week, Sir Robert and Lady Peel have been on a visit to Her Majesty. The Court will leave the Castle for Buckingham Palace on Monday, to be in readiness, for the opening of Parliament by Her Majesty. On Saturday, according to present arrangements, Her Majesty and the Prince will leave town for the Pavilion at Brighton, where the Court is expected to remain for a fortnight or three weeks. The infant Royal family will likewise be at Brighton. The Grand Duches of Mecklenburgh Strelitz (daughter of the Duke of Cambridge) lately gave birth to a son, but the child lived only a few minutes. The Royal mother's life was never in danger, and she is doing as well as can be expected.

The Parliamentary Session will be opened this day by Her Majesty in person. It is not difficult to anticipate, that from first to last, the Royal Speech will consist of a string of congratulations on the domestic tranquillity and happiness—the commercial prosperity—the flourishing state of the public finances, the pacific condition of our relation with foreign countries—the friendly visits of the King of the French and other European sovereigns. What of promise the speech may contain we, of course, are not sufficiently in the secrets of those in authority to hazard even a conjecture. Great things are anticipated, and something of consequence probably will be done. In some quarters it is confidently announced, that the tariff will undergo extensive revision, the success of the former reduction of duties on imports having been most decided. The propriety of striking off a great num-

ber of articles upon which small duties are chargeable, without producing any amount of consequence to the revenue, has for some time past, and continues to subject to very general discussion in the mercantile circles. The arguments adduced in favor of such a revision, are—that whilst the tariff embraces upwards of 1000 different articles, the bulk of the customs revenue is raised from not more than 20 of these commodities, and that as much delay is interposed in obtaining clearances for those that are unproductive to the revenue as those that are, it is desirable to sweep the whole of the minor duties off. There is also an increasing opinion that the income tax will be made less onerous than it is at present, especially to parties in receipt of low salaries. But it is expected that the great question will be—will the duties upon foreign slave grown sugars be lowered—two cargoes from Venezuela (a slave republic) having been cleared for home consumption in this country; and whether there will be an alteration in the corn laws. From the current of public feeling—mercantile speaking—the chances are held to be that the duty upon foreign sugars will be reduced, and many think there will be a fixed duty of 5s. the quarter upon foreign wheat entered for home consumption.

The revenue returns would appear to justify this calculation. Both for the year and quarter, they exhibit a considerable increase on almost every item of receipt. They are also remarkable as showing, for the first time since 1837, an excess of income over expenditure, which may be traced directly to an increased activity and extension of the trade and commerce of the country. The total increase on the year, is £1,163,593; that on the quarter, is £493,910. With the exception of the doubtful branch of revenue entered as "Miscellaneous," the only item of the ordinary revenue which exhibits a small decline, is the income tax, which has decreased £57,664 on the year, probably in consequence of the repayment of overcharges; it has, however, recovered itself on the quarter, showing for the three months an increase of £32,126. The customs show an increase in the year, of £1,305,453, and the excise of £365,204; while on the quarter, the same important branches show an increase respectively of £135,167, and £200,169. The other departments which are looked upon as in some measure a test of the prosperity or depression of the mass of the people, exhibit a corresponding improvement. The Post Office also shows a steady progress in the right direction, the increase on the year being £83,000 and on the quarter £3,006. But for the decrease in the two items of Income-tax, and Miscellaneous, the absolute increase on the year would have reached the large sum of £2,182,370.

The present state of things is a great triumph for Sir Robert Peel, after all the difficulties that were thrown in the way of his ascending to the premiership, and affords manifest evidence of the benefits of a calm and steady government. He found the Exchequer empty, and some thirty millions added to the national debt by his predecessors, there were no apparent sources of improvement; trade languished; the funds were low; no confidence in the money market; men of capital shrank from employing it; and the people generally were dissatisfied; but in less than four years the whole scene is changed. We have now a large surplus revenue; a diminished and diminishing debt; public credit and the national funds never stood so high; trade flourishes; foreign wars have been successfully concluded; home agitations have nearly ceased;—moreover, these substantial advantages may be fairly regarded as the harbinger of further and greater improvements—political, financial, and social.

The question of the rubric, which has for some time been the prevailing topic in the Church of England, has been brought prominently before the public by a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury to the clergy and laity of his province. The Archbishop recommends the clergy to abstain from any further attempt to introduce changes in the Church service, unless they are acceptable to the laity, and to let matters generally remain as they are, until "the way shall be prepared for a final settlement." In consequence of this letter, the Bishop of Exeter has withdrawn from the contest with the laity of his diocese, and has declared that he thankfully expects the prospect of an adjustment of their present diversities by some general measure which shall have the sanction of the whole Church. Whether such a measure will be introduced to Parliament in the ensuing session is doubtful, but the contemplated resignation of Mr. W. E. Gladstone, the President of the Board of