

César, and is the old account of the year, and was reformed by Pope Gregory in 1582, which plan was suggested by Lewis Lilio, a Calabrian astronomer. The Dutch and the Protestants in Germany introduced new style in 1700. The ancient clergy reckoned from the 25th of March; and the method was observed in Britain until the introduction of the new style, A. D. 1752; after which our year commenced on the 1st of January.

Communications.

Mr Editor,

I perceive by an announcement made in your last Gleaner, that an arrangement is about to be effected in the present mail system; and that the inhabitants of your now most favored part of the country are in future to have an additional weekly mail. We know not whether the castigation which Mr Lang received some weeks ago in the public prints, or the sumptuous entertainment which we are informed he received in Miramichi, have thus induced him to overlook and pass by as unworthy of his attention, the numerous other populous and commercial towns and settlements to the North, namely—Bathurst, Dalhousie, and Campbelltown; as well as those to the South—Richibucto, Buctouche, Cocagne, and Shediac. We cannot blame the people of Northumberland for thus endeavoring to accomplish this accommodation, and of their own public and private interests; but we certainly say that in this contemplated arrangement a great portion of the wealthy and influential inhabitants of these other parts will be unfairly dealt with. If the latter cause have had this effect, it perfectly coincides with Sam Slick's observations on "Shampooing the English," and verifies the truth of that old remark, that the favors of John Bull are most easily obtained by a sufficient inlay of the substantial of life.

Mr Observer suggests that you, Mr Editor, should in future withhold a place in your paper from what he terms "anonymous scribbling," but we would ask why did he not "doff his disguise," and come out in vindication of what he terms an experienced (experience forsooth!!!) and excellent public officer. But, Mr Editor, the old saying is hard to be gained—it is easier to preach than practice. Mr Observer may spurn this communication with a smile of "ineffable contempt," but let him be assured that the rights and privileges of a highly wronged and aggrieved public shall be duly represented where redress may and will be obtained.

FAIR PLAY.

Bouchaguin, March 1, 1845.

Mr Editor,

Can Observer show that One of the People asked any improper questions, only in his ungentle manner, and in disguise, says that One of the People tells a falsehood. That cannot be satisfactory to the public. Can he, Observer, deny that the route from Chatham to Dalhousie was advertised for contractors at six miles per hour? Can he deny that as soon as the Contractors entered on their duties, that in the face of that advertisement, handbills were posted up, giving 33 hours from Chatham to Dalhousie, distance 99 miles? You, Mr Editor, can see in your files of July last, in which you made some remarks respecting the poverty of the Post Office Department, that it could not afford to get the hand bills printed. But Mr Lang was aware of what he was doing. The quieter this is kept the less disgrace for me! he says to himself. Can he deny that under that arrangement, our mails were detained every week at the Bend for 36 hours, going south? Can he deny but what the present arrangement is still worse? Keep this from Montgomery and Barbarie, and the leading members of Restigouche and at Bathurst; let not Read, Baldwin, or Napier hear of it.

One of the People will tell them, & prove it to be true, that the Mails from Bathurst to Dorchester takes 13 1-2 days, and in some instances 17 days. Distance 148 miles. The Bathurst people are aware that their mail leaves on Friday. I have to inform them that it arrives here on Saturday after the Southern mail is gone, it remains in the Chatham office eight days, when Grassie gets hold of it. And as money is the main spring to make the mare go, poor Grassie falls behind his time and arrives at the Bend on Sunday instead of Saturday, making ten days, and then it must remain until the semi-weekly mail arrives from Halifax, making 13 1-2 days, and if the orders to the Post Master at Dorchester is equally the same, respecting our mails going South, as it is to the North, our mails must be there three days, making 17 days. You, Mr

Editor, are aware that the Postmaster at Dorchester has positive orders not to communicate with the Northern offices only once a week, and most likely similar orders are given at the South. Can Observer deny one single charge of this? The new arrangement took place on the 5th day of January last, and to my knowledge four mails from Bathurst hand running, laid in the Chatham office eight days. As I have not been in the Post Office these two weeks back, I am not certain how matters stand at present. However I should expect getting worse. Can this be denied by Observer?

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

[We have taken the liberty to expunge a good deal of our correspondent's letter. It was personal, and had nothing to do with the points in dispute with Observer.]—ED. GLEANER.

Colonial News.

Canada:

Quebec Gazette, February 17.

Halifax and St. John papers of the 8th instant, were received on Saturday last. Their contents are unimportant. Responsible government, prerogative, &c., are under discussion in the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia legislatures, with about as much prospect of parties convincing each other as to their respective views on the subject, as there is in Canada, the focus from whence this new light has emanated.

Montreal, February 15.

There is nothing extraordinary here: for an outbreak in the House of Assembly is now an every day's occurrence. Last night the parties in the House had the appearance of bands of hostile nations, urging each other to the combat, by the most passionate and inflammatory harrangues, cheering or rather hurrying and clapping of hands, and all about the printing of a report of the Board of Works for which both parties were agreed.

After the storm of crimination and recrimination had passed over, the Government measures were permitted to have some progress. Numerous orders of the day were put off, and the House adjourned till Monday, after 12 o'clock.

Strong efforts are making here to get the railroad from Montreal to Portland put in a way of being effected. If the railroad were continued from below Sherbrooke, to the south shore of the St. Lawrence below the Richelieu rapids, it would take the travel from Montreal to Quebec and from Quebec to Portland and Boston. A Bill incorporating the Company passed the Maine Legislature on the 7th instant, and Judge Preble of Maine and some others, are here on the business.

There was a slight fall of snow last night, and the temperature is now mild.

The weather has again become mild, wind southwest, thermometer at the freezing point. The north easterly storm, which commenced on Saturday and continued with great violence throughout yesterday, has added an additional deposit of snow to the large quantity already fallen. During a part of yesterday we had rain and hail, the latter driven by the furious wind which prevailed, rendering it exceedingly unpleasant to those who were necessitated to venture out.

February 18.

There was another outbreak in our Legislative Assembly last evening; two or three hours were spent in talking about old affairs, on the Bill for abolishing the Surveyor General's Office, on a motion made in French, contrary, as was alleged, to the Union Act. The Speaker's decision was sustained against receiving the motion, by 31 to 30, and a deal of "antagonism" of a national origin character was exhibited on both sides. About a dozen of the 36 orders of the day were finally disposed of, and the House did not adjourn till after twelve o'clock.

February 19.

Nothing extraordinary here. Every day the business of the Legislature continues to be interrupted for several hours by useless talking and disorderly conduct. Last night it was rather worse than usual. Strangers were ordered to withdraw, and the Legislative Assembly remained a long while with closed doors. It seems that the disorderly member finally made an apology, and the thing was passed over without entry in the Journals.

It cannot be supposed that any representative of the people intends to bring Representative Institutions into contempt;

neither does any individual intend to ruin himself; but the thing frequently occurs. Most people are agreed that much has been done for the last two months and a half to discredit a representative constitution in Canada.

Nova Scotia.

Halifax Journal, February 24.

Summary.—Our Summary of last week brought down the Proceedings to Saturday. On Monday the House was addressed by Mr. McKegney and the learned Speaker at some length, in opposition to the measures of the Government, and by Messrs Owen and A. M. Uniacke, in favour of them. On Tuesday the debate was opened by Mr. Marshall in support of the government. He was followed by Huntingdon on the opposite side, and Mr. Dewolf on the ministerial side. On Wednesday by Mr. Spearwater, a conversation followed between the Attorney General, the Speaker, Mr. J. B. Uniacke, Mr. Howe, and Mr. Dodd, respecting the permission applied for by the learned Speaker on a former day to state what he knew on the subject of "A constitutionalist's" letters; in the course of which some warm remarks passed between Mr. Dodd and Mr. Uniacke. Mr. J. B. Uniacke, Mr. Dewolf, and Mr. Power, addressed the House briefly, when it adjourned. On Thursday the House was addressed by Mr. Fairbanks, who submitted a series of Resolutions, declaratory of the confidence of the House in His Excellency's Government, and approving of the publication of the "Correspondence and Despatches relating to the offers of certain seats in the Executive Council and other offices," and justifying his Excellency in his exclusion of Mr. Howe from the Council,—upon the grounds stated by his Excellency in his Despatch to Lord Stanley, published in the Journal of the 10th inst.; he was followed by Messrs. Howe and Desbarres. On Friday the hon. Attorney General addressed the house at some length, in answer to charges made by members of the opposition against Lord Falkland and the present Government. On Saturday the learned Speaker again addressed the house at considerable length, and with much animation upon matters connected with government, at the close an attempt was made to come to some understanding as to fixing a certain day for the closing of the debate, but nothing was agreed to, Mr. Howe then announced his intention of addressing the house to day.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, MARCH 4.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.—We perceive by the Royal Gazette of Wednesday last, that the Hon. George Frederick Street, William McLeod, and John Allan, Esqrs., have been (provisionally) appointed Members of Her Majesty's Executive Council, and have taken their seats accordingly.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.—We perceive by the Journals of the Assembly, that they have addressed Her Majesty on the subject of the recent appointment of the Provincial Secretary. The subject was discussed on Monday week, and was adopted by a vote of 24 to 6. We give below the Address, as well as the division of the House on the motion.

An Address to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, reported by a Select Committee to prepare the same, was referred to a Committee of the whole House, and after having been agreed to, the question was taken from the Chair for accepting the said Address thus reported, and adopting the same, when the House divided as follows;—Yeas—Messrs Hazen, Wilmet, Partelow, Harrington, Barbarie, Taylor, Smith, Alexandre, End, Jordan, Scoullar, J. A. Street, Mr W. H. Street, S. Earle, Perley, Wark, Brown, Fisher, Rankin, Barker, Botsford, J. Earle, Palmer, Stewart Nays—Hon. Mr. Simonds, Hon. Mr. McLeod, Hon. Mr. Allen, Boyd, Payne, Thomson. And it was carried in the affirmative; when on motion of Mr Partelow, Resolved, That the Address to Her Majesty on the present state of the Public affairs of this Province, be engrossed, and signed by the Speaker; and on motion of Mr Partelow; further Resolved, That a humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to transmit the Address to the Right Honorable Lord Stanley, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, by to-morrow's Mail, to be laid at the Feet of the Throne.

The Address, as thus concurred in, and ordered to be transmitted, is as follows:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"The Humble and Dutiful Address of the House of Assembly of New Brunswick.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.

"We, Your Majesty's Faithful Commons of New Brunswick, beg leave to approach Your Majesty with renewed expressions of attachment to Your Majesty's Person and Government.

"We had fervently hoped that the time would be far distant when complaints from this, Your Majesty's Loyal Province, should be heard at the foot of the Throne; but the Prerogative of the Crown having been recently exercised by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in a manner so injudicious and so unjust, as to cause dissatisfaction throughout the Province, we deem it our unavoidable duty to bring the subject under Your Majesty's Gracious consideration.

"Your Majesty will have already received intimation of the recent demise of the Gentleman who held the highly important office of Provincial Secretary—the filling up the vacancy by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor's appointment of his Private Secretary, and Son in law, and the consequent retirement of four Members of Your Majesty's Executive Council. Upon these reasons which induced such retirement, the Assembly were bound to express a deliberate opinion; and these Members have been sustained, in the Constitutional steps which they had thus taken, by an overwhelming majority; while at the same time, a Vote of want of Confidence in these, who remained in office and sanctioned the appointment, has passed the Assembly, with such an expression of opinion as cannot fail to demonstrate to Your Majesty the true state of Public feeling.

"Notwithstanding such expression, we lament to say, that His Excellency has not thought proper to accede to the wishes, or regard the opinion of Your Majesty's Faithful Commons; but on the contrary, has declined to accept the resignations which the Assembly are led to understand arose out of such expression, and moreover has selected from the small minority of Nine, who voted in the House against the Resolution of want of Confidence, Gentlemen to fill two of the vacancies, who have already been sworn into office.

"The Assembly forbear to remark upon this unusual and extraordinary measure of the Provincial Government; nor do they in the remotest degree question the Prerogative in its undoubted right to make such appointments, or to call to the Councils of the Country such Gentlemen as the Crown may consider best qualified to discharge the Public Duty. It is only on the improper and the unjust exercise of such right, that the Representatives of the People consider it their imperative duty to express an opinion, and humbly and dutifully to lay such opinion at the foot of the Throne.

"Your Majesty's Faithful Subjects have always understood, that it is a principle invariably recognized by the most illustrious Statesmen in the Mother Country, that the Patronage of the Crown should be exercised in the Colonies with due regard to persons, whose zeal and ability in the Public Service entitle them to claims for preferment; and that the Government of a Colony should be conducted according to the well understood wishes, feelings and opinions of the Country.

"Such principles have been acted upon in Canada and the other neighbouring Provinces; and Lord Metcalfe, the present distinguished Governor General, in various Public Addresses, has thus expounded the principles of Colonial Government:—'It will ever be my earnest endeavour to promote the welfare and happiness of Canada; to do justice to all parties; to know no distinction of Races and Creeds; to make appointments to Office according to merit and just claims, and the efficiency of the Public Service; to consult in all acts of the Government, the interests and wishes of the People; to maintain their rights, no less than the Prerogative of the Crown, unimpaired,—regarding the latter as valuable only when it conduces to the benefit of the country;—and again—'If you mean that the Government should be administered in accordance with the well understood wishes and interests of the People; that the Resolutions of September, 1841, should be faithfully adhered to; that it should be competent to the Council to offer advice on all occasions, whether as to patronage or otherwise, and that the Governor should receive it with the attention due to His Constitutional Advisers, and consult with them on all cases of adequate importance; that there should be a cordial co-operation, and sympathy between Him and them; that the Council should be responsible to the Provincial Parliament and the People; and that when the acts of the Governor are such as they do not choose to be responsible for, they should be at liberty to resign;—then I entirely agree with you, and see no impracticability in carrying on Responsible Government in a Colony on that footing, provided that the respective parties engaged in the undertaking, be guided by moderation, honest purpose, common sense, equitable minds, devoid of party spirit.'

"Such are the principles laid down by Lord Metcalfe; and as the Policy of Your Majesty's Government has invariably been, and still continues to be, to apply one uniform principle to all Your Majesty's North American Colonies; and as that distinguished Nobleman has been sustained in His views by Your Majesty's Most Gracious approbation, the People of this Province, through their Representatives, have cordially responded to such principles, and have