

per into great repute. He would retain a full recollection of a particular debate a fortnight after it had occurred and during the intervention of other debates. He used to say that it was set by in a corner of his mind for future reference.

Editor's Department.

M. J. R. M. I. C. H. I.

SMITHAM, TUESDAY, MARCH 18.

MUSIC.—It will be seen by the following paragraph, copied from a late number of the New York Sun, that the Science of Vocal Music is gaining much ground in the United States, and in many of the public schools in the principal cities it forms a part of the instruction, which has tended largely to increase the number of pupils, and to secure a more regular attendance of the scholars.

"We have more than once borne testimony to the utility of introducing vocal music in our public schools, and we are glad to perceive that the Directors of the first school district of Pennsylvania have had the subject under consideration. The report shows, first, the influence of vocal music on the discipline and culture of schools; and, secondly, its influence on the health and temperament of scholars. In the schools into which it has been introduced, the tendency has been to increase the number of pupils, and secure a more constant attendance. A certificate signed by forty one clergymen of Boston, embracing the most distinguished in that city, expresses their highest confidence in singing, scientifically taught, as a method of moral suasion, and suggests to their brethren in the ministry, that they encourage, by public addresses or otherwise, as they may deem proper, the cultivation of music, not only in common schools, among the youth of our country," but also in whatever other spheres might be open. Some ten or twelve distinguished physicians of our city gave their opinion that vocal music, properly restricted and regulated, is an exercise of great value to the energy and healthy condition of the vocal organ. That its beneficial action on the body is much improved by the accompanying mental excitement, the animal economy being known to derive most advantage from exertions which have a sufficient object, and which are agreeable as well as stimulating."

CAPABILITIES OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

A correspondent in the New Brunswick-er thus remarks on the natural capabilities and resources of this Province:—

"As an agricultural country it is capable, under a proper system of cultivation, of yielding all those varied products that would render it independent of other countries for the first and great necessities of life—food and clothing; its bays and rivers abound with fish, the forests with a variety of timber, and the numerous streams that intersect the country, would furnish an endless water power for manufacturing purposes and for internal communication; the mineral resources of the Province, so far as investigated, lead to the conclusion, that no part of the American Continent possesses a greater variety or greater abundance; its capabilities for ship-building are unsurpassed; and the advantage of possessing harbours open at all seasons of the year, render it a favorable position for carrying on an extensive foreign commerce; and when added to these a climate, although rigorous in winter, yet for healthy salubrity, where man is capable of performing the greatest amount of labour, it may be said without exaggeration that for natural advantages it is surpassed by few countries on the face of the Globe."

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.—Yesterday was the anniversary of the tutelary Saint of Erin's Green Isle; and we could not but notice—as we have done with much satisfaction for several years past—the great change that has taken place in the mode adopted by her sons in celebrating the day. Yes, thanks to that good and philanthropic man, Father Matthew, Irishmen have been taught to see the evils of intemperance—the misery and wretchedness it entails on their wives and families, and all those connected with them—and the brutalizing effects of indulging therein. They have boldly confronted the tempter, and obtained over him a most miraculous victory. We sincerely trust they will still persevere in the good work, and as time rolls on we shall have the hearty satisfaction of seeing the day of which we speak, celebrated in the same rational and becoming manner as it has been for some years past.

The Editor of the St. John Liberator of Saturday last, in commenting on the day, has the following remarks:—

"Not a column of a newspaper, nor even

volumes of newspapers, would serve to contain the expression of an Irishman's feelings, when reflecting on the singular history of his native country, on the anniversary of her Patron Saint. The intrepid bravery of his countrymen has been proved in many bold and chivalrous actions, in flood and field, to make England's flag float triumphantly over the prostrated battlements of her enemies; their loyalty to their sovereign, whenever maddened by oppression, and which the hand of treason never could tarnish—their constitutional struggles to raise their country to that proud state of independence which their glorious Volunteer ancestors of '82 obtained for her, and the summit of which she had almost reached; her grand and miraculous Temperance movement, by which not only is she herself raised, but the world seems destined to be raised, from the slavish dominion of a vice most injurious to religion and prosperity. Each one of these subjects would furnish thoughts and matter for filling up volumes of newspapers; but we have no intention to dwell on them, and should our feelings impel us to do so, the smallness of our space at present would forbid it. We are sure the Irishmen of St. John, as a body, are actuated by those feelings to their native country, and that they love her ardently. Yes, they love "the Green Isle," and their love is recorded, though in "hearts which have suffered too much to forget," and we thank God, are beginning to love one another. Irishmen of every creed and sect have come from the same sacred sod—the mingled blood of their ancestors were shed in supporting that ungrateful supremacy which has expatriated them; they should, then, merge their religious differences in their common love of fatherland, and not allow it to be the bane to mar their social happiness. We are glad to find that Irishmen of every religious denomination are about to give another proof of their attachment to their native country, by celebrating, with due respect, Monday the anniversary of our Patron Saint. We hope they will rally together under the broad banner of Nationality, on which will be inscribed the motto—"Equal rights, and civil and religious liberty to all," and for many a long day may it be said of their happy meeting, in the sentiments, if not altogether in the language of their National Bard—

"So firmly fond

May last the bond,

They wove that eye together;

And peer may fall

One drop of gall,

On the men who dined together."

UNITED STATES.—The American papers received by the mail, put us in possession of President Polk's Address on being inducted into the Presidential chair on the 4th instant. The document is rather lengthy, but we have selected from it such parts as we conceived would be interesting to our readers. They will be found under the proper head.

President Polk has nominated his Cabinet, and they have been confirmed as follows:—Secretary of State, James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania; Secretary of the Treasury, Robert J. Walker, of Mississippi; Secretary of War, William L. Marcy, of New York; Attorney General, John Y. Mason, of Virginia; Postmaster General, Cave Johnson, of Tennessee. George Bancroft, of Massachusetts, was nominated as Secretary of the Navy, but his nomination was not confirmed with the others on Wednesday, but was laid over until the next day by the Senate. The Intelligencer remarks that this entire change in the heads of Departments will probably excite some surprise even among the friends of the administration, it being the first instance of such a change in our government, in cases where there has been a change of the administration without a change of politics.

ST. JOHN.—The Observer states that an Address to His Excellency, approving of the late appointment of Provincial Secretary, is now in course of signature in that city, to which a number of respectable names have been already affixed. We have no hesitation in saying, that were a similar Address got up here, it would obtain the signature of a very large portion of the inhabitants of Northumberland, Restigouche, Gloucester and Kent. From all that we have been able to learn, the people are well satisfied with the appointment, and never dreamed of any dissatisfaction, much less (as some members of the Assembly wished it expressed in the Address to the Throne) of excitement in the Province in consequence.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—We copy the following Circular to the Members of the

Church of England in this Province, from the St. John Courier, at the request of the Trustees, whose names are attached:

We beg leave to announce to you that we have been appointed by the Subscribers to the Bishop's Fund in the city of Saint John and its vicinity, Trustees to collect, manage, and invest the Contributions to that Fund in that quarter.

We have also been requested to solicit further subscriptions to the Fund throughout the Province. The present subscriptions, including collections in several Churches, amount to £4000 currency. The sum of £5000 sterling has been named in England as the amount expected to be raised in the Colony; and now that a Bishop is appointed, no time should be lost in contributing what any one may intend to give. The principal part of the Endowment, exceeding £20 000 sterling, has been made up from the voluntary contributions of our fellow Churchmen in the mother country.

A list of Provincial subscriptions and contributions has already been published. We shall be ready to receive and manage, according to the Trust we have undertaken, these or any other contributions to the Fund. We shall endeavor to make investments upon interest of any Monies we may receive. We will also accept for the purposes of our Trust, conveyances of Land or Landed Securities, and will prepare suitable drafts of Deeds to be communicated to such persons as may apply for them. We consider all these arrangements as merely temporary, to serve until final provision be made for the permanent investment of this Fund.

We request that all communications intended for us may be addressed to Wm. Wright, Esq., who has consented to act as Secretary to the Trustees; and all payments and remittances to L. H. DeVeber, Esq., who has consented to act as Treasurer, with whom also a Subscription paper is lodged.

WARD CHAPMAN, Secretary of the Trustees, &c.  
ROBERT PARKER,  
JOHN V. THURGAR,  
ROBERT L. HAZEN,  
L. H. DEVEBER,  
WILLIAM WRIGHT,

Amount of Provincial subscriptions & collections published £3084 13 4  
Capt. Ponden, R. A. Fredericton 1 0 0  
Dr. S. Woodforde, Fredericton 1 0 0  
Dr. Gilmartin, Westmoreland 6 0 0  
Collection at Kingsclear, after a Sermon by the Rev. Mr Roberts, 6 10 0  
Amount of remittance from Halifax, 89 1 0  
£4083 4 10

NOVA SCOTIA.—The Legislature of this Province have voted the large sum of £25,000 for Roads for the present year. The scale for the division of the money, moved by Mr Huntington, was agreed to without a division; a circumstance, the Speaker remarked, never before witnessed in the House.

P. E. ISLAND.—The Islander of the 1st instant, furnishes the following melancholy account of a fire, which occurred on this Island, by which three females lost their names:—

"Never, since we assumed the editorial chair, has it fallen to our lot to record such an awful and heart-rending circumstance as occurred on the night of Tuesday last. The following particulars of the melancholy occurrence we have gleaned from Daniel Hodgson, Esq., Coroner, who held an inquest on the unfortunate sufferers.

On Tuesday night last, the house of Alexander McLean, of Lot 42, an old and respectable inhabitant of that district, caught fire, after his family, consisting of himself and wife, three sons and three daughters, had retired, and melancholy to relate, the three daughters, (the youngest nearly nineteen years of age) perished in the flames. It appears that the father, mother and sons, had retired to rest about ten o'clock, leaving the three young women busily engaged in making preparations for coming into Town the next morning.—About one o'clock, one of the sons was aroused from his slumbers in consequence of the flames bursting into his room up stairs, where he slept; he immediately threw himself out of bed, rushed down the staircase—which was on fire—and made his escape thro' the kitchen, which was then all in flames. His two brothers being aroused, escaped through a window from an upper room where they slept. The father, hearing the alarm succeeded in getting out through the door; but by this time, the house was so completely in flames, that the only chance the mother had of saving her life, was by breaking through the window. The three girls slept in a room by themselves, and there being no window in the room, one of the brothers cut a hole in the house, from the outside, for the purpose of arousing them, through which the flames burst with great force, leaving the survivors to suppose that the fire must have originated in that room. From the position in which the remains of the bodies were found it was evident they could not have attempted to escape, and there can be little doubt their sufferings were but momentary, as they must have been suffocated with the smoke. The mother made an effort to get in through the hole that had been cut, to arouse the young women, and was severely burned. The parties who saved their lives were obliged to escape without even procuring their clothes;

the only article rescued, was one pair of trousers, and that by the young man who was first aroused. Mr McLean, it appears, had four daughters, one of whom, the day previous to the above awful event, came to town to visit a friend, and fortunately did not return home that night, and thus, it would appear, was saved an untimely end, for it is more than probable, they would all have been in bed at the time the fire took place. Yesterday, the remains of the unfortunate sufferers were interred in the Protestant burial ground in the vicinity of Charlottetown, attended by a large concourse of neighbours and friends."

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.—The Journals of the Legislature in our possession, are to the 8th of the month. The Committee have recommended the following sums: £8,415 for the Great Roads of the Province; Special Grants £1,025; and £10,450 for the Bye Roads—making in the whole, the munificent sum of £19,890 for the Road service. It is to be divided as follows:—

Great Roads.—St. John to Nova Scotia Line; 7 1/2 of which to be applied to the improvement of the Great Marsh in the vicinity of St. John, 1,400; Saint John to Saint Andrew, 360; Fredericton to Saint John, via Nerepis, 400; (251 from each of the last mentioned roads to be applied in repairing the approaches to the Steamboat Landing in Carleton) Nerepis to Gagetown, 351; Dorchester to Shediac, 80; Shediac to Petitecodiac, 201; Richibucto to Chatham, 500; Newcastle to Bathurst, 425; Bathurst to Campbellton, 750; Fredericton to Woodstock, 700; Woodstock to Aroostook, 300; Aroostook to Grand Falls, 300; Fredericton to the Finger Board, 200; Belleisle to Saint John, 751; Fredericton to Newcastle, 600; Fredericton to St. Andrew, 300; Salisbury to Hopewell, 250; Shediac to Richibucto, 200; Woodstock to Houlton, 251; Waweig to St. Stephen, 631. 15s. 7d. of which to be paid Hugh Morrison, balance due on Waweig Bridge, 150; Oromocto to Gagetown, 120; Oak Bay to Eel River, 225; Fredericton to Bend of Petitecodiac, 225; Grand Falls to Canada Line, 400; Bathurst to Miramichi, via Pokemouche, 200; St. John to Quaco, 125; Hampton to Belleisle, 50.

Special Grants.—Bridges over the Aroostook, 750; for the new line of Road to the Mechanical Settlement, so called, in the Counties of Westmorland and King's, 751; Stanley to Campbellton, and for erecting Bridges over rivers crossing the same, provided a similar sum be given by the Land Company and Settlers, 200.

Bye Roads.—For York County, 957; Carleton, 988; Queen's, 920; Gloucester, 700; Westmorland, 1,120; Charlotte, 1,050; King's, 1,054; St. John, 758; Kent, 674; Sunbury, 550; Northumberland, 1,077; Restigouche, 550.

On motion of Mr Brown, the Committee on Post Office affairs, are to report what sums may be necessary to grant for the encouragement of Couriers in various parts of the Province.

The County of Westmorland is to be divided into two Counties, the new one to be called Shepody, and to be represented by one member.

The House has refused to grant a sum for the Contingent expenses of the Government, £450, £300, and £100, were respectively named. It will be recollected that Sir John Harvey, the last year he was in the Province obtained a grant of £1,000.

The following Petition was presented by the Hon. George Shore, to the Legislative Council.

"To the Hon. the Legislative Council: The Petition of Edwin Jacob, Clerk, Director in Divinity, Vice President of the University of King's College at Fredericton, and a Professor in the same, Humbly Sheweth;

That your Petitioner received his appointment from the Chancellor of this University, under a Royal Charter, granted by His late Majesty King George the Fourth, in compliance with the Petition of the General Assembly, and accepted and confirmed, as to the property of the Corporation, by a subsequent Act of the same.

That your Petitioner has been informed, on high authority, that any alteration of the said Charter by virtue of a mere Act of the Provincial Legislature, as proposed by a Bill now before your Honorable House, would be, if not strictly illegal, at least anomalous and violent, and that such alteration could not be justified on the plea of necessity, inasmuch as her Majesty's Ministers have signified their readiness to advise the grant of a new Charter, containing such further provisions as the Provincial Legislature and the College Council have concurred in recommending.

Your Petitioner, therefore, being earnestly desirous that all real and practical improvements may be effected in the system of the University to the service of which he is devoted, humbly requests your Honorable House to adopt that course of proceeding which would be unquestionably regular and constitutional, and best adapted to accomplish the objects desired. And your Petitioner, &c.