

of provisions daily until the disease put a period to their miserable existence."

In a minute description of the symptoms in the lepers of Shetland, drawn up for Sir John Pringle, by the Reverend Andrew Fiskin, Minister of Delting, Walls and Sandness, about the year 1739 or 1737, he states "this disease is found by experiment to be very infectious. The persons that fall into this direful case are as soon as it is observed, obliged to retire to a solitary little hut, built on purpose for them at a distance from all houses, and are not allowed any converse with their husbands, wives, or nearest relations, but have their necessaries of life furnished to them by a contribution from all the inhabitants of the Isle, and brought to their hut, which they take in when the person who brought it has retired to the windward of their house at some distance.

View of the ancient and present state of the Zetland Islands, vol. ii. p. 103, Edinburgh, 1809.

[To be concluded next week]

March 7.

On motion of Mr Fisher, the House went into committee of the whole on a Bill further to amend the Law relating to Bankruptcy. The Chairman reported, that the committee having the Bill referred to them under their consideration, had made progress therein, and he was directed to ask leave to sit again. Ordered, that the Report be accepted and leave granted.

Mr Hazen moved for leave to bring in a Bill to make provision for the regulation of Seamen shipped on board of or belonging to all Ships or Vessels registered in or belonging to the Province of New Brunswick, while such ships shall be within the precincts thereof.

The Order of the House, limiting the time for bringing in Bills, being in this instance dispensed with, leave was granted, and the said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

March 10.

TRACADIE DISEASE.

Report of the Secretary of the Board of Health for Northumberland and Gloucester.

Miramichi, 25th February, 1845.

May it please Your Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith an account of the expenditure by the Board of Health for the Counties of Gloucester and Northumberland, up to the seventh of February instant, amounting altogether to the sum of £1,051 19 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; and also a brief Abstract shewing the amounts expended in buildings and other permanent improvements, Furniture, Provisions, &c. All the vouchers have been forwarded to the proper office. I am unable to give Your Excellency any estimate that can be fully relied upon of the sum that will be necessary to uphold the establishment on Sheldrake Island for the next twelve months; but I think the whole will not exceed six hundred pounds, and the different purposes for which that sum will be required are mentioned in the inclosed statement.

The conduct of the unfortunate persons affected with Leprosy since their removal to the Lazaretto, has not been so satisfactory as the Board could wish. There have been frequent desertions from the Island, and in several instances the Board have sent after and enforced the return of the parties. The fugitives have, however, generally after a short absence, voluntarily returned. The Board found that a heavy expense was incurred in sending after the parties who escaped; and as they have not at present any effectual means of preventing the escape of, nor of punishing the Lepers for such offences, they have not deemed it prudent to incur further expense in bringing back deserters until this defect in the establishment be remedied.

In order to make the establishment on Sheldrake Island effectual, for the purpose the Legislature had in view, it appears to me to be requisite that the Board should have the power of confining the Lepers, and of otherwise punishing them for improper conduct; and also, power to prohibit persons landing on, or approaching the Island without leave, under severe penalties. The establishment should be made efficient in every respect without delay, and I would respectfully suggest whether it would not be desirable before the subject of making further provision for the establishment be brought under the notice of the Legislature, that a competent person, having the confidence of Your Excellency, should visit the Island.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE KERR.

March 12.

Read a second time, a Bill to extend the Division Line between the bounties of Northumberland and Kent, to the new line of the counties of Queen's county and Sunbury.

To the Lieutenant Governor the following sums—£350 to compensate the P. E. I Steam Navigation Company for having maintained a good and efficient line of steam communication between Miramichi, Charlottetown and Pictou, for the year 1844. £250 to enable the Commissioners of Bathurst Bridge to pay the Contractor part of the balance due.

March 14.

Mr Gilbert moved the following Resolution—Resolved, that the contingent expenses of the Legislature for the present session be published in detail in the Daily Journals of the House.

To which the honorable Mr Simonds moved as an amendment—to expunge the whole thereof, after the word "Resolved," and substitute as follows:—"That the Clerk's Account of the contingent expenses of the present Session be published in detail in the Journals of this session, so soon as the same can be ascertained and completed."

And upon the question being taken upon the said proposed amendment, the House divided—Yeas 25; Nays 3. Whereupon it was carried in the affirmative.

The Committee of Trade submit that the Petition of John Miller, Deputy Treasurer, at Bathurst, praying an additional allowance for his services in that capacity: a majority of the Committee are of opinion, that considering the small emoluments arising from this office for some years past, he is entitled to a grant of £25, and they submit that opinion to the consideration of the House.

The Petition of James Blackhall, Acting Sub-Collector for the port of Caraquet, in Gloucester, praying a grant to compensate him for contingencies and office rent: this Petitioner being an Officer on the Custom House Establishment, the prayer of his petition cannot be recommended.

On motion of Mr J. A. Street, the House again went into committee of the whole on a Bill to establish and regulate the Registry of the Electors of Members to serve in the General Assembly of the Province. Resolved, That the further consideration of this Bill be postponed until the next session of the Legislature.—Yeas 15; Nays 13.—Whereupon it was carried in the affirmative.

March 15.

Read a third time as engrossed, a Bill to authorize the extension of the Gaol Limits in the county of Gloucester. Resolved, that the Bill do pass.

European News.

From British Papers to the 4th March, received by the Cambria, Steamer.

From Charles Wilmer's American News Letter, March 4.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

The financial expose of the Premier has been the chief topic of conversation in commercial circles. The reductions of the duties are considered generally unexceptionable as far as they go; but the Premier would have required the disposal of another £10,000,000 per annum at the least, to have satisfied the claims of all the applicants. The aggregate amount of the reductions proposed is, however beyond the previous expectation even of the most sanguine on the subject. The list of articles which it is proposed to exempt entirely from duty and which is elsewhere given at length, contains a number of commodities which, when freed from duty, are likely to come into rather extensive use in this country. Cotton yarn, linen yarn, and thrown silks are all to be admitted free of duty, and amongst other things we find a few rather important articles from the United States, particularly staves, turpentine, lard, and lard oil. Of these the last will be peculiarly acceptable, as it forms an excellent substitute for sperm oil, and, owing to the increased demand for the latter, and to the inability of the fisheries to supply it, the price has so risen as to make it very expensive to manufacturers. The import of lard oil from the United States, where it is now manufactured in great abundance, will, no doubt, be extensive, as well as of other commodities named.

The new ministerial appointments are now no longer matter of conjecture, but have been made and proclaimed; and for the most part they fulfill the expectations that were current. Lord Dalhousie having succeeded Mr. Gladstone as President of the Board of Trade, Sir George Clerk steps into the vacant Vice-Presidency, with the Mastership of Mint. Sir Thomas Freemantle is the Secretary for Ireland; he is succeeded as Secretary at War by Mr. Sydney Herbert; and the Secretaryship to the Admiralty thus left vacant is filled by promoting Mr. Henry Thomas Lowry Corry, one of the Lords, to be his own servant; while Lord Jocelyn is to be the new Lord. Mr Cardwell is one of the Secretaries to the Treasury, and the Hon. William Bingham Baring, Paymaster General.

Convocation at Oxford has condemned the passages selected from Mr. Ward's publication, and degraded him from his academical honours. The proposition for censuring Mr. Ward's book was carried by a majority of 777 to 386, and that for depriving him of his degrees was also carried by a majority of 569 to 511; but the proposition for the condemnation of Tract 90, and by the other, requisition has been presented to the Vice-Chancellor, requesting that the matter may be again bro't before Convocation at the earliest opportunity. Mr. Ward has addressed a letter to the Vice Chancellor of Oxford, in which he declares that he considers himself morally unaffected by what had passed at the University. Mr. Oakly has, in another letter to the Vice-Chancellor, avowed the same sentiments as Mr. Ward, and challenged the University to proceed against him in the same manner.

It is understood that Mr. Ward's application to the Court of Queen's Bench for a mandamus to Oxford University to restore his degrees will be made immediately after the commencement of Easter Term. There is no question but that Mr. Ward is about to become a married man, which, of course, implies a voluntary resignation of his fellowship at Oxford. The lady of his choice is said to be young and beautiful, the daughter of a late head master of Westminster and prebendary of Worcester. The Standard says that Mr. Oakley, of Margaret-street Chapel, has been suspended by the Bishop of London. The report of the Irish Landlord and Tenant Commission has at length been presented, and appear to have given satisfaction to all but the Repeal leaders.

Mr. Oakley has contradicted the assertion that he had been suspended by the Bishop of London from his ministration. It seems he is to be proceeded against in the Ecclesiastical Courts, in order that his alleged offence may be fairly investigated.

The Royal family continue to enjoy good health. They have been to Brighton for a week, and Her Majesty and Prince Albert, while there, paid a flying visit to the Duke of Norfolk, at Arundal Castle.

COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

The financial expose of the Premier, has afforded all but universal satisfaction in commercial circles. The general belief is, that the demand for capital will be very materially increased, as the alterations in the tariff, must lead to a large augmentation of business. As yet the state of the colonial, the foreign, and the general produce markets, have been scarcely influenced; nor that any doubt exists as to the Premier being enabled to carry into full effect his plans for reforming the tariff, and accomplishing the abolition of duties mentioned in his elaborate statement. A good business has been done, both bona fide and on speculation, prices generally steady, except for sugar, which has again been largely speculated in. A very good business is advertised, chiefly sugar. Both imports and exports have increased.—Several Liverpool houses have already announced their intention of commencing the business of cotton brokers in Manchester, and are likely to succeed, in as much as a great quantity of cotton is annually imported, as remittances and otherwise, by Manchester merchants, whose predilection is of course in favour of their own town. The uneasy feeling amongst the operatives still continues, and a general turn out may, ere long, be anticipated.

The holders of capital are more cautious, owing to large investments in projected railways, and the failures of some great wine houses. Best bankers are 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3; very little done in any other kinds. On projected railway shares the terms have been 10 to 20 per cent. Consuls have been steady at 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

This had been a most important week in Parliament, important not so much in a political point of view as with respect to the vast interests which are more or less affected by the measure introduced on Friday last, by Sir Robert Peel.

On the introduction of his present Budget, he resorted with more than his usual ability, to the trick of holding his audience in suspense. He held out first such a brilliant picture of the reductions of taxation he was about to make, that when the awful announcement came that we were to be saddled with the odious and unequal Income Tax for three years more the House had become comparatively reconciled to the plan. Lord John suspended his answer, and all went on swimmingly for Sir Robert, except that there was a little muttered thunder in the distance, of complaint against the Income Tax, and of suggestion that too much or too little had been done in the way of the reduction or abolition of other taxes. The House was densely crowded, and the deluded representatives of the people actually cheered the Right Hon. Bart. most lustily, for having once more juggled them out of their millions.

On Monday Lord John Russell's turn came. He had allowed the heat of the first approval to subside, and now came forward to offer what few remarks he had to make upon the plan. True he had a most difficult task. His position is just now a comparatively powerless one. His powerlessness is owing to his hesitation to advance. His great Parliamentary rival has adopted one by one almost all his old principles and measures, and Lord John himself does not seem to have the courage to choose the only new ones that remain open to him. Sir Robert adopts

free trade in the abstract, and refuses it in its most important details. Lord John Russell has no avowed principle on the question, in which he is not anticipated by Sir Robert Peel. If Lord John would jump from abstract free trade to free trade in practice, he would then have a *locus standi*. From want of it, his speech on Monday, though clever in the extreme, was not so effective as it ought to have been. He was little cheered, though some of his points deserved more support. A motion of Mr Roebuck's, for doing away with the Income Tax, occupied the rest of the evening. The feeling of the House was unfortunately evinced by their being only 55 to vote in favour of Mr Roebuck. Every day's experience goes to show that the next movement of the Whig leaders must be for free trade unconditionally.

Tuesday witnessed the introduction of another of Lord Ashley's Bills for intermeddling between the manufacturer and the workpeople. The noble Lord was not this time received with the sympathy and enthusiasm he is accustomed to. The House was comparatively thin, and he spoke as though cast down. Sir J. Graham would not oppose the introduction of the Bill, but threw cold water on it by his speech.

This subject disposed of Mr Duncombe rose for the purpose of administering a well deserved castigation to Sir James Graham, for his share in the mean system of espionage, of which the Post office has been the scene. Mr Duncombe is just the man for this kind of work. He comes to it with a heart. There is a bold dash about him that makes him a favourite. He has a gay determined care-for-nobody way of pushing his opponents into a corner, and pummelling them till they give in, that raises laughter while it creates interest. He says and does things amidst roars of merriment, for which other men would be called to account. His exposure of Sir James Graham, on this occasion, was tearing. He carried the House completely along with him. But was nearly going to far—that is to say according to Parliamentary usage. He applied the term "mean and base" to his adversary. Of course there was a disturbance, and then Mr Duncombe very smartly said he applied the expression to Sir James, in his "official capacity." This was making the impatience stick still closer than before.

Sir James Graham is just the cool cast-iron subject, fit to be opposed to the dash of Mr Duncombe. He is like a square of his infantry, standing to a charge of cavalry. He is so encased in effrontery that nothing puts him out. He even braved the evident censure of the House, without betraying the blush of shame on his cheek.

This aroused Mr Shiel. The fiery little Irishman amid the cheers of the House, referred to an assertion just made by Mr Duncombe, and asked with the impetuosity of honest indignation, whether that gentleman's private letter had been opened. You, said he, who answer so readily about Mazzini—you who answer for the Poles—tell me, will you answer whether you opened the letters of Mr. Duncombe? The effect was electrical. Even Sir James shrunk for a moment. But Lord Sandon and some others came to his rescue, and Right Hon. Baronet sheltered himself, in silence, under the wing of the Secret Committee. For the Honor of English gentleman, let us hope these scenes will cease.

On Wednesday night a smart debate arose on Mr Roebuck proposing to extend the Income Tax to the landlord of Ireland. This he did in a speech of remarkable talent and immediate effect on the House. But Mr Roebuck, with all his sarcastic and uncompromising virulence is not the man to gain permanent influence there. His attack on the landlords was powerful in the extreme. The English landlords winced under it also, for much that he said applied to them. Mr Roebuck brought up Mr Shiel, who delivered a capital impromptu speech, and after a lengthening discussion, in which some of the prominent men took part, Mr Roebuck was defeated by a large majority. The House was full, and the debate created great interest. Mr Roebuck never spoke better than he did on this occasion.—*Norwich News*, Feb. 22.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The Punjab is again in commotion. A revolution broke out, and Heera Singh, the Rajah, and Jella Pundit, have been killed. The heads of the Rajah and Jella Pundit were brought to Lahore, and carried in procession round the streets. The English government, had it was believed, no idea of interfering in this instance, (though the time may not be far off when it will be obliged to do so), not being in