

haps any other. All sorts of excuses, real and invented, are brought forward in defence of the bill, and if we are to regard the extended frontier, now so much increased by the annexation of Texas, 1400 men added to the seven thousand composing the army is certainly not a very large force. It is said however, that no bill for the increase of the army is truly, a peace establishment, and many believe that 7000 men is sufficient for all the requisite purposes of the country.

Mr. Chipman, the renowned Michigan orator, in his mock heroics to-day in favour of an increase of the army, condescended to enlighten the House as to the manner in which which Canada was to be taken in ninety days, afterwards surrendered, and then retaken in ninety more. A new Patriot rebellion like that of 1838, is to accomplish this marvellous feat. Alas, for common sense, when such Representatives can find their way into Congress."

The diplomatic sky, so recently auspicious to conciliation and peace, is again overclouded. All the latest indications concur in assuring us that Mr. Polk, alarmed by the denunciations and violence of the 54° 40' men, and cajoled by hopes and destined never to be realized, of a re-election, has fallen back from the ground of compromise and settlement taken by Messrs. Calhoun, Colquitt, Haywood & Co. and has resolved to leave matters to take their course without farther effort for adjustment. He knows the Senate will defeat any bill which the House may pass extending our jurisdiction over all Oregon or otherwise provoking a collision with regard to that territory; he is led to believe that the cry for 'the whole of Oregon!' will be irresistible with the People and potential in making the next President, and he hopes to profit by the chapter of accidents. So no new attempt at settlement is to be made, and if Great Britain rests (as she probably will) on the unqualified rejection here of her last offer of arbitration in any form which our government might prefer, the negotiation is at a stand, such is the present aspect of the matter.

Meantime, a new feeling—a feeling of wrong and insult—of kindly regard outraged and forbearance mistaken for weakness—is taking possession of the public mind in Great Britain. Our apparent determination to grasp whatever we may choose to desire, and to drive her by force from regions which she has quietly possessed for twenty years, on the assumption that our claim to them is so indisputable that we will not permit its adjudication, is exciting a general and deep resolution to resist. Since the reception of the news that our government utterly refuses to arbitrate on any terms, on the broad ground that there was nothing to arbitrate about—that the very region which Messrs. Polk and Buchanan offered to concede to England a few months since is indisputably ours—it is no longer possible for the Ministry to offer us a compromise based on the 46th parallel.

It must be borne in mind that the Patrick Henry, which arrived out on the 2d, did not take the Correspondence of Messrs. Buchanan and Pakenham respecting Arbitration, but the *Romer*, we know, *did*, and she is said by two different letters to have arrived at Liverpool during the night of the 2d. That Correspondence—especially Mr. Buchanan's last letter—will create a deeper and more indignant sensation in England than any thing which has yet transpired. The debates in Parliament and the comments of the British journals thereon will be read here with profound interest, and the news by the *Romer*, or a packet of the 8th inst. should either arrive before the next steamship, will be scanned with the deepest solicitude.

We do not apprehend any immediate or intentional collision between the two nations yet, we think every day's delay to settle increases the chances of War. The period for 'masterly inactivity' has confessedly passed. With thousands of British subjects in Oregon, half military in their training and habits, animated by an undoubting conviction that they are the rightful possessors and our settlers are intruders—with an equal number of our own people, hardy, adventurous, fired with traditional hatred of British power and British law, and instinctively appealing to their rifles in an emergency—with a large American and a larger British fleet cruising in the North Pacific—it is manifest that the peace of two nations is in eminent jeopardy.—We fear the present year will bring tidings of a collision, or that a British fleet has anchored off the mouth of the

Columbia, instructed to act as circumstances shall dictate. Every hour's delay in passing the Notice and taking prompt and effectual steps to render that act the basis of a settlement, increases the hazard of War.—*N. York Tribune.*

Provincial Legislature.

JOURNALS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

March 23.

Mr. Partelow, from the Committee to whom was referred the Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, upon the subject of the Salary to the Provincial Secretary, Registrar, and Clerk of the Executive Council, submitted a Report; and he having read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

The Select Committee appointed on the twentieth of February last, to take into consideration the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, of the ninth of that month, conveying the Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relating to the salary of the Provincial Secretary, offer the following Report:—

That they are of opinion, that the Salary of the Provincial Secretary and Registrar should be fixed at £600 currency per annum, to be computed from the time of the death of the gentleman who recently held that appointment. This opinion, as to the proper Salary to be fixed for the successor of the late incumbent, has been repeatedly and unanimously reiterated, both in Addresses to Her Majesty's Government and Reports to the Assembly, since the passing of the Civil List Act; and when it is considered that the Salary of the Provincial Treasurer, whose responsibilities and duties far exceed those of any other Public Officer in this Province, being obliged also by Law to give good and sufficient Bonds, with security to the extent of 10,000, is but £600, it cannot but be considered as ample for the services of the Provincial Secretary and Registrar.

The Salary of the Clerk of the Executive Council, which office, it is contemplated to detach from that of the Secretary, the Committee are of opinion, should be £150, or at all events not to exceed £200.

The duties devolving upon the latter Officer, must necessarily very materially lessen those appertaining to the office of the former incumbent, who held all the offices, and therefore a proper inference may be drawn, that the Clerk Hire and Contingencies of office can be much reduced.

The Committee are of opinion, that a sum not exceeding £1,150, should cover all the expenses appertaining to the Offices, including the allowance to be made to the Clerk of the Executive Council; but as the details should be carried out, as in the case of the Crown Land Office, by His Excellency in Council, the Committee recommend that the internal arrangements should be left to them.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, The House again went into Committee of the whole on a Bill relating to Mill Reserves. The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the Bill referred to them under their further consideration, had made amendments thereto, and then agreed to the said Bill, under the Title of—A Bill to authorize the granting of Mill Reserves in certain cases.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, a sum not exceeding £75 to each County for the support of Agricultural Societies, on the like terms and conditions as the Grants of the past year for the same purpose.

Mr. McLeod, from the Committee appointed on the twentieth day of February last, to take under consideration a Petition from Patrick McGinnis, praying relief by reason of loss sustained on a prosecution instituted against him, submitted their Report; and he having read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

The Select Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Patrick McGinnis, Report:—

That they have considered the statements made in the said Petition, and also in the copy of the Petition on the same subject, presented to the House during the last Session, and although the Committee are of opinion that the case of the Petitioner has been a very hard

one, they do not consider it to be a case which gives a claim to indemnity from the Legislature, or which would justify them in recommending a Grant from the Public Treasury for his relief. Cases of similar hardship may occasionally occur, and they consider it would be unwise to make a precedent, the effect of which would be to invite applications to the Legislature for pecuniary relief in all cases of hardship growing out of the ordinary administration of justice.

Mr. Wilmet, from the committee appointed on the 29th January last, to take into consideration the subject of Education, submitted a further report, which is as follows:—

The committee on Education, in further discharge of the duty devolved upon them, have directed their attention to the state of the Grammar Schools, and beg leave to submit the following report thereon:—

It cannot be doubted that the intention of the Legislature in the endowment of Grammar Schools was to encourage the establishment in each county of one superior School, wherein should be taught those higher branches of education which would not be available in the ordinary parish schools of the province.

This being the manifest intention of the Legislature, we are surprised to find that the endowment of £100 per annum has been drawn for the support of several Grammar Schools which are not only not conducted according to the intention of the Legislature but are inferior to many of the parish schools.

The 12th section of the 9th and 10th Geo. 4, c. 29, enacts 'that the scholars shall be taught in the said schools, English Grammar, the Latin and Greek languages, Orthography, the Use of the Globes, the practical branches of the Mathematics, and such other useful learning as may be judged necessary.

[Here is enumerated the Grammar Schools in Sunbury, King's, Queen's, Carleton, Gloucester, Restigouche, Charlotte, which are reported to be in a very inefficient state. The report then proceeds:—]

We have omitted in the above statement the Grammar Schools of St. John and Northumberland, which are reported to be in a very efficient state; but we cannot, in discharge of our duty, withhold the expression of our disapprobation at the expenditure of £700 per annum from the public funds for the support of such schools as above exhibited.

To remedy the existing evils, we conceive that immediate legislation is necessary. Under the operation of the present law, it is only required, in order to obtain the Provincial Grant, that the Trustees or Directors certify that there is a school house, a competent master employed, and £50 subscribed to be paid by the inhabitants.

We recommend the following amendments to the act now in force:—

1. That there shall be an average daily attendance of twenty five scholars, over ten years of age.

2. That at least twelve shall be receiving instruction in Latin and Greek, and twenty in English Grammar, Arithmetic, Algebra, Mathematics, Geography, the use of the Globes, English Composition, Ancient and Modern History, Natural History, and Natural Philosophy.

3. That each master shall keep a Register of the names and ages of every pupil; and shall daily mark therein the presence or absence of every scholar, and shall semi-annually furnish the Trustees or Directors with a copy of the said Register, together with the several branches of education taught to each scholar.

4. That the Trustees or Directors shall examine the said schools at least once in every 6 months, and shall make a report of every such examination; which report shall set forth the master's name, age, religious profession, whether married or single; the books and apparatus used in school; the branches of education actually taught; the nature and extent of religious instruction; the mode of discipline; and the manner of teaching.

5. That the Trustees or Directors shall transmit semi-annually to the office of the Provincial Secretary, such registers, returns, and reports, for the information of the government and of the legislature.

6. That if it shall at any time appear from such registers and returns, that any Grammar School is deficient in any respect from the prescribed requirements, then no greater sum than £40 per annum, in the discretion of the Lieutenant Governor and council, shall be drawn from the Treasury for the support of the same.

We have prepared a bill containing these provisions, which we now respectfully submit for the consideration of the house.

As there has been no Grammar School in the County of Kent for three years past, we recommend that the sum of £150 be appropriated to the Board of Education for that county, for the establishment of a Normal school in the town of Richibucto.

We have had before us a series of School Books, prepared and published under the superintendence of the National Board of Education for Ireland, for the use of the Irish schools under the control of that board. These books are of a superior character, and we have much pleasure in recommending them to the favorable consideration of the house, as well suited to our provincial schools.

Permission has been given to republish these books in Canada, and we would recommend that inquiry be made during the recess, as to the cheapest mode of obtaining a supply for this province, whether by importation from Ireland or Canada, or republication in this province.

We have duly considered the petition of J. G. Lorimer, praying Legislative aid towards the publication of the *Young Aspirant*, a weekly Magazine designed for Youth.

We are much pleased with the specimen sheet before us, and are of opinion that the circulation of such a paper would be productive of much good; we are therefore of opinion that a small grant should be made for the encouragement of the praiseworthy intentions of the petitioner, and we recommend a grant of £25 for that purpose.

March 26.

Whereas the amount of Fourteen thousand five hundred pounds granted to Her Majesty as a permanent Civil List, is much greater than is necessary to ensure an efficient establishment,—and it being highly desirable that the same should be reduced, or that the surplus of the Civil List Fund should be applied to the payment of the Salaries of the Master of the Rolls,—the Provincial Treasurer, and other Officers now chargeable on the Ordinary Revenues of the Province: And whereas, the Salaries charged on the said Civil List are fully as large as the circumstances of the Province, or the efficient performance of the duties of the several Officers of the Government, either Civil or Judicial, would warrant or require: And whereas, if the said Surplus Fund be absorbed by Pensions, there will be no possibility of so desirable a reduction of such Fund; therefore

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee That the allowance of a retiring Pension to Public Officers cannot be justified on any system of sound policy, and is uncalled for in a new Country like New Brunswick.

And upon the question for adopting the said amendment, the Committee divided as follows:—Yeas 15, Nays 13, Whereupon it was carried in the affirmative

To the Justices of the Peace for the County of Restigouche, the sum of £—in aid of individual subscription, to be applied in erecting of a Public Wharf, and towards a Landing Place in the Town of Dalhousie. Upon the question for sustaining this Resolution, Committee divided—Yeas 8, Nays 11.

March 27.

To the Lieutenant Governor, the sum of £300 for the removal of a sunken ship in the entrance to Bathurst Harbour, to be paid when it shall be certified to His Excellency that the Ship is so far removed as to leave no obstruction to the Navigation.

To His Honor the Speaker a sum not exceeding £915 to reimburse him balance of the verdicts and costs accruing from the result of the Actions instituted against him and the Sergeant at Arms in the privilege cases of Doak and Hill.

Communications.

Mr. Pierce,

Sir,—In reply to "One of the Newscasts Young Gentlemen," in your last paper, I reiterate every sentiment, expression and charge, contained in my two former letters as to the general and particular conduct of those Gentlemen during the past winter, on their Sabbath visits to Chatham; not retracting one sentiment, expression, or charge; and upon these points I rest my veracity with the people of Chatham, and any others who were casually staying Chatham during the time of such visits, trusting the issue to their "discernment."