

The Annual Grain Show will be held in the Court Hall, Dalhousie, on the second Tuesday in April next, for the same premiums, and under the same restrictions as last year.

There will be three Cattle Shows and Fairs during the current year, viz: At Campbellton, on Monday the 4th day of October next; at Dalhousie, on Thursday the 7th following;—and at Mr Robert Hervie's, Parish of Durham, on Saturday the 8th, for the same premiums as offered last year.

The Ploughing Matches will be held as follows—At New Mills, on Monday October 11;—and at Campbellton, on Thursday the 14th following; under the same rules and regulations as last year.

Office Bearers, 1847.—President—A. Barberie, Esquire. Vice President—Hugh Montgomery & James McPherson, Esquires. Committee—Donald Stewart, Arthur Ritchie, John Douglas, John Ferguson, and David McIntosh, Esquires. Secretary and Treasurer—D. Stewart, Esquire.

The Politician.

The British Press.

From the London Morning Chronicle. THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Never fear the omission of an equivocal expression. No one knows the good things that you reject. This is a good rule in rhetoric, and one that both the lengthy and the brilliant should keep before them.

Even under his highest inspiration, and during the composition of his most patriotic periods, the American President must occasionally have wished himself at liberty to be brief. He must also have wished that, in spite of that inherent love of one's own ideas which the rule we have quoted is levelled against, some of them might be repudiated. Little as his nationality allows him to imitate Britain, or little as his republicanism recognises the fashion of either prince or potentate, he may have thought, under the burden of presidential lengthiness, of the convenient brevity of a Queen's speech in the mother country. It is a great thing for a man with a bad case to find a custom that dispenses with the details of explanation. Pleasant things, too, are those generalities that carry you *pedes sicco* over the dirty parts of a policy that you are ashamed of.

What, however, can a man do who must empty his breast before an audience that is nothing if not critical?—to an audience that is paid for what it listened to, and takes credit for conscientiousness for suffering its money's-worth of long windedness?—to an audience that could talk upon the Oregon question almost as long as the English county gentleman could debate upon the corn laws?—to an audience that has heard Webster on protection, through the verbosity of a four hour speech? And besides the quality, they want specialities in the way of explanation. Half Congress, half hustings, the listeners to a President's Message are disappointed in the sentences that contain neither a clap trap or a pledge.

Our columns of yesterday gave a lion's share of our paper to the Presidential Message of Mr. Polk. It opens with an elaborate defence of the aggressions against Mexico. Imagine a note of Russia that took an hour in the reading, and that retailed the insults, and aggressions, the outrages and oppressions of Turkey against the patience of the equitable Muscovite; or one that spoke of the dangers arising from the vicinity of a powerful Mahomedan principality; or lastly, one that reviewed the history of its own territorial acquisitions, and bound up with a pharisaical excommunion upon its own moderation towards the world in general, and towards Turkey in particular. Such a document would be but a type of Mr. Polk's eulogium on the forbearance of America.

It seems a monstrous thing that mouth of man should run on thus; that it should parade hypocrisy in the daylight; that it should insult the understanding of a world. It seems incredible—indeed, not as a matter of principle or partisanship, as a matter of right or wrong, as a point of honesty or falsehood. We lay the morality of the thing aside. We place it in the limbo of things lost on earth, and which will not be found in heaven—with the oaths of lovers, the truth of epitaphs, the ententes cordates of Gaius, and the bonds of Pennsylvania. We deal with the exposition of each a gross fallacies as those of Mr. Polk's speech simply as a matter of advocacy, as a question of wise or foolish, of clever or stupid, of policy or of folly. To what end make statements that will deceive no one, and which will undo so much credit for the future?

The answer is, for the sake of those who want an excuse for being persuaded; for the sake of the conscience of the future governor of California; and for the tenderness of the scruples of the expectant judge of Tamaulipas; for the solicitor-general of New Mexico; for the religious missionaries that shall appropriate the picked lands of Coahuila, for the palm sipping ruffians that are choosing their localities in Zacatecas; for every American that has either a promise or a hope of spoil; for the bona fide speculator who has definite views of the particular Mexican that he means to rob, and for the sanguine Almaschar that is dreaming indefinitely of an El Dorado.

All these men want a justification. The demand creates the supply. So calistry rises in the market.

To look upon the speech in question in any other light, is to judge ill of Mr. Polk: that is to judge of him in a way disagreeable to himself. To imagine that he had sufficient faith in his own defence to mistake his message for a justification of his conduct in the eyes of any part of Europe, or even in those of half America, would be to accuse him of the disreputable blindness of sincerity. He must know himself that this is not the case. He has put himself beyond the reach of credence. The best thing that can be said of him is that he knows his position.

No man likes to think that he reads unrightly the declared judgment of the age he lives in. To suppose that Mr. Polk thought of a vindication of the Mexican war before the eyes of Europe would wrong his sagacity. It is no European reputation for either integrity or straightforwardness that he covets; and least is it for no such tangible advantage that he would either pen a period or forbear a manoeuvre. It is credit of the kind, came to him uncalled for, but unaccompanied, by any particular advantage either to himself or his party, well and good. It is not a thing to seek. And as by no possibility it can never be found, his policy is, perhaps, a prudent one. We repeat then, that it is for nothing European, for the sake of no sweet odour in the old world, that he has been embraced to the justification of the war.

But it is for something American that he effects a conscience. And for American purposes he has conducted his justification artistically. It were a political impossibility for a statesman like Mr. Polk to stand alone. The very phenomenon of his presidency is the exponent of a multiplicity of upholders. It were also a political impossibility for a statesman like Mr. Polk to be the first in point of his order. He must have had his antecedents, even as it is to be feared that he will find his followers. The very mediocrity of his character implies this. He is no teacher, but a pupil; no discoverer, but an imitator. What then so natural as his defence? And what so true? Could ought be easier than to find precedents of a similar aggressiveness? Was there not a Jackson to quote, as a man of like instincts, and as one endowed with an equal aptitude for being insulted? Was any appeal more true than the appeal of the previous history of the passions and ambition of his countrymen? Was there not men before the time of Mr. Polk who had coveted Texas and California, and were not these the men whose pre-eminence susceptibilities were always suffering outrages from Mexico? Why the amount of rapacity was the measure of incontinence of their patriotism. They coveted much land, and they felt grievances in proportion. It was only by a quarrel that their aggressiveness could find its object, and it was only by unjust misconstructions that the elements of a quarrel could be supplied.

This, then, is the way in which he speaks of his much-enduring country:—

The wrongs which we have suffered from Mexico, alphas ever since she became an independent power, and the patient endurance with which we have borne them, are without a parallel in the history of modern civilised nations. There is reason to believe that if these wrongs had been resented and resisted in the first instance, the present war might have been avoided. One outrage, however, permitted to pass with impunity, almost necessarily encouraged the perpetration of another, until at last Mexico seemed to attribute to weakness and indecision on our part a forbearance which was the offspring of imagination, and of a sincere desire to preserve friendly relations with a sister republic.

And this he explains by an enumeration of private commercial grievances as old as the time of General Jackson. There the said General lamented, and these Mr. Van Buren lamented after him. *Quorum hæc iam putida tenentur!* Do they touch the fact that it was by American invasion that the debatable land between the Neuses and the Rio Grande was first occupied, and that it was by American hypocrisy that a land of such a debatable character was dealt with, when it served the purposes of ambition, as if it were as American as Massachusetts?

But the war that is now, waged has not been waged with a view to conquest; but having been commenced by Mexico, it has been carried into the enemy's country, and will be vigorously prosecuted there, with a view to obtain an honourable peace, and thereby secure ample indemnity for the expenses of the war, as well as to our much injured citizens, who hold large pecuniary demands against Mexico.

Also, what is the meaning of the following:—

"In the provinces of New Mexico and of the California, had, if any resistance is apprehended from the inhabitants to the temporary government, which have thus, from the necessity of the case, and according to the laws of war, been established. It may be proper to provide for the security of these important conquests, by making and adequate appropriations for the purpose of erecting fortifications and defraying the expenses necessarily incident to the maintenance of our possession over them."

Surely this is language that indicates the emptiness of the talk about indemnity?

The less effect that Mr. Polk's history, Mr. Polk's logic and Mr. Polk's patriotism have upon his country, the more credible it will be to his compatriots. To them, and to them alone it is addressed. Half for the sake of the necessary supplies, half for the sake of his fractional changes of re-election, it suits the capa-

cities and consciences of those who are ambitious of being justified, and lay themselves open to conviction.

Colonial News.

Novascotia.

Halifax Times, Feb. 2 1847.

A writer in the Cape Breton Spectator advocates a Canal at St. Peter's Isthmus as a means of opening the Bras d'or Lake to the navigation of the world, and claims provincial assistance commensurate to the importance of this undertaking. The cut, it is stated, would not be more than 900 feet, and the land is not more than two feet above the level of the water.

A man named Ewalt was shot dead at St. Margaret's Bay on Wednesday last by another named Boutillier. They were both inhabitants of that place, and it is said that for some time had been at enmity. Boutillier was immediately apprehended and lodged in jail, but we have been unable to gather any further particulars.

Handsome Legacy.—The late Hon. Norman F. Uniacke, left by his will to the Charitable Irish Society, the handsome sum of fifty pounds. Mr. Uniacke's father was the founder of the society, and James B. Uniacke, Esquire, the brother of the deceased, is the present President of the society.

Sailors' Home.—The Sub-Committee appointed to solicit subscriptions for this object, acknowledge with much pleasure the receipt of a cheque for five pounds from His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir John Harvey.

They will immediately solicit subscriptions for the "Home," and any gentleman who may be desirous to contribute to so desirable an object can do so by application to either of the following gentlemen:—

David Allison, Charles M. Cleary, Esq., Dr. J. C. Hume, William Full, Edward Young, and Robert Noble, Esqrs.

Fire.—A workshop belonging to Mr. Nelson Marvin, a carpenter at Fort Massey, took fire on Friday evening, notice of the fire was given by the alarm bells, at half past six o'clock, and before seven the shop and its contents were burnt to the ground.

New Brunswick.

St. John New-Brunswicker, February 2.

Generosity.—We have pleasure in recording the fact, that during the past week, a number of the natives of Ireland, residing in this City, have made praiseworthy efforts for the relief of their friends at home, by remitting through the Banks sums of money, from five pounds and upwards, and so far as we have learned, these acts of benevolence have been performed by those who, judging from appearances, are the least able to afford much—thus verifying the truth of the remark, and when relief is required, an Irishman's heart is always in the right place.

We shall have news from England twice this month—the new steam ship Sarah Sands, Captain Thompson, being advertised to leave Liverpool on the 18th Jan. for New York. She is an iron vessel, of 1300 tons register, and 200 horse power.

Canada.

Toronto Colonist, Jan. 16.

We observe her Majesty has sanctioned the bill for the erection of a suspension bridge over the Niagara River, near the Falls, and have been informed that the books for subscription to the stock, will shortly be opened by the commissioners.

The work will be on a stupendous scale—300 feet long and 200 feet above the River—and will, no doubt, be the means of drawing an immense increase of visitors to this most attractive spot; combining on the completion of the bridge, the noblest work of nature and art.

United States News.

From the New York Express.

The news has certainly produced a most lively interest here. Flour would be taken, to almost any extent, at \$6.50; Cotton at 1 cent advance, and a rise of ten cents on corn and fifteen on wheat, is fully established. This is an improvement in breadstuffs that was not anticipated; and there seems to have been the same rise in Baltimore and Philadelphia, as we learn by telegraph, and, no doubt, at all the prominent points in the country.

The advance of Breadstuffs and Cotton has been followed by a rise of Freight. Six shillings has been paid for Flour, a rise of a shilling; and 21d. for Wheat, which is 3d. higher, and even higher pretensions than these are made.

The import of specie by the steamer, two millions and a half, has been so much larger than was anticipated, that there is an impression that a large portion of it has been sent out to buy bills, and consequently there will be a demand for Sterling. Bill drawers are asking 106 1/2

Indian Battle.—A letter from a gentleman at Council Bluffs, dated on the 17th of December, to his correspondent in St. Louis, states that, on the previous day, a band of the Omahas were met by a band of the Sioux, in the neighbourhood of the Bluffs, that a battle ensued between them; and that the Sioux killed sixty of the Omahas before the conflict terminated.

The following particulars we find in a letter to the St. Louis republican:

It was a cold-blooded butchery of women and children, in the absence of the warriors of the village. On the night of the 12th and 13th, the letter states, a war party of Yancion Sioux Indians defeated and destroyed fourteen tribes of the Omaha tribe of Indians, located at the time at Wood's Bluffs, situated about sixty miles from this place—Bellevue. The men and warriors of the Omahas had left the camp on a hunt; and the Sioux, soon after they reached the camp, discovered that they only had women and children to contend with. The slaughter was terrible—seventy-three were killed, and nineteen mortally wounded. Two men made their escape—one of them named Jos. Lafleche, a trader in the employ of Mr. Peter A. Sarpy, and at the time in charge of a stock of goods.

Boston, Jan.—25. 8 P. M.—The Earl of Elgin, Governor General of Canada, and suite, visited the Legislature of Massachusetts to-day.

There has been considerable excitement in our markets. Flour advanced dollar per bbl.; and cotton one per cent per lb. Sales small.

Ocean Nearness.—The Atlantic and Pacific rivers of South America flow from the Andes, and the sources of streams which find the ocean thousands of miles apart are almost within a stone's throw of each other. Dr Tschudi in his Travels in Peru, thus mentions a case of this sort:

At the pass of Antaranga, 15,600 feet above the level of the sea, Dr Tschudi found two small lakes, scarcely thirty paces asunder. One of the source of the river San Mateo, which flows westward, passes Lima under the name of the Rimac, and discharges itself into the Pacific Ocean; the other sends its waters through a number of small mountain lakes to the river Pacha, a diminutive tributary of the mighty Amazon. The worthy doctor confesses that he could not resist the temptation to disturb the order of nature, by transporting a jug-full of the water intended for the Atlantic, into the lake communicating with the Pacific.

From the Baltimore American.

Mexican Gulf Rail Road.—Steam communication between New Orleans and Great Britain.—We learn with great pleasure, that letters from England by the last steamer leave but little doubt that the line of the Royal West India mail steamers will stop at the terminus of this road, in the fine harbour at Cat Island, both, on their outward and homeward trips,—landing and receiving passengers and specie, and also merchandise, so soon as Congress will establish a port of delivery for the latter at Cat Island, which no doubt they will do on application being made for the purpose.

Provincial Legislature

OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, January 29.

Mr Wark presented a petition from James Wheten, of Richibucto, in the county of Kent, a licenced Teacher, praying that a grant may pass in addition to the usual parish school allowance, by reason of his giving instruction in the higher branches of education. Received.

January 30.

Mr Barberie presented a petition from Francis Haydon, of the parish of Addington, in the county of Restigouche, an old soldier of the Peninsular war, praying Legislative aid to assist him in obtaining the grant to the land upon which he has resided for a number of years past, but by