

inasmuch as the tonnage employed in the trade is very expensive and capable of supplying the market at any season and to any extent. A new feature in the Timber Trade has sprung up, namely, the importation of railroad sleepers.

NEW BRUNSWICK LEGISLATURE.—Our Provincial Legislature met to despatch the business of the country, on Thursday last, the 28th January.

The first question on which they were called to exercise their joint deliberations was the appointment of Speaker, and their choice fell on Mr. WELDON. He was proposed by Mr. Partelow, and seconded by Mr. Rankin, (irrespective of politics) and elected without opposition.

The session was opened with the following highly interesting and gratifying Speech from the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"As the situation of the Province did not require, after the elections, that I should anticipate the ordinary period for the meeting of the Legislature, I have called you together at this time, with a confident reliance on your disposition to apply yourselves to the business of this first Session in a spirit of unanimity which will attest your zeal for the Public Service.

"I congratulate you on the abundance of the late Harvest, which has relieved the pressure on the Agricultural Classes occasioned by the failure of the Potato Crop in the preceding year; and while we deeply sympathize with the continued sufferings and privations of so many of our fellow subjects of the United Kingdom, we are bound to acknowledge with thankfulness that the People of this Province have, with few exceptions, been spared from a recurrence of this afflicting visitation.

"In reflecting on the measures to which it becomes my duty to invite your attention, there are none which impress me with a deeper sense of their importance, than those which have for their object to improve and extend the means of Education for the People. The state of the Parish Schools, and the system under which they have been conducted, was the subject of an elaborate inquiry in 1844, and I need not remind you, that unless timely provision be made for their efficient regulation, training and inspection, there are those who are growing up around us, to whom the loss must soon become wholly irretrievable.

"From the salutary effects which have elsewhere attended the introduction of an improved system in the management of Prisons, I recommend this subject to your especial notice. The enforcement of discipline, and of effective secondary punishments, under statutory rules, have been found to be conducive not only to the reformation of offenders, but to the prevention of crime, and essential to the safety of society where the Criminal Laws have been ameliorated.

"The recent improvements in the Laws of the United Kingdom, which provide for the settlement and relief of the Poor, suggest for consideration, how far the Provincial Acts may require in this particular to be amended, to meet the altered circumstances of society. From the large increase in the number of Immigrants annually arriving, especially of the poorer classes, some amendment appears to be also necessary in the regulations applicable to their relief.

"Representations having been made to me on behalf of the Indian Population, and of persons residing on their Lands, of the ill consequences of delay in the adjustment of their respective claims, I hope that measures will be taken to facilitate such a settlement of them as will conduce alike to the satisfaction of the claimants, and to the credit and advantage of the Province.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I have the satisfaction to inform you, that from the prosperous state of Commerce, the Revenue in the past year has been amply sustained.

"I have given directions that the Public Accounts should be laid before you.

"I have also directed to be communicated to you various Returns and Reports relative to the Roads and other Public Works, the execution of which, on a systematic plan, would materially tend to the public advantage.

"An urgent appeal having been made to me on behalf of the Inhabitants of Saint-John's Newfoundland, who had suffered from the destruction of that City by fire, I felt impelled to aid the private contributions which were raised for their relief, by an advance from the Public Funds, which I made in full confidence that I only anticipated your desire for the alleviation of the sufferings of our fellow subjects exposed to so severe a calamity.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentleman of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"Commissioners having been appointed by Her Majesty's Government to investigate and report on the Boundary in dispute between this Province and Canada, I have to regret that their labors have been in some degree

retarded, owing to the lamented death of one of the Officers engaged on this service. I have no reason however to anticipate any further delay in the settlement of the question, and in the meantime the Jurisdiction of the Province in the Disputed Territory has been maintained.

"An examination of the County by the same scientific Officers, with the object of ascertaining the best direction for a Trunk Line of Railway, to connect the Provinces, has been in progress, and will be resumed when the season becomes again favourable, another Officer having been appointed to the Survey.

"In order to effect a rapid communication of intelligence through the Provinces, the establishment of a Line of Electro Magnetic Telegraph, from Halifax to Quebec, has been proposed by the Governor General, in a Despatch which will be laid before you.

"Availing myself of the encouragement held out in the last Session, I have directed the prosecution of some special inquiries in reference to those important undertakings—the Reports, when received, will be communicated to you.

"I congratulate you on the prospects which at this time appear to be opening to the Province; with improved means of intercourse so fertile a region cannot long remain imperfectly settled and reclaimed, and the time we may hope is approaching when the labors of the early settler and their descendants, aided by British enterprise and capital, will be applied in developing its vast and varied resources. That undertakings of this nature, conducted in a righteous spirit, will be eminently successful, I can entertain no doubt, and that they may prosper under your auspices and become the means of diffusing the blessings which have elsewhere followed in their train, must be the aspiration of all who regard the welfare of their Country, and desire to extend and perpetuate the glory of her Institutions."

This document embraces many subjects of paramount importance to the future well being and prosperity of the Province, and among them stands forth most prominently a *better system of Education*, which, in our opinion, can only be carried efficiently into operation, by *general taxation*, not only for the maintenance of the Teachers, but for the erection and keeping in repair of all School Houses.

The Speech embraces several other topics of interest, namely, the great railroad survey, the establishment of a line of Electro Magnetic Telegraph from Halifax to Quebec; the better management of the Indian Reserves, and several other of minor importance. All these subjects are of vital importance to the people of the province, and we hope the best energies of our new house will be brought into active operation, to devise ways and means by which they may be brought to a successful issue.

The time limited for receiving Petitions, a correspondent informs us, is fixed for the Second of March.

THE SEASON.—We have had another very severe storm. It snowed heavily all day Saturday, and blew a gale during the greater part of the day from the North East, and in the evening from the opposite quarter, which drifted the snow very much. Our streets are consequently much blocked up, and many persons were forced to dig their way out of their houses, many of which were nearly buried. The intelligence from Fredericton, and Richibucto, represent the road as being in a most wretched condition. This will account for the delay in the arrival of the Southern mail, which had not come to hand when we went to press.

UNITED STATES.—A destructive fire broke out in Norfolk, Virginia, which destroyed a number of fine buildings in the Market Square and Main Street. After the flames were subdued, the following sad calamity occurred:—

"A crowd of boys ventured into the smoking ruins, to search for "findings," when an explosion of tar-pentine or camphine from beneath, enveloped some of the boys in the flames of the burning liquid. The scene was one of indescribable horror—there was a general burst of agonized feeling from the assembled multitude; several rushed to their aid, as the poor lads sprang into the street enveloped in flames; one of them (William Daniels) ran a distance of thirty yards, to the Artesian pump and was immersed in the water trough, until the flames were extinguished. Another, named Brown, rushed from the ruins in a blaze of fire, and, after struggling among the rubbish of the fallen walls, he fell from suffering and exhaustion. Many efforts were made to extinguish the fire, which was finally accomplished by wrapping him in blankets.

They died some hours after, in excruciating pain.

The Halifax Novascotian furnishes the following account of a very destructive fire in Boston.

"Papers received by the Schr. Boston, which arrived here yesterday, in 43 hours from Boston, state that a destructive fire occurred in that city on Thursday night last, which destroyed upwards of 70 buildings, and rendered a large amount of families destitute by this awful calamity. The fire first broke out in a small wooden building, occupied as a Bowling Alley in Haverhill street, and spread most alarmingly through Causeway, Medford & Traverse streets, and several squares soon became a mass of ruins. The conflagration is described as being the most fearful that has taken place in Boston for a number of years past. The weather at the time was intensely cold, and several people were seriously injured."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We heartily commiserate our fair neighbors C. and E. for the unpleasant dilemma in which they have been placed through the want of some system in the regulation of our Time. The inhabitants of Fredericton, it would appear, laboured under a similar grievance, and to obviate it, a subscription was got up for the purpose of raising funds to purchase a *Town Clock*. Would not a similar movement here meet with encouragement? and would not its erection in some conspicuous place in the town, say on the cupola of the Mechanics' Hall—for we must speedily have such a building—remove the evil complained of? What say our fair friends to this suggestion? Will they get up a subscription list or urge the measure on the consideration of their husbands and male acquaintances; they have merely to advocate it, and the object is accomplished.

Arion will meet with attention in our next paper.

NEWCASTLE FIRE COMPANY DINNER.—The Newcastle Fire Company dined together on Thursday the 28th Jan., at Masson's Hotel, Mr. Wm. MASSON, Engineer of the Company, in the chair, and Mr. DANIEL MCGRUAR acted as Croupier. The Dinner was served up in Mrs. Masson's usual good style; the Table groaned under all the delicacies the season would afford, the wine was of the best quality, and the dessert displayed the good taste of the Committee of management. After the Cloth was removed, the following toasts were given from the Chair.

The Queen, God bless her.

Prince Albert and the rest of the Royal Family.

Sir William McBean George Colebrooke, the respected governor of New Brunswick, and the Members of both Houses of the Provincial Legislature.

Sir T. W. Austin, the Admiral on the Station, and the Wooden Walls of Old England.

Lord John Russell and Her Majesty's Ministers.

Lady Colebrooke, and the fair daughters of New Brunswick.

The Clergy of New Brunswick of all denominations,

Our respected Guests of the Evening, the Firewards of the Town of Newcastle.

Edward Williston, Esquire, responded in a neat and appropriate Speech.

The stated toasts having been got through with.

Thomas C. Allan, Esquire, in his usual happy style, proposed "Health and happiness of the Fire Engine Company of Newcastle."

Mr. William Matheson, the secretary, responded in an energetic speech, in which he set forth the efficient state of the company, and should a day of trial arrive, which he trusted in a Divine Providence was far distant, the efficient state of the Engine and Company would be apparent: he further stated, that the best feelings existed among the members of the company, and the only rivalry among them was, how each should devote his best energies for the true interest of the town.

William Loch, Esquire, proposed the "Health of the Managers of the Dinner."

Mr. Daniel McGruar one of the committee acknowledged the compliment in a very feeling manner. After every toast the most unbounded applause succeeded.

A number of other toasts were given and responded to; a great variety of songs were sung, and the whole affair was highly creditable to the company. Mirth and hilarity surrounded the board, and each one went home at a reasonable hour perfectly satisfied with themselves and with each other.—*Communicated.*

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY,
JANUARY TERM, 1847.
CHATHAM PARISH OFFICERS.

Assessors.—William Carman, Joseph Samuel, and David Steele.

Overseers of Poor.—George Kerr, James Johnson, and Joseph Spratt.

Commissioners of Highways.—John M. Johnson, Michael Samuel, and Peter Gray.

Overseers of Highways.—Richard Sewell, John Irving, Philip Wall, Daniel Baldwin, Asa Perley, James Kerr, James McKnight, William Johnstone, John McRae, Daniel Bulman.

Overseers of Fisheries.—John Carrutners, Jun., James McKnight, John Percival, John Gammon, Peter Gray, and Wm. Loggie.

Fence Viewers.—James Jardine, Jackson Fleming, John Percival, Thomas Blake.

Pound Keepers.—Alexander McFarlane, John Percival, John England, James Danford.

Constables.—Edward Lobban, Andrew Duncan, Thomas Farnell, Richard Burbridge, Thomas Carrigan, John Harrington, Henry Wyse, Andrew Irving, Patrick Stapleton, Patrick Dunne, William McRae, Richard Blake, John Wakeham, James Patterson, Junior, Robert Murray, John Henderson, William Forrest, Finlay McDermott.

Inspectors of Fish and Barrels.—George Taylor, Philip Brimmer, Peter Loggie, Asa Perley, John England, Peter Gray, Adam Kerr, Alex. Murdoch, John Gammon, Mathew Mitchell, Alexander Loggie.

Hogreeves.—John Whitehead, John Jones, Peter Moars, Alexander Fraser, James Anderson, Joseph Dickson, Samuel Jardine, Wm. Currie, Thomas Lane, Maurice Sculley, Cornelius O'Keefe, John Horan, James Martindale, Andrew Wilson, Francis King.

Surveyors of Lumber.—John McKenzie, John McKay, John Percival, Junior, Daniel Bulman, F. P. Henderson, Wm. McRae, W. Williston, Lewis Morrison, David Getchell, Robert Blake, John McRae, Cornelius O'Keefe, Henry Getchell, John McDonald, Alex. Morrison, David Sadler, P. Williston, and W. O'Brien.

Trustees of Schools.—Henry Cunard, Rev. John C. Macbean, and Martin Cranney.

Collector of Taxes.—Martin Cranney.

Weigher of Hay.—Henry Farnham Letson.

Sealer of Leather.—George P. McKay.

Collector of Dog Tax.—Andrew Duncan.

Wharfingers.—Joseph Samuel and Wm. McKenzie.

Town Clerk and Clerk of the Market.—John Fraser.

T. H. PETERS, Clerk of the Peace.

ERRATUM.—In the Newcastle list of Parish Officers published last week—A Goodfellow's name was printed by mistake as one of the Overseers of the Poor, the proper name is Charles Marshall.

For Shipping head see page 131.

ARRIVALS AT HEA'S HOTEL.

January 26—Alex. McDonald, senior, Bay du Vin; Miss McDonald, do.; Miss — McDonald, do.; Donald McRae, do.; — Morrison, Oak Point; — Morrison, Douglastown; Hugh McDonald, Bay du Vin; Thomas Harding, of Shippegan, from St. John; Thomas Miller, Bathurst. 27th—James Black, Dorchester; Joseph Black, do.; J. Morse, Amherst; William Weldon, Dorchester; James Fraser, Kouchibouguac; Saunders Atchison, Newcastle. 28th—William Stevens, Esq.; Bathurst. 29th—Arthur Ritchie, Esq., Campbellton, Restigouche; James Muhand, do. 30th—H. Getchell, Bay du Vin.

Marriages.

On Thursday, the 28th of January, by the Rev. William Henderson, Mr. JAMES ATCHISON, of the Parish of Newcastle, to Miss SARAH ROGERS, of the Parish of North Esk.

On Thursday last, by the Rev. John McCurdy, Mr. ALEXANDER McARTHUR, to Miss ELIZABETH ABBOTT, both of the Parish of Newcastle.

Card.

The subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has commenced a SCHOOL in Chatham in the Billiard room of the old Royal Hotel, where he proposes teaching the following branches, Viz: Writing, Arithmetic, and Book Keeping, Geography, and the use of the Globes, Navigation, Mensuration, Land Surveying Algebra, the elements of Euclid, with plain and spherical Trigonometry, the nature and use of Logarithms, &c. with their application to Mechanical science and Natural Philosophy.

He hopes, by excluding English Orthography and reading, to be enabled to pay his undivided attention to the above branches, and thereby facilitate the progress of his pupils—Fees moderate.

WALTER McALLISTER,
Chatham, 2nd February, 1847.

NOTICE.

The subscribers of the Stock for placing a STEAM FERRY BOAT on the River Miramichi, to ply between the two sides of the river, opposite the town of Chatham, are requested to pay into the hands of G. KERR, Twenty per cent, or one Fifth of their respective subscriptions, on or before WEDNESDAY, the 10th February, instant, at 11 o'clock, a. m. at which time a GENERAL MEETING of the Subscribers is requested, to be held in the Band Room, for the purpose of naming Trustees, and executing the Deed of Trust.

J. CUNARD, Chairman of the Meeting.
Chatham, 2nd February, 1847.