

some reason to think, moreover, that the place in question was offered without success to one or more Medical men resident in this Province. I cannot hold out to the Memorialists any hope of superceding the present Commission on the grounds put forward by them.

An attempt was made some time since to form a Commission which would have contained none but residents at Saint John, and of which no individual belonging to the Executive Government was a member. Many of the gentlemen then named declined to act, and to this fact, and this alone, the present Commission, constituted as it is, owes its origin. I need not point out to the Memorialists, that the Provincial Act 12 Victoria, c. 28, s. 5, vests the whole power of appointing and dismissing the officers of the Asylum in the Commission.

To supercede the Commission, merely because they have exercised the powers legally vested in them, without any allegation that the person is unfit or incompetent, would be in reality open to the charge of bringing 'undue Executive influence' to bear on the management of the Asylum.

THE LUMBER TRADE.—The Bytown Packet of the 1st instant, contains an article on the injudicious manner in which the Lumber Trade has hitherto been pursued in Canada. The remarks, we are concerned to say, apply with equal force to this section of New Brunswick; the effects of which are now visible in the rapid decay of our mills, the ruin of our merchants and lumbermen, the emigration of a large portion of our population to more favoured countries, which have left our dwellings in the towns tenantless, and depreciated to a fearful extent, all kinds of real estate.

But the baneful effects of the system are not confined to the towns, but extend to the country, where we find farms untilled and buildings falling rapidly to decay. The owners, in an evil hour, were induced to embark in the lumber trade, which, after they had pursued it for a few seasons, they discovered had deeply involved them in debt. Mortgages were taken on their real estate; and after a few more fruitless efforts to redeem their encumbered properties, they perceived they were getting deeper and deeper into the merchants' books. Some went into the bankrupt court, others continue to struggle on despite of all difficulties, but a good number, seeing no prospect ahead of their ever being enabled to mend their circumstances, collected a few odds and ends together, and clandestinely left the country.

Turn which ever way we may, we find persons involved; and singular to say, we hear them regretting that the "good old times" have passed away; which good old times, as far as we are able to collect information, and our own personal observations extend, have left little behind them but debts, vicious habits, despondency and ruin. But had there been a wiser course pursued: had care been taken of our noble forests, and a portion of the means which were expended in forcing the lumber trade beyond judicious bounds, employed in promoting agriculture, in the erection of manufactories, and the encouragement of domestic manufactures, what a very different position we would be in at the present time.

The following is the article alluded to above:

During the past three years this portion of the trade of Canada, has suffered perhaps more severely than any other the effects of depression. The low prices, the dull demand, and other causes, all contributed to render speculation in the article of lumber anything but encouraging. There is no reason to doubt but the chief cause of the depression was the over production in 1846. That year the quantity manufactured exceeded the demand to the amount of about thirteen millions of feet. Nearly nine millions of feet had remained on hand the season before in Quebec, which, added to the supply received, made nearly forty six millions of feet to supply a demand not much exceeding twenty four millions. In 1847 the supply amounted to nearly twenty four millions of feet, and the export the same year scarcely exceeded nineteen millions. Instead of getting the old stock reduced, it has increased to the amount of more than four and a half millions of feet, and in 1848 the export only exceeded the supply by something less than three and a half millions of feet. The quantity remaining at the close of 1848 was still greater than the quantity on hand at the close of 1846. The over production of 1846

had the effect of keeping a large supply on hand for the three subsequent years, so that there could be no demand for a fresh supply. With Lumber, as with any other manufacture, the demand and the prices must depend on the amount of consumption and the supply afforded. If the supply is greater than the consumption requires, it will certainly have the effect of flooding the market, and consequently reducing the prices.

If the Lumber trade was of such a character that its operations would force it to regulate itself, we would feel less necessity on our part for directing the attention of those engaged in it, to the attentive consideration of the security of the present prospects before embarking too deeply. We doubt much if the trade will ever assume a character similar in point of regularity to some other kinds of manufactures unless the Legislature interfere and enforce a system of regulation.

In what particular way this can be effected, we are not in a position to say; but of this there is no doubt, the system heretofore practised (or we might perhaps, rather say the want of system,) has produced effects ruinous to those engaged in the trade, while at the same time one of the most valuable resources of the country has been extravagantly wasted. Whatever may be said to the contrary, we are well aware that the timber forests are not sufficiently extensive or well stocked with a good article to allow of such extravagant waste and afford a supply of the first quality for any great number of years. In order to make the trade remunerative and sale to the lumberer, and also to secure a continuance of the supply, it is absolutely necessary that some efficient means be adopted.

NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK TELEGRAPH.—On the subject of the very inefficient working of this line, the Halifax Sun remarks;—

"The Line of Telegraph between Amherst and New York is a complete humbug—a delusion. A week has nearly elapsed since a through communication has been despatched in consequence of the continued breaks in the lines beyond Amherst, and particularly in New Brunswick. Messages for the United States lie for days in the Office here which cannot be forwarded for the reasons above alleged. The New Brunswick line is down for days together. Is there no remedy?"

An advertisement appears in the St. John papers signed by the President of the New Brunswick Company, offering a reward of £25 for such information as may lead to the detection and conviction of any person injuring the line of Telegraph from Calais to the Nova Scotia line.

Mr Darrow, Superintendent of the line, has published a letter, in which he defends the management of the concern, and the arrangements entered into with the American associated Press. On the subject of the repeated breakages, he says:

"On the 24th November, at 11 o'clock at night, the operator at St. John found that the current to Calais had ceased, while that to Halifax remained good; at daylight next morning a man was started express to repair, as the arrival of the steamer was hourly expected. She arrived at 7 1/2 o'clock, and the operator was then beset to have the despatch for the St. John Club Room forwarded, inasmuch as no despatch could be sent to the States;—this being contrary to the strict orders he had received, he sent for instructions in the case of the proper officer. The answer returned was the rule cannot be broken—no despatch whatever name or nature must be received or sent. At a little before 11 o'clock, A. M. the line to Calais was repaired, and within a few minutes the line to the Bend was broken, and the man was immediately sent express to the East, and found the first break about 3 miles from this place, at half past 2 o'clock, P. M. He then returned and found another break a few miles on that side of this point on the very ground over which he had just travelled. In the meantime, a person coming through from the Bend, arrived here at 7 o'clock in the evening, and reported two breaks, one 5 miles from town, the other 13 miles. Another man was immediately started with lanterns, who found and repaired three breaks within two hours, and then returned; but still no current to the Bend, therefore the wire must still be broken. At daylight he started again, and found and repaired two more breaks within a few miles of each other, and rode on until he met the first repairer returning, who had mended one more break on his way down. These men report that in nearly all the breaks the wire appeared to be badly twisted and wrenched, and in one instance over 100 feet was taken from between two poles, pulled up and thrown into the bushes a little way off. In one case a tree had been cut down by the axe and fallen directly across the wire. The whole appearance of these breaks, and their regular continuance, were so evidently done for a specific object, and were so systematically done; that further proof would be useless."

UNITED STATES.—In another part of our paper we have published the particulars, as far as they have transpired, of the extraordinary and dreadful murder which has been committed in Boston.

The Legislature of Vermont is in Session, and have adopted the following singular Resolutions in reference to Canada. It looks very like counting chickens before they are hatched—but it plainly indicates the feelings and desires of our neighbors on the subject:

"Whereas, by the original articles of the constitution, adopted by the States of this Union, it was provided that 'Canada, according to this confederation, and joining in the measures of these United States, shall be admitted into and entitled to all the advantages of this Union.' And Whereas, recent occurrences in the said Province of Canada indicate a strong and growing desire on the part of the people thereof to avail themselves of the foregoing offer, and to apply for admission among the sovereign States of the Union; Therefore, Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That, believing the admission of Canada into this Union to be a measure intimately connected with the permanent prosperity and glory of both countries, the government of the State of Vermont earnestly desires to see such re-union effected without a violation on the part of the United States of the amicable relations existing with the British Government, or of the law of nations.

Resolved, The peaceful annexation of Canada to the United States, with the consent of the British Government, and of the people of Canada, and upon just and honorable terms, is an object in the highest degree desirable to the people of the United States. It would open a wide and fertile field to the enterprise and industry of the American people; it would extend the boundaries and increase the power of our country; it would spread wide the liberal principles of republic government, and promote the preponderance of free institutions in this Union. We therefore trust that our national government, in a spirit of peace and of courtesy to both the British Government and the people of Canada, will adopt all proper and honorable means to secure the annexation of Canada to the United States."

THE SEASON.—The season still continues unusually fine. On Wednesday the river was completely frozen, and several persons crossed over on foot the following day. On Saturday we perceived several horses and sleds on it. On Friday and Saturday there was admirable skating, and as the boys, and other individuals who are fond of this healthful recreation, turned out in great force, the scene which was presented on the river was a very animated one. A small quantity of snow fell on Sunday evening. This will improve travelling, which had been for some length of time very indifferent, and be beneficial in many other ways.

FATHER MATHEW.—A late number of the New York Sun has the following paragraph on the purposed visit of this Reverend Gentleman to the South.

Some of the Southern papers are warmly discussing the propriety of Father Mathew's visiting the South, in behalf of the temperance cause. The opinion of the public there seems to be against the Apostle. Not long ago, Judge Lumpkin, of Georgia, in behalf of the State Temperance Society, invited Father Mathew to visit Georgia. Soon after, he revoked the invitation, upon the ground that Father Mathew, in concert with Daniel O'Connell, some years since, addressed a circular to Irish men and women in the United States, calling upon them to repudiate all countenance or connection with slavery and slaveholders. This came to Judge Lumpkin's knowledge after he had invited the Apostle to the South, and having addressed letters to Father Mathew asking if he signed such an address, and receiving no answer after a due lapse of time, he notified the Apostle that his visit would not be received by the Georgians. It is probable, therefore, that Father Mathew will not visit the South, and all because a few fanatics, like Garrison, could not leave him in peace to his labor of philanthropy and love, but must drag into the field of Temperance the vexed question of slavery. In like manner, we fear that Christ, were he to come upon the earth, to labor again as of old, would be driven to a section, instead of being permitted to preach truth and righteousness to the whole world.

COUNTY KEWT.—An inquest was held on the 10th inst. by George Pagan, Esq., Coroner, over the body of a man unknown, found at Richibucto Cape. He is supposed to be one of the four men belonging to the ship Joseph Porter, who were unfortunately drowned by the upsetting of a boat going over the Bar to the said ship, on the evening of the 10th November last.

ROYAL VISIT TO BRITISH AMERICA.—A late number of the London Court Journal contains the following paragraph.—We have not a doubt that it is put as a feeler, and should not be surprised if Her

Majesty, who it appears is fond of equatic excursions, were to pay our Canadian neighbours a visit next summer. One thing is certain, she would be loyally and hospitably entertained by them, whatever ideas they entertain with reference to the policy or interest of still continuing her subjects.

Might we not suggest that no British Sovereign has yet visited the American continent, and that none could possibly visit it under more favorable auspices than our Gracious Queen. Upon the happy results of the late Royal visit to Ireland, we need not dwell. They are manifest to all the world. And if the magic of the Royal presence could so effectually soothe the bitterness of party strife and party hatred among the impulsive people of the sister island, could we expect results less satisfactory among the Anglo-Saxon population of the Canadas? Nor is the idea of such a visit by any means impracticable. It has been rumoured that a Royal trip to the Mediterranean, in the course of next summer, is in contemplation, and the shores of that classic sea are now scarcely more accessible than the banks of the Saint Lawrence. Halifax may be reached with as little danger, and usually in as short a time as Malta; and with a swift sailing steamer, Quebec is probably not more distant than Egypt. True, that the New World cannot boast of scenes associated, from our earliest days, with the recollection of mighty names and mighty deeds. But our history, though but of yesterday, is by no means destitute of interest; as if, as yet, in some points her progress in art has been slow, her deficiency in this respect has been well compensated by the profuse magnificence of nature, which, in no portion of America, has been displayed to more advantage, than within the Queen's dominions in the West. It seems not unreasonable to believe, therefore, that with those attractions, and with continued peace, the loyal inhabitants of British North America may yet be gratified by the presence of their Sovereign.

Marriages.

At the White Rapids, South West, Miramichi, on the 4th instant, by the Rev. John Turnbull, Mr. ROBERT STURGEON, to Miss JANE CORBETT, both of the Parish of Blackville.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 8th March, 1848.

RESOLVED, That no Bill of a private nature, or Petition for money or relief, shall be received by the House after the fourteenth day from the opening of the Session, both inclusive; and that the Clerk of this House do, one month previous to the meeting of the Legislature, cause fifty printed copies of this Rule to be sent to each of the Clerks of the Peace in the several Counties for distribution, and cause the same to be inserted in the Royal Gazette, and two Newspapers in such county where Newspapers are published.

CHAS. P. WETMORE, Clerk.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 7th April, 1849.

WHEREAS the number of applications to this House from School Teachers for Grants of Money have been from year to year increasing; and whereas it is desirable that such information should be furnished as would enable this House to arrive at just and equitable conclusions; therefore

RESOLVED, That this House will in future sustain no applications for allowances to Teachers of Common or Parish Schools, unless it shall be certified by at least two Trustees of Schools for the Parish where such School has been taught, shewing the time actually taught;—the Teacher to be licensed—the cause why such Teacher was not certified to the Sessions in the ordinary way—and that such Teacher was not compelled to discontinue his or her School on account of any improper conduct.

CHAS. P. WETMORE, Clerk.

Notice to the Public.

GENERAL POST OFFICE.

St. John, December 11, 1847.

In order to obviate the inconvenience existing under the present arrangement, which requires the Postage of Letters and Newspapers for Newfoundland to be paid in advance, His Lordship the Postmaster General has been pleased to direct that hereafter the Postage on correspondence passing between New Brunswick and Newfoundland may be pre-paid or not, at the option of the sender.

J. HOWE, D. P. M. G.

Miramichi Immigration Society.

Notice is hereby given, That the Annual Meeting of the Members of this Society will be held at Withersall's Hotel, Newcastle, on the First Tuesday in January next, being the first day of the month, and the time appointed by the Rules of the Society for such meeting, at 11 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of electing Office Bearers for the ensuing year, when a full attendance is particularly requested.

E. WILLISTON, Secretary.
Newcastle, 15th December, 1849.