

There were also plated candlesticks imported. These had never been used in the House of Assembly, and the presumption was that they were appropriated to private use.

Was this all? No—nor half of it. They also imported toys and copy-books for children—and gowns for the Clergy and Lawyers. There were in the Library of the House of Assembly, Bibles and Testaments in several different languages—and yet two Testaments, worth (at the store of the depository in Saint John) about one shilling a-piece, are charged in the bill at 15s!!! a-piece. These testaments were used for the purpose of swearing in members—that is to say, to swear them in to do their duty to their country faithfully and honestly, but how they kept their oaths the country was now finding out. For the price of these two Testaments enough could be purchased to swear in the whole Province. What a sin! What a perversion of the sacred scriptures, when such deeds of darkness are perpetrated with impunity, and God called upon at the same time to witness their rectitude of conduct.

In 1847 (?) the House refused to pay reporters for that Session—but at the end of the Session an order was drawn upon Mr Partelow, by four Members of the Government, to pay a certain Reporter the sum £50 for his services, whilst all the other reporters had come off with nothing. This seemed to him very much like a purchase, by the Government of one particular press. Was this honest?

He would now fall back again upon the supervisors of roads. The more he got into the mire the worse appeared to be the dirt. He had information pouring in upon him from all quarters since his first lecture—and how he was to dispose of all the material he had to work upon, puzzled him to know.

It seems that the committee on roads and bridges, was made up of one member from each county, and their power of appointing the supervisors was unlimited, and could be exercised for electioneering purposes to a most dangerous extent. Mr End, whose name need only be mentioned to create a feeling—drew one Session, the sum of forty pounds to be laid out upon a road that never existed; and in due time he presented the bill of costs for repairs done, but not the vouchers. The auditor in making up his accounts, and requiring all the necessary documents, addressed a letter to the reputed contractor for the voucher. The answer received was, that no such work had been done. To the credit of the House of Assembly, however, in this solitary instance, Mr End was forced to refund the forty pounds. Had not the Auditor been particular in demanding this voucher, where think you would have been the forty pounds?

Mr Vail, of King's county, received £300 of bye-road appropriations which he retained until just before the time of election, when he sold a portion of the work to Mr Beach, for the sum of ten pounds, or thereabouts. He took Mr Beach's obligation to perform the work, and also his receipt for the money. Mr Vail rendered the account to the House of Assembly, sworn to, as if the work had been done. The road remains unfinished to this day.

The same hon. gentleman put up another portion of the road for forty pounds. The bidder not known. As soon as the work was half done, a Mr Ryan called upon Mr Vail for half the money—but this was refused until he could see what had been done. Accordingly after inspection the supervisor told Ryan he would pay him down two thirds of the money, provided he would give him a receipt in full. This was accordingly done as the man wanted to be paid for what was already completed. The work is not yet finished.

Mr Vail sent all the receipts into the House sworn to by himself.

But there had been one upright commissioner in the country, and it did him (the lecturer) good to have this opportunity of mentioning the fact. His name was Joseph Abbott, of Westmoreland. He carried out his instructions to the letter, notwithstanding attempts had been made upon him to get him to fulfil the trust reposed in him, after the 'old fashion,' in the double shuflle sort of way, by means of orders upon merchants, &c. He stoutly refused to be moddled with. The consequence of his uprightness remains to be told. He has never since been appointed supervisor.

It will be remembered that Tibbitts and Pickard had a suit against Jacob Allen, the action was tried in Saint John, and a verdict against Tibbitts & Pickard was the result. Tibbitts after that was elected a Member of the House, and when in the House the Government wanting his vote, PAID their claim, amounting to £900 and costs £14 3 10, notwithstanding a jury of twelve under oath, had decided he had no right to it; the result was, Tibbitts supported the Corrupt Government until it came to a pinch on Fisher's resolutions about a working Government, and about one hour before the vote was taken, Tibbitts sloped, and the government lost his vote—it served them right.

The Lecturer next alluded to the double dealing of certain members on the discussion of the government bantling, called the 'Judiciary Bill.' He named among others, who had spoken against the Bill—and then next morning voted for it, as if a sudden charm had possessed them in the course of the night, which led to their conversion—Mr R. D. Wilmot, Mr Boyd, Mr Brown and Mr End. All of which gentlemen were not overlooked by the Government; they received consideration in the shape of offices, appointments or fees, as in the case of Mr End, when he went down

to Sunbury to prosecute a suit, and received £15 for his services.

A sum amounting to between two and three thousand pounds had been voted by the House of Assembly, upon Mr Partelow's motion, for the purpose of paying for sundry repairs that had been done upon the roads and bridges destroyed during the recess by the freshet. Mr Partelow stated that the work had been done—that there were a number of poor persons waiting for their money—and that it was very essential that they should be paid. The money was accordingly granted. What must the country think of a representative body who can vote such a sum away, upon the mere motion of a single individual.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1849.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far-spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is not indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for advertising in the Gleaner, and for Printing in future, must be accompanied with the CASH otherwise they will not meet with attention.

JAMES A. PIERCE.

MR. NEEDHAM'S LECTURES.

At the request of a number of our Newcastle subscribers, we have to day commenced re-publishing from the Morning News, the Lectures of Mr Needham in the Mechanic's Institute of Saint John, on our Public Men. We have mislaid the first lecture, but hope to procure it.

The revelations of the learned gentleman are startling (and if true) develop a series of actions and peculations which are not to be surpassed in the most corrupt period of the history of the mother country.

Our revenue for a long period was large and fully adequate to meet the expenses of Government; but since 1837, when Sir Archibald Campbell left the Province, leaving behind him £150,000 casual revenue in the treasury, we have got rid of the surplus, and been every year falling into debt; and now, when we are undergoing a severe commercial crisis, when our taxes should be as light as possible, our burdens in this respect are most onerous, unjust, and hard to be borne, for heavy duties are placed on every necessary of life. And why is this? Mr Needham answers the question—from selfish legislation, our affairs being intrusted to designing men.

If, as we have before said, the assertions of Mr Needham be true, it is high time that we had a change of representatives and a new form of government; for whatever change we may make on speculation, cannot leave us in a worse state than we are at present, for by his shewing, we have a bankrupt Exchequer, a corrupt Government, and a venal House of Representatives. If they be not true, we hope something will be done by the Members of Government, as well as by the parties particularised, either individually, or collectively, to refute the charges thus brought against them. This they owe to the Province, who must to a certain extent, participate in the scandal of thus sending, session after session, men capable of perpetrating such mean and barefaced deeds. We shall with much anxiety watch the action of the parties interested in the refutation of these charges.

St John.—The Observer of Tuesday reports the arrival in that port, from the Saturday previous, of twenty square-rigged vessels from European ports. Many of them had cargoes.

UNION OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.—It is rumoured in the Canadian Journals that the British Government have under their consideration the subject of the union of these Colonies.

MR HUMPHREY'S LECTURES.—This gentleman has been lecturing to large audiences in Chatham, Newcastle and Douglastown. He is perfect master of the subject on which he treats, and he is amply supplied with instruments which aid him fully to illustrate the properties of the subtle fluid of electricity, and the purposes to which it has been applied. If a person wishes to spend a few hours in obtaining information respecting the wonders of nature, or to enjoy hearty merriment, we would advise him to attend his lectures. The antics performed by the amateur dancers in the galvanized slippers, are calculated even to make an anchorite laugh, and a good natured fellow to split his sides.

NOVASCOTIA.—We are sorry to perceive that Asiatic Cholera has made its appearance in our sister Province; the Halifax papers report two cases, which occurred in Annapolis, servants of Judge Ritchie, which proved fatal. Considerable uneasiness is felt in the capital in consequence.

The papers also report that the Potatoes on the Peninsula had been struck with the rot, which was rapidly spreading.

GASPE.—The Gazette by the last mail, has a long article on the state of affairs in that quarter. We copy from it the following extracts:—

The Tariff Bill with another equally obnoxious which were hurried through the House, and the fate of that building is a sufficient proof of popular opinion on that subject, and if these colonies are lost to the British Crown, on the present Ministry, with Lord Elgin at their head, will rest the blame. On their accession to office they found us loyal, but their ruinous policy, sanctioned as it has been by the Imperial Government, is the cause of the present outcry for annexation. We cannot continue as we are at present—it is impossible. Reciprocity with the United States on fair and equitable terms, is the only remedy for our present grievances, that, or annexation will surely follow.

We are not anti-protectionists—we would like to see every one of our domestic manufactures protected and encouraged, for Canada possesses all the resources and capabilities requisite, but our fishery should be specially protected. A few enterprising individuals in Gaspe have embarked their capital in the Whale fishery of the place—can they compete, under the present tariff with the Whale fishery of Labrador, where no duties are collected?—can the Gaspe Cod-fish merchant, burdened with heavy duties, sell in foreign market as cheap as the American or French merchant?—Or, if free trade with the United States were granted to-morrow, could we fit our fishing vessels to contend with them? Articles used in their fisheries are exempted from duties; ours are heavily taxed—their vessels, fishing on our coast, receive bounties and encouragement, but onerous imposts are levied on our own.

RAILWAYS.

Never, perhaps, was the old, quaint phrase of "great cry and little wool," more fully realized than it has been in this Province with respect to the establishment of Railroads. It occupied the grave consideration of the leading members of government; engaged the undivided attention of our legislature at its last session for weeks; and learned and honorable members spoke long and eloquently on the practicability of their favourite schemes, and the incalculable advantages which would result from their adoption; public meetings were held in various Counties, at which unusual unanimity prevailed, and resolutions passed, shewing that the hearts of the people were engaged in the work: but a few months have passed away and the eloquence of members is forgotten, or if alluded to at all, looked upon

"As a tale told by an idiot,
Full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing."

Public enthusiasm, like the courage of Bob Acres, has oozed away, and the subject now is seldom mentioned.

Such however, we are sorry to say, has been the case with almost every scheme proposed for the general advantage of the Province. The failures have principally had their foundation in the petty local

feelings of the members of the Assembly, who have each endeavoured to obtain for his County a participation in the schemes proposed, whether practicable or otherwise, and if this could not be accomplished, he opposed them; and like the dog in the manger, because his constituents were not to be benefitted, he used his exertions to prevent others from obtaining them.

Our Saint Andrews neighbours, it appears from the annexed paragraph copied from the Fredericton Reporter, have done something more than talk—they have put their shoulders to the wheel, and called on others for assistance, which has been afforded them. They deserve success, and we sincerely hope they will be enabled to complete their undertaking, and that it may prove advantageous to that section of the Province, and remunerative to the shareholders.

Our St Andrews' exchanges gives us to understand that they have got their railway matters in a fair train for a successful continuance or their work, and that it is no longer a doubtful project, but a fixed and determined undertaking. If so, we congratulate our Charlotte neighbors upon their long perseverance in the face of the most discouraging circumstances; and when hereafter they shall have directed the trade of the Province to their own doors, and consequently from St John, we shall not fail to notice the difference between a community of workers and one of mere talkers, such as St. John. In the mad scheme of the people of St. John, to get the monopoly of a vast outlay of money through the mere erection of a railway to Shediac, instead of Woodstock, they will find too late that they have overreached themselves. They have however at the present a straw to amuse them, and until they have worn it out, it would be a folly to attempt pointing them to the reasonable resources of internal improvement, upon which alone rest the peace and prosperity of their city.

CANADA.—The papers report the gratifying intelligence that that fatal scourge the Cholera had totally disappeared from Quebec. A fire occurred in that city on the morning of the 22nd ult. The entire square bounded by St. Francois street on the west, and Des Grison's street on the east, was consumed, as well as some houses on the opposite side of the last named street. The property destroyed is reported to be immense, and the insurance is said to amount from £20,000 to £30,000. Fears are entertained that it was the work of an incendiary.

Cholera has also disappeared from Montreal, where the Board has ceased publishing their daily reports. The rot has appeared in the potatoes in the vicinity of the last named city.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The steamer America arrived at Halifax on the morning of Tuesday last. Our papers are to the 15th ult. from which we have gleaned a variety of extracts.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—It gives us much pleasure to copy the following cheering account regarding the harvest, from the Fredericton Reporter of the 21st ult:—

After four years of partially fruitless labor our country is this season blessed with one of the most abundant harvests ever reaped in New Brunswick, with the finest imaginable time to secure it. At a time when the various species of produce vie with each other in quality and quantity, it would be impossible to single out any in particular, as exceeding the rest; but we have heard that the buckwheat crop alone, will yield more bread in the country this year, than all the others, taken together have done in any year since 1845.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

NORTHUMBERLAND DIVISION, No. 37, Sons of Temperance. Officers elect for quarter commencing October:—

James Forth, W. P.; Thomas Weatherlay, W. A.; Alexander Loudoun, R. S.; John M. Johnson, Jun., A. R. S.; James Caie, F. S.; John Mackie, T.; Robert L. Thomas, C.; W. Forbes, A. C.; George B. Bell, I. S.; George Smith, O. S. Sydney P. Fayle takes the chair of the P. W. R.

CALEDONIAN DIVISION, No. 41, Sons of Temperance, Douglastown. Officers elect for the quarter commencing October:—

Alex. McKillop, W. P.; John Anderson, W. A.; Arthur Herbertson, R. S.; Wm. Porter, A. R. S.; Alex. Campbell, F. S.; Wm. Stewart, T.; Robert Edgar, C.; Wm. Power, A. C.; Nicholas Lyle, I. S.; John McCosh, O. S.