

er, by the valley of the Rawdon River, where it joins the line from Dartmouth.
Between the north end of Fletcher's Lake and the point where the line will strike the Grand Shubenacadie Lake, are three ridges projecting into the Lake, which will require to be cut through; the two next the Grand Lake being about thirty feet deep. Thence it follows the shore of the Grand Lake for about three quarters of a mile. The high land comes out close on the Lake, but the water is shallow.
Leaving the Lake shore at the 17 1/2 mile, it crosses to the west shore of the Gaspereau Lake. There is a low ridge between the two which will require cutting.
It will be necessary to carry the line along the shallow water on the west shore of the Gaspereau Lake, leaving which it again strikes the shores of the Grand Lake at Sandy Cove, and follows it for half a mile to the outlet of the Shubenacadie River, which flows into the Bay of Fundy.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

From the Fredericton Reporter.
Yesterday, the Sons of Temperance of this city, and several from the neighboring divisions, had a grand display in their regalia. The procession commenced at the Temperance Hall, and drove round the town for upwards of an hour. There never was such an imposing display in Fredericton. The first conveyance was drawn by ten white horses, after which fifty Teams, all loaded with 'Sons' moved in procession. The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, now holding their quarterly Session here, were accommodated on the great team, and must have felt justly proud of their position, as the original Pioneers of the Order. The whole procession was placed under the superintendance of Mr. Alexander T. Miller, as Grand Marshal; and we believe his arrangements were excellent. Not the least imposing part of the display, was the appearance of the Cadets in their neat costume; the perfect pictures of health, hope, and happiness.
In the evening, an excellent dinner, under the superintendance of Captain Barker, of the New Brunswick, was given in the Temperance Hall, in honor of the Grand Division. Upwards of one hundred and six Sons, and other gentlemen, partook of this repast. The most perfect good nature prevailed throughout; and several good speeches were delivered on the occasion.
A day or two ago we took a short drive to examine the vicinity of the iron ore in Kingsclear, about six miles from this city. The spot which we particularly examined, and from which we procured specimens, now to be seen at this office, is on the farm owned by Messrs John and James Sutherland, on the verge of the river, where there is also a fine bed of clay, with lime stone and its vicinity. The ore is said to extend far and wide throughout the settlement, and appears to us to be precisely of the same character with that, now in course of preparation near Woodstock. This notice will, we hope, induce men of capital, who know the true value of the discovery in this convenient section of the country, to call and examine for themselves.

St. John Observer, Feb. 6.

Loss of H. M. Brig Mutine.—H. M. brig Mutine, commander Palmer, was totally lost near Venice, in the Adriatic, on the 21st December. The ship's company were fortunately all saved except five persons. The Mutine was the second of five experimental brigs recently built by the British Government,—one, the Ospray, we think, having been previously lost on the coast of Africa.

St. John Morning News, Feb. 5.

Retrenchment in Fredericton.—We are happy to find that so many of the "old school" members are in favor of a reduction in official salaries. Mr. End on Wednesday, spoke of the "salaries" as atrocious; while Dr. Earle stated that "it was absolutely necessary that the hundreds and thousands of the officials should be reduced to a standard suitable to the resources of the province." Mr. Brown (whom we rank among the Liberals, and as a man of uncommon sense) stated "he had always thought that £300 per annum was a handsome allowance for a public officer, and he rejoiced to think that his opinions would now be responded to."—Mr. Brown is perfectly correct, considering the population of the Province. But we are rather afraid that such a material reduction could not very easily be made all at once, owing to the long standing of the extravagant system. If we can obtain a reduction of 30 or 40 per cent. on the present monstrous salaries, we shall do very well for a beginning. Mr R. D.

Wilmot deserves the thanks of the community for moving in this matter; and Mr. Ritchie is entitled to our best thanks for taking up the subject of Printing.—Hon. Mr. Partelow was of the same way of thinking as Mr. Ritchie. There is no man in the Assembly we feel more pleased to record any thing good in his favor than the Provincial Secretary; and we only trust that he will aim to deserve the good opinions of this paper, and we shall not be backward to express them. This gentleman promises the Government to economise in the expenditure of the road money. Upon the road Committee being moved by hon. Mr. P., Mr. Wark rose and said he hoped that that Committee would not longer be compelled to act in the dark and carry on the old method of recommending Grants, which in their rejection by the House, must afterwards be a source of great mortification to the movers.—He would therefore wish to see the Government take this duty upon themselves. Mr. Partelow stated that the Government would do this.

Bankrupt Bill.—We understand that it is Mr. Ritchie's intention of having this Bill brought up this winter, with a view to its modification. We earnestly trust that Mr. Ritchie (whom we have great confidence in, as a man of principle and honor, to do every thing that is right,) will so alter this law as to make it more acceptable to the creditor; for, as we understand it, this is one of the most iniquitous laws that ever was enacted; the Bankrupt being able to fail with his pockets full of money (so it is said;) while the poor creditor must pocket the consequences.

Canada.

Quebec Gazette, Feb. 5.

James Wylie, Esq., of Ramsay, Canada West, and Samuel Mills, Esq., of the City of Hamilton, have been called to the Legislative Council.

The St. Lawrence, opposite Quebec, has been, since yesterday morning, bridged with a clear sheet of ice, covering the whole basin, and which will afford a glorious field to the lovers of skating, trotting, &c.

United States News.

From the Boston Daily Advertiser.

For California.—The New York Herald gives a table of the vessels which have sailed from the different ports in this country, up to this date, with passengers for California, of which the following is a recapitulation:

For San Francisco direct in 80 vessels,	4,476
Via the San Juan in one vessel,	2
Via Vera Cruz in two vessels,	215
Via the Brazos in two vessels,	219
Via Chagres in 14 vessels,	807

Total thus far for 90 vessels, 5,719

From the Honolulu Friend, we learn that twenty vessels, amounting to 2,700 tons, have sailed from the Sandwich Islands for California, and seven more are advertised to follow.

The Golden Valley of California is five hundred miles long and fifty miles broad—about as large as all Ireland.

From the New York Express.

Mortality on Shipboard.—The British bark Thames arrived here yesterday morning after the long passage of sixty eight days from Liverpool, with three hundred and thirteen passengers, seventy six or whom are sick with ship fever, and three died on the passage; the sick were all landed at the quarantine dock, and the majority of them were so feeble that the doctors found it necessary to have stimulating drinks given to them as they were taken ashore. They were covered with filth and vermin, with scarcely any clothing. The mate of the Thames was conveyed to the hospital in a dying state, and the captain was also very sick. Dr Harris states that there are now over seven hundred sick in the hospitals at Quarantine, and laying two in a bed, and that this increase of seventy six will make it very difficult to find accommodations such as the sick require.

St. John Observer, Feb. 6.

Snow in the Gold Region.—The New York Herald publishes a letter, dated at Mazatlan, Dec. 20th, which purports to bring the very latest news from Mexico. We copy the only sentence which differs materially from the stories heretofore received:

The latest dates from California, arrived here by the schooner Buro, are equally flattering in relation to the gold region.

The washings had ceased, owing to the cold weather, and the whole region was covered a foot deep with snow. Some parties had built log cabins, and intended to pass the winter on the spot.

The Mormons declare that the discovery of the Gold Mines in California, is the result of their selection of that country for their abode. In other words, they consider it a special interposition of Providence in their behalf.

The Politician.

The Colonial Press.

St John Morning News, Feb. 5.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency's Speech is now before us—it is a last-day-January production, cold in some things, but in others a little warm, affording a glimmer of sunshine, and leading us to believe that however frigid the materials of which the Executive Government are composed, they are not altogether frozen up—nay, there is some probability that we shall be able to dig them out during the February thaw. The speech is well written, as if the pen had been guided by a master spirit. It does not pledge itself to anything definitely; and we do not know that this is *unparliamentary*, as the Queen's speech very seldom contains any thing tangible enough to produce a shadow of the substance behind it.—The Governor's speech of Nova Scotia, was equally vague. But the Governor General foreshadowed in his, what sort of measures the house might be prepared to expect. There is one remark, however, in Sir Edmund's address, which amounts to a volume, when he says 'the members of my Government will be ready to lead the way, and I, as Her Majesty's Representative, shall at all times be happy to co-operate with you in such measures.' *Be ready to lead the way.* Now this is something like business. Let the Government lead the way and introduce good measures, and they will find us on their side of the House. Hon. Mr. Wilmot has already stepped upon Constitutional ground in reference to the practice of moving in reply to the speech. Mr. Wilmot has spoken in favor of our Shediac Railroad, in common with the great trunk line. Success to him. His Excellency seems to think that our brightest prospects, will be in the development of the Provincial resources by means of rail roads. We perfectly agree with him in this. There is also to be an improved system in the disposal of Crown Lands, with the view to the encouragement of a better class of emigrants; and the Executive council have prepared a report on this subject. There is wisdom in this movement. Encourage population by some means. We have a fine country, good soil and climate, and plenty of rivers; we only want the talents of the Government and the Legislature to raise the Province from its present wretched condition. If we had not such resources then we could not hope for a change; but having a sound and healthy body, full of blood and vigor, nothing can prevent its growing into maturity and strength if the proper means be applied.

We are happy to find that the Government have taken the Province into their hands, and we shall expect a cure before long. The days of quackery and humbug died last Spring (we hope so at least) when the Session of 1848 broke up. It seems by His Excellency's Speech that a portion of the £13,000, expended on account of the disabled emigrants in 1847, has been received. Well, we are glad of this—and hope the balance may be forthcoming soon.—But here is a very important passage: "Certain Despatches from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, relating to the Public Expenditure in this Province, and the mode in which the Duties for the purpose of raising a Revenue should be imposed, will be placed before you."

This no doubt has reference to the initiation of the money grants, and the imposition of duties. Now we would advise the Government to prepare a measure of their own, and ask the Assembly to yield this principle up into the hands of the Government; and they may rest assured that they will be backed by the Press and the people throughout the Province. We should look upon this as a most valuable Government measure—one in fact, which would secure for them a vast deal of confidence. The present system is one that lies at the root of all our troubles. Let the Government demand the initiation of the money grants as a *Constitutional* right! What says Mr. Wilmot to this? We shall look forward with a great deal of interest to the proceedings of this winter; and our read-

ers must keep the run of them if they wish to understand 'how fares the world' at Fredericton. The present Government have our best wishes for their success.—Let them but do their duty, and we are theirs—failing in this they are ours, and we must oppose them. Who knows but we shall have something to rejoice over in their measure, before an end of the Session, much as we dislike some of their members? We would like them if we could. We feel towards them very much like Colonel Damas after fighting with Claude Melnott, the Colonel thought he got better acquainted with his adversary after fighting him, and felt more inclined to like him on that account. Feeling this way we hope the Government will try and keep on the right side of the Press: and this they can do by keeping on the right side of the country.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

Arrival of the Steamer Niagara.

The Steamer Niagara, in a passage of 13 days, arrived at Halifax about noon, on Friday last. The mail by her reached our post office yesterday afternoon. The papers thus obtained are to the 27th, and the accounts they furnish of the state of trade, commerce, &c. of the old country are very cheering.

Parliament was to have been opened by the Queen in person, on the 1st instant.

We give a very comprehensive summary of the news, copied from Willmer and Smith's European Times.

The progress of the Cholera, on account of its alarming appearance in the United States, and the loss of life which has taken place amongst the children who were attacked with the malady at Tooting, near London, is now watched with undiminished anxiety. Its ravages have not, however, been more extensive during the last fortnight. The total number of cases reported up to Wednesday last were 8854; whereof 3961 had proved fatal, 2116 had recovered, and 2775 were under treatment, or the result was not stated. Within the entire scope of the limits of the Registrar-General, including Scotland, the new cases which appear daily fluctuate between about 160 and 200, whereof from 10 to 20 may happen about the metropolis, the provinces furnish about the same average, whilst the residue appear to be embraced within the confines of Scotland. The weekly deaths from Cholera within the metropolitan district hover about 62. The general health of that district has improved during the last week, the deaths being 103 less than the previous one, but still leaving an excess of 176 above the weekly average of the last five years. The inquest which was empanelled to inquire into the cause of the deaths of the children, who perished from having contracted the malady at Tooting, has brought in a verdict of manslaughter against the proprietor of the establishment, who "tarmed" the pauper children of various parishes in London, and he stands committed for trial. From the evidence taken little doubt can be entertained but that cold, insufficient clothing, want of clothing, and a deficient dietary, were the predisposing causes to the malady which proved so destructive to the innocent victims who were swept away in a few days. No sooner were the survivors removed, and properly clothed and fed, than the malady disappeared. The intelligence brought by the last packet from the United States of the alarming mortality in New Orleans and elsewhere, from this scourge, has excited the deepest interest and sympathy; and the next accounts are looked for with great anxiety.

The Bank of England accounts present the usual features which generally mark the period of the payment of the dividends. There is an increase of circulation with a small decrease of bullion. Money has become more abundant, and the chief brokers refuse to take deposits at call at 1 1/2 per cent.; discounts of the best bills are not higher than two per cent. We may mention here that the agents in London of all United States contractors have disposed of all the stock of the United States 6 per cent. loan, the last sales being effected at 103. The stock has since been sold at one or two per cent. advance. The bank of France has resumed payment in specie of its notes under 500 francs. Its published account do not, however, furnish any proof of the increase of trade in Paris. The decrease of commercial bills is enormous, the whole amount remaining in the portfolio of the institution being about 65 millions, not more than one-third the amount usually in hand at this period of the year. The stock of bullion, however, still goes on increasing; and it is currently reported that the bank intends shortly to resume payment of all its notes in specie. The Californian gold seeking mania has extended to the continent of Europe, and in the ports of Germany and Denmark there are already vessels fitting out for the conveyance of adventurers to the auriferous region. The English Journals are still crowded with advertisements of vessels loading, enterprises organising, and joint stock companies forming—all set in motion by the continued favorable reports from the United States of the marvellous riches of the new discovery.

The ratification of the Postal convention be-