

divided on Mr Barberie's motion to let Newspapers printed in the Province go free. For the motion, 15; against it, 19. The yeas were—Messrs Reed, Landry, End, Jordan, Montgomery, Connell, Barberie, Wilson, Ritchie, J. Earle, Woodward, Fisher, Brown, McLeod and Hayward.

Mr Carman moved that all newspapers sent to Editors and Publishers in this Province be exempt from postage. The motion was not seconded, and of course it was lost.

Mr Brown's motion for reducing the salary of the Postmaster General to three hundred pounds was then put and lost. Yeas—Messrs Steves, Ansley, Barberie, Landry, Connell, J. Earle, Hayward, Miles, Gilbert, Wark, Cranny, Tibbits and Brown.

The Attorney General then commenced with the salaries of the different Postmasters throughout the country, which caused a regular scrambling in all quarters. It would take a dozen reporters and Dublin lawyers to record half that was said. Every hon Member was strictly economical, so far as all the post offices out of his own county were concerned; but as soon as his favorite office was named, O, that was different from any of the others. The duties were more arduous and a host of reasons were assigned for increasing the salary. However, on the whole, there was not much gained. The Attorney General proved himself a good fence and general, and he managed to keep them at bay, though he was besieged by a dozen at once. One hon member, (Dr Wilson) fought it ought bravely, and would not surrender on any terms until he got five pounds added to his postmaster's salary. I cannot say how many more were successful; but had their been a bolder and more determined front kept, some of the postmasters would likely have a few pounds more.

The hon. Attorney General thought that Queen's County ought to be made an exception from the general rule and the office put up at auction.

The Bill passed with the proviso, that it may be further altered or amended during the present session.

A proposition was made to make the salary of the head clerk in the post office at Fredericton equal to that of the head clerk in Saint John, on the ground that the clerk of the one office had as much to do as the clerk of the other.

Hon. Mr Partelow said it was absurd to compare the duties of the clerk at Fredericton with those of the clerk of St John. For one letter delivered in Fredericton, there were 150 delivered in Saint John. The House adjourned.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1850.

REPORT ON THE GULF AND RIVER FISHERIES,

BY MOSES H. PERLEY, GOVERNMENT EMIGRANT AGENT, ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of this gentleman's Report, handed us by Edward Williston, Esquire. It will be remembered that Mr Perley arrived here in August last, having been appointed by the Executive Government to prosecute certain enquiries respecting the Fisheries on the Gulf shore of this Province, and obtain information as to the mode of conducting the Fisheries; the description of nets, lines, and tackle now employed, in order that improvements might be introduced; the mode of curing and packing the several descriptions of Fish, with the view of ascertaining, if any, and what defects exist in these particulars; the proper season of such fishery, and whether fish are not taken out of season, and valueless; the extent of injury to the fisheries by taking Herring, Capelin, &c, &c, for manure; the extent to which the Fisheries in the Gulf are prosecuted by foreigners, and their encroachments; and the destruction of fish in Rivers by illegal modes of fishing. These are a few of the duties that devolved upon him. From personal observation and from general rumor, Mr Perley entered upon the duties with assiduity, and was unremitting in his endeavors to fulfil the various important objects entrusted to him by the Government, and we are well assured that he used every exertion to collect accurate information, and from the learned gentleman's industry and business habits, we felt a strong assurance that he would collect a mass of accurate and practical information which would be highly beneficial to the Government, and be the basis whereon the Government would be enabled to found and bring forward measures

to develop the resources of this long neglected branch of industry, individual property, and provincial wealth. The Report now before us is the result of Mr Perley's labors, and which has been laid before the House of Assembly by command of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and ordered by the House to be printed. We have given the Report such a perusal as our time will at present admit of, and from what we have already gleaned, recommend it strongly to our patrons, and can assure them it will amply repay a careful and attentive perusal. A great amount of valuable information has been collected, and which, we would fair hope, may be turned to profitable account; and that such wholesome laws may be adopted as will protect the Fisheries (River and Gulf) from total annihilation, and stimulate the inhabitants to greater exertions in the prosecution of this hitherto neglected branch of trade and enterprise. Our gulf, it would appear, swarm with a great variety of fish, and enterprise is only required to prosecute the business successfully. Our inhabitants appear to be sleeping on in listlessness and indifference, while the Americans, regardless of the distance, are annually entering our Gulf, and carrying this source of wealth from our very doors; on this point alone, the facts collected by Mr Perley are truly startling. We shall copy in our paper as large a portion of this valuable report, as our space will admit of, and we ask for it an attentive perusal. We have often alluded to our Fisheries, and the total disregard of the people to their value, and we sincerely trust that some of our merchants and young men in this and the adjoining counties will, from a perusal of the extracts, be induced to turn their attention to the fisheries, and prosecute them with energy. Can we so totally disregard our best interests as to permit the Americans to carry away our fish, and amass wealth? Can we be so blind as to allow Messrs. Robin, and others from Jersey to enjoy the trade, accumulate fortunes, and retire with the proceeds from this Province without any sort of advantage to it? and we remain idle spectators, or grovel in the ruinous Lumber Trade. It is impossible! Our Agriculture is now assuming a decided improvement, and we trust the approaching spring will witness our young men engaging in the fisheries with persevering industry, which, with a proper attention to agriculture, will lay the basis of our future prosperity, without being subjected to the ruinous fluctuations of the wood trade.

COUNTY OF KENT.

At a Public Meeting, called in pursuance of a requisition to the High Sheriff, for that purpose, held on Monday, the 25th inst., at the Court House, to consider the propriety of forming an Agricultural Society in this County. The High Sheriff being called to the Chair, On motion of John Layton, Esq., Mr Robert Hutchison was requested to act as Secretary to the meeting. David McAlman, Esq., then rose and addressed the meeting on the advantages which flow to a country from the harmonious action of Agricultural Societies, and expressing his regret that the community had permitted a year to elapse without taking advantage of the generous offer of the Legislature, submitted the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr John Carruthers:

Whereas, a due regard to the interests of Agriculture lies at the foundation of national prosperity; and whereas the state of agriculture in this county suffers greatly in comparison with other counties, (which is the more to be regretted, as the nature of our soil and the industry of its tillers point to far different results); and whereas, the institution of Agricultural Societies, when unanimously conducted, have been found most efficient means for remedying the disadvantages under which farmers labor, particularly in young countries:—

Therefore, Resolved, as the opinion of this meeting, that it is desirable for the people of this County to form an Agricultural Society.

John Layton, Esq., then addressed the meeting, on the necessity of the introduc-

tion and diffusion of agricultural knowledge, and the facility which an Agricultural Society offers for that purpose, by setting apart some of the funds for the purchase of an Agricultural Library, and by exchanging the reports of its proceedings with the various English, Scotch, Irish and United States Agricultural Societies for theirs. He further alluded to the advantage to be derived from monthly meetings of the members of Agricultural Societies, in the exchange of Books and the discussion of agricultural topics previously agreed upon. The necessity of an improved breed of cattle of the thorough-bred Ayrshire stock, was next discussed, and an outline of the rules of Agricultural Societies presented to the meeting, when the following resolution was submitted, and seconded by Mr Jas. McDermott, who also forcibly urged on the meeting the utility of Agricultural Societies, and particularly Agricultural Schools.

Whereas, the science of Agriculture is not in that thriving and prosperous condition, which, in the opinion of this meeting, it might attain to in this county considering its capabilities in climate and soil, and the industry and perseverance of its yeomanry; and whereas the great obstacle to the improvement in the breeding of superior cattle, and the introduction of a better mode of tillage, with the diffusion of Agricultural knowledge, is mainly to be attributed to the want of capital; and whereas, the Legislature in its wisdom, has offered large premiums for the establishment of Agricultural Societies, this meeting is of opinion that the establishment of such a society in this county might do much to supply that great want; and whereas, Agriculture is the real basis of all internal improvement, and is a science in which all may join, and go hand in hand and vie with each other in the onward march of improvement, and in which the success of one individual does not militate against his neighbor, but rather stimulate him to "go and do likewise."

Therefore, Resolved, that we immediately proceed to the formation a society under the name and title of the "Kent Agricultural Society," and that a subscription list be forthwith opened for that purpose.

The sum of £36 10s was then subscribed, which, considering the state of the roads and the weather, must be considered a very gratifying result, and expressive of the interest felt in the matter.

On motion of Mr Layton, the High Sheriff then left the chair, and Mr Wm. Doherty was called thereto, when the thanks of the meeting were presented to that gentleman for his dignified and impartial conduct in presiding over the meeting, and in preserving order.

A subsequent meeting of the subscribers took place for the formation of rules and election of officers, when the following officers were chosen:

- President—John G. Layton, Esq.
Vice Presidents—Messrs David McAlman and John Carruthers.
Recording Secretary—Mr Joseph C. Wheten.
Corresponding Secretary—Mr Charles W. Weldon.
Treasurer—Wm. Bowser, Esq.

The following gentlemen were then appointed Directors with the officers:

- S. B. Hetherington, James Long, W. Doherty, Jonathan Dickinson, James Johnston, Thomas Graham, Wm. Prait, John Power, and Hon. J. W. Weldon.

On motion of Mr James, Resolved, that the Secretary send a Report of the proceedings to the Gleaner, and to a St. John paper for insertion.

ROBT. HUTCHINSON, Secretary to the Meeting. Richibucto, March 26, 1850.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

We continue to devote a large space to Legislative matters. The letter of our Correspondent which we annex, came to hand on Saturday last, in what Post office it rested on its way we cannot pretend to say. Our post mark is dated March 30, Fredericton March 22.

FREDERICTON, March 22, 1850. Dear Pierce,—I have scarcely anything to communicate worth your attention. On Monday the House were in Committee on the State of the Province, and have not since taken up that important subject. They have sent home a Petition praying that means may be adopted to induce the American Government to allow our Ships to be registered in their ports.

A Bill has passed the House for regulating the Post Office, and fixing the salaries of the several Postmasters. The Postmaster General's salary was reduced from £600 to £400; and it was generally thought that the services of a Surveyor might be dispensed with. The

salary of the Postmaster at Chatham was fixed at £100; Newcastle, £45; Richibucto £30; Bathurst £35; Dalhousie £30; Campbellton £20. All letters of half an ounce \$3., Newspapers 3d.

A Bill has passed the House, altering the scale of the Road Work. Clergymen and Schoolmasters to work two days, laborers four days; all other persons four days, with an addition of one day for every £25 salary, and one day for every £100 of property, not to exceed sixty days. To work in person, or substitute, or pay 1s. 3d. a day.

Saturday Mr Street and Mr Rankin presented several petitions, praying that the Fishery Bill may pass. Do they know that this Bill contains a clause authorising the Sessions to appoint an Inspector of Fisheries, and to throw them out of the County funds. In this, and all other matters, the good people of Chatham appear to be divided, as some have petitioned that the Bill may pass, and others that it be not.

I do not think the Bill now necessary, as the Bill passed this Session puts the power in the Sessions to make regulations relative to the Fishery in the several Counties.

Yeas, Both Branches of the Legislature have agreed to forward the following Petition to Her Majesty. The subject on which it treats is an important one.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The humble Address of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY—The Legislative Council and Assembly of your Majesty's Province of New Brunswick beg leave to approach your Majesty with renewed assurances of our attachment to your Majesty's person and government.

The occasion of this, our Address, is of vital importance to the interests of your Majesty's devoted subjects in these Colonies. The recent modifications of the British Navigation Laws having admitted Foreign built ships to the British Registry, we would earnestly and respectfully press upon your Majesty's consideration the absolute necessity of obtaining in turn from the United States such a relaxation of their Navigation Laws as will admit Colonial built Ships to Registry in that country on their becoming the property of citizens thereof. Such reciprocity as this would greatly encourage the exertions of your Majesty's subjects in these Colonies, by opening up to them a wide field for industrial competition in Architecture, and thereby conduce to the maintenance of a most valuable branch of domestic manufactures.

Believing as we do that the United States will readily avail themselves of all the advantages thus conceded by the Imperial Parliament without admitting British Ships to receive privileges, we are desirous of having the Colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland placed on the footing of a coasting trade, if by such arrangement no foreign vessel will be allowed to carry freight or passengers from one port to another of such possessions; and as we are induced to believe from the provisions of the section of the 29th chap. of the Act passed at the last session of the Imperial Parliament that if the Legislatures of any two or more possessions wish for the purpose of that your Majesty in Council shall declare to neighboring possessions, that present access to your Majesty, praying that the trade between them shall be placed on the footing of coasting trade or of otherwise regulating the same, so far as relates to the vessels in which it is to be carried on, Your Majesty may order in Council, so to authorize the conveyance of such goods or passengers, or so regulate the trade between them, on such terms and under such conditions, in either case, as to your Majesty may seem good.

We, therefore, most humbly and respectfully pray your Majesty to order and allow the trade between this Province and Canada, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland may be placed on the footing of Coasting trade, so that the conveyance of goods and passengers from place to place may be confined wholly to British vessels until such time as the Government of the United States shall permit vessels of that Possession to a free participation in the coasting trade of that country.

The Morning News makes the following interesting comments on the debate on the State of the Province:—

We publish with much pleasure—to the conclusion of a great deal of previously published matter—the whole of Mr Ritchie's excellent speech upon Mr Wark's Resolutions. The only speech that comes up the idea of the Population of this Province; although it is just as sensible of the discontentment which prevails, and the necessity for something to be done, as Mr Ritchie, only none of them the manliness to speak out. Mr Brown, Mr Street, both deny that we have any fault to find with the treatment of the Imperial Government—while Mr Partelow tells us he has known the times in St. John, to be as bad as they are now, and prosperity has often succeeded. These obstructive measures ever fail to tell the people what it is to prove the times, since the trade of the