

100 Tax Payers are equally in the dark with himself, his proper course, I think, would be to call a meeting of these Tax Payers, in some convenient place, when, if due notice be given, the Overseers will attend and be prepared to enlighten his dark understanding, unless he proves, as I consider him, wilfully dark and grossly prejudiced. With these remarks, I take leave of "Tax Payer," or any other anonymous writer on that subject.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
RICHARD SUTTON,
One of the Overseers of Poor, Nelson Parish.
March 15, 1859.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1850.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.—The Southern Mail which was due on Friday week, did not reach Chatham until about noon on Wednesday, after we went to press; and the Monday's Mail came in on Friday about one o'clock. By the latter we obtained our files of British papers to the 23d February. The steamer Canada arrived at Halifax on the evening of Saturday. The news she brings is not important. Nothing of startling interest has transpired on the Continent, and the doings of Parliament afford no matter of interest to Colonists. From *Willmer & Smith's European Times* we have copied a summary of the news, to which we refer our readers for particulars.

In speaking of the Timber Trade of Liverpool, the editor of that paper remarks:—

Prices remain very low, and the consumption is on the increase; as soon as the weather opens more business will be done.

COUNTY OF KENT.—We are glad to perceive that the inhabitants of this county have at length taken a step towards the formation of an Agricultural Society. In our columns to-day will be found a Requisition to the High Sheriff, numerously and respectfully signed, requesting him to call a public meeting on the 25th instant, to take the subject into consideration, and among our communications will be found a letter from a 'Yeoman of Kent,' pointing out the necessity of such a society. We hope the meeting will bring forth good fruit, that a permanent and well organized Society may be immediately formed, and that its effects may be as beneficial as those which follow the operations of the Societies of Northumberland, Gloucester and Kent. We would urge the Yeomanry more especially, to give it their countenance and support.

NOVASCOTIA.—A number of important measures have recently been brought before the Legislature of our sister Province. In the first page will be found a string of Resolutions of a grave character, which was brought in by the Hon. Mr Johnston.

On Wednesday week the Hon Mr Morton submitted for the consideration of the Upper House the following Resolutions:

Whereas, By the introduction of Responsible Government into this Province, the present constitution of the Legislative Council has become unsuited to the state of the Country; and the mode of appointment to it by the Provincial Government of their partisans, is calculated to render it either a mere reflex of the sentiments of the House of Assembly when their party is in power, or an obstruction to that branch of the Legislature when they are in the minority:

And whereas, At present but little sympathy exists between the Legislative Council and the people;

Be it resolved, That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying her to remodel the Legislative Council, and to confer on the people the privilege of electing its own members, and thus at all times to ensure their harmonious co-operation with the House of Assembly.

Last week we published a series of Resolutions introduced into the lower branch, with reference to a reciprocal trade with the United States. The Recorder gives the following brief account

of the action of the House on the same:

They have been debated at some length in the Assembly, and have met rather a favourable reception in that body. Mr Freeman moved an amendment to reserve the Fisheries from the operation of any treaty to be entered into. Mr Marshall opposed them altogether, although he was not apprehensive of any practical injury to be sustained by them passing, for he was quite sure the Americans would not reciprocate with so poor and small a colony. Hon. Provincial Secretary, Attorney General, Young, Johnston, Fraser, and Killam, took active parts in the debate.

Yesterday, Mr Freeman's amendment—that nothing in the resolutions should extend to permit citizens of the United States to catch fish within the prescribed limits of the coasts of this Province—was negatively 11 to 24. The original resolution then passed 38 to 8. The second passed unanimously, but on the 3rd being moved, hon. Mr Johnston moved an amendment, to restrict the opening of our coasting trade, unless the Americans should open theirs to us. The house divided, and the amendment was rejected 28 to 17. The 3rd resolution then passed 29 to 16.

GASPE.—Last week we briefly alluded to the exertions now being made in this district of Canada to effect a Steam Communication with Quebec. The *Gazette* which came to hand on Saturday contains a long editorial on this subject, from which we take the following extracts:—

We publish in another column a letter on 'inter colonial communication,' a perusal of which we recommend.

We are happy to find that this important subject is at length beginning to excite public attention. We urgently entreat all who are sincerely anxious for the prosperity of Gaspé, to come forward and exert themselves and try what can be done in the matter, either in establishing a boat ourselves, or inducing others to do so. Let us no longer be content to live in an unknown country, for Gaspé is a terra incognita to many, even to our friends in Quebec. It is idle to say we cannot accomplish it; we can. Let us begin and success will crown the attempt. Thousands of visitors will flock to our healthy coast, as a place of summer residence. Our society will be improved, our property enhanced in value, our farmers will have opportunities to improve their breed of cattle and dispose of their surplus produce. Superior Schools will be supported, and money will circulate amongst us.

We have forwarded a few blank forms to some gentlemen in the various townships of Gaspé, requesting them to use their influence to procure the names of those persons who are willing to encourage Steamboat communication.

THE SEASON.—The Nova Scotia and New Brunswick papers all speak of the severity of the weather since the present month set in. Large quantities of snow have fallen in both Provinces, and the roads are reported to be in a wretched condition.

The Fredericton Mail.

The Courier with this mail arrived on Sunday night. We copy from the papers thus received, a summary of the proceedings of the Legislature. We perceive that the Revenue bill of last year has been re-enacted. We hesitate not to state, that a more crude, impolitic, and inconsistent law never emanated from a Legislative body. What will our Restigouche friends say to this? will they not demand a reckoning of their representatives that they, at least, did not raise their voices against it.

The Amaranth of Tuesday says—

"On Friday the House went into Committee on the Bill for Incorporating Orange Lodges. The following gentlemen spoke upon the subject, in the order in which they are here set down, viz: Messrs John Earle, Brown, Connell, Attorney General, Wilson, Thomson, and McLeod. Mr Earle confined his remarks chiefly to an explanation of the character and objects of the Society. Mr Brown's speech was an exact copy of that he delivered two years since, with a few slight additions, and a parenthesis introduced at the close of every sentence, in which he labored hard to prove that, upon the former occasion he had been neither unfair nor malignant; but in which he most signally failed. Mr Connell showed the state of society in the Province previous to the spread of Orangism, and the dereliction of duty on the part of public officers, and the orderly state of society wherever Orangism is known. The Hon. Attorney General was very eloquent, very sermonizing, very unjust, very abusive, very flimsy and illogical. Dr Wilson justified the rise and spread of Orangism in Ireland, and showed its good effects there. Dr Thomson took quite a different view of the case, although, if we may judge from his manner, it was scarcely a sober

view. Mr McLeod, in a brief speech, displayed more disgusting ignorance, bigotry, prejudice, virulence and tyranny, than we thought was contained in the whole county of Kings. Progress was reported.

Yesterday the House went into Committee and passed the Revenue Bill. The select committee reported the last year's Bill, and after some discussion the report was sustained by a division of 23 to 10. The opposition consisted of the two extremes—the ultra Free Traders and the high Protectionists."

The Head Quarters of Wednesday reports:—

"The Hon. Mr Fisher's Bill, to tax Wild Lands, passed the lower House yesterday, after a very protracted debate.

"On Monday next, the 18th instant, the House of Assembly go into committee of the whole, on the state of the Province."

NEW BRUNSWICK.—The Head Quarters of Wednesday says:—Yesterday afternoon a message from His Excellency the Lieut. Governor was brought down to the House of Assembly by the Hon. Attorney General, accompanied by two despatches from Earl Grey, which His Excellency had received on that day.

The first despatch, which was read at the Clerk's table settles the question of Fredericton being a free port. Foreign vessels can now come from any part of the world to discharge and load cargoes at this Port and from the tenor of the despatch we cannot help thinking that the inhabitants of this city are deeply indebted to His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, and to his advisers for the prompt and successful action which has been had upon their petition, praying for the boon which has now been granted.

The Fredericton Reporter says, that rumors have been abroad for some time past in that community, to the effect, that the Chief Justice, urged by his many infirmities, intends to give up his commission as such, prior to the next sitting of the Supreme Court, and that either the present Attorney General, or the Hon. E. B. Chandler, will take the seat thus left vacant. We give this as rumor only, but yet as a report which has much strong probability to recommend it.

The Friday's Mail.

The Courier with this mail arrived at noon on Sunday. We glean from the papers some extracts, which we copy below.

The Halifax Sun contains the following letter. It is satisfactory to find that in Britain there are persons who take a lively interest in Colonial matters.

Halifax, 11th March, 1850.

Sir—We beg to hand you a copy of a Pamphlet lately published in London, on the subject of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, and Steam Navigation on the Atlantic.

Several copies have been sent to us for distribution, some of which are yet remaining, and we shall be happy to give a copy to any person feeling an interest in these subjects who may apply for one.

A gentleman who is presumed to be the author, in a letter addressed to us by the last steamer, writes thus:—"If the contents of this pamphlet be thought worth notice, the time for a move to be made here will be when it is likely to be backed up by a stir on your side; and we are informed by another correspondent that there are many capitalists in London who take a deep interest in the Railroad, and are ready to embark in any practical scheme for constructing it which can be suggested.

FAIRBANKS & ALLISON.

On the subject of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, the Church Times has the following paragraph:

We are glad to perceive some indications that the cause of the Halifax and Quebec Railway is not yet despair of. A plan (the most feasible that we have yet seen) which will accomplish the undertaking without bringing any excessive burdens upon the people, or at all affecting the interests of shareholders in the country, except to ensure the general prosperity, has been printed and circulated, and we hope will meet with attention. The character and ability of its projector, entitle it to more than common consideration.

CANADA.—Annexationists were returned at the Municipal election for two wards. There was considerable voting.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—The Observer of Tuesday has the following paragraph on the weather:—

On Thursday and Friday last, we were visited with a North East snow storm of greater duration and severity than has been experienced here for a number of years past. The storm was at its height on Friday, when the snow fell and drifted most furiously with a high cold wind. Travelling in all directions has been since greatly impeded, and the mails detained beyond their usual time of arrival.

NOVASCOTIA.—The Novascotian has the following paragraph on contemplated public improvements:—The long talked of Barracks to be built in the vicinity of Fort Needham, are, it is said, to be erected forthwith. The sum of forty thousand pounds was granted for this service (more than a dozen years since. The locality, Fort Needham, was fixed upon as the site upwards of twenty years ago, by the late Earl Dalhousie, Sir James Kempt,

&c. &c., at a convocation of Colonial Governors held in this city. We understand the works at the citadel will be vigorously pushed towards completion during the present year. They have been in progress about a quarter of a century, and more money has been expended upon what is at best a useless toy, than would have built lines of Railroad from one end of Novascotia to the other! If the enormous sums of money sunk at the citadel, and which have literally perished in the using, had been expended on a work of public utility throughout the Province, a citadel would have been created on every hearthstone in this portion of British America.

The preparations for building a suitable wharf at the Ordnance continue to progress favorably.

The same paper has the following paragraph on the action of the House of Assembly in reference the College question:—This vexed question has been settled for the present, as far as the action of the Assembly goes. The Provincial Secretary's bill, placing £1200 per annum at the disposal of the Executive for two years, for Collegiate and Academical instruction, passed through the final stages yesterday, and was sent to the Legislative Council. Mr Henry's Bill repealing the grant of £444 to King's College, Windsor, was dropped, and a clause incorporating its provisions, added to the Provincial Secretary's bill by way of a Ryder, carried by a large majority. This was a judicious move.

The Legislative Council must now deal with the whole question in one Bill. They cannot take the £1200, and at the same time retain the grant of £444 to Kings, as a goodly number in that body would gladly do. It is true the Council may amend the Bill, but if the majority in the Assembly are firm—and we know they will be, they must take the Bill, the whole Bill and nothing but the Bill.

Monday's Mail.

This mail arrived here this morning. The papers contain little that is new. We copy below a summary of the Legislative proceedings from the Saint John Courier, of Saturday.

Upon the question of continuing the Act for the establishment of the Leprosy Hospital at Tracad, some sparring took place in the Assembly, with reference to the report of Dr. La Billois. It appears by the report of the Hon. J. Davidson, the Secretary to the Leprosy Board, that several of the friends of the Lepers had applied to the Board, for leave to employ Dr. Charles La Billois, formerly a Surgeon in the French Army, who resides in Gaspé, to attend the patients in the Lazaretto. The required permission was given in September last, and Dr. La Billois attended the patients, up to the 15th December, at which time, three of the patients were discharged perfectly cured, and ten others were reported free from disease.

It was finally resolved, that the Hospital establishment should be continued for two years longer, within which time, it is hoped the disease will have been entirely eradicated.

Professor Johnston's report on the Agricultural capabilities of the Province, and Mr Perley's report on the Fisheries, are expected to be issued next week. These will be followed, as soon as possible, by Mr Wilkinson's final report on the Shediac Railway, and the report of Captain Bent, R. E., and Mr John Grant, C. E., on the improvement of the navigation of the river Saint John.

The Session will last some weeks longer, as there is yet much business to be transacted. The Road Committee was expected to sit yesterday, and the Finance Committee to present their report, after which the House will proceed to make the usual grants in Committee of Supply.

It is expected that His Excellency will come down to the Council Chamber this day, to give his assent to the Revenue Bill, the Emigration Bill, and various other Bills which only await his assent to become law.

On Thursday there was so very important business before the House, several Committees having their final sitting preparatory to bringing in their reports. Of these, the Agricultural Committee, and the Fishery Committee, were the chief, and sat several hours. It was understood that the latter committee had agreed to report a bill for a general inspection of all pickled fish, under Government inspection, and also a bill for the protection of the river fisheries. It is said also, that this committee has resolved, unanimously, to report a bill for granting bounties to fishing vessels, as well with regard to the measure itself, as with the view of taking the sense of the Legislature upon the propriety of submitting to the prohibition conveyed in Earl Grey's despatch on bounties, to which there is said to be a general resistance. We shall look for the debate on this question with much interest, as the subject is one of the greatest importance.

Marriages.

At Richibucto, on the 28th February, by the Rev. James Law, A. M., Mr EDWARD WALKER, to Miss ELIZA MCGREGOR, both of the parish of Weldford.

Deaths.

At St. John, on Sunday evening, the 3d instant, ANNE, wife of the Rev. William Donald, Minister of Saint Andrew's Church in that city, aged 31 years, leaving an affectionate husband, three children, and a large circle of friends to deplore their loss.

At Detroit, State of Michigan, on the 2nd instant, MATILDA, wife of Mr J. W. Patton, and second daughter of Mr John Stevens, of South Bay.