

ple of Britain if the opportunity now offered for retaining their commercial supremacy, by the construction of a Railroad from Halifax to the Pacific be adopted without further delay. Neglect this, allow the Americans to carry out Mr Whitney's scheme, and the power and greatness of England will be recorded on the page of history. The supremacy of England is so entirely dependent on commerce that any such success as that anticipated by the Americans, in securing the trade of the East, would probably have the same effect as the shearing of Sampson in days of yore. Bonaparte well knew this; and with hostile tariffs, fleets and armies sought to cripple the trade of the Sea-girt Isle. But what may not be accomplished by physical force, readily yields to the talismanic influences of a judicious application of science and the arts. It has been too long the practice of Englishmen to undervalue the Americans, and in more than one instance the former have been made to pay dearly for their estimate. With intelligence which cannot be overrated, possessing enterprise that has never been surpassed, influenced by ambition knowing no bounds, the Americans are indeed rivals not to be despised, and it will be well for British Statesmen to look narrowly into the progress of events."

The same paper furnishes the following additional news:—

The British Journal received by the Canada, teem with articles on the great question of Colonization and Emigration, and the selection of some port on the west coast of Ireland for a Transatlantic packet station. We have also received several London and Provincial papers which speak in favorable terms of Mr Howe's mission on the Railroad. They all appear to think that something must be done for the North American Colonies, and that right speedily. The Delegate himself writes to the effect that his correspondence will be forthcoming by the next steamer, and that possibly he will come out by the same conveyance. The London Mirror of the Times has a long and able article advocating the claims of the Colonies. We have not room this morning for more than the following paragraph:

"The Honorable Joseph Howe is one of those whom nature has either formed to assist in preserving the great link unbroken, or to appear hereafter in the foremost ranks of independence when it is broken. He will be a British patriot if we permit him. He must cherish, at any rate, the nascent greatness of the country which owns him. At a distance, he has preserved many of those virtues which are nearly extinct amidst corruption here—patriotism, earnestness, frankness, and that want of political selfishness which the Times or the selfish spirit of the age may designate 'romance and folly' if it please to do so. For the old spirit of England best lives now in the extremities of her empire, whence it now and then returns uncorrupted and untainted, to gaze with wonder and dismay at the rottenness and decay which pervade our social and political condition at home. It was so of yore towards the end of the Great Roman Empire. The Colonist who had only beheld corruption in a Governor and his satellites, and fancied it an exception or an eccentricity visited head quarters to be enlightened as to the deep-rooted canker of prosperity."

THE LEGISLATURE.

We are glad to learn that Mr. SIMONDS has been appointed Speaker of the Assembly by an unanimous vote. There was no opposition. The other two candidates—Messrs. Hannington and Barbare—withdrew from the contest. We also learn that Mr. Ritchie moved a Resolution of a Want of Confidence in the Government. By to-day's mail we will probably hear the result.

The Speech of His Excellency in opening the Legislature will be found inserted below. There is not much to condemn or approve in it.—It is not so lavish of promises as his Speech of last Session. Care, it appears, has been taken on this head, for complaints were very general at the closing of the House last year, that not one of the numerous promises held out by the opening speech was fulfilled. This is a complaint the Cabinet seem determined shall not be laid to their charge this year.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I have much pleasure in again meeting the assembled Legislature of New Brunswick.

It is my duty to announce to you two events which interest us as loyal subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty—the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and the birth of another Prince.

In the course of the last season, we have been again blessed by Providence with abundant crops. Our Commerce is improving, and the condition of our Revenue marks a certain progress in the prosperity of the Colony. On all these points I sincerely congratulate you, and I only hope that our Export trade may be conducted with such caution as to prevent those sudden revulsions to which we have occasionally been subject.

A conviction that we are advancing ought to stimulate our People to increased efforts, whilst it should encourage those who govern

them to do all that a Legislature can to aid the development of our resources.

Among the most powerful means for affording such aid, are improved facilities for communication. I know that this topic need scarcely be urged on your attention. You are fully alive to its importance, and you will I am sure, receive favourably a measure which will probably be laid before you, for giving effect to an undertaking of this character. The task is not, in all respects, easy. I am one of those who believe, that great works like Railroads, are neither best constructed nor best managed in their details by the hands of a Government itself. The distribution of the patronage connected with them would always be difficult and generally invidious. I shall most readily concur with you in any measures which may encourage the application of Capital to such schemes. Whilst I rejoice to see the enterprise of the County of Charlotte likely to be rewarded by the progress of the St. Andrews Railway, it will give me still greater pleasure to know that the fertile tracts of Sussex Vale and Westmorland, and the thriving City of St John, are by similar measures linked to Halifax on the one side, and to the great community on our Western border on the other. You may feel confident that Her Majesty's Government and the British People will hail such a step in our progress with unmixed pleasure and satisfaction.

It adds to the value of this great undertaking that it would probably lead to further action in connecting the City of Quebec with the Capital of Nova Scotia, by the contemplated Great Trunk Railway—a measure which I consider of the greatest importance, as linking together in one common interest the valuable appendages of the British Crown on this Continent.

A Preliminary Survey, with reference to a Line of Railway between the Valleys of the Saint John and Saint Croix, to ascertain the practicability of the route, was ordered by the Government last Autumn, in order to afford you the best possible information on the subject, and a competent Engineer was employed for the purpose. His Reports will be laid before you, and I believe them to be as full as the lateness of the season at which they were undertaken would permit.

The recent Acts for the encouragement of Agricultural operations have been found very beneficial in their operation in various parts of the Province. I again recommend this most prominent subject of our Industry to your continued care and attention.

Some further valuable information has been furnished me respecting our Fisheries, by the Commissioner appointed for this purpose, whose Report will be laid before you. It will be found useful in your deliberations on this very important branch of our resources.

In pursuance of the wishes expressed in previous Sessions of the Legislature, I have caused some works to be executed on the River Saint John. The object of improving our communications with Canada, is one of very great importance to both Provinces, and I shall be prepared to follow up what has been already done, by exertions of the same kind.

Her Most Gracious Majesty has left to its operation the Act for the regulation of the Provincial Posts. It is proposed that the transfer of the Accounts to the Provincial Government, should take place on the sixth of July next. Certain amendments, however, in the details of the Law, which I doubt not, you will carefully consider, will be pointed out to you.

The pressure of business during the last Session, prevented the final settlement of our system of Common Schools. No subject can be of greater moment to the country. It is the instruction of the population which renders a free Government the best security for order and obedience to the Laws, and on such order and obedience all material prosperity and its value must ultimately rest.

The present Law will shortly expire, and a measure will be introduced by which the people will be brought to act more immediately in the cause of Education.

In pursuance of an authority from the Colonial Secretary, and a wish expressed by His Excellency the Governor General, I have this Autumn conferred with the latter on the long pending subject of our disputed Boundary with Canada. A Member of my Executive Council met me at Toronto and assisted in these conferences. Our object, and that of Her Majesty's Government was so far attained, that in order to meet the objections raised by Canada, the matter is now placed in the hands of competent arbitrators in England, who will shortly make a final report to Her Majesty's Secretary of State. One Arbitrator was selected by the Executive of each Province, and the third is a Gentleman whose judicial decisions on great questions of international law, must command respect throughout the world, as Judge of the Admiralty Court of England.

The correspondence relating to this matter will be laid before you.

The question regarding the present mode of granting supplies will no doubt occupy your attention. So long as the existing system continues, the Government cannot be held responsible for the first condition of all efficient action, that is to say—the correspondence of expenditure with income. It is peculiarly for your consideration, whether such a change should not be made as may cause this responsibility to fall in a manner more strictly in accordance with the usage of the Imperial Parliament.

Such a change would involve the creation of local bodies of some kind, organized in such a manner as to give, mainly at least to per-

sons elected by the people themselves, the distribution and control of funds applicable to local purposes. The indirect results of such corporate action are quite as valuable as their immediate and direct consequences.

It seems probable that some alterations might be advantageously made in the procedure of the Courts of Law and Equity, which would render Justice easier of access and less expensive to the suitor. At the same time, the caution required in dealing with a subject which affects as this does, the rights of the people at large, makes it expedient that all such changes should be most carefully weighed. A proposition will be submitted to you for referring this most important matter to a Commission, who may consider the details and report fully thereon.

The Acts for enabling the price of Lands purchased for actual settlement, and the money due on Crown Bonds, to be discharged by labor, are working well, and are leading to increased settlement of the country and increased security on the part of occupiers.

The Mineral discoveries in the Province seem to hold out prospects of a greater outlay of Capital in this branch of industry. It would be satisfactory to me if any measure could be devised, which will place beyond a doubt the extent of the Mineral rights of the Crown with reference to the interests of owners of the soil, so far especially as relates to all future Grants and Leases.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I shall direct the Accounts of Revenue and Expenditure to be laid before you at an early day.

You will be pleased to see that the state of our Finances continues to improve. All demands upon the Treasury have been promptly met. The seventh Instalment of the Loan negotiated in 1844, (now reduced to one half of the original amount borrowed) was paid the day on which it was due, and the remaining seven Annual Instalments are provided for without trenching upon the General Revenues of the Province, by the imposition of one per cent. on Imports, which expires simultaneously with the Loan A. c.

You may possibly see reason to doubt how far a Tariff of Duties on Imports, professedly fluctuating from year to year, is calculated to afford fixed conditions for the exertions of our own industry, or is likely to impart confidence to our Merchants and their correspondents.

I trust that in all respect you will find the Public Monies have not been expended except in conformity with the wishes of the Representative of the People.

Mr. President, and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I am desirous of calling your attention to a Communication from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies of a most important character, which will be placed in your hands.

I allude to a Despatch in answer to an address of the House of Assembly presented to the Queen in the last Session with reference to the Constitution of the Legislative Council in this Province.

You will find in the language of Her Majesty's advisers in this Despatch, strong evidence of a disposition to meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Subjects on such Constitutional questions.

I doubt not that any steps taken by you in this matter will bear the stamp of calm deliberation, and will be characterized by an adherence to the true spirit of the British Constitution. This spirit is adverse to all hasty and ill-considered change, whilst it is capable of modifying the letter of Constitutional forms so as to meet the sober wishes of the People, and thus adopt our Institutions to the wants of Society, without unnecessarily invading existing rights.

These are all weighty matters, which I place with confidence in your hands, and thus leave you to your deliberations.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We do not publish the comments of "Oh! W, Oh! W," on Judge Fraser's version of his address to the Grand Jury, because we conceive they contain matter that might subject us to another prosecution for Libel.

"Anti-humbag," on the same subject, is inadmissible.

THE HIGHLAND BALL.—The Annual Ball of the Highland Society, came off at Keary's Hotel, in Chatham, on the evening of Tuesday last. There was a great gathering from East and West, North and South, of the Clans, and all appeared well pleased with the evening's entertainment. The room was most tastefully fitted up, and the arrangements throughout reflected great credit on the managers.

Messrs. John M. Johnson, John Wyse, David Johnston, P. Mitchell, D. Elkin, and J. A. Pierce, the Committee for receiving articles to be forwarded to the World's Exhibition in London, will be most happy to take charge of anything parties may feel desirous of having forwarded.

Deaths.

Yesterday morning, Mr. JOHN LEDDEN, in the 70th year of his age. His funeral will take place from the residence of Mr. John Brown, Chatham Head, at two o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

NOTICE.

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned, at the office of JOHNSON & MACKIE, on behalf of the Stockholders of the Miramichi and Richibucto Telegraph Company, for Contracts to furnish

Posts for the Telegraph,

- In the following sections:
 - 1st. Between Richibucto and Kouchibouguacis Bridge.
 - 2nd. Between Kouchibouguacis Bridge and Kouchibouguac Bridge.
 - 3rd. Between Kouchibouguac and Dickens'.
 - 4th. Between Dickens' and Black River Bridge.
 - 5th. Between Black River Bridge and Chatham.

32 Posts per mile to be laid down alongside the road, at equal distances—say 8 Posts in a pile, placed on skeeds, clear of the Queen's Highway, ever quarter mile. The Posts to be of Cedar or Hackmatack (separate Tenders for each), 25 feet long, and six inches diameter at the small end; to be straight, sound, and clear of bark.

Tenders to be handed in to the undersigned on or before the 22nd instant, at 12 o'clock, noon. And Posts to be delivered on or before the 1st of May. Terms of payment—Cash.

J. M. JOHNSON,
C. McCULLY, } Committee.
J. MACKIE,
Miramichi, February 3, 1851.

IN STORE,

AND FOR SALE BY W. J. FRASER.

- 10 puncheons MOLASSES,
 - 50 barrels CORN MEAL,
 - 60 barrels Quebec FLOUR,
 - 50 do steam mill do.,
 - 50 do No. 1 Herrings,
 - 25 chests superior Congou TEA,
 - 50 half-chests Bohea Tea,
 - 20 cwt. Liverpool SOAP,
 - 10 dozen Corn Brooms,
 - 10 dozen Pails, 2 boxes Blue Starch,
 - 10 barrels Pitch, Tar, and Rosin,
 - 2 do Clover Seed,
 - 6 bags Timothy Seed,
 - 5 barrels White Beans,
 - 10 dozen 1-4 and 1-2 pint Castor Oil,
 - 10 boxes No. 1 Tobacco, S's,
 - 20 sides Neats Leather,
 - 3 dozen Calf Skins, 10 sides Sole Leather,
 - 400 lbs. Salmon Twine,
 - 200 lbs. Peppermint Lozenges,
 - 200 lbs. assorted Confections,
 - 200 lbs. refined Sugar, in loaves,
 - 10 boxes Raisins, 4 bbls. Sugar Crackers,
 - 3 casks Vinegar, 5 bbls. Onions,
 - 2 barrels Dried Apples,
 - 10 barrels American Apples.
- Offered low for Cash, or approved Notes.
Chatham, February 1, 1851.

IRON and STEEL.

A few Tons $\frac{1}{2}$, 5-8, $\frac{3}{4}$, and 1 inch ROUND IRON,
40 bars best Axe Iron, 3 1-2 x 1-2,
30 bars Sanderson's Cast Steel 1 1-4 x 5-8,
30 bundles Sheet Iron, Nos. 21, 22, 23 and 24. For sale by
WM. J. FRASER.
February 1, 1851.

HERRINGS!

The Subscriber offers for sale, cheap for Cash, or approved credit,
131 bbs No 1 Canso HERRING
WM. MUIRHEAD.
Chatham, February 1, 1851.
He has also been appointed Agent for the sale of S. P. Townsend's Sarsaparilla, in Miramichi. (See advertisement.)

CHATHAM STEAM MILL.

The undersigned having got the Mill in perfect order, and in full operation, are prepared to grind, at the shortest notice, Grain of all kinds, to the extent of about 150 bushels of Wheat, and 160 bushels Oats per day and Pearl and Pot Barley, as much as is generally required. The strictest attention will be paid, and every accommodation given to those who may favor them with their patronage.

The undersigned intending to work the Saw and Grist Mill during the next season give Notice that they will Saw for the Public, by the thousand or on shares. They are also prepared to purchase Logs.
FROST & BAIN.
Chatham, 19th January, 1851.

J. S. FARLOW,
Commission Merchant & General Agent,
CORNER OF FEDERAL AND HIGH STREETS,
Boston, U. S.

REFERENCES.

- Messrs. Johnson & Mackie, Chatham.
- George Kerr, Esq., " "
- Alex. Loudon, Esq., " "
- William Muirhead, Esq., " "
- William Bowser, Esq., Richibucto.
- Robert Noble & Sons, Halifax.
- Berton Brothers, St. John.
- George Sutherland, Esq., " "
- N. B. CASH ADVANCED on Consignments.