

tic to the Pacific to found a great Empire, the rational contemplation of which would doubtless seem to many as the idle dreaming of the enthusiast. But this is a desponding view of the case. What is there to prevent the rise of a mighty empire in British America, that may one day rival the proud Republic on our southern border? If we have less variety of climate and more of waste land than they, have we no advantage over them? Yes, verily. Slavery with its social and political difficulties can never take root on this soil. We may profit by the errors of our neighbours, where they have erred, and with the advantages of all experience before us, British America may strike out for itself a destiny that the proudest nations of the earth may one day have reason to envy. The Halifax and Quebec Railway may be the first step towards the realization of that destiny."

The following is the concluding paragraph of Mr Howe's Letter to the Deputy Secretary of Nova Scotia, alluded to in the article from the Nova Scotian:—

"Looking to the development of her internal resources alone, Nova Scotia must have a common trunk line of Railroad, extending in a northerly direction from her capital, and branching east to the Pictou Coal Mines, and west to her most populous Rural Districts, a large portion of the trade of which now flows across the Bay of Fundy. Her clear interest is to make these lines without delay, should anything retard an inter-colonial enterprise. She may make fifteen, perhaps thirty miles, and then turn east or west, as circumstances may determine; or she may complete the trunk and continue the branches, for the accommodation of her own trade and people, by regular and safe gradations.

"Entertaining these opinions, I could not leave England without providing for the independent execution of our own internal improvements, under any and every possible contingency. I shall be prepared, therefore, to submit to His Excellency, propositions by which any amount of funds which we may require can be obtained, on our Provincial credit alone, at 5 and 6 per cent, from Banks, and individuals of the highest respectability, who will dispose of our debentures on the most favorable terms—and I shall also be prepared to submit the offers of capitalists, and contractors, who have made one third of all the Railroads in the United Kingdoms, and who will complete working plans at their own expense, lodge thirty thousand pounds in the Provincial Treasury, as a pledge of their good faith, and construct either Nova Scotia's own lines (should the Provinces not agree) or all the lines contemplated by Mr Hawes's letter of the 10th of March, on terms much more favorable than any Railroads have been or can be completed with Colonial or American funds."

The following paragraph is copied from a late New York Albion:—

"Mr Whitney, the bold projector, and unwearied advocate of a railroad through the United States to the Pacific Ocean, sailed for England, on Wednesday, in the steamer Asia. Unable to enlist the assistance, though not without the sympathies of Congress, he has transferred the locale of his great scheme, from his own country to the British North American Provinces and is as ready to treat with the British Government or capitalists, for the construction of a road from Halifax N. S., to Fuca Straits, as he was to grade one from Lake Michigan to Puget Sound. We like the indomitable spirit of Mr Whitney, and though we have some doubts of his success in the final accomplishment of his wishes, his visit can scarcely fail to do good, and may possibly tend to further the existing plans for inter-Colonial communication."

P. E. ISLAND.—The Legislature of this Island have accepted the terms on which the Home Government agreed to allow them Responsible Government. The following Resolution, passed by the House, express the conditions:—

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the House to pass a Civil List Bill, embodying the allowances demanded by Lord Grey, in his despatch to his Excellency, of the 31st of January, 1851, in order to secure the introduction of Responsible Government, and the surrender of the Crown Lands, Crown and Permanent Revenues, to the disposal of the Legislature of this Island."

This Resolution having been communicated to his Excellency, the head of the Government, a message was returned to the House, containing these sentiments:

"When Responsible Government is introduced, therefore, in so far as the Lieutenant Government is concerned, it shall have a fair trial—he is most desirous to see this Colony increased in prosperity, it is his fervent wish that the unpleasant discussions which have arisen about Responsible Government may cease, and the feelings they have created gradually subside.

"Her Majesty has no desire to maintain any system of policy among her North American subjects which opinion condemns. In receiving the Queen's commands, therefore, to protest against any declaration at variance with the honor of the Crown, and unity of the empire, I am, at the same time, instructed to announce Her Majesty's gracious intention to look to the affectionate attachment of her people in North America as the best security for permanent dominion.

"It is necessary for this purpose that no official misconduct should be screened by her

Majesty's Representative in the Province, and that no private interests should be allowed to compete with the general good.

"Every political institution in which different bodies share the supreme power is only enabled to exist by the forbearance of those among whom this power is distributed. In this respect the example of England may well be imitated. The Sovereign using the prerogative of the Crown to the utmost extent, and the House of Commons exerting its power of the purse to carry all its Resolutions into immediate effect, would produce confusion in the country in less than a twelve month. So, in a Colony, the Governor thwarting every legitimate proposition of the Assembly, and the Assembly continually recurring to its power of refusing supplies, can but disturb all political relations, embarrass trade, and retard the prosperity of the people. Each must exercise a wise moderation. The Governor must only oppose the wishes of the Assembly, where the honor of the Crown or the interests of the Empire are concerned, and the Assembly must be ready to modify some of its measures for the sake of harmony, and for a reverend attachment to the authorities of Great Britain."

Four Houses in Charlotteown were destroyed by fire on the night of Sunday week. They were occupied by Mrs Doyle, William Barnstead, Charles Walsh and Mrs Fair.

CANADA.—The celebrated W. L. Mackenzie has been returned to represent the County of Haldiman in the Assembly of this Province.

The following paragraph is copied from the Toronto Colonist. It is, indeed, a practical abrogation of the bonding system, and says much for the liberality of the United States towards foreign Countries!—

"Retaliation!—We hear that the authorities at Washington, have directed that the duties on the produce from Canada, sent in bond to New York, for exportation, shall in future be collected at the frontier port, on their entering the States, to be refunded afterwards, less two and a half per cent., on produce of a certificate, that the produce has actually been exported. The rule to be thus enforced, is the same with that which now exists, with respect to the importation of goods in bond from Europe, through the United States, for Canada, and of which our importing merchants loudly complain, without any hope of redress. Mr Hincks may well be proud of his negotiations—reciprocity—retaliation! *Whaw!*"

The Quebec Chronicle concludes a long article, condemning the course pursued by our Legislature relative to the Quebec and Halifax Railway, as follows:

"Not much difficulty is to be apprehended in Canada on this matter, and it is quite evident that Nova Scotia is sound. The only difficulty lies in New Brunswick, and to bring them to a right mind on the subject, no efforts should be spared; delegations, remonstrances, every engine should be set to work in order to effect the desired object. If they all fail, which we cannot believe, we think it will be better for Canada and Nova Scotia to accept the offer which the New Brunswickers have repeated, of £20,000 a year and a grant of land, and do it without their guarantee."

The Montreal Pilot says with confidence that a treaty is in progress, by which reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada will be secured.

NOVA SCOTIA.—It would appear by the following paragraph, copied from the Halifax Colonist, that there is something out of joint in the Nova Scotia Cabinet:—

"It is said there has been a split in the camp, and that the Attorney General and Provincial Secretary have tendered their resignation, in the hopes of thereby disengaging themselves from the man who so eloquently warned the Assembly of the evil effects that would ensue from accepting the terms obtained in England by his colleague, the Provincial Secretary. But at the last accounts George was still hanging on to the wreck, and declaring that he could safely guide the ship of state, though all the other hands deserted. Nothing like modesty."

The same paper says it is rumoured that in consequence of the split in the Cabinet, there will be an early dissolution.

The Sun doubts the correctness of these reports.

SOMETHING NEW.—The Editor of the Gaspé Gazette says:

"We understand that the Commissioners appointed to settle the disputed boundaries between Canada and New Brunswick, have made a report, by which it appears that Dalhousie and Campbellton, on the south shore of the Restigouche, belong to the province of Canada. We should be most happy if such should be the case, as the addition of the energetic and spirited British population of these two large and thriving towns would produce most important benefits upon our Districts—labouring, as it does, under all the disadvantages arising from apathy and want of energy, always existing where the majority are French Canadians. Speaking altogether

for the interest of the Gaspeons, we should be well pleased that the rumour alluded to should turn out to be correct, as good Schools, Roads and Bridges, and a general spirit of enterprise, would then be the order of the day amongst us."

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

From the papers we have gleaned such Legislative news as we thought would be interesting to our readers.

The Head Quarters of Wednesday, received yesterday contains the following summary:

"On Saturday last the House of Assembly was in committee of the whole on a bill relating to reciprocal trade with the British North American Colonies, which was amended by Mr Wilmot adding to the bill the words "when imported direct." The bill, in other respects, was word for word the same as the act of last year. Mr Wilmot's amendment passed by the casting vote of the chairman, after which the bill was reported as agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed. The house then went into committee of supply, and continued sitting until a late hour in the afternoon.

"On Monday the Attorney General moved for leave to bring in a bill relating to the salaries of certain public officers. The bill relating to reciprocal trade with the British North American Provinces, was then read a third time as engrossed, and on the question being taken that this bill do now pass, it was rejected—yeas 16, nays 21. The bill is consequently lost. Before the vote was taken the hon. Attorney General explained that it was the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, that the act of last year, and the proclamation issued under that act, were both now in force in this Province. The House, after disposing of a number of bills of a local nature, went into committee of supply, when several interesting debates took place on the different grants that came up, particularly on the grant of £4,500 to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to provide for the collection and protection of the revenue. The grant was finally sustained.

"Yesterday, a bill to revise and continue the acts providing for the payment of the expenses of the Legislative Council and Assembly, was committed and passed, after a long and rather warm debate, when there appeared—yeas 19, nays 10. The House then went into committee of supply. The principal debate which occurred during this sitting arose on a grant for the drawback of duties paid on wines for the use of the Mess of the 1st Royal Regiment, and for the use of the 97th regiment stationed in this city during the past year. This debate was opened by Captain Robinson, and concluded by both grants being rejected—yeas 18, nays 20. The next lengthy debate occurred on the grant of £300 for the payment of Reporters during the present session. Almost every hon. member condemned in strong terms the indiscriminate manner of paying Reporters, and the unsatisfactory manner in which the work was now performed. On sustaining the resolution, there appeared yeas 23, nays 11; and on filling up the blank, yeas 16, nays 14. Mr Ritchie gave notice that he would bring the whole subject of Reporting under the consideration of the house this morning."

THE SEASON.—There has been a most delightful change in the weather during the last three or four days, and the fields around us have changed their wintry apparel and are fast robing themselves in their summer dress of green.

Last week we reported that the ice in the river had made a move just as we were going to press. It has since nearly disappeared. We learn from a person who came up on Saturday, that the ice held fast from Point aux Chats to Oak Point, and that there were three square-rigged vessels and a schooner outside; one of them a ship apparently deeply laden.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cuban Invasion.—Another Cuban expedition is being fitted out by Lopez—upwards of four thousand men have already joined his standard. The place of rendezvous is supposed to be Apalachicola Bay (Florida.) The American papers believe there is good ground for the report.

More Refugees.—We understand that the Admiral, from Boston, on Sunday morning, brought eight or ten more colored refugees to this city, who have come here to get clear of the slave catchers.

From Hayti.—The Kingston (Jamaica) Journal, of the 24th instant, has the following:

The Haytian Schooner *Rosenite*, captain Johnbar, which arrived yesterday in three days from Jeremie, reports that about fifteen days ago, Juan Baptiste Frances, the Minister of Justice under the Emperor Souleuvre, was, with seven other persons of high standing—all of them black—publicly shot near Port au Prince, by order of the Emperor. The charge against them, and for which they suffered, was for having been concerned in a conspiracy against the present government of Hayti.—*St. John Morning News.*

The sword worn by Napoleon at the battle of Marengo has been purchased by Nicholas of Russia for thirty two thousand dollars. The emperor has already a large collection of relics of the great soldier.

The Boston papers state that a daughter of Prof. Webster had been married recently.

Marriages.

On the 27th ult., by the Rev. John Turnbull, Mr JAMES ASTLE, to Miss REBECCA VANDERBECK, both of the Parish of Nelson [The above notice was incorrectly reported in our paper a week or two since.]

SECOND EDITION.

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 29.

COMMUNICATION.

FREDERICTON, April 25, 1851.

Mr Pierce,

Having learned that some false impressions are being made in the country, by an article in a late St. John Courier, stating that I was censured by the House of Assembly, I deem it necessary, through your columns, to set myself right. I have not seen the article alluded to, but if to the above effect, I take the liberty of pronouncing it a downright untruth. Without stating the particulars of what took place with closed doors, I feel at liberty to say, that the House took no action on the matter. What did transpire was nothing more than conversation. The affair was arranged between the parties concerned, and the matter ended.

If the St. John Courier pretends that I was censured, I presume he will be prepared to say for what offence; and I now challenge him to point out one unparliamentary expression used by me in the debate on the Deputy Treasurers' salaries.

Should this not be done, I take the liberty of branding the article as a slander on the Assembly, because it would then amount to a direct charge of injustice and corruption on the part of the Government majority, in reference to an humble member of the opposition minority.

Had I alone been interested in this matter, I should not have troubled you, because I had long since made up my mind, that in opposing what I considered local abuses, I should expose myself to all the calumny which the rancour of party feeling could engender; and I well knew that any decided political stand in opposition to the Government, would bring down upon me all the weight of the *Courier*, and a certain sycophantic toad-eater, who is ever ready to do the dirty work at Fredericton, and write the leading articles for that paper. Such persons resemble a certain little animal whose propinquity is not indicated by the optic, but the olfactory organs, and their security depends more on their loathsomeness than on their courage or deserts. When it is considered that in County matters I have had to fight single-handed against money influence and experience, and in general politics have been in opposition to Government, I think it is not a small matter to say that I now defy my enemies to point out a single instance wherein I have transgressed parliamentary rule—though more than once personally attacked by older members, and older if not more prudent men in the Legislature. These attacks and my replies are before the public, and by them let my conduct be judged.

It may well serve the interests of particular individuals to destroy any little political influence which I possess in the County, because they will thus preserve the old system of corruption, against which I have enlisted.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. M. JOHNSON, JUN.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held on Monday last, before S. Benson, Esq., Coroner, on the body of JOHN MURPHY, aged fourteen years. The deceased had been sent on an errand up the river last December, and, unknown to his parents, started off on skates, and was never after heard of by them. The body was washed ashore on the beach above Joseph Bateman's. The Coroner, in order to facilitate the interment of the body, which was much decomposed, accompanied by a Jury, inspected the body on Sunday, and completed the Inquest on Monday morning, thus endeavoring to accommodate the wishes of the parents without acting contrary to law.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Legislative News.—On Thursday Mr Hannington moved his resolution to the effect that the government withhold the sum of £1100 annually allowed to the College by the Province. A large majority appeared in favor of the resolutions which were carried, 18 to 4—Messrs. Montgomery, Read, Taylor, and Macpherson, being the only opposers. Mr Hannington also moved a resolution that the Government call upon Mr Baillie, the Surveyor General, to refund £1269 stated to have been overpaid him in 1847. Some discussion followed, and the Attorney General moved as an amendment, that if Mr Baillie refuse, the Crown Lawyers be authorised to institute legal proceedings against him for the recovery of the same. This was opposed by several members, who considered it useless to adopt this course, and on a division the amendment was lost by a vote of 19 to 10. The resolution was carried, 15 to 14.

Mr Hannington followed up this Resolution with another, proposing that the Offices of Surveyor General and Postmaster General be made political, and subject to the same tenure as that of that of the other Government Offices. Mr Fitzgerald moved an amendment, to include the Treasurer. The amendment was lost, 27 to 5, and the original motion carried, 25 to 7.

Mr Scoullar moved a Resolution in favor of yielding up the Initiation of the Money