

Crown Lands, subject to the operation of the previous provisions, become the purchaser of such lands as may be for sale, and he shall immediately pay the price and be entitled to possession, and to grant in fee simple, subject to such reservations and conditions as may be deemed necessary.

9. If, at the time of any application, there was any dwelling house on the lands in which any person other than the applicant then and for a year previously had continually resided, or in case five acres at least of the land had been cleared or cultivated during such person's actual possession, and had been for at least one year in his constant use, then unless such fact shall have been communicated to the Commissioner before the passing of the Grant, the Governor in Council may, within two years from the passing thereof, if it shall appear proper so to do, declare the Grant to be vacated, and the same shall thereupon become void.

10. The Governor in Council may, from time to time, sell or lease any lands, at such price, and for such tenure, time or use, either as regards the land, or timber, quarries or mines thereon, or other benefit to be derived therefrom, as may be deemed expedient.

11. The Governor in Council may reserve lands for the use of the Indians; may divide existing reservations, and vest in the Commissioner of Crown Lands the title to such lands, and the duty of protecting the rights of the Aborigines who are disposed to settle thereupon.

12. Chapter 23 of the Revised Statutes is repealed.

Communications.

DORCHESTER, December 17, 1851.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE ST. JOHN COURIER.

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to certain communications on the subject of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, published in your paper of the 6th and 13th instant, under the signature of O. P., more particularly to that part of such communications wherein the writer speaks of numerous rivers, ravines and morasses, which he presumes must render the engineering difficulties almost insurmountable. Allow me to say, Sir, that I should not have noticed the mere scribbling of an anonymous writer, had they not been backed up by your directing attention to the "able letter" of your correspondent, and by your stating that from the source from whence they came, the statistics, &c., may be relied upon. It then behooves me, Sir, and every well-wisher, to give such weight and influence as we may possess to prevent the best interests of the country from being sacrificed by the promulgation of such gross misstatements and exaggerations.

Permit me then to inform you, Sir, that I, under the direction of Captain Henderson, executed the Exploration Survey for the Halifax and Quebec Railway (North Shore line) between Northumberland and Westmorland, and allow me to inform you, Sir, that between the Miramichi and the Bend, not one single engineering difficulty occurs. That the line must cross the Cocagne I admit, a rivulet 60 feet in width. The next stream (which your correct correspondent has omitted) is the south branch of the Bucouche, quite as large, and presenting engineering difficulties of equal magnitude with the Cocagne. The next, Sir, the Bucouche, presents engineering difficulties of somewhat more importance, being ten feet wide. We next come to the Richibucto, which does not present "engineering difficulties" of quite such great magnitude (at least I think not), inasmuch as with the aid of a short pair of stilts, a man may cross it at a single stride. I think, Sir, I need go no further, as every body knows but those who do not wish to know, that all the rivers between the Bend and the Miramichi partake of the same general character, viz., that they are very wide at their mouth, and getting narrow and very shallow as they ascend. That any ravines presenting any "engineering difficulties" exist between these two points, I positively deny; that morasses exist I admit, but that the line need cross them, or be made crooked to escape them, is not true; or even if it were necessary to cross them, I deny that they present any "engineering difficulties." I would ask your correspondent, if he has ever travelled the North shore, if he has not observed that where the road traverses a morass or Cariboo plain, that there he found a solid, well gravelled road. And now, Sir, I will venture again to record my testimony as to the "engineering difficulties" which occur between the above named places: that the country is nearly a dead level all the way; that where the line crosses the streams, the banks come boldly out, meeting each other, thus requiring nothing more than a high and short bridge to connect them; that there are no ravines, and but few morasses that need be crossed.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—Will you, for the sake of truth, publish the above remarks, addressed, as you will perceive, to the Editor of the St. John Courier. I should not have thought it necessary to notice the letters of O. P., were they not backed up by the weight and authority of the Editor of that paper, but just have let it pass with the rest of the trash published in Saint John, about the North shore, concerning which they appear to know about as much as I should suppose the Emperor of China to do. I wonder if the writer in the Courier

really thinks that the land on the North Shore is anything like that miserable tract of country which he describes round about the city of St. John, and through which Emigrants and native born "settlers," as he calls them, pass through and leave behind them on their way to the United States. Had they the lands of the North made accessible to them, they would no longer go to that country.

A few words about the great phantom of an overwhelming debt, which he holds up so conspicuously to view. I, as one of the farmers to whom he addresses himself, will very willingly pay my share of additional taxation for the sake of having the Railroad, even though it should do no more than pay its working expenses; aye, and am willing to contribute to the Sinking Fund too, and am not at all afraid of being a looser in the end.

I remain, Sir, your very obedient servant,
J. G. G. LAYTON.

COUNTY OF BONAVENTURE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—The election for this county closed on the 9th instant, David LeBoutillier, Esq., being proclaimed member. Throughout the several townships, the polling has proceeded with the greatest order and decorum.

The statements of the Editor, with regard to the election, and the communication of "An Elector," in the Gaspé Gazette of the 11th instant, are too notoriously incorrect, and bear the impress of falsehood too decidedly, to require contradiction; and every sensible man will look upon them with the contempt they merit.

A certain Editor, as is well known, was one of those who advocated the views he has done, under the promises of office, to be conferred. But his patron not having succeeded, he is now a disappointed man; his prospects of obtaining the appointment of local Agent of Crown Lands have vanished, and he is left to brood over his defeated projects, and to propagate falsehood against those who take the wise course of treating himself and periodical with silent contempt.

It is stated that John R. Hamilton, Esq., one of the candidates, has entered a protest. This, however, he has done without any favorable result upon the two preceding occasions, on which he has successively been rejected; and of course it is merely considered as a customary proceeding.

I am, respectfully, yours,

DYKEVELT.

Bonaventure, December 13, 1851.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1851.

STEAM FERRY BOAT.

The very great inconvenience experienced by the public in crossing the river, induced a number of the inhabitants a few years ago, to form a Joint Stock Company, for the purpose of constructing a Steam Ferry Boat. This was accomplished, and she ran for two seasons, affording great accommodation to the travelling public, but was ultimately withdrawn, for reasons we do not think necessary here to recapitulate; the principal one, however, was, that she did not pay. Having thus experienced the facilities of a speedy and comfortable ferry for two years, the loss last season was more sensibly felt, and loud and bitter were the complaints in all directions.

We are happy to hear that there is now a prospect of the evil being remedied. Mr. Mr. GEORGE B. BELL, a mechanic of energy and enterprise, has purchased the Boat, and will undertake to run her on the following conditions:—That the Session establish but one Ferry between the Parish of Chatham and the opposite side of the river, except those now in existence at Newcastle and near the residence of A. Goodfellow, Esq.;—that proper Slips be erected on both sides, to enable him to receive and land passengers at all times of the tide with safety;—the Session to regulate the fares, and to decide on the locality of the Ferry. If they agree to the above, he will put the Boat in first-rate condition, place her on the river in the spring, as soon as the navigation opens, and keep her running constantly. These terms we consider fair and reasonable, and such as no body of men can with propriety object to. Mr. Bell intends to lay the matter before the Magistrates at their approaching Session, and we have the fullest assurance that there is sufficient good sense among them to admit that the establishment of an efficient Steam Ferry on our river is loudly called for, and that Mr. Bell's terms are such as to give satisfaction, and calculated to accomplish the end desired. We have no doubt the matter will also be urged on the consideration of the Bench by the Grand Jury.

NEW MAGISTRATES.—It has been currently reported for some days that the Governor in Council has added several names to our already too numerous Bench of Magistrates. A pruning is much more loudly called for, and until this be effected, the evils so long complained of respecting that body, cannot be satisfactorily adjusted. The Gazette makes no mention of this circumstance, we therefore deem it imprudent to mention the parties.

UNITED STATES.—The papers report that that venerable statesman, the Hon. Henry Clay, is in a very declining state of health, and that there are no hopes of his recovery.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Royal Gazette of Wednesday contains the appointment of W. Hamilton, Esq., of Dalhousie, as a member of the Legislative Council. Mr. H. has resided for some time in Restigouche, is extensively engaged in trade, and has a considerable stake in the County; we therefore presume that his appointment will meet with the approbation of the people. Of his politics we know nothing, but hope he is of the Liberal school, and will exert himself to promote every measure calculated to promote the social and moral condition of his neighbors.

GENERAL MOURNING.—The Gazette contains a Circular officially announcing the death of the King of Hanover, uncle of Her Majesty, and a notice from His Excellency directing a General Mourning of ten days, as a mark of respect to the deceased Monarch, which is to commence on Sunday the 21st inst.

UNITED STATES AND THE COLONIES.—The Saint John Courier furnishes the following interesting paragraph. The information it conveys will no doubt startle many of our readers. Such a trade, we presume, it would be the interest of our Republican neighbors to secure, and if possible enlarge by a more liberal course of Legislation than they at present pursue.

"The Trade with the British Provinces from the United States is stated by a writer in the Boston Courier to be of greater magnitude than that with any nation, except Great Britain and France—a fact which, he adds, should convince every reflecting mind, of the vast importance to the whole country, and more especially to the people of New England and New York, of placing the intercourse between the United States and the British Colonies on the most free, economical and permanent footing; for without such measures the trade is not likely to be much enlarged, nor perhaps to retain its present comparatively limited extent."

COUNTY OF RESTIGOUCHE.—We have been requested to publish the annexed correct state of the poll at its close in this county. The reason assigned for the few votes polled is—that the Electors, generally, took little interest in the matter. If this were the case, they are highly reprehensible, and deserve any treatment or neglect they may receive from their representatives.

	Barberie.	Carter.
Dalhousie,	80	24
Campbellton,	33	11
Hervie's	23	35

DISTRICT OF GASPE.—A gentleman in New Richmond, under date of the 16th inst., in writing to us, thus alludes to the delays which frequently occur in the receipt of Letters and Papers in that quarter. We publish his remarks in the hope that their publicity may lead to the adoption of such measures as may remove the evils complained of.

"Two gentlemen in New Carlisle were in Dalhousie on the 28th November, and there read the Gleaner of the 25th November. The Gleaner of the same date did not reach the Carleton Post-office until the 11th December. This frequently occurs, particularly during the winter season. I am informed the reason is as follows:—The Postmaster in Chatham makes up but one mail for Canada, coming North, during the week. Should anything detain the mail so as not to meet the Gaspé courier at Cross Point on Wednesday, it throws us a fortnight behind in receiving our English and Southern Mails. They frequently have their English letters a fortnight in Dalhousie before we get them in this district."

The Election for the County of Bonaventure has terminated in the return of David LeBoutillier, Esq. The Gazette gives the following return of votes polled:

LeBoutillier,	464
Hamilton,	460
Meagher,	437

NEW PARISH LAW.

Last year Mr. Johnson furnished us with a synopsis of this Law, together with directions to the Inhabitants and Town Clerks, to enable them to proceed with the appointment of Parish Officers in a legal manner. Several Correspondents have requested us to re-publish this communication, with which we cheerfully comply.

INFORMATION FOR THE PARISHES.

By statute 13 Vic. cap. 30, the inhabitants of each Parish may elect the following Officers, viz:

- 3 Overseers of Poor.
- 3 Commissioners of Roads.
- 1 Town or Parish Clerk.
- 2 or more Pound Keepers.
- 2 or more Hogreeves.
- 1 or more Surveyors of Dams.
- 1 or more Sealers of Leather.
- 3 Assessors of Rates.
- 3 or more Surveyors of Roads.
- 2 or more Constables.
- 1 or more Collectors of Rates.
- 2 or more Fence Viewers.
- 1 Clerk of the Market.
- 2 or more Boom Masters.
- 1 or more Inspectors of Butter.
- 1 or more Surveyors of Grindstones.
- 1 or more Field Drivers.

The mode of proceeding under this Act should be as follows:—

Some time previous to the first Tuesday in January, the Town or Parish Clerk should post up in different parts of the Parish, or publish in the local newspaper, a notice in the following form, or to the like effect:

"Notice.—A Parochial Meeting of the Rate Payers on Real or Personal Property, in the Parish of _____, who have paid their Rates for the present year, will be held at _____ in the said Parish, on the first Tuesday in January next, at _____ o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of electing Parish Officers for the ensuing year; at which meeting, and before such election, the Overseers of Poor, the Collectors of Rates, and the Commissioners of Highways, for the past year, will be required to lay before the meeting copies of their respective accounts.

Q. R., Town Clerk.

Dated _____ December, 1851.

When the hour of meeting has arrived, the Town Clerk calls upon the rate payers to elect by majority of votes one of their number as Chairman, takes the yeas and nays, and declares the party so elected. The Town Clerk then takes his place as Secretary, and the Chairman calls upon the officers mentioned in the notice, to produce their accounts which may be read or exhibited to the meeting.

The Town Clerk would do well to obtain from the Collectors, a list of those who had paid their rates, in order to lay before the Chairman, whereby he may determine who are eligible to vote, viz., Rate-payers on Real or Personal Property, who have paid their Rates for this year.

The Chairman next calls upon the meeting to nominate a person as an Overseer of Poor for the coming year, which being done, the Chairman, without waiting for or allowing any other to be named, takes the yeas and nays, and if the majority vote in favor of such person, the Clerk takes down his name, and reads it aloud to the meeting, who then proceed to name another to act with him, and so on till the three be chosen, each time reading the name of the person last elected, before proceeding with any other. If any person proposed have not a majority of votes, no notice is taken of it, but another named, and so on, till all the officers be elected. Only one person can be proposed at a time, and the meetings would do well to elect in the order above named, for the sake of uniformity, and because their is less chance of omissions.

In case of any dispute, the votes should be counted and the number of yeas and nays might be recorded.

The next step is for the Clerk to make out a correct list of the officers elected, which may be in the following form:—

At a Parochial Meeting of the Rate-payers on Property, in the Parish of _____ held at _____ in said Parish, on the first Tuesday in January, 1852, pursuant to notice, and under the provisions of the Act of Assembly in such case made, Mr _____ having been elected Chairman by majority of votes.

The following persons were elected Parish Officers for the ensuing year:

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

- A. B.
- C. D., and
- E. F.

COMMISSIONERS OF ROADS.

- G. H.,
- J. K., and
- L. M.

(And so on, stating the officers as elected, to the end.)

O. P., Chairman.

Northumberland, S.S.

Q. R., Town Clerk of the Parish of _____ in the County of Northumberland, maketh oath and saith, that the foregoing is a correct and true list of the Parish Officers elected by a majority of the Rate-payers on property in the said Parish, present, and who have paid their rates for this year, at a Public Meeting called and held for that purpose, as above stated; this Deponent further saith that public notice of said meeting was regularly given by this Deponent prior thereto, the above named Chairman regularly chosen, and to the best of this Deponent's knowledge and belief, the proceedings said meeting con-