

day by Mr. Fraser submitting a resolution in amendment to the Provincial Secretary's, to the effect that Nova Scotia should accept the present proposition, on condition that she own in perpetuity, the portion of the line which she should agree to build beyond her border; with a further resolution that in the event of a failure of the present arrangement, the government should thereupon be empowered to commence the construction of railways, with our own resources, east and west of Halifax.

This last resolution was declared by Mr. Marshall, Mr. Wilkins, and other gentlemen who spoke, as having no connection with the question under discussion, and as being designed to influence members who might be disposed to vote against the adoption of the new proposition. Mr. Fraser defended his amendment. Mr. McLennan was opposed to the whole measure. Mr. B. Smith did not consider the terms of this proposition as favorable as the last, and was doubtful of its success, but avowed his intention to vote for its adoption.

The question being repeatedly asked by the Hon. Mr. Johnston, at length drew a reluctant avowal from Mr. Howe, that in adopting the present proposition, it was not the intention to stipulate with New Brunswick that she should complete the Portland line to the border of her territory—and that it would depend upon the future legislation of New Brunswick whether provision should now be made for a Sinking Fund. The development of these new features of the measure led to a discussion which was continued till the house adjourned—and will likely be resumed to-day. The House meets at half past 3.

The Sun gives the following summary of the debate which took place on the Hon. Mr. Johnston introducing a Bill providing for the Municipal Government of Counties:—

Negatively, it is not contemplated to incorporate all the Counties by a single act of legislation. The assent of the people is required previously to the act going into operation in any county affirmatively. The existing electoral districts, as demarked by "simultaneous Polling Bill," shall elect Councillors, &c., &c. One most beneficial provision of the bill is, that the Municipal Courts shall apportion the road money voted by the Legislature, and indicate the locality where it shall be expended. Another provision, and most acceptable, doubtless to the country at large, authorises the Councils to appoint their own sheriffs. The approval of by-laws to rest in the Legislature; by which will be made to appear what extent of uniformity has been obtained in the working of the bill.

Mr. Hall favored the measure; more especially that which proposed to make the Magistracy elective. At the present moment a partisan magistracy was a curse to the country. He would give the people the power to correct this.

Mr. Holmes regretted that he could not say a word in defence of the existing Magistracy as a body.

The Provincial Secretary would make the Magistracy elective. The Government would be glad to get rid of the patronage—it was distasteful in its exercise and unsound. He for one would be glad to get rid of the responsibility. As for the Magisterial Courts of the Country, they were not unfrequently held in some back kitchen or threshing floor. The application of the elective system presents a wholesome corrective check.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

The intelligence from the Legislature is at length becoming somewhat interesting. We refer our readers for particulars to the letter of our Correspondent below, and to extracts in another page.

FREDERICTON, February 7, 1852.

Dear Pierce,—I have little news to give you this week. Nothing further on the Railway question. No measures have yet been introduced by the Government, except some amendments to the Criminal Law, which have passed, and the School Bill, which has not yet come up for discussion. I think the Legislature has been called together one month before the Government were ready. The Act to consolidate the Laws for the collection and protection of the Revenue has been again committed, and all the sections gone through. Some have been reserved for consideration when the benches are filled; that providing for Deputy Treasurers' salaries, and the one exempting articles imported for the use of the army, navy, and officers among them. Some new provisions have been made, and others attempted, which I trust may not be carried. For instance, it is sought to empower the Deputy Treasurers to submit the masters of vessels who have made their reports under oath, to a cross examination on oath, by the Treasurer. This would be dangerous, because the Treasurer, who is interested in the recovery of a penalty, would thus be converted into a most arbitrary judge in his own case. It could lead to no good, because should the party swear falsely, he could not be convicted of perjury on the oath of one witness, and must tend to much evil, and induce perjury. It would certainly be hard to compel a man on cross examination to convict himself. This would be unconstitutional even in cases of murder and theft. This section, and some others seriously affecting the trade, were objected to by Messrs. Montgomery, Harding, J. M. Johnson, and others, and are left for further consideration. The Revenue should be protected, and for this purpose the law should require a full and particular report to be made, and sworn to

in every part, but let us not have a star chamber, to be presided over by Deputy Treasurers in the various ports.

The number of Committees struck this session, for various purposes, is greater than usual, and the number of members on each much greater than necessary. The evil will be much loss of time, without a greater perfection in the work done. It is next to impossible to get any committee meeting with all the members present; some are sure to be sitting on some other committee.

The number of cards on the boards have not begun to diminish, and this is strong evidence that much business of the House has yet to be done.

At the last session the Government excused themselves for the appointment of Judge Wilmut without the advice of the Council on the ground that they were not bound to resign because the Colonial Secretary, and not the Governor, had made the appointment, but a despatch called for by Mr. J. M. Johnson rebuts even this pretended excuse. Earl Grey says that he did not intend to interfere, nor to direct the Governor to interfere with Responsible Government, but Her Majesty approves of the appointment recommended by Sir Edmund Head. Now who made the appointment? Did not the Governor act contrary to the advice of a majority of his Council, and how can they escape the responsibility? What was the course adopted in Canada, and Nova Scotia, in similar cases?

Again, the Government stand in an anomalous position respecting the Judges' Fees Bill: one in the Assembly and three in the Legislative Council supported the Bill, and one in the House opposed it as a breach of public faith. The Council recommended the Governor's assent, which was given, and we thus have one member of the Government opposed to all his colleagues on a most important point, viz: the sole right of the people to regulate their local affairs, and opposed to large majorities in both Houses, yet retaining his office and his seat at the Council board with them. We have, too, an Executive Council consenting to act with a Governor who makes appointments contrary to their written advice, and with an Attorney General who, on the floor of the Assembly, told them that their votes were a breach of public faith, and who yet consented that the Governor should be advised to give his assent to that breach of faith. Verily Responsible Government is well carried out in this Province, and I suppose that they consider the best way to govern according to the well understood wishes of the people it is necessary that they should be composed of all shades of politics. If the Liberals say the Government have done wrong, the answer is, such and such members of the Government voted with you; and if the Tories complain, they may be told that the Attorney General agrees with them. What in the name of common sense is such an absurdity to end in? When will the people of the Province elect men upon political principles only? How long will they halt between two opinions? If they want liberal and reform measures, why not send those only whose hearts are in the work; and if they want the old system, let them reject reform candidates. It is really a trying position for reform members in the House. They are compelled to fight for principles, yet feel that all their efforts are rendered abortive by a few members who must hold on to the skirts of Government for the sake of some paltry county office.

You must be well aware that little can be done either to save time or money by the minority, unless, perhaps, in some very glaring instances of extravagance. The opposition is, however, not the less firm, because more quiet, than the mercenary Morning News would wish. There are yet some good men and true, who are determined to keep the ship afloat, and who, when the hour of trial comes, will be found ready. The public will see who, what, and where they are before the session ends, and if they do not do much good, they may prevent some evil.

It is thought by some that the Morning News will injure the cause, by irritating the party, and disgusting some of its supporters in the House. But this I do not fear. Those who are governed by fixed principles cannot be driven from them by the News, and those who can be thus alarmed are better out of the camp than in it. This winter will do more to prove who are really liberals than the last. Then the hopes of victory might stimulate the weak hearted, but it requires stout hearts and firm heads to face adversity.

Yours, FIDES.

SATURDAY'S MAIL.

The papers and journals obtained by this mail, does not add anything of consequence to our previous stock of Legislative news.

Grand Lake Coal.—On Friday last a quantity of Grand Lake Coal was brought to the Province Hall for the use of the Legislative Council, by Barton Brothers & Co., which attracted considerable attention. The specimen was certainly superior to any that has hitherto been presented from that quarter, and we were assured by Mr. Bailey—the party in charge—that it had not been culled, but was a fair sample of the article as it came from the mine. If an adequate supply of such coal can be had in the Province, there cannot be a doubt that the necessity for the importation of this article must speedily cease, and its exportation must soon become an important branch of Provincial commerce.—Head

BY TELEGRAPH.

TO THE MIRAMICHI NEWS ROOM.

St. JOHN, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
6 o'clock, P. M.

The Charlotte and Westmorland Scrutinies are progressing. In the former Fitzgerald has gained 40 votes over Boyd, and in the latter Gilbert has gained 26 votes over Chapman; these only *prima facie*.

The grant to Dr. Thomson, of Chatham, for attending on the Looshtauk emigrants, caused a long debate, and was supported by Partelow, Wilmut, John M. Johnson, and others.

Thursday, 6 o'clock, P. M.

In the bill for collecting the Revenue, Williston proposed that Deputies have £250. The Attorney General and Partelow agreed to this. Gray and Wilmut would prefer £300. J. M. Johnson, Needham, Harding, Hayward, and others, spoke in favor of retaining the present salaries. On division for £200, yeas 20, nays 16. Treasurer's salary fixed at £500.

Friday, 6 o'clock, P. M.

The steamer Pacific, with four days later news from Liverpool, arrived at New York at half-past 5 o'clock last evening. The steamer Africa from New York arrived at Liverpool on the 28th ult., at 10 A. M. The steamer Glasgow, bound to New York, put back to Greenock in distress.

ENGLAND.—The Daily News says orders have been sent out recalling three of the principal ships in the Tagus, and others from the Mediterranean squadron.

Cotton had advanced one-eighth of a penny per pound. Grain market continued firm. Wheat in fair request at full prices. Flour advanced 6d per barrel. Indian Corn neglected.

In the money market consols remained unchanged. At Manchester a fair, though not a large amount of business, had been transacted, and owing to considerable purchases for China, and the nature of the latest advices from New York, the market had maintained its firmness.

FRANCE.—Paris, January 29, 9 A. M.—The Moniteur publishes the names of the new Senate, also the salaries of the several members of Council. The same paper contradicts the rumour of a fresh measure of severity on the part of the Government. Montalambert, and several others, members of the Consultation Committee, have resigned their functions, in consequence of decrees promulgated respecting the Orleans family. Three persons were arrested on the 23d at Montreuil, by the police of Paris, on a charge of having assisted at the insurrection of 1848. Forty six others, arrested at Maronne, have been sent to the chateau at Baye, whence they are to be transported to Cayenne and Algiers.

The Patrie states that in consequence of the engineers' strike in England, the French have received important orders for machinery from various countries.

The other news by this arrival is unimportant.

In the House of Assembly to-day Railway propositions were brought down, principally the same as already published. Our Government now accede to the new scheme, by which this Province builds five-twelfths of the Railway. Mr. Archibald's propositions were also read.

Mr. Montgomery said the whole scheme was conceived in folly, and would end in ruin. He also asked if the Executive were prepared to legislate upon it without waiting for despatches from England.

The Attorney General will reply to-morrow.

Second Despatch.—Assembly occupied with another long debate on the Judges Fees bill. The letters of the Judges were severely handled.

I have not learned the opinion among members respecting the new railway proposition.

Weather mild—wind westerly.

Saturday, 6 o'clock, P. M.

The Railway exposition in the Council is deferred till to-morrow. The Attorney General stated that Government was prepared to bring down Railway measures as soon as the bills are agreed to by both branches in Nova Scotia. He also said Government had no alternative but to decline Mr. Archibald's proposals, as no despatches had been received from the Colonial Minister in reference to these.

In Committee on the Revenue bill, 16. The right of the treasurers to examine captains of vessels on oath was disallowed. A uniform system of accounts was ordered.

A clause allowing the cancelling of bonds on goods exported, where certificates are not procurable, was proposed. Progress reported.

No news here, and nothing else to report.

THE TOWER OF LONDON.—On Saturday morning the interior of the Tower of London presented an unusual scene of activity, in consequence of an order forwarded by the

government authorities to place the ancient fortress in a state of defence. About fifty men were at work under the direction of the superintendent of the Syssel Asphalt Company, in constructing a number of additional port holes for heavy cannon.

WEATHER IN THE NORTH.

Extract a letter received from this morning's mail from a Correspondent in Bathurst.

"The weather is astonishingly fine here—we never had such a moderate winter for snow in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Sickness is very prevalent at present, principally colds. A young man named William Getty, met with a serious accident the other day; while working in the woods the limb of a tree fell upon him; he has remained insensible ever since, and is not expected to live."

Our Correspondents in Restigouche also make mention of the extreme mildness of the weather experienced there during the present season.

Deaths.

At Wilson's Point, Parish of Nelson, on the 4th instant, after an illness of fourteen months, BENJAMIN PETER, son of Mr John Vye, aged 15 years.

CAUTION.

Whereas, CATHARINE, the Wife of Mr Connor Egan, has withdrawn from my Bed and Board without cause; this is to Caution the public that I will not be accountable for any debts she may contract in my name, from and after the date hereof.

CONNOR EGAN.

Bathurst, February 11, 1852.

CLEARING OUT SALE,

At a Great Reduction of Prices.

The Subscriber having determined on closing his business in Newcastle, and wishing to effect the same with all possible dispatch, has commenced selling off, at such unusually low prices as cannot fail to ensure a speedy sale.

HIS PRESENT STOCK,

Consisting in part of—
Grey and white cotton and selette caps, red, tons, striped shirts, white and blue cotton linen, bed-tick, mole-wraps, salmon and her-skin, drill, Flannels, ring twines, 6 boxes blue, red and white, \$x10 glass, cut and broadcloths, doeskins, wrought nails assort-cassimeres, buckskins, ed, 9 boxes mixed con-coburghs, cashmeres, lections, 60 bbls. su-orleans, printed cali-perfine Four, 50 do. coes, shawls, handker-Corn Meal, 30 do. Rye chiefs, gloves, stock-Flour, 60 do. Canso ings, ribbons, muslin, Herring, 6 puncheons and laces. Porto Rico Molasses, Mens' ready-made 40 sides Neats Lea-vests, mens' plush, further.

A general stock of GROCERIES, and a variety of SMALL WARES.

It being the Subscriber's intention to have all business matters brought to a close early in spring, he will continue to sell, at the lowest possible prices, for Cash, wholesale or retail, until the 1st of March next, and anything remaining on hand at that time, will be disposed off at Public Auction.

Wholesale purchasers would do well to call and examine his Stock, and should they be able to make a selection, he will make the prices to please them.

He has also in the Warehouse, in Chatham, 70 Half-chests Tea, 12 3-4 Boxes Tobacco, 50 sides New York Sole Leather, which will be sold by Mr JOHN EYSON, of the said place.

JOHN BEGNAL.

Newcastle, January 24, 1852.

Valuable Farm for Sale.

The Subscriber offers for sale that VALUABLE FARM, at present occupied by him, situate on the South side of the Main River, ten miles from the town of Richibucto, and seven miles from the Shipyard. It contains 100 Acres, 50 of which are under the plough, and well fenced. There are several good Out-houses on the Premises. There is also a healthy young ORCHARD attached.

Any person desirous of purchasing, can have the Stock and any quantity of Seed on the most reasonable terms.

THOMAS GRAHAM.

Maine River, Richibucto, January 20, 1852

Notice.

All persons having just claims against the Estate of JOHN MANDERSON, late of Chatham, Farmer, deceased, are requested to render the same, duly attested, within three months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to the said Estate, are requested to make immediate payment to

GEORGE KERR, Administrator.

Chatham, December 19, 1851. 3m

NOTICE.

All persons having any just claims against the Estate of JOHN LYNCH, late of the Parish of Newcastle, Farmer, deceased, are required to render the same, duly attested, to the subscriber, within three months; and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ALEX. GOODFELLOW,

Administrator.

Newcastle, 11th October, 1851.