

"hilarity." M. von Lassaulx did not withdraw the expression.

Egypt.—Alexandria, Jan. 21.—Mr Robert Stephenson sailed from this port for England in his yacht *Titania*, on the 13th instant, having previously visited the bed of Lake Timasah, and the bitter Lakes on the Isthmus of Suez, with a view to determine certain geological facts respecting which doubts had been entertained. Mr Stephenson states that evidence enough exists to shew that, at a period by no means remote, Africa must have been an island, and the Mediterranean and Red Seas united. He has collected scientific matter of considerable extent and interest, and his researches will, doubtless, be given to the world in one shape or other.

We hear the Pacha has intimated to the representatives of the great European powers that, owing to intelligence he has received from Constantinople of the intention of the Vizier to enforce the proposed tanzimat in Egypt, and particularly the clause withdrawing from the present and future rulers of Egypt, the power of inflicting capital punishment for any crime whatever, he entertains serious fears for the tranquillity of the country, and he feels he cannot guarantee to persons and property the safety hitherto enjoyed. We hear, also, that, owing to difficulties arising from the above named source, there is a probability of the Egyptian Government being obliged to suspend operations on the intended railway between Cairo and this City.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The *Hellespont*, screw-steamer, arrived at Plymouth yesterday week, having left the Cape on the 28th December.

The news by this arrival is much of the same character as that by previous mails.—Some skirmishing, a few killed, much cattle stealing, and considerable war preparations by the army. An expedition had been sent into the territories of Krell, the principal chief of Kaffirland, who, while professing neutrality, has given countenance to the enemy and permitted the robbery of the English settlers. The expedition crossed the Kei in two divisions, the main division under Gen. Somerset, who directs the military operations, consisting of 2000 infantry and 1000 cavalry. This division was formed of three columns, starting respectively from King William's Town, the Blakwater, and Whittlesea, under command of Colonel Mackinnon, General Somerset, and Captain Tylden. This force was composed of parties of the 2nd, 6th, and 73rd, regiments, 60th rifles, Cape mounted rifles, and other corps. Captain Tylden was detached with a party of 900 men (after the junction of the troops), and was joined by 100 cavalry, under Major Somerset, to make a foray at the source of the Kei, to endeavour to recover stolen cattle. In this he succeeded, and captured 2000 head of cattle, after some fighting, in which several Kaffirs were killed. General Somerset's camp was at Kakadu, near the White Kei, and on the 8th Col. Mackinnon and Lieutenant Colonel Michel started on patrol duty with 2000 men, but nothing had been heard of the operations of this party.—They must have been much impeded by the heavy rains.

Lieutenant Colonel Eyre, with a force of about 1000 men, left King William's Town on the first, and marched upon Butterworth, the mission station, and the chief residence of Krell. In crossing the Kei he met a considerable body of Kaffirs, commanded by Bookoo, an inferior chief who had followed the same policy as Krell. An engagement ensued, and it is said 49 of the Kaffirs were killed including two nephews of the chief. The loss on the side of the colonial army is said to be four only. On arriving at Butterworth Lieut. Colonel Eyre despatched a number of patrols into the country, and captured a number of cattle. In performing this service he encountered a body of Kaffirs and Hottentots, who are said to have been defeated by the first volley of the cavalry, and to have fled with the loss of 20.

In the districts of Albany, Fort Beaufort, Cradock, and Somerset the cases of cattle lifting and pillage by the Kaffirs and rebel Hottentots has been less frequent. This was in part due to the presence and efforts of the 12th and 74th regiments, and some coloured levies.

The enemy continues his strongholds at Waterkloof and Fish River Bush. A released prisoner had stated that at the former place, on the Kromme heights, the Kaffir camp covered a space equal to Fort Beaufort Town, and there was a quantity of cattle and sheep there. In one case the Kaffirs were said to have driven off from a farm 1900 sheep and 550 cattle; 450 of the sheep had been recaptured. The plunderers generally move in large bodies, both of horse and foot.

Sir Harry Smith had not yet left King William's Town, having remained there for ten months. There are no military operations in the vicinity, and the hostile Kaffirs are said to be tilling their gardens within five miles of the town, at a place from which they can be seen at the post.

INDIA.

By express from Marseilles the despatches from India in anticipation of the overland mail which left Bombay on the 3rd January have been received.

The Bombay correspondent of the *Times* writes.—"The present cold season promises to find us occupation for all our armies all along the line of the north-west, and most probably in Burmah also, if we may judge from present appearances. From Peshawar along to Dhera Ismael Khan, the tribes are either in arms or preparing to take them up against us, and a general rising seems to be

meditated. The Khyrpore Ameer, too, seems to rush on his fate. Altogether the prospects of war being close at hand is pretty certain, and it is the universal belief that stirring events will occur during the ensuing three months. On the frontier a couple of skirmishes have already taken place. A detachment at a place called Muta, four miles from the outpost of Shubkdr, and to the north-east of Dubb, where the force of Sir C. Campbell has for some time lain inactive, was attacked by a large body of Momunds on the 8th of December. Our party consisted of a party of the guide corps under Lieutenant Miller, a detail of artillery under Lieutenant Simeon, and the 2nd Punjab cavalry, the whole commanded by Captain Jackson, of the latter corps. The enemy are said to have numbered 4000 foot and 100 horse, at the head of whom were two chiefs; one-fourth of these numbers would probably be nearer the true strength of the force of the enemy. They appear to have thought of taking our men by surprise, but the reception they met with quickly made them fly."

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, MARCH 1, '53

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The mail by the *Cambria* came to hand on Thursday morning. The papers received are to the 7th of February. We have made some selections, which will be found under the proper head.

FISHERY SOCIETY.

According to public announcement, a meeting of the persons who had subscribed towards establishing a Fishery Society in this County, was held in the lecture room of the Mechanics' Institute in Chatham, on the afternoon of Friday last. The list was read over, which contained over fifty names, with the handsome sum of Sixty Pounds.

WILLIAM SALTER, Esq., Warden of the Fisheries, was unanimously called to the Chair, and JAMES A. PIERCE, requested to act as Secretary.

Moved by James A. Pierce, and seconded by William J. Fraser, Esq.

Whereas, it is desirable, in order to extend the operations of the Fisheries in the Northern portion of our Province, that an organized Association should be formed to promote and encourage the prosecution of such an important source of Domestic Wealth—

Therefore, *Resolved*, unanimously, That the meeting proceed to the formation of said Society, and adopt a Constitution for the government of the same.

William J. Fraser, Esq. who had taken a very lively interest in the matter, then submitted a code of Rules. They were read over section by section, and after some slight amendments, were adopted as the Constitution of the Society. The following is a copy.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Society to be called the "*Miramichi Fishery Society*," for the encouragement of the Fisheries.

2. The objects of the Society shall be to promote the extension of the River and Gulf Fisheries, to improve the modes of catching, curing, barrelling, and inspecting Fish; to procure and publish information respecting the Fisheries in other Countries, and in every other judicious way to foster and encourage this branch of Trade.

3. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Committee of 13 persons, who shall be chosen annually from among the Subscribers, by ballot. Five to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

4. That the Secretary be paid for his services out of the funds of the Society.

5. That in order to constitute a Member of this Society, it is necessary that he shall be a resident of this County, and shall contribute an annual subscription of Five Shillings; and that the contribution to the funds of the Society of the sum of Five Pounds, shall constitute a Life Member.

6. The Committee shall appropriate the funds of the Society in granting bounties, or otherwise, as they shall deem best for promoting the objects of the Society.

7. The Treasurer shall receive all funds, and pay the same only by the direction of the Committee, and on the order of the Secretary.

8. That there shall be an annual meeting of the Society, to be held on the 1st Tuesday in March, in each year hereafter, at Chatham, and also quarterly meetings of the Committee on the first Tuesday in March, June, September and December, in each year; but a special meeting of the Committee may be called at any time on the request of any two members of the Committee, to the Chairman, stating the object of the meeting, and the Secretary shall give the members five days' notice of the meeting.

9. A Report of the proceedings of the Society for the past year, shall be laid before the subscribers at the annual meeting with a detailed statement of the Treasurer's Account, which account shall be first examined and

audited by three members of the Society—not office-bearers—and the Report shall be published.

10. Any rule may be altered or any new rule added, at the annual meeting, but such alteration or new rule shall be lodged with the Secretary, and laid before the Committee at the previous quarterly meeting.

11. Any person neglecting to pay his subscription on or previous to the annual meeting in March, shall cease to be a member until such arrears are paid.

The meeting then proceeded to the appointment of Office Bearers for the present year, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

President—Roderick McLeod, Esq.

Vice President—Wm. J. Fraser, Esq.

Treasurer—George Kerr, Esq.

Secretary—James Caie, Esq.

Committee—Peter Mitchell, Wm. Salter, John Mackie, Chas. J. Peters, Richard Hutchison, Alex. Loudoun, Robert Noble, Wm. Morrison, Peter Morrison, William Muirhead, George E. Letson, John Macdougall, and George H. Russell.

It was understood that the persons appointed, should remain in office until the annual meeting in March, 1853.

Moved by Peter Mitchell, Esq., and seconded by R. McLeod, Esq., and

Resolved, unanimously, That the proceedings of the meeting, as well as the Constitution adopted, be published in the *Gleaner*.

WM. SALTER, Chairman.

The Chairman having left the Chair, and W. J. Fraser, Esq., being called there-to, the usual complimentary vote of thanks to the Chairman was unanimously passed, as well as a similar one to the Secretary.

The meeting then adjourned.

JAS. A. PIERCE, Secretary.

We have much satisfaction in publishing the above proceedings, and we hope the office-bearers of the Society will set about their business in right good earnest. They have an extensive field before them. The liberal sum subscribed, and the amount they will be able to draw from the Provincial Treasury, will place at their disposal ample means for the encouragement of a branch of business which has been most singularly neglected. It is admitted that no County in the Province possesses greater facilities for carrying on the River and Deep Sea Fisheries than Northumberland; but, strange to say, that while nature has so lavishly bestowed these advantages on us, it frequently occurs that not a quintal of dry codfish can be procured in the market, and it is a great treat to get a fresh fish of any kind. The greater portion of our Mackerel is procured from Nova Scotia, and our Herring from the same quarter, the Labrador and Newfoundland.

When the Agricultural Society went into operation, the principal portion of our supplies were obtained from P. E. Island, as well as our seed oats, wheat, potatoes &c., and our wharves were crowded with small craft from that Colony, every spring and fall. Now, a vessel from that quarter is a great curiosity in our river, for we obtain those supplies from our own Farmers. We hope soon to see a similar change effected in the article of fish.—Instead of depending on strangers for this indispensable article of food, we will be supplied by our own Fishermen, and that the period will soon arrive when it will become one of our chief articles of export.

STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN QUEBEC AND PICTOU.

It will be seen by the telegraphic despatches, that the Assembly refused to give any Grant to encourage Major Norton to place a Steamer on the route between Quebec and Pictou, touching at Gaspe, Miramichi, and Shediac. It appears, however, that some of the members, after the House adjourned, had some compunctions of conscience for sins committed towards their fellow subjects whose lot has been cast in the dark, benighted regions of the North. The matter was re-considered, and the very handsome and liberal sum of £500 per annum, for three years, granted towards that object. This is an act of justice which we have much pleasure in recording.

It appears that the Committee to whom the subject was referred in the Assembly of Nova Scotia, have made a report unfavorable to the application. The reasons assigned, according to the British American, are very silly, "because the Steamer would be a foreign boat, and because she would touch only one port in Nova Scotia." We hope, however, the House will take a different view of the matter.

The above named paper thus comments on the report of the Committee:—

"We regret, for the honor of Nova Scotia—whose sons have made such an outcry about progress lately, that the absence of it seems to us, even the disposition to aid a valuable enterprise, will send the stream of travel and traffic, from us, to a track by way of St. John and Shediac, to Miramichi, Gaspe

and Quebec, instead of by Pictou and Halifax; and we are quite sure the Legislature of New Brunswick will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to secure what we have foolishly thrown away."

"The next step in progress will be for the people of Pictou to petition the Home Government not to allow the Cunard steamers to touch at Halifax, because Nova Scotia is only a Colony, and because Halifax is only one port in Nova Scotia."

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The Washington papers state that during the year 1851 there was expended for the support of Public Schools in that city, the sum of \$416,519 84, and the average attendance of scholars was 40,000 per day. The expences of the year 1852 are estimated at \$505,452 57.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MORNING NEWS.—The Editor in his last number says: "We have received a great number of letters from Miramichi, boiling with fury at Mr Street's conduct in countenancing Mr Chandler's Railway conduct, and deserting as it were his Northern friends. Mr Street need not pretend to go back to Northumberland for re-election."

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The papers furnish us with a very meagre account of the sayings and doings in the Legislature, and the Debates are very far behind, only up to the 10th instant, and the Journals to the 19th. We refer our readers for the latest news to the telegraphic despatches, by which it will be perceived that the Government are getting rather roughly handled for their Railway policy.

PROSPECTS OF THE RAILWAY.

The Editor of the Morning News, in his paper of Saturday last, says:—"We have received letters from Fredericton stating that the Government Railway scheme would be defeated in the House. Every man who votes against it ought to be looked upon as a Saviour to his country. We further learn that there is war in the Government camp, and that an explosion may soon be expected."

As every matter connected with this important subject is interesting to our readers, we copy the following Letter from a Correspondent in Halifax to the Editor of the News. The revelations are curious, but characteristic of the parties concerned:

HALIFAX, 12th Feb., 1852.

Dear Sir,—As you folks in St. John will no doubt be anxious to get a little insight into the strange movements that have lately taken place here in Railway matters, I shall proceed to give you a peep behind the scenes.—That Mr Howe was perfectly sincere when he wrote and signed the Report of the Committee, declaring that the proposition of the Delegates could not be entertained, there can be no doubt. His attempt to explain that he did so for the purpose of hoodwinking the Delegates, was a confession of duplicity that was quite uncalled for, and served no purpose, as his auditors knew what his real opinions were too well to swallow such a story. But the Delegates were tickled by it, and allowed themselves to be caught.

What then, you will ask, was the cause of his sudden change of opinion? Why this:—Mr Chandler, on his refusal to accede to the terms, said at once that in that case the Government of New Brunswick would accept of Mr Archibald's offer—build a line from Quebec to St. John, and another from Shediac to Calais, and leave Nova Scotia alone in her glory. This brought him round with a vengeance, as he would a thousand times rather that there should never be a railroad in the Colonies, than that Archibald should outmanoeuvre him.

After a consultation therefore, your humble servant being a listener behind the door, the following conclusions were arrived at:

By accepting the proposal, Archibald's plan would be killed, and New Brunswick forced into the same boat to sink or swim with Nova Scotia.

Again, a Delegation from the three Provinces would have to be sent to England to negotiate for better terms. The chances were, that however Canada and New Brunswick might decide on this side of the water as to the route, the real decision would have to be made by Earl Grey, or rather by the Military Engineers to whom it would be referred. That a Northern or Central route would be the only one listened to, Mr Howe was confident especially as he knows who is who about the Colonial Office, and can easily walk round Chandler or Young in diplomacy.

Earl Grey then having pronounced as may be expected, dead against a Railroad skirting the Bay of Fundy and the State of Maine, and much time having been lost and all other chances for having a Railroad having disappeared, the Delegates, rather than come home like whipped curs, will close with the offer and accept 'Railways anywhere and at any cost.'

That such was the private reasoning used to secure such a large majority to the measure, I believe to be a fact. That ten men in the House would have voted for it, if St. John was to be the real terminus of the Quebec Railway, no man knowing the feelings that prevail here would believe.

You are singularly innocent on your side of the Bay about borrowing money. I should