

The whole distance from St. John to Shediac in a direct line, 'as the crow flies,' is ninety-eight miles. The railway line proposed and surveyed by Mr Wilkinson from St. John to Shediac, is 107 miles, or only nine miles longer than the most direct line possible! It is said that this is the smallest deflection from a straight line of any railway route yet surveyed in Europe or America.

The location of the exact route of the railway by Messrs. Beattie and Campbell, will go on at once; the first stakes will be driven this day.

Melancholy Catastrophe.—A despatch received at the News Room last evening, from Calais, states that John S. Phillips, Joel Gooch, and Mr Fenderson, lost their lives at Alexander on Tuesday, by going into a well which contained noxious gas. The former went into the well for the purpose of repairing it, and not coming out as soon as expected, he was discovered bent over, with his head against the side of the well motionless, and was supposed to have been attacked with fits, to which he was subject. Joel Gooch went down to extricate him but was immediately overpowered by the gas, and expired. Mr Fenderson then went down with a rope, and succeeded in fastening it to the body of Gooch; he then commenced ascending, and when about half way up, he called out to those above to hold on, and then fell down to the bottom. The bodies have since been got out. The unfortunate men were all residents of Alexander.

Public Ball to the Officers of the Mississippi.—A Ball to Commodore Perry and the officers of the United States steam frigate Mississippi will be given by our Citizens this evening, at the St. John Hotel, which we doubt not will be numerous and fashionably attended. His Honor Col. Murray has kindly permitted the Band of the 72d Regt. to be present on the occasion, and Messrs. Hatheway and Small, the enterprising proprietors of the Union line of steamers on the St. John, have generously offered to convey the Band from and to Fredericton for half price.

This being the first time that an American steam frigate was ever in our port, she has naturally attracted much attention, and numbers have visited her, all of whom speak in the highest terms of the courtesy and gentlemanly deportment of her officers.

We understand that the Mississippi will sail to-morrow for Halifax.—*New Brunswick.*

WEST INDIES.

From Demarara.—The discovery of gold in large quantities and of a superior quality in the frontier boundary between this country and Venezuela has caused great excitement and some alarm, as being the means of thinning the population, already scant for the requirements of cultivation.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Albatross.—This fine steamer will be here on Thursday, as we are informed by advertisement. Any passengers for the north will now have a good opportunity.—*Halifax B. American of Wednesday.*

Our readers will be gratified to learn that the Contractors for erecting the Barracks at Fort Needham, are now in the city, and have already commenced operations by measuring the ground, &c.

The Sydney Academy with the grounds, have been sold at auction for £235: the building alone cost over £700 about 8 years ago.

The Politician.

THE COLONIAL PRESS.

From the St. John New Brunswick. LAW REFORM.

The last number of the Head Quarters contains an excellent article on this subject, which is now engaging the attention of sensible men both in Great Britain and America. The Head Quarters has recently been under the editorial management of Wm. Watts, Jr., Esq., a member of the legal profession; and with such authority before us, we feel quite safe in touching upon a matter which has heretofore been held almost sacred by its advocates and apologists. We are therefore glad to see one so competent devoting his energies to the task, and trust that he may be the means of arousing the whole country to the importance and urgent necessity of affecting a thorough reform in the practice of the Law in this Province. The editor of the Head Quarters commences the discussion of this subject in the following logical manner:—

A very unwise pre-eminence has all along been exacted and conceded to the profession and professors of the law in these Provinces, and has led to many unfortunate results.—Among them we may signalize the undue proportion of our educated youth of all classes who are led to adopt the profession of the law, rather we believe, from an idea of its gentility, than from any reasonable prospect of fortune, and certainly rather than from any rational promise of reputation to be acquired in it. So far has this preference, so to call it, been carried, that there is now scarcely a family in the country which in some one or more of its relations, is not interes-

ted to preserve intact what is called the dignity of the law as a profession, and the immunities of Lawyers as its professors.

Yet the law is, or rather should be, simply the administration of justice, entitled to respect if it accomplishes its purposes as cheaply, as rapidly, and as satisfactorily as it can be made to and entitled to—amendment as soon as it is discovered that it fails in either of these particulars. Lawyers are, or should be, regarded simply as individuals who have selected the law as their means of making a livelihood—respectable if they make themselves so by a conduct which would be respectable in any other calling, but neither one whit more or less respectable from the mere fact that they are Lawyers. Industry, integrity, and ability may and should advance a man in fortune and character in the law, and so it may, and so it should, as a laborer. Without these in either vocation he is but a fellow; with these in either he is equally a man and a gentleman, whether he butters his bread by writing on or dressing sheepskin.

We therefore bring ourselves to deal with the question of 'Law and Lawyers' with just the same and no more respect than we would employ on any other subject which concerns the well being of our country and those who live in it.

We hold that the Law as a system, to be spelled from our Statute books, Imperial and Colonial, the text-writers and commentators of Britain and the United States, (for these are used very freely now, and with great advantage, while things are as they are,) and from the decision of English and American Courts is defective—radically defective in all the particulars named—that it is expensive, dilatory, and unsatisfactory, and in all these respects becoming 'no better very fast.'

Is not its expensiveness written in many a cost book? Has it not been told in tears and blood, and broken fortunes, and desolated hearths, and scattered households?

How many a roof free in this fair Province has looked down upon a tenement emptied of its inmates by the not only ruthless and mysterious, but exorbitant tyrannies of that 'weird daughter' of the law—an ejection? How many an unfortunate debtor has found his liabilities quadrupled by the 'ready reckoner' of the law, and how oftentimes have heart and hope given way under the complication of disasters which these have brought about him, until the prison or the grave, perhaps, afford him a welcome refuge from an oppression which he could neither understand nor escape.

Who will gainsay that the law is dilatory?—If the axiom which Lawyers even are ready to quote, is to be accepted, that 'a delay of justice is almost equivalent to a denial of it,' surely justice is almost or altogether denied in New Brunswick, where there is money and pertinacity interested to clog its wheels. Why, a suit at law is now scarcely fairly started until after a verdict or two has been overturned for some made, or fancied, or permitted, or prescribed mistake of the Jury, or some misdirection or indirection of the judge. Once on a time—but it was a long time since—it was wont to be said by the sages, learned in black letter, that there 'should be an end of law,' now a *not* has been interpolated by modern wisdom, and our Judges and Barristers have become anti-finality men.—We were about to offer a modern suit 'at law or in equity' rightly contested as a claimant for the reward offered for perpetual motion, but we give up the idea, *it don't go*, or so slowly that the movement is imperceptible.

Is the administration of justice in our Courts satisfactory? Can they in this intelligent, and, in the main, fair minded age vindicate their judgments by an appeal to the apprehension and discretion of common sense? Are the judgments they pronounce—the reasons they assign, patent to the instincts of justice, which every man possesses, and satisfactory to the intelligent bystander who hears them? Are not juries sometimes constrained to render verdicts in obedience to a law which they do not understand, and which is supported by reasoning which they clearly perceive to be no reasoning—verdicts against which their inherent sense of right revolts, and built upon omissions and admissions, technical, arbitrary, and inconsistent with every notion of natural justice?—Or if a jury venture to assert their independence, and try the cause and determine it by their sense of the evidence in the light of their own intelligence, and under the guidance of God and their consciences, will not the power of the 'Court above' visit such a verdict with sure and swift displeasure, and send it back to seek a more submissive, a less intelligent, or a less scrupulous panel. The man who travels through our Courts, and gets just, and only what he knows to be his right, may fairly say of himself as the Emperor Alexander of Russia did, 'I am a fortunate accident.' For in spite of the

best exertions of our Judges, whom we know to be learned, and we fully believe to be men of the most spotless integrity in their office—the law—in its rules, requirements, artifices, technicalities, contradictions, refinements, and barbarities, offers so many hindrances to fair play and straightforward common sense justice that the wonder is not—that law is costly—not that it is slow and oblique—nor that it is unsatisfactory in many cases—the wonder is that it is ever just—a greater wonder that it has been so long tolerated.

We shall soon resume this subject, and treat of what we want, and what we expect from the laborers of the Law Commission, to which this article is to be considered as introductory.

WESLEYAN ACADEMY, Mount Allison, Sackville, N.B.

Principal—Rev. HUMPHREY PICKARD, A. M. Chaplain—Rev. ALBERT DESBRISAY. Treasurer—CHARLES F. ALLISON, Esq. Steward—Mr THOMPSON TRUEMAN.

This Institution will continue to be conducted upon the same principles which have rendered it so generally popular, and secured for it such extensive patronage from almost every part of these Provinces. It has now been opened and in successful operation upwards of nine years. The arrangements which were made to accomplish the important object for which it had been founded, were such as obtained for it, from its very commencement, a high position in the public estimation; and those upon whom the direction of its affairs has devolved, have been stimulated and encouraged by its prosperity, to continued efforts to render it, in all its departments, ever increasingly efficient. Every year in its history has, consequently, been marked by valuable additions to its Educational facilities, and by more or less extensive general improvements throughout the Establishment. The attention of Young Men, and of Parents and guardians of youth, is, therefore, respectfully invited to it, as an Institution where the advantages of a thorough intellectual training may be obtained in safety and comfort, and under most favorable circumstances.

FACULTY.

Rev. H. PICKARD, A. M., Professor of Mental Philosophy, Ethics, &c. &c. Mr THOS. PICKARD JUNIOR, A. M., Professor of Mathematics, Physical science, &c. &c. Mr ALEX. S. REID, French Tutor, and Assistant in Classical Department. Mr ARTHUR W. N. PATTERSON, Assistant in Primary Department.

The next Term will begin on Thursday, the 5th August. EXPENSES.—For Board, &c. and Tuition, from £25 to £30 per annum. * * * Persons wishing further information, are requested to apply to either the Principal or the Chaplain. Mount Allison, July 5, 1852.

THE ALNWICK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S

Show of Cattle, and Ploughing Match

Will be held in a field belonging to RODERICK McLEOD, Esq., North side Tabusintac River, on TUESDAY, the 12th day of October next. The Committee will meet at nine o'clock, the Ploughs to be on the ground at ten o'clock, and the Animals for competition at eleven o'clock, A. M.

Members bringing Teams and Stock for Exhibition, will have their ferrage paid by the Society.

PREMIUMS for Domestic Manufactures, Grains, &c. will be distributed at the Residence of Roderick McLeod, Esq., on the FIRST WEDNESDAY in January, 1853, at ten o'clock, A. M.; and the Committee to meet at nine o'clock of the same day.

RULES and REGULATIONS.

1st. No Premium shall be awarded for any article of Domestic Manufacture, or Produce of the Dairy, which has not been wholly manufactured and prepared by a Member or some of his family.

2nd That no Premium be awarded for Grains, Field Roots, Field Seeds, Garden Seeds, Dairy Produce, Domestic Manufacture or Live Stock, nor any prize to Ploughmen, except to Members of the Society who have paid their Annual Subscriptions. The ploughs may be held by a son or servant.

3rd That no Premium be awarded for any Animal not raised and owned by a Member in this Parish, except it be an Animal imported six months previous to the day of Show.

4th That no individual who is awarded the first Prize on any article, shall be entitled to a second Prize on the same description of article.

5th No article of Grain or Seeds of any kind, which has undergone any chemical or fire-drying process, or has been picked or sorted, for the purpose of taking a Prize, will receive a Premium, or be allowed to enter for competition.

W. RUSSELL, Jr., Secretary. Tabusintac, 12th July, 1852.

CROWN LAND NOTICE.

CROWN LAND OFFICE, August 3, 1852.

The undermentioned Lots of Crown Lands will be offered for sale at Public Auction, on Tuesday, the 7th day of September next, at noon, by the respective Deputies at their Offices, agreeably to the Regulations of 11th May, 1843, and no sale on credit will be made to any person who is indebted to the Crown for previous purchases.

(The right of granting Licences for the cutting of Logs and Timber is to be reserved by the Government, after the Land has been surveyed and improved to the value of not less than ten pounds, until the first day of May next following such survey and improvements.)

(No person is allowed to hold more than one hundred acres payable by instalments.)

GLOUCESTER.

By Deputy Carruthers, at Bathurst. 100 acres, lot 135, Beresford, F. Fernier.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

By Deputy Peters. 97 acres, lot 30, block 45, Blissfield, including Islands, O and W, applicants O. Willard and Wm. Hogan; improvements to be paid for.

KENT.

By Deputy Douglas, at Buctouche. 100 acres, lot K, block O, Wellington, Matthews.

100 acres, lot L, block O, Wellington, A. Matthews improved.

100 acres, lot M, block O, Wellington, W. Matthews improved.

50 acres, lot 94, block 5, Wellington, north of Black River, Chas. Myres.

By Deputy Merzeral, at Richibucto.

100 acres, lot A, block N, Weldford, J. Stuart, Junr.

100 acres, lot B, block N, Weldford, J. Taylor, improved.

100 acres, lot C, block 11, north of Kouchibouguac, R. Carter, improved.

R. D. WILMOT, Sur Gen.

CROWN LAND OFFICE,

August 3, 1852.

The right of Licence to cut and carry away Timber and Lumber from berths applied for by the following persons, in the under-mentioned situations, will be offered for sale by Public Auction at this Office, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of Wednesday the eighteenth day of August next.

(Surveyed Lots of Land heretofore applied for, and improved to the value of ten pounds, are excepted.)

| Name. | Sq. Miles. | Situation. |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Arthur Ritchie | 3 | Jacquet River |
| do | 3 | Upsalquitch River |
| Richard Hutchison | 3 | Barnaby's River |
| do | 3 | do |
| do | 6 | N. W. Miramikki River |
| do | 3 | do |
| do | 6 | do |
| do | 6 | do |
| do | 6 | do |
| do | 6 | do |
| Arthur Ritchie | 9 | Upsalquitch River |
| do | 2 | Jacquet River |
| Richard Hutchison | 2 | Burnt Hill Brook |
| William J. Fraser | 2 | Bay des Verts River |
| Robert Johnston | 3 | Bay des Verts River |
| do | 4 | Renous River |
| do | 2½ | Barnaby's River |

CROWN LAND NOTICES.

CROWN LAND OFFICE, July 3, 1852.

Public Notice is hereby given, that the Tract of Land in the Parish of Boisford, near the mouth of Kouchibouguac River, heretofore known as the 'Indian Reserve,' will be offered for sale in Lots by Auction, by the Indian Commissioners, on the spot, at noon, on Wednesday, the eight day of September next:—

Lot A, 5½ acres.—Upset price, £5 per acre. Lot B, 5 acres.—Upset price, £4 per acre. Lot C, 5½ acres.—Upset price £3 per acre. D, 32 do do 5s. do E, 34 do do 10s. do F, 23 do do 7s. 6d. do G, 59 do do 7s. 6d. do H, 32 do do 7s. 6d. do

The purchasers also to pay the value of the improvements at the time of sale to the parties who have made them.

Terms of sale and expenses of Survey will be made known by the Commissioners.

R. D. WILMOT, Sur Gen.



ACCOMMODATION STAGE

BETWEEN FREDERICTON AND MIRAMICHI.

The Subscribers will run a Day Stage as above—leaving Chatham on THURSDAY, at 7 o'clock, A. M., and arrive in Fredericton on the following day; and leaving Fredericton on TUESDAY, at the same hour, and arrive in Miramichi on Wednesday.

The MAIL STAGE will leave Chatham on MONDAY Morning as usual, at 9 o'clock, and Fredericton on FRIDAY morning at 11 o'clock.

W. M. KELLY ROBERT ORR Chatham 23th June, 1852.