

## The Politician.

THE COLONIAL PRESS.

From the Halifax Nova Scotian.

### PROTECTION TO THE FISHERIES.

We observe that a memorial to the Legislature, touching this vitally important subject, is on Keefer's desk for signature. Without at present entering into any discussion as to the means by which efficient protection can be afforded to this invaluable source of national wealth, we cannot but express our gratification at the increasing interest beginning to be manifested on the part of the people of these Provinces with reference to the Fisheries. We trust the document in question will be signed by every man in this city and vicinity, and that when the question is taken up by the Legislature the subject may receive the care and consideration its importance demands. It is high time that the Provincials understood the exact position they occupy, as regards the valuable Fisheries along their coasts. It is a matter of notoriety that very great misconception is prevalent as to the assumed rights and privileges of both ourselves and foreigners in the prosecution of the Fisheries.

We remember to have read a few months since, a clever article in the Boston Post, on the question of the Fisheries of North America, in which the writer argued, apparently most satisfactorily to himself and doubtless equally so to the Americans, that, according to the treaty of 1783, the citizens of the then new Republic were not divested of any right as far as the Fisheries were concerned, previously enjoyed by them as British subjects. Be this as it may, it is notorious that both the Americans and the French are annually growing bolder in their aggression, and that year after year they are increasing the value of their resources drawn from our waters. It is assumed that our three thousand miles of coast, all of which is more or less available for prosecuting this valuable branch of industry, only yields us about £1,500,000; while those periodically poaching on our supposed "preserves," draw annually upon them to the tune of £3,000,000, and upwards.

It is painful in the extreme to contemplate this unenviable state of things; it is not less humiliating to be compelled to acknowledge that, notwithstanding our fancied superiority as far as respects propinquity to the Fishing stations, we nevertheless occupy the third rank as Fishermen; but it surely becomes us as men to look the evil fairly in the face, and use every legitimate means to rectify the abuse, which presses so heavily upon us as a people, and our prosperity as provinces. To achieve this we must not only speak boldly but act promptly. The day has gone past when we can any longer be mealy mouthed with reference to the Fisheries, or indeed on any subject of legitimate complaint. The time has arrived when, if we are but true to ourselves, this crying evil may be neutralized. We shall to all appearance soon be called upon to decide this matter for ourselves. A reasonable reciprocity with our natural customers would speedily adjust the whole question at issue; but if this boon is much longer denied it will be incumbent upon us to look round and see if we cannot find out efficient means for protecting our Fisheries.

## THURSDAY'S MAIL.

### COLONIAL NEWS.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

**Halifax Harbor.**—The manifold advantages of Halifax harbor, contrasted with almost every port on this continent, have been peculiarly manifest during the present season up to the present period. The majority, it is not the whole, of the harbors to the northward of Old Chebucto, have long since been fast bound in the icy embraces of hoary old Winter; while nearly every port from this to Richmond, Virginia, have been more or less obstructed with ice; and yet the harbor of Halifax has, notwithstanding the acknowledged severity of the season, remained entirely open, without the slightest symptoms of being caught with the frost. Unfortunately, our "Shipping List," at this season of the year, is a very short one; but the number of vessels at this port, might be increased to any amount, without being subjected to the damage and danger from ice periodically incurred, even as far south as the locality above mentioned.

**The Dartmouth Canal.**—C. E. Fairbanks, Esq., Civil Engineer, who has been entrusted by the Local Government with the charge of the Dartmouth Canal, has a memorial to the Legislature at present on the desk at Keefer's Reading Room, already most respectfully and numerous signed, calling attention on the part of the collective wisdom to the necessity of completing the undertaking. That the consummation of this hopeful enterprise would amply repay the expense incurred we have never entertained a doubt, and therefore have much pleasure in recommending the memorial in question to the favorable consideration of the public generally.

**Newfoundland Telegraph.**—F. N. Gisborne, Esq., the able and energetic explorer of a line of Telegraph from St. Johns to Cape Ray, returned to this City in the last R. M. Steamer from the United States. We are glad to learn from Mr G., in person, that his mission to the United States has been eminently successful—all the stock necessary for proceeding with the undertaking, forthwith

having been subscribed for instant— and that he anticipates no difficulty whatever, in establishing the line in question. Mr Gisborne intends, we understand, proceeding to Saint Johns by the Ospray next week; and it is probable that he will again visit the United States, if not England, prior to commencing operations in Terra Nova, in the ensuing spring. Altogether, the prospects of Newfoundland appear to be brightening, and we doubt not that Saint Johns will not only succeed in Direct Steam Navigation, but possibly be ultimately a port of call for both outward and homeward bound steamers between Europe and America.—*Halifax Nova Scotian, Jan. 19.*

The past few days favored us with a specimen of old fashioned winter. The sleighing has been admirable, and numbers of our citizens availed themselves of the enjoyment and the opportunity of showing off their elegant outfits. Crowds of lookers on, admiring or envying, gathered at the corners to witness the turn-out, whilst the jingle of merry sleigh bells might be heard long after night had dropped her sable curtain.

The scheme of flying carrier pigeons from Cape Ray to Cape North for the conveyance of English news is not now to be entertained. We understand that the connection will be by sub-marine Telegraph as between Dover and Calais. We see no reason to doubt its practicability. May we not hazard also the opinion that, within a brief period, by the agency of the sub-marine invention, we shall be in daily telegraphic communication with London! Why not?

The following account of the steadily progressive extension of the Roman Empire, which we give in geographical miles, may not be unacceptable to a large portion of our readers.

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| From 1462 to 1505 the empire comprised territories comprehending | 30,565  |
| From 1505 to 1534  | 40,155  |
| 1534 to 1554   | 145,020 |
| 1554 to 1598   | 151,494 |
| 1598 to 1645   | 237,905 |
| 1645 to 1670   | 266,358 |
| 1670 to 1682   | 270,313 |
| 1682 to 1725   | 279,323 |
| 1725 to 1750   | 324,546 |
| 1750 to 1762   | 324,588 |
| 1762 to 1796   | 336,632 |
| 1796 to 1801   | 335,633 |
| 1801 to 1811   | 340,892 |

Since the year 1816 the boundaries have been nearly stationary. In that year they included 346,702 miles.

Now as a geographical mile measures 21½ English, this prodigious empire comprehends upwards of 7,516,702 square miles.

It appears therefore that in the course of little more than three centuries it has increased to about 18 times its original extent.—*Halifax Sun.*

#### CANADA.

**Saturday Night's Mail.**—The first sod of the Quebec and Richmond Railway was turned on the 7th by the Hon. Francis Hucks, who was introduced to the multitude present by the Hon E. Caron, President of the Company. At a luncheon, provided by the Company, this toast was drunk: "The Railroads of British North America—may they soon extend from Halifax to Sandwich." It was joyously received.—*Halifax Sun, Jan. 19.*

#### WEST INDIES.

**Jamaica.**—The House of Assembly and Council have joined issue with the Executive on the question of "privilege." Both branches soundly maintaining that it is the birthright of the people of a free Colony to have the immediate benefit of all the public Acts as soon as they have passed the Council Legislature. (i.e.)—They deny the veto power of the crown as capriciously resorted to by a Colonial Secretary.

The Assembly, in its "Address," maintains that "to hold up instructions addressed to the Governor as a guide to the Legislature is simply to place the House at the disposal of the Colonial Minister; and to surrender every privilege belonging to an independent Legislature."

The Council, in their Address, assume the same tone, reiterate the same views, and bark their remonstrance by a series of strong Resolutions.

Letters from Kingston, Jamaica, of the 2nd instant, state that Admiral Seymour is to have an inquiry made in reference to the brig Express firing into the Prometheus. The Brig had been ordered up from Greytown for that purpose. The cholera has broken out again. There is none, however, at Kingston.

**Trinidad.**—An alarming shock of an Earthquake in Port au Spain on the 25th ult. Many persons quitted their houses, and fled to the streets. No damage was done beyond the cracking of a few walls.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

**Mechanics' Institute.**—On Monday evening, D. S. Kerr, Esq., of Fredericton occupied the attention of a respectable audience in giving, in an excellent extempore address of two hours, his views upon the best means of elevating our country. After some introductory remarks upon our Province, its capabilities—vast resources—and general advantages,—upon the want of *amor patriæ*, that is too common among New Brunswickers, and endeavouring to enforce a consideration of the love of country upon us, not as a morbid sentiment, but as an active principle, leading us to think and act for its welfare, he took up the following topics, which, if acted upon, he considered were the most likely to conduce to our prosperity—

1st. Habits of industry and economy; on this point he adverted to the fact noticed by Professor Johnston, that we did not know the value of time—that we were behind our Republican neighbours in this respect—some numerous examples of which he quoted, among others, that of the American labourers who put up the Telegraph posts throughout the country, and caused much annoyance, and in some cases night-mare, to our worthy farmers along the line, who didn't understand the use of early rising.

2d. By raising the character of the country; in which he administered a severe rebuke to those who were ever depreciating a Province, which Professor Johnston, and other competent judges have pronounced second to none in North America.

3d. By encouraging Agriculture, Horticulture, in which he shewed by quotations from the writings of Daniel Webster, and others, that the foundation—the source of the real wealth of a country is in its Agriculture.

4th. By advancing the Mercantile interests; in which he brought forward some useful views upon the ruinous effects of the lumber trade as now carried on, and means, whereby the Merchant, while benefitting himself, might more effectually advance the general interests of the country.

5th. By encouraging manufactures; in which he instanced the prosperity of Massachusetts, a State much smaller, and less favoured by nature, yet having a population four times the size of ours, and manufactures which find their way into every market in the world.

6th. By carrying out the principle of Association, in which he gave an interesting account of the "New Brunswick Society, for the encouragement of Agriculture, Home Manufactures and Commerce," in the course of which he passed a well merited eulogium on our worthy townsman, Robert Jardine, Esq., who, as he justly observed, had done more to advance the general interests of the Province both theoretically and practically, than any other man in it.

7th. By developing the resources of the Country, by means of Industrial Exhibitions; in the course of which he gave a statement of the intentions of the Committee who are appointed to carry out the People's Exhibition, to be holden in Fredericton in October next—and also commented in severe terms upon the miserable show we made in the World's Exhibition, no part of which could be assumed by the Fredericton Society, who were ready, and had a Catalogue of articles for the Exhibition, prepared by Dr. Robb, but all the information they could get from the Provincial Government was, that a commissioner was appointed!

8th. The Country would be advanced by the promotion of Temperance.

9th. By an improved system of Education.

10th. By female influence and Education. Each of those topics were treated with ability and to the point, the style was well suited to the subject, it was enlivened throughout by a spirit of happy humour—here and there sarcasm well applied, with occasional bursts of real eloquence, real, because it was evidently from the heart.—*St. John Courier.*

**The Governor's Speech.**—The Halifax Recorder in speaking of Sir Edmund Head's Speech, says—

For all in all we pronounce it the most unstatesmanlike document we ever remember to have seen published in a British Colony.

We are not surprised at all that the editor of the Sun should have suspected it to be a burlesque.

There is a lamentable want of dignity and design throughout. The composition is mean and common place. In closing his observations on the subject of the Railway, Sir Edmund says—'Having said this much on the subject of Railways, I leave the matter in your hands.' And we say the same by the speech.—*Morning News.*

### PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

From the St. John Courier.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13.

Mr CUTLER asked whether the Government had come to the determination of refusing to sell the lands along the line of Railway. In his county, Kent, it was found to be very inconvenient; many applications had been made and not acceded to.

We understood the Hon. Surveyor General to state that the subject was at present under the consideration of the Executive. Over a thousand applications for land along the contemplated line of Railways were now lying in the Crown Land Office.

Mr HANNINGTON said that the refusal to dispose of those lands was working much harm in his County also—that persons who had taken farms in the hope that others would settle by them and assist in the making of roads, &c. were now abandoning their farms because all others were prevented from settling near them. The Government, he thought, were bound to reserve those lands only by the address of the House, the terms of which were not complied with. He hoped they would see the necessity of disposing of any portion of those lands that may be required by actual settlers, and not for purposes of speculation. The progress of the country should not be retarded awaiting the issue of the negotiations on the Railroad.

Captain ROBINSON said that the Directors of the Saint Andrews and Quebec Line had assured the settler's along that line that they would be treated on the same terms as those who had obtained Government grants. The conversation dropped.

Mr Botsford would ask the Provincial

Secretary if the Government had prepared any measure to remove the difficulties relative to mining leases, the right of entry &c.

We understood the Secretary to say that no such measure had as yet been prepared.

Mr WILLISTON asked if the Government were prepared to lay information before the House relative to the reduction of the expense attending the office of the Auditor General. The question had been discussed last session, and if the Government were not prepared to lay some information for the House, he (Mr W.) would move in the matter at an early day.

The Hon. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY said the Government were not prepared to furnish any information on this subject at present. The hon. member had better wait until the accounts came in, and then he could make any motion he pleased.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15.

In reply to a question from Mr. Botsford, Mr Partelow stated that Government had not yet prepared measures respecting mining leases. In reply to Mr Williston, he said they were not prepared to give information respecting the Auditor General. In reply to Mr Cutler, Mr Wilmot stated the subject of granting lands along the Railway Lines was now under the consideration of the Council.

Mr CUTLER's resolution, that lands reserved for Railways should be granted to actual settlers, and Mr Wilmot's addition, that Licenses for cutting timber on them be granted, both passed. Temperance Petitions presented—also Petitions that Grand Manan and Campo Bello be made free ports.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16.

Bills to amend the Act incorporating the Richibucto Telegraph Company, and to abolish the inspection of Flour in Saint Andrews, passed in Committee.

The Petitions for the repeal of the export duty on Hackmatac Knees, were referred to the lumber committee to report upon.

## SATURDAY'S MAIL.

From the Fredericton Head Quarters.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10.

The House was almost entirely occupied to-day in receiving petitions and bills. The Hon. Attorney General presented a petition from certain clergymen of Northumberland, praying that a bill may pass to exempt all furniture imported for churches, chapels, and all places of public worship free of duty.

Mr Needham did not object to the petition, but if a bill was to be based upon it, great caution was necessary, as a school house might be a place of worship, and this would therefore include the furniture of a school house in the list of importations.

Mr Williston never saw a petition introduced into that House that was more of a side-winded character. It originated thus:—A church was built at Miramichi, and the clergyman superintending had imported stained glass, and other nonsense, and had applied to the House last Session for a drawback of the duties—the trifling sum of 12 pounds. The sole object of this petition, and of a petition presented the other day, was, therefore, to procure that drawback.

Mr Johnson had presented the petition alluded to the other day, and denied that it had any such object, but the object of the petitioners was precisely what they had stated on the face of the petition.

Hon. Attorney General said he was surprised at the remarks of his hon. colleague, and at the term "nonsense" applied to the stained glass, &c., imported for the church.—

He then went on to eulogize the Rev. Mr Hudson, who had by very great exertions procured the erection of a church in Newcastle which was a credit to himself and to the place, and had devoted a larger proportion of his income towards building places of public worship than any other man in New Brunswick. The church at Newcastle was ornamented in such a manner that the eye could not rest on any object without calling up thoughts fitting for the occasion. The object of the petition was simply what it set forth—to admit everything required by all denominations—for places of public worship, free of duty.

Mr Earle would have little hopes of a person whose mind was so constituted that he required on entering a church external objects to fix his thoughts on holy things. He hoped the petition would be received, however, as the proper time for discussion would be when the bill come before them. (Petition received and laid on the table.)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20.

This morning the Hon. Attorney General, laid before the House certain Despatches from Earl Grey, on the subject of Reciprocal Trade between the British North American Colonies and the United States, and on Inter-Colonial Trade. His Lordship suggests that in passing future Revenue Bills, a clause should be inserted, providing for the free importation of certain articles from the United States whenever the British government may be able to conclude an arrangement with that country on the principle of reciprocity.

Mr Earle called the attention of the Hon. Member for Sunbury (Mr Scoullar) to a resolution he had laid upon the table early in the Session, on the subject of yielding up the initiation of Money Votes to the Executive. Last year the hon. member had introduced a similar resolution, but it had not been taken up until a late period of the Session when several hon members had gone home. The subject was one of much importance, and should be discussed in a full House, he therefore hoped that the hon. member would name