

Commiserations.

TO BLISS BOTSFORD, ESQ.

M. P. P.

In the Fredericton Head-Quarters of March 2, in answer to His Excellency's Speech, you were pleased to say 'I avail myself of this occasion, publicly, in my place here, as one of the Representatives of the People of New Brunswick, to deprecate the ingratitude and gross injustice of Mr Howe, the Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia, in stating in his place in the Assembly of that Province, that New Brunswick was bankrupt. Mr. Williston—It was not Mr Howe who said it,—yes it was, from many voices, and from Members of the Government. You concluded your remarks by saying, that it was, 'only his official position which entitled his slander to remark.' Sir, well might Mr Howe, in his place in Parliament, as one of the Representatives of Nova Scotia, exclaim in the language of the champion of Scotland, when in contact with the Pirate, 'stop your dogs sir.' Has he not been vilified, slandered and misrepresented by a number of Editors, who prostituted their Press, as well as by a host of scurrilous scribblers, and those that did not use their pens, (with few exceptions) cheered on the pack. And for what? Because he did not hitch on to your tail, as you hitched on to your masters. Because he would not sacrifice honor, principle, and integrity, and join you and your associates, by deep and dark intrigues, to force a TRUNK LINE out of its NATURAL and PROPER course. That he being accustomed to fair dealing would not stoop to crooked. Let me remind you, Sir, of another expression you made use of 'in your place in Parliament,' where you charged the Northern Members with factious opposition to the Government, because they would not rat. Because they would not go in direct opposition to the clear and well defined wishes of each of their Constituencies. Because they stood by their Constituents and defended their rights. The Northern Constituents felt the insult to them, and not to their Members, and if they got not your support, they expected not such a taunt, from the most distant sprig of your illustrious family. And well might they exclaim 'and thou too Brutus.' But your dagger has been seen more than once, even too approaching the Speaker's chair. And Sir, be it known to you, the Northern Constituencies expect more from Howe in defence of their rights in the Railway enterprises, than from you and your Leaders. And when you, in or out of Parliament, show to the world as much Service as the Printer Boy, you will be allowed much more latitude in your language.—But Howe is ungrateful for the Honorable treatment of New Brunswick. Bah—I'll say no more—but a word of caution.—Beware! you may step on a mine, I may add 'it is only your official position which entitles' you 'to remark.'

A FRIEND TO FAIR PLAY.

THE FISHERIES.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—Some months have now elapsed, since you first penned a note of action on behalf of the Fisheries; and yet, with the exception of St. John and Northumberland, which has nobly led off, and expressed their minds on their importance, all the other counties appear sound asleep. What has become of our Northern Counties—Kent, Gloucester, and Restigouche; are they too handy to the fishing grounds, or do they wish to prove the old adage, that it is far off better to bear fine plume. Was it a Gold mine, then would they be most vociferous in setting forth their claims if they had any. And yet those fisheries, in a pecuniary point of view, saying nothing of their national character, are worth more than all the Australian and California mines put together; the man that argues that the rights of those Fisheries should be given away to a Foreign power for the sake of Reciprocity, much as it is desired, be he Correspondent, Editor, or Statesman, is a fool, and he does not know it. The Americans know their value although the Colonists do not, and they are setting forth every cunning pretext, and using every diplomatic exertion, to obtain them—Aye, and they will get them too, while the Colonists are asleep. Like so many Rip-van-winkles. But let them allow the Fisheries to slip through their fingers, and they will awaken some day, or their children after them, and bitterly revile them for their folly. I ask the question—answer it who will.—What is a territory? What is a deed that conveys to the holder way and water courses, with all the privileges thereunto belonging? Is it not a territory and the unalienable rights of the holder? And what is a treaty between nations, when lines of demarcation are set, defining each of their Territories; but another name for a deed of conveyance. That being the case, our fisheries are out territory, and if Reciprocity has to be bought let it be purchased with something else and of less value, but not the fisheries.

Canada and New Brunswick have abundance of waste Crown Lands, and Nova Scotia has abundance of unproductive Minerals, and if that wont do, let them add something handsome from each of their Treasuries to obtain reciprocity, but spare your fisheries. If not, let us hear no more about Ashburton treaties, or Oregon possessions, and let Nova Scotia be silent about monopolizing minerals, which sink into insignificance compared with the Fisheries. Let us hear no more of

the glorious future of Railway traffic, when the pith and marrow of the traffic is gone, leaving but fish bones to speculate on. Such as I admire fair Reciprocity, I tell you, Sir, the Americans have nothing to give, that should for a moment weigh as an equivalent for the rights of the fisheries, and it surely must appear crouching and degrading in the eyes of Foreigners, to hear Colonists talking of selling their birthright for a mess of Potage; and well might they be held up to the world, for a hissing and a scorn, unto the third and fourth generation. What would be thought of a person in private life, did he offer his farm or allow his neighbor the same privileges he held himself on condition, that his rich neighbor would allow him friendly visits, and an exchange of articles; the rich man at all times getting value for his money; and yet such is the position of the Colonies at the present time. That right and honor are to be sacrificed by some of them, for the sake of Reciprocity—better let us want it altogether. Arouse therefore, ye counties, which have not yet set forth your views, and declare the Fisheries must not, aye, shall not be given away. Stop not to tell your members so, but petition her most Gracious Majesty to allow no such a sacrifice; but if this is to be, ask her to add a clause in the arrangement, that the colonies shall go too, for assuredly it must and will end in that. And let any reader or writer bear in mind, that there are mines and minerals from gold to the meanest of ores, turning up almost daily, and may yet overstock the world; not so the fisheries, there are no new discoveries—the seas are well known, and although there is a yearly consumption in the fishery mine, there is still a yearly increase. I challenge any reader to produce its equal. That mine of wealth is British, and it fostered, will yet prove the brightest star in the Royal Diadem. Shall it be given away. You say not—arise then and protect it ere it be too late, a crisis is at hand, and ye know not what a day may bring forth, when you may be told to sleep on, and take your rest, for the day is passed, and you cannot be heard.

If time will permit, I shall in another letter produce a few statistics and figures, which may show that there is more truth than poetry in this hastily written article. At present I remain a friend to the

FISHERIES.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1873.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—15s. in advance; 20s. at the end of the year.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—Seven lines and under, first insertion 2s. 6d., and 16 every subsequent publication; from 7 to 65 lines, 5s. the first, and 1s. every insertion afterwards. Longer advertisements in proportion. Advertising by the year as may be agreed upon.

No order except from persons with whom we have an account, will be attended to, without accompanied with the cash.

We should like on the opening of the navigation, to publish Twice a WEEK, on a sheet, somewhat larger than half the size of our paper. To procure a suitable Press, and other necessary materials, would involve an expense of about £200. Will our subscribers, who are the parties to be benefited by the arrangement, make an effort to put us in possession of the necessary funds? A small percentage on what is due by them, would enable us to carry out our wishes.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SESSIONS.

To the attention of the Deputy Clerk, we are indebted for the following extracts from the minutes of the Sessions, in reference to the action taken by that body, on various matters brought under their notice by the Grand Jury, in their Presentment in January last.

Their Worships have complied with the wishes of the Jury, in many of their recommendations, and we understand it is their intention to make provisions for carrying out several others.

At a General Sessions of the Peace of our Lady the Queen, held at Court House in Newcastle, in and for the County of Northumberland, on Tuesday, the 11th day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty three.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the Peace furnish the Overseers of the Poor of each Parish in the County, with a copy of the Presentment of the Grand Jury, relative to the mode of supporting Paupers, for their guidance.

Ordered, That the Committee, in settling the County Accounts, take no notice of the old balances said to be due, amounting to £41 10 0, and that they leave the same out of the said account.

Committee on Accounts.—Henry B. Allison, Richard Hutchison, Edward Williston.

Whereas, The Grand Jury by their Presentment, recommended to the Sessions, that it would be desirable that each Justice of the County should, at the January Ses-

sions in each year, furnish the Grand Jury with a detailed account of the fines collected by each Justice during the year, and how applied, which would materially assist the Grand Jury in checking the Overseers of the Poor accounts.

Thereupon Ordered, That the Clerk furnish each Justice of the County, with the foregoing Presentment, with a request that each Justice would furnish such detailed account at the opening of the Court, at the said January Sessions of each year, agreeably to the said presentment, to be furnished by the Court to the said Jury.

Ordered, That the sum of £55 be included in the present assessment, to enable the Gaol Committee to paint the Court House and the new part of the Gaol, and to procure a cooking stove for the Gaol, and to repair one of the doors of the cells, agreeably to the presentment of the Grand Jury, and that the said Gaol Committee carry out the said Presentment, and that on the work being completed, the satisfaction of the Gaol Committee, the Clerk be authorized to issue warrants on the Treasurer for the amount, not exceeding £55.

Gaol Committee.—John Fraser, Henry B. Allison, Thomas C. Allen, William A. Black.

Ordered, That the Firewards of Newcastle be authorized to repair the Tank in Newcastle, and have the same thoroughly cleaned and repaired, and charge the same to the Town.

Ordered, That the following Parishes be assessed for the sums set opposite the respective Parishes, for arrearages of assessments, viz.,

Table with 2 columns: Parish Name and Amount. Rows include Blackville (£12 19 1), Blissfield (10 2 11), Ludlow (7 18 7), North Esk (5 8 10), Nelson (34 17 0).

£71 6 5 1/2

the same to be assessed agreeably to the Presentment of the Grand Jury.

Ordered, That no Commissioner of Highways in the County in future, excuse any person from the performance of their statutory labour, as such privilege of excusing is only given to two Justices by the act of Assembly, relating to Highways, and not to Commissioners, and that any Commissioner who may so take upon himself to excuse in future, will be called on to account therefor, and that a copy of such order be given by the Clerk to every Commissioner in the County.

Ordered, That should the income from Fines and Licences, or otherwise, be insufficient to pay off all the accounts at the close of the January Sessions, in each year, the Treasurer shall, and is hereby authorized and required to borrow such a sum as may be necessary to pay off all the accounts due by the County of Northumberland, so soon as he ascertain the amount of the debts and offsets of the said County, and pay off all the accounts forthwith; and should any money at any time come into his hands not required to pay off the debts, that the Treasurer apply the same to repay the money borrowed.

Treasurer.—William Loch.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed for the making of Rules and Regulations for the establishment and Regulation of Market, Market Houses, and Fairs, and for the slaughtering of animals and sale of dead meats for the Town of Chatham, and submit the same at the next July Sessions, and that George Kerr, John Mackie, and John T. Williston, be such Committee.

Extract from the Minutes.

EDWARD WILLISTON,

Depy. Clerk of the Peace, Northumberland.

P. E. ISLAND.

It gives us satisfaction at all times to be enabled to publish any intelligence bearing on the prosperity of any of the Colonies, it is therefore with pleasure we annex the following paragraphs, copied from Hazzard's Gazette of the 23rd March.

The inhabitants of Charlottetown have of late manifested a praiseworthy disposition to keep pace with the spirit of improvement that is now abroad, and we cannot conceive a measure more calculated to carry out the object, than the one referred to below. We congratulate our Charlottetown neighbors on the spirit they have evinced, and it would be a source of greater satisfaction should it induce other communities nearer home, to go and do likewise.

On Tuesday last, the 22nd inst. the adjourned meeting of the Inhabitants of Charlottetown on the subject of obtaining an Act of the Legislature to enable the Inhabitants to tax themselves for local improvements, was held by a numerous attendance at the Hall of the Supreme Court, in pursuance of the resolution adopted at the former meeting, held at the same place on the 17th February. The Representatives of the Town having taken the Chair, the Committee appointed at the former meeting presented to the Chairmen, the draft of the Bill which, in pursuance of their instructions received at the first meeting, they had framed, to be offered in the Legisla-

ture, investing the Inhabitants of the Town with the power of taxing themselves for the means of making local improvements. The Bill was of some length, although prepared in a condensed form with a view it would seem, of drawing attention towards its substantial provisions, and thereby keeping within sufficient bounds the discussion which might arise upon its merits; whilst the opinion of the meeting might, at the same time, be elicited upon all of its enactments which might be deemed of sufficient importance to be canvassed. The bill having been twice distinctly read through by one of the Chairmen, Francis Longworth Esq., several persons addressed the meeting in opposition, or by way of suggesting alterations to both the principles and details of some parts of the Bill. As the discussion however proceeded and explanations were occasionally afforded by Members of the Committee by whom it was compiled, the scope and operation of the Bill became better understood, and the discussion was narrowed up to two or three questions, the principal one of which being, whether the Commissioner or Officer to be entrusted with the charge and management of the works and improvements, should be appointed by the Nine Wardens to be elected, or whether he should be elected by a majority of the Inhabitants to be conveyed at a public meeting. On the question being put thereon, it was carried by an overwhelming majority, that such officer, should be chosen by the nine wardens by ballot (not being one of such wardens) as provided in the draft of the Bill.

Another question of two of much less importance, being disposed of in a similar manner; the question was then taken on the adoption of the bill as submitted by the Committee, and it passed in the affirmative by nearly the whole number present. The meeting having then, by three hearty cheers, expressed their thanks for the conduct of their Chairmen, dispersed, apparently well satisfied with the manner in which the business had terminated.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Telegraph informs us, that the Mail Steamer Niagara, arrived at Halifax on the afternoon of Wednesday last. She brings dates to the 19th March. We refer our readers to the Telegraphic Despatch for a summary of the news.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

The Legislature is progressing in its usual snail-like manner with the business of the country. Very little as yet has been done, and during the week nothing has transpired to throw any light on the mysterious affair of the mutilated accounts; but we have the fullest confidence in the Committee that the matter will be probed to the bottom, and undergo a searching investigation.

It gives us much satisfaction to hear our Correspondent speak in such high terms of Mr Kerr as a Legislator. When that Gentleman offered himself as a Candidate to represent the County, we pronounced him a LIBERAL of the right stamp; and for so doing, many individuals took us to task.—We generally speak our mind pretty freely on matters of a public nature, when we consider it our duty so to do, and when the interests of the people require it; and it is a source of satisfaction to us, that in the opinion we then expressed, that others, who thought differently at the time, have since changed their views.

We are also pleased to perceive that that portion of the St. John Press, which denounced Mr Kerr as a Tory in disguise, and predicted that he would be a tame follower of the Attorney General, is now looking up to him with confidence, to remove one of the greatest evils under which the Province has laboured for years.

Northumberland has now two men of the right stamp in the Assembly to represent her interests—we mean of course Messrs Johnson and Kerr—and we hope the day is not distant, when that number will be augmented.

In our Correspondent's letters, and the telegraphic dispatches, will be found a summary of what has transpired in the Legislature for the week.

FREDERICTON, March 26.

Dear Pierre,

I have not written during the past week, conceiving that my last would not appear until your next Monday's issue; in this I was mistaken. I yet had nothing important to write about, this deplorable that our Government don't endeavor to have their measures matured and brought forward at the beginning of the Session. The Registry of Baptisms and Burials Bill—the Election Bill and Law Commissioners Report remain undischarged, and the Sessions more than half over. I have sent you a copy of the Election Bill—it contains only two changes—allowing certain leaseholders to vote, and empowering the Government to appoint seven Commissioners to determine scrutinies, the House are to select one of those by drawing from a ballot box, and the first draw is to conduct the scrutiny in the County where the difficulty arises. This is all the provision made for ballot, and I wonder our Government would even consent to this shadow of the true substance called for by the country. The Bill will not satisfy the country, and I doubt if the House will consent