

thousand may be smoked in a kiln. The smoke houses are roofed with tiles. I perceive this kind of roof has not been adopted by your smokers of herring, otherwise the difficulty in expelling the smoke would not be so much complained of. The report of your fisheries takes notice of this. The tiles are not pointed with lime on the joints inside, as is common when that kind of covering is used for other buildings; and consequently every tile affords a vent for the smoke, and it escapes evenly and gradually. A flooring of metal or brick intervening between the fish and the fire, perforated as that in use for drying grain, would be a great improvement in smoking fish. This method would not only keep the ashes and dust from ascending, but diffuse the smoke equally in its ascension, and defend the fish next the fire from too much heat. This flooring should be seven feet from the floor on which the fire was placed.

If these hints will be of any service to you or your friends, you may thank the editor of the Eastern Chronicle, who favored me with a perusal of the valuable and interesting Report on the sea and River Fisheries of Your Province.

I remain yours, &c.,

Ad. G.

Pictou, February, 1853.

## WEDNESDAY'S MAIL.

### NEW BRUNSWICK.

#### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr CUTLER, from the Committee on public accounts, presented a Report, and at the same time asked leave to sit again, and make a further report, which was granted. The following is the report:—

The committee appointed to examine and report on Public Accounts, having had their attention directed to alterations made in the Report of the Auditor General on the Provincial Treasurer's Accounts, since the same was laid before the House by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and having at the request of the Auditor General heard the statements of himself and his Clerks relative to the matter, beg leave to make the following special Report—

The report was laid before the House on the 11th March last, prior to which three leaves were taking out in consequence of omissions, and new pages put in their room, and the Accounts embraced on these three new pages were completed and signed by the Auditor General as they now appear in the Report. After the Report was in the hands of several Members of the Committee, and had been examined by them, and minutes taken from the Balance Sheet then appearing on page 57, and enquiries had been made as to some of the statements appearing thereon, the Report was obtained by one of the Clerks in the Audit Office to whom it had been stated that errors existed in the Sheet. A new sheet was prepared in the Audit Office with the view of correcting the errors which had been discovered, the Report was then on Saturday the 19th March, taken to a Bookbinder's shop by Mr Gall, one of the Clerks, and there the page 57 of the Report was cut out and the new leaf inserted in its place under his inspection, and he immediately after returned the book to the Provincial Secretary, from whom it has been obtained by Mr Beekwith; the Report was returned into the House on Tuesday the 22d, and no intimation was given to any member of the committee that such change had been made. The items on the page 57 removed, which were altered in the new page 57 substituted, made the old and new leaf stand respectively—

The heading of the page is:  
STATEMENT OF ALL BALANCES ON PROVINCIAL ACCOUNT TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1852.

Old page 57 stood:

Debits	Credits
Beverley Robinson, balance, £786 5 2½	
Burnt District Debiture Account, £9,950 0 0	
New page 57 stands:	
Beverley Robinson, Burnt District Bonds, £4,050 0 0	
Burnt District Debiture Account, £6,150 0 0	

The change which had been made became strikingly apparent on comparing the additions at the foot of page 57, which stands thus:—

Debits	Credits
£155,044 4 7	£99,070 11 9

At the top of page 58 these amounts are carried forward, and stand thus:

£151,030 9 2½	£101,870 11 9
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And the report is continued through this and the following page, 59 and there balanced without any apparent regard to the discrepancies in carrying forward the changed figures on new page 57, and the account so balanced and signed by the Auditor General now lies before the Committee for their examination.

While the Committee feel that an unjustifiable liberty has been taken by persons in

the Audit Office with a public document of great importance laid before the House by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, without the knowledge or sanction of any competent authority, they are yet constrained to believe that the act was done without due consideration of its importance and its consequences, without any fraud or intention of personal or pecuniary interest. The Committee are led to view the matter with less severity than it would otherwise deserve, in consequence of finding that previous Annual Reports on the Public Accounts have, after having been laid before the House and reported upon by the Committee of Public Accounts, had their figures in numerous instances materially changed by the Audit Office, and the published Reports greatly differ from the Reports as they stood when audited by the Committee, this objectionable course appears to have been pursued without any censure from the House. In no instance, however, has the original matter of the Report been removed or obliterated so as to prevent its original facts and figures from its being understood.

Your Committee beg leave to make a further Report.

R. B. CUTLER,  
GEORGE KERR,  
J. M. JOHNSON, JUNR.,  
ROBERT THOMSON,  
A. J. SMITH,  
JOHN T. WILLISTON,  
B. BOTSFORD,  
JAMES A. HARDING,  
M. McLEOD,  
Committee Room, 4th April, 1853.

Mr CUTLER said that examination of the Committee found that the books in former years had been frequently altered after they were first made up, not by cutting out leaves and inserting others, but in the figures. This having been tolerated, probably induced the parties to believe there could be no harm in taking away the book, and cutting out a leaf and substituting another. It was a practice the House could not too strongly condemn, and he wished to be fully understood on this point, and he had been falsely represented in a public paper of having defended the party or parties, when it was first announced in the House that the book had been mutilated. It was evident however, that no fraud was intended; but he regretted that he must say the accounts even yet were far from being correct.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY wishes the hon. members of the Committee to say whether the errors were made in the Treasurer's accounts; or whether they had not occurred in making up the balance sheet.

Mr CUTLER said they had nothing whatever to do with the Treasurer on his accounts, but they occurred in the Auditor General's report on the Treasurer's accounts. The accountant had even now omitted to carry forward a balance, and a large sum that at first appeared against the Treasurer's name was now set down as St. John Burnt District Bonds, (laughter).

Mr KERR said the alteration made on one of sheets, was in making up the balances. There was no doubt but the book was mutilated to correct errors, and not to commit fraud.

Mr SMITH had remarked on a former occasion that if the book had been mutilated with a fraudulent intent, the act was criminal, and the party ought to be punished; he would not say that he was convinced there was no intention to commit fraud, and therefore it was not criminal.—*St. John Morning Times.*

THE WEATHER.—There is every appearance this morning of a speedy opening of the River—the wind being strong from the southward, with rain. The telegraph informs us that at Fredericton rain was falling fast at eleven o'clock, the wind blowing from the south-west. It was thought likely that the ice would start to-night or to-morrow.

The Steamer Creole returned last night from the first trip to Windsor for the season, bringing us Halifax papers of Thursday. Such a well provided and efficient boat on this route, will be a great convenience to the travelling community, and materially facilitate communication between St. John and Halifax.

AUSTRALIA.—Letters have been received within the last few days from many of the young men who went from here last year to try their luck at the Australia diggings. They all agree in one particular, viz, the diggings is very hard work, as well as disagreeable, and that, after all, the chances of success are not great. Clerks, book keepers and storekeepers should certainly not, think of going there with an idea of obtaining situations, as the immense influx of persons from all parts of the world is so great that a stranger has no chance of such employment at present. Some of our young men have tried the diggings, but without any great success, as far as we learn; some have returned to the towns, and have succeeded in obtaining employment merely

sufficient to keep them from want; some have gone to the farming districts, to hire out; while others have made up their minds to return to New Brunswick. We have no doubt that those who turn their attention to farming there, and work hard, will in due course of time succeed, as they would have done here, where industry is rewarded as well as in any country; but the changes of making rapid fortunes and picking up large nuggets does not appear to be over one in a thousand. The letters receive here, of course, vary according as the parties have been successful in obtaining employment, but the majority of them gives very discouraging accounts.—*Cour.*

We have received from Mr. J. Lorimer a Prospectus, moderately written and beautifully printed, of a new paper to be published by him at St. Stephen's, Charlotte County, under the title of the Provincial Patriot or St. Stephen's Banner.

We have no doubt Mr Lorimer will make this new candidate for public favor, interesting and instructive, and trust his success will equal his merits.—*Head Quarters.*

It is rumoured that information has been received by recent letters from Rome, that the Pope has changed the title of the Catholic See of New Brunswick, and that Dr. Connolly, who was consecrated last year as Bishop of Fredericton, is now Bishop of St. John, the latter being declared the Episcopal See.—*Halifax Rec.*

### UNITED STATES.

THE DAUPHIN BUSINESS.—We are told by one of the parties engaged in this investigation, that a letter has been received from a lady at New Orleans, who states that she is the person to whom Bellanger made his dying declaration, in regard to the Dauphin. She is well known to Dr. Hawkes, having been a member of his church when he was settled in New Orleans.—She states that she has in her possession a trunk full of documents relating to his question, communications from the royal family, &c., which sets the matter entirely at rest, and proves the Rev. Mr. Williams to be the Dauphin, beyond cavil. An agent has been sent to New Orleans, to obtain possession of the documents. These facts were stated to us by a gentleman who has been closely connected with this matter from the beginning.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—Philadelphia, April 4.—The woolen and paper mills of Reed & Blount, and Stanley & Bushier, at Manayunk, were burnt yesterday morning, together with twelve or fourteen dwelling houses adjoining. The loss is heavy.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—A recent census of the Sandwich Islands exhibits some facts of startling interest, and which illustrated in the most unmistakable manner the vital law that the inferior race must give way to the stronger. The present population of the seven islands forming the group is 80,641. The deaths during last year were 7943, while the births were only 1478—an average of six deaths to one birth. The foreigners number only 1787. This is an extraordinary state of things, and we doubt whether its parallel can be found in the history of the world. In the time of Cook, this people numbered 400,000; thus in seventy years they have decreased 300,000. In 1836 they numbered 108,579.—decreased in seventeen years nearly 28,000. Such a rapid decrease of native population is a deeply melancholy spectacle. At the present rate of decrease, another generation will hardly have passed away ere this people will be blotted from the face of the earth.

## FRIDAY'S MAIL.

### NEW BRUNSWICK.

QUITE A DISTINCTION.—We are informed by one of our St. John merchants just from England, that Messrs. Wright and Smith, the one the Builder of the 'Star of the East,' and the other of the 'Marco Polo,' were summoned by the Lords of the Admiralty to attend the Board; both gentlemen, by appointment, waited upon their Lordships, at the same time. The result of the interview, however, has not transpired. What! if John Bull has been trying to learn something from two of her Colonial children.

THE ALBERT STONE QUARRIES.—We learn that a gentleman arrived in the town yesterday morning via the United States, direct from Messrs. Jackson and Archibald, on business in connecting with the Stone Quarries in Albert County. Mr. Lang, the Agent of the same Company, has just returned from the United States, where he has been on a visit and has brought with him from New York, Philadelphia, and other places, as many orders for New Brunswick Free Stones as can possibly be supplied this summer. Upwards of 400 men will be required to get out the stone, which is said to be superior to any thing of the kind in America. A Marble

quarry, near Windsor, is also to be worked, by the same Company. The article is pronounced to be of a superior description. Who says that these Provinces do not contain as much gold as Australia.—*St. John Morning News.*

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS.—We learn from an authentic source, that some ancient documents, comprising wills, letters, and geographical data, have recently been found at Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, which will establish the claims of several families in Nova Scotia and in this Province, to the very large Hyde Estates in England, which have been lying so long for want of the proper heirs, and amounting to several millions of pounds sterling. Advertisements for these heirs have been published in the American and English papers for the last fifty years, without success. Thomas Hyde, the person believed to be the rightful heir, came from England in 1716, and died at Annapolis, where he was buried 103 years ago.

WONDERFUL PASSAGE FROM BOSTON.—The Ship Shad, arrived at this port from Boston on Saturday last, making the shortest passage on record, between the two ports, viz: twenty five and a half hours. The Shad was the Ship that picked up at sea a short time since, three of the boats belonging to the ship Golden Light, with 22 persons on board, including three ladies.—*Morning News.*

### NOVA SCOTIA.

Schooner Daring from Sable Island, reports—the schooner Marie Anne, of Quebec, Desjardine, master, from Placentia Bay, bound to Halifax, with a cargo of dry fish was totally wrecked on the north side of Sable Island. On the 16th December, during a violent gale of wind from N. N. W. with snow and hail—crew five in number, all saved—one with his leg broken and frost bitten, and another with his leg severely bruised; there was also on board 3 seamen who had gone to Newfoundland, in new vessels that were sold there, and who were working their passage back to Halifax, one was drowned, (name unknown) in attempting to land from the vessel, and another had one of his feet frozen. The hull of the schr. Ranger, of Pictou, came ashore on the south side of the Island on the 28th December, she had been previously stripped of all her materials and had probably drifted from the main land. A head board with 'Margaret' on it in yellow letters, was picked up the same day. A ship's boat 17 feet long was found on the N. W. bar, on the 6th January, with Baticola on the stern. A head board with Polar Star, carved on it and gilded, was picked up on the north beach on the 7th January.—*Halifax Recorder.*

The Schr. Elizabeth, Capt. Joyce, arrived here on Wednesday, 6th inst. from Arichat, being the first arrived from sea this season. This is a full month earlier than the first arrival of last year, and is earlier by some days, than the date of the first arrivals for several years.

The Steamer Pluto was launched from her winter quarters on Saturday, and has resumed her trips to and from the loading Ground. The cars have also commenced running on the railroad, from the loading Ground to the Mines.

The House of Assembly voted a sum of £1,000 in aid of the Provincial Industrial Exhibition, proposed to be held in Halifax in August next. The Council of the last day of the session refused to authorize the grant. This will in all probability prevent the holding of the Exhibition the present year. This is a matter of serious regret. We know of no agency that would more readily tend to develop the industrial resources of the province than the proposed exhibition, and giving £1,000, or even a much larger sum, to such an object, would be a judicious expenditure of the public money. But our colonial peers have thought otherwise, and the country must submit. A society has been formed in Halifax called the Provincial Association, for the protection of the inland fisheries and game of the province. The object of this association is a good one; it is necessary that active steps be taken to prevent the destruction of the fish in the rivers in the spawning season. It is to be hoped that the exertions of the society may be successful.—*Pictou Chronicle.*

### CANADA.

Small Pox has made its appearance in Montreal; several of the most respectable inhabitants, had fallen victims to the disease.

The St. Catherines and Niagara papers contain accounts of the shock of an Earthquake that occurred there. It was felt in Niagara about one o'clock, on Sunday morning, the 19th ult, preceded by a rumbling noise, as if ten thousand carriages were rattling at some distance, on the pavement. Several persons affirm that they were thrown out of bed by the violence of the concussion.

Flour continued to decline in Montreal