

**NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAYS.**

The Assembly in the Sister Province is progressing but slowly in their Railway work. We are indebted to the British North American for the following summary of the Report of the Committee appointed to take this important matter into consideration.

The Committee to report a Company Railroad Bill, have agreed upon its lines. Capital settled at £1,750,000 for 320 miles of Road. Company to be organized within 6 months, otherwise Government Bills to go into operation. Stock to be in 75,000 shares of £25 each. As soon as £150,000 of stock subscribed and £6,000 capital paid up, Company may be organized. Province to loan £3,000 per mile for Trunk, £2,000 per mile for Branches, by debentures, for which Company to give back bonds. Interest payable half yearly. When Company shall expend £100,000, Province to advance 40,000l. in debentures. If Company shall not pay up interest half yearly on their back bonds, it shall be deducted out of next instalment, and instead of debentures for 40,000l. they will get but 37,500 in debentures, and yet have to give their back bonds for 40,000l. and so on. The Province to have a first mortgage on the Roads, &c., for these advances, to be redeemable in 20 years. Government to appoint 5 of the directors, Company the other 7. If Government bonds not used, or if returned the Government Directors to retire.

The papers from Halifax received by Friday's mail, contain no information on the subject, but the St. John Morning News of Wednesday, says that a telegraphic despatch had been received in that city the previous day, stating that fifteen clauses of the Railway Bill had passed in Committee, and that there was a probability of its being carried through in safety. We sincerely hope this may be the case.

**ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.**

We are indebted to the St John Morning News, for the following piece of intelligence:

We learn that the Bill for the Incorporation of the opposition Electric Telegraph Company, brought forward by F. O. J. Smith in the Legislature of Maine, was thrown out by a large majority of the representatives. We understand that this was to be a branch of Mr. Gisborne's celebrated scheme for connecting Newfoundland and all the rest of the world, with the twenty-four millions of sovereigns in the great Republic. Mr. Gisborne having failed to receive a Charter in Nova Scotia as well as Maine, no doubt will meet no better fate in this Province.

It is with extreme regret we publish the news contained in the above, because the enterprise of Mr G. deserves better treatment. We would like to be informed upon what grounds the Editor of the News forms his opinion, that Mr G. will receive no better treatment in this Province. Is it based upon the universal fate of every measure introduced into our Legislature when the interest of the people in this quarter clashed with that of certain parties in St John. What does Mr. Gisborne—or the Miramichi Company ask of the Legislature—simply to be allowed to increase its capital to carry out certain powers vested in them by their charter, that they may extend their operations, and render greater accommodation to the people in the North. But this it appears will interfere with the business operations of the St John Company, and destroy their monopoly.

How is it, that the Editor of the News, who is an avowed liberal, and an advocate for reform and progress, seeing the injustice of the opposition which has been raised by the members from his model city, to the fair and reasonable request of the Miramichi Company, has not raised his voice in their defence.

The New Brunswicker has pursued a different course, and in an able leader on the subject, takes a just and liberal view of the matter. We have not room to publish the whole remarks, but give below an extract:

Among the wonderful inventions of the present century, one of the most important is undoubtedly the Electric Telegraph, which annihilates time and space, and brings into immediate proximity widely distant places. The extension of this remarkable agent is a sure mark of progress, and is always attended with the most beneficial effects. We are therefore glad to find that the Miramichi Company have applied to the Legislature of this Province for an increase of the Capital Stock of that Company, with the view of extending a line to Canada, and also to the United States, which will prove generally beneficial to the interests of commercial and business men. It is said that Mr. Gisborne, the energetic projector of Electric Telegraphs in these Colonies, has associated himself with the Miramichi Company, and all they ask from the Legislature is to allow the Company to increase the stock to £200,000, in order to enable them to complete their undertaking. To such a reasonable proposition, we trust there will be no objection on the part of the Legislature, and that the application will be dealt with in an honest and liberal manner, worthy of the enlightened spirit of the age. The day when monopolies could exist has happily passed away; and notwithstanding

the opposition manifested by certain illiberal individuals, who would oppose everything that does not administer to their avariciousness or fancied importance, it is destined never to return.

Another line of telegraph through this Province is loudly demanded. We should then be freed from an odious monopoly, which is seriously complained of, and our business men would not be compelled to wait a long time for intelligence after the arrival of the steamers at Halifax. At present, parties in the United States have complete control of the line, and no despatch will be sent to this City, until the news is first transmitted to the United States, and hours must elapse, and sometimes days, before the most important portions of the news to our people are received.

The people of this city feel a deep interest in the construction of another line of Telegraph through this Province, and we trust that no narrow-minded or sordid views will be allowed to sway our Legislature in their decision on a matter which is so intimately connected with the best interests of our mercantile classes.

The projectors of the new line ask for no Provincial Grant; and should their undertaking turn out to be unprofitable, the stockholders alone will bear the loss. They seek for no favours, but merely for a just participation in a right already extended to others, and which can be freely acceded without the expenditure of a single farthing of the public revenue.

**PROCEEDINGS IN THE LEGISLATURE.**

The following is the passage of arms—or more correctly speaking, of words—between the Attorney General and Mr. Wiliston, alluded to in the letter of our Fredericton correspondent. It is copied from the official reports:

Hon. Attorney General read the section of the Fishery Law giving the Government authority to act. He thought it would be an anomaly for the Warden of one county to exercise jurisdiction in another.—To get over the difficulty, he thought the better way would be to amend the act so as to give the Government the same power to make regulations for the river fisheries as they had to make regulations for the shore fisheries. Then the Government could appoint the necessary officers. Should the present bill pass, it would probably lead to jealousy and ill feeling between the two countries; at the same time it was absolutely necessary that some regulations be made for the protection of the fish in the Miramichi River.—The salmon fishery was of very great importance to the people of Northumberland, and they must adopt measures to prevent their destruction. He moved that the Committee rise and report progress, in order that an amendment to the Bill might be prepared.

Mr. Wiliston was surprised to find the Hon. Attorney General attempting to defeat the bill by his half and half measure. If the power of appointing Wardens was vested solely in the Government, he would ask the Hon. Attorney General where the funds were to come from to pay them. The Government had no funds at their disposal, and must come to the people for the money. In reference to the difficulty now started, he thought it might easily be overcome. On that portion of the Miramichi river running through York, there were only three settlers, and he would ask whether the county of York would be willing to pay 40l. a year to a Warden to look after three families? Let the Bill pass, and he was willing to introduce a clause to the effect the jurisdiction of the Warden appointed by the Northumberland Sessions should cease in York County, whenever York appointed a Warden. Did the Government know how to regulate the fisheries better than the County Sessions? He denied it, and he for one would not consent to place the power in their hands.

Hon. Attorney General was astonished at the language made use of by his Hon. colleague. He was not trying to defeat the bill, but was doing his best to remove the difficulties in its way. His Hon. colleague had certainly made use of extraordinary language, but he (Hon. Attorney General) believed there were seasons when the Hon. gentleman did not know what he was saying.

Mr. Wiliston thought he was the party who had the best right to be astonished, for he had shown the Bill to the Hon. Attorney General, previous to its being presented to the House, and the Hon. Attorney General had perused it, and given it back to him with the observation that it was all correct.

By the mail on Friday, we obtained a copy of the Election Law, introduced by the Ator. General, not as a Government measure, however. It bears the impress of its architect legibly impressed on it.—It is lengthy, complicated, and a half-and-half measure, neither liberal, Tory, or conservative in its provisions.—In fact, a second edition of his Municipal Law. It repeals all previous laws relating to Elections; extends the franchise to persons holding building leases, on which they have improvements to the value of £100, and to leaseholders for five years, paying £10 rent. It does not introduce the ballot.

As the Attorney General appears not to comprehend or to be aware of the wishes of his Constituents on this subject, we shall endeavour to enlighten him. They desire vote by ballot; that the franchise should be altered so as to allow persons possessing

leasehold and personal property—to a certain amount, on which he pays taxes—to a vote: a registration of voters, which can be easily accomplished by taking the return of the Collectors of taxes in each Parish, as that register. There is a difference of opinion as to the duration of time a member should sit in the Assembly, but a very large majority are in favor of four years.

Mr. Hannington has been appointed Speaker. We would ask the members, is it compatible with the dignity of the House, that the Chair of the first commoner, should be filled by a paid servant of the Government. We think not; if the House does not see the impropriety of allowing that gentleman to fill both situations, we hope his constituents will in an unmistakable manner, notify him that they think otherwise. It is a question which not only affects them, but the whole of the constituency of the Province.

It will be seen by the Telegraph despatch, that there has been some extraordinary proceedings in the House, in reference to the Public accounts. Mr. Kerr, we hope, will persist in the good work he has commenced, and not rest until he has sifted the Provincial accounts to the bottom. Many years have transpired since any report of our assets and liabilities, that could be relied on, has been made public, and we are pleased to perceive that one who is able for the work, has taken a lively interest in the matter.

**THE RAILWAY.**

KNOWING the very great anxiety which exists among all classes of our readers, respecting the preparations making for building these important lines of communication in Canada and this Province, we copy below a few paragraphs:

Willmer and Smith received by last mail contains the following paragraph:—"It is said that Mr. William Jackson, M. P., is about proceeding to Canada with 15,000 labourers, to carry on the railway undertakings in progress and projected there."

We are indebted to the Morning News for the following information:—"Mr. Beattie has been appointed Chief Engineer of the European and North American Railroad, and will leave Liverpool on the 16th April, with his family and a large staff of Engineers."

"We learn that previous to the sailing of the last steamer from England, two ships had been engaged for the conveyance of Railway laborers to the Bend, and also two for Shediac."

"Edward Allison, Esq., has contracted for the necessary timber, &c., to build the Railway wharf at Shediac, which is to be finished by the 1st of May, in time for the Railway vessels now on their way."

THE SURVEY WESTWARD.—Mr. Wilkinson with a large staff of men, is busy with the survey between St John and the American frontier, via the Douglas Valley."

**THE SEASON.**

Since the Storm on Friday and Saturday week, we have enjoyed most delightful weather. The snow is rapidly wasting away, and here is every indication of an early spring.

**INQUEST.**

An Inquest was held before Stafford Benson, Esq. Coroner, on the body of PATRICK CARROL, a lad of 16 years of age, whose death excited suspicion, and caused the Coroner to have his body disinterred on the 16th inst., on which day the Jury was empanelled. They adjourned to the 23rd inst., then to the 26th inst., when they returned the following extraordinary verdict.

Verdict.—That death was caused by combination of circumstances, viz., Frost-bites and contusions on the head; and that no evidence has been brought before us to implicate any one, and we freely exonerate all persons from blame.

J. SAMUEL, Foreman.

It is likely we shall publish the whole of the evidence.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

We have taken the liberty to expunge a large portion of the letter from J. F. This controversy has already occupied too much of our space, and we have decided on publishing no more, gratuitously, through our columns. If they wish to protract it, it must be done in some other manner.

Several communications have been received during the week.

We obtained the annexed communication from Fredericton last week. We cheerfully rectify the error into which we are led, and are pleased to find that the Surveyor General has not committed so grievous a blunder.

Fredericton, March 17.

Sir—I perceive that you in your last paper, attach some blame to the Hon. Mr. Wiliston for introducing into the House of Assembly a Bill for imposing a duty upon Paper. I beg leave to inform you, that no such thing

ever took place, and is the sole creation of the person who tries to report for the Morning News, and who has been incapable during the session of distinguishing between a Bill and a Petition. VERAX.

**Deaths.**

At Swansea, Wales, on the 9th February last, Mrs. JEMIMA THOMAS, formerly a resident of Chatham. The deceased was mother to Mr Robert L. Thomas, formerly of this place.

**SUNDAY'S MAIL.**

**NOVA SCOTIA.**

The Halifax Sun, after noticing the proceedings in the Assembly, remarks:

"It might serve a useful purpose were our friend Downs to catch and stuff one of the Cariboo tribe which followed the fox, on this occasion, with such marvellous docility, in order that future generations of our posterity should see what sort of animal a Nova Scotia legislator in 1853 was."

Melancholey, Shipwreck and Loss of Life.—The Brig. Sea Bird, Desire Lavache, Master, laden with Coals, left Arichat on the 9th inst., for Boston, with a crew of seven men, and on the following morning at 4 o'clock struck on a rock, near White Head, and immediately went to pieces, and sad to relate. The Captain, his Mate, (and brother-in-law) Peter LeBlanc, his brother Alexander Lavache, and a young seaman named LeBlanc, were drowned, the other three saved themselves with great difficulty, one of them being badly frozen.

The House was engaged, yesterday, in early and afternoon session disposing of the Railway Bill. A number of clauses were passed with little discussion and slight verbal arrangements.

The Legislative Council, yesterday afternoon, passed a Bill indemnifying the Government for having, contrary to law, issued out of the Provincial Treasury, the sum ordinarily appropriated to pay members of the Lower House.—Halifax Sun.

**UNITED STATES.**

Baltimore, March 18.—Downfall of provision House.—The extensive provision firm of Lewis and George Cassard suspended payment, yesterday, consequent upon heavy speculations in lard and bacon. Their liabilities are nearly a million of dollars.

The Baltimore bacon dealers have lost heavily by the decline of provisions. Mr C. H. Cook has failed for \$60,000. Messrs Cassards have suspended, but it is not considered a bad failure. It is thought they will be enabled to go on.—The utmost extent of the failure, if it should prove so, will not be more than \$250,000.

**CANADA.**

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—Emigration.—The following resolutions of Mr Cameron were adopted in committee of the whole:

1. That it is expedient to repeal the Acts 13 Vic. cap. 6—13 & 14 Vic. cap. 4—14 & 15 Vic. cap. 3—and 14 & 15 Vic. cap. 78,—imposing a duty on emigrants of passengers coming into this province by sea, and making certain provisions and regulations on the subject of such emigrants of passengers and the vessels in which they come—and to amend the said provisions and regulations and consolidate them as amended into one Act.

2. That it is expedient that the rate or duty to be paid in respect of emigrants and other passengers arriving in this province by sea, from any port of Europe, should be:—For each adult, 5s., and for each emigrant or passenger between the ages of 5 and 15, 3s. 9d. if they have embarked with the sanction of the government of the country from which they sailed—and 7s. 6d. for every emigrant or passenger who shall have embarked without such sanction.

3. That it is not expedient to re enact the provisions of the Act. 13 & 14 Vic., cap. 4, authorizing the return of part of the duty, in cases where Emigrants merely pass through this province to the United States.

4. That it is expedient to repeal the present Quarantine Act, 35 Geo. cap. 5, (Lower Canada,) to amend and simplify its provisions, and to empower the Governor in Council to make permanent regulations respecting Quarantine, in place of the Proclamation for the same purpose which is now issued annually by the Governor.

5. That it is expedient that provisions should be made, as heretofore, for the maintenance of an efficient Quarantine Establishment at Grosse Isle, and the employment of proper officers, Medical and otherwise, for ensuring the carrying into effect of the laws and regulations made for the purpose of preventing the introduction or spread of contagious or infectious disease.—Quebec Chronicle.

**NOTICE.**

All persons having any claim against the Estate of the late HIRAM FISH, Tanner and Courier, deceased, are required to render the same duly attested, within three months, to JAMES FISH, Newcastle, to whom all persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make immediate payment.

JAMES FISH, } Executors.  
THOS. B. MALBY, }  
ROBERT NICHOLSON, }

Newcastle, 19th March, 1853.