

On Motion of the Honorable Mr Street. The House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to extend the Gaol Limits of the County of Northumberland.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the said Bill be postponed until the next Session of the Legislature. Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the further consideration of the said Bill accordingly postponed.

Mr Earle moved for leave to bring in a Bill to incorporate the Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodges of New Brunswick in connection with the Loyal Orange Institution of British North America.—Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr Catler moved for leave to bring in a Bill to settle and secure the Title to certain Lands in the County of Kent. Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr Williston moved for leave to bring in a Bill to make further provision for the support of Buoys and Beacons in the Bay and Harbour of Miramichi. Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

February 25.

Mr Gordon, by leave, presented a Petition from Samuel Sutherland, and twenty one others, of Bathurst, in the County of Gloucester, praying that no alteration be made in the present line of Great Road from that place to Salmon Beach; which he read.—Ordered, That the said Petition be received and referred to the Committee to take into consideration the state of the Roads to report thereon.

On motion of Mr Read, the House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to authorize the erection of a Marine Hospital at the Port of Bathurst.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the Bill referred to them under their consideration, had made an amendment thereto, and then agreed to the same. Ordered, That the Report be accepted and the Bill engrossed as amended.

OUR CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

FREDERICTON, 4th March, 1854.

Dear Pierce,

I fear my letters this winter will prove uninteresting. The Law Commission chiefly occupies the Assembly, and at least another week will be required to complete the codification of the Laws (as it is termed.) After that something of more interest may arise, and some important changes in the constitution of our Courts and modes of procedure therein be discussed. Any debates you will find at length in the reports, the two last numbers of which I send, where you will find debates to first of March, at least one week later than you will get by the numbers published for circulation. Kerr's Bill to authorize the granting of Portage Island to the County, has been committed, and progress reported. Should we get justice, this Bill will pass, yet I would not encourage hopes which may not be realized. A Bill passed the House yesterday, to grant the Minerals to owners of the soil, reserving the right to charge a royalty, and exempting from its operation the licenses now existing. The great majority of the House were in favour of this Bill, in principle, as a means of settling the existing difficulties, but I fear the eagerness and jealousy of some Members, have forced a law, imperfect in detail, and doubtful in its operation. The Bill first gives up the Minerals, then provides that the parties shall not work without a license from the Government on such terms and conditions and subject to such Rents and Royalties as the Government may prescribe. Questions may arise as to the legality of first giving all, and then reserving something thereout, and in case the owner should dig and remove Minerals without license there is no mode pointed out by which the Government can enforce the Royalty. Can they seize or replevy the Mineral when they have no legal property in it? Can they sue for a royalty when there is no license, and therefore none prescribed to be paid? Can they punish the party when the Law inflicts no penalty, and gives no tribunal.

All these difficulties were pointed out by the Attorney General and Johnson, but the majority would not even consent to report progress, that the professional intention might be carried out. It may be doubtful whether many did not desire to denude the Government of all property in the Mineral, without any compensation, and such would rejoice in pushing through an imperfect law, feeling that an open declaration of such desire would defeat the object. There is no suspending clause to the Bill, and the Legislative Council will certainly add this, if they don't the Bill will not be sanctioned by the Governor. There may be a question whether this be a Bill which can be interferred with by the Council, without infringing on the privileges of the House. The Council may therefore be compelled to reject it altogether, although it is said a majority of that body will support the principle. There was some parliamentary sparring on Wednesday. The Attorney General took umbrage at some remarks of Cutler and Connell on Tuesday, and in replying grew warm. In his wrath he appeared I might say, accused the opposition of factious motives. On Wednesday Cutler, Connell, and Johnson, replied—the latter describing what he would consider faction, and referred to the Attorney General's past course as illustrative. Attorney General replied—and I presume each party considered the accounts settled, as each declared himself on terms of personal friendship, and having none other than political differences. You will probably get the pitch of this debate as reported, and will discover with pleasure that your Representatives can be severe without malice and cutting without vulgarity. The Road Committee have reported against all the Bills for establishing new Great Roads. The finance Committee report a balance of £90,000, to be granted in supply for next year's revenue, thus implying that there should be little change in the Tariff. I speak from memory. Petitions are constantly pouring in on the Liquor Law and Orange Bill questions. The country cares more for Roads, Bridges, and Schools I fancy, than for these measures, which at best are productive of more evil than good in their agitation, and which are calculated to do harm whether passed or rejected. Should the Liquor Law be made more stringent, it will retard the temperance movement, and should it be repealed, it will strengthen that party which has all along offered an unworthy resistance to the moral force of total abstinence Societies; and should it remain as it is, it will record a compound of fanatical and puerile legislation, equally imperceptive, injurious and absurd. Should the Orange Bill pass, it must tend to unchristianize without quieting society. It cannot be right men less prudent, to legalize combinations of men who declare more love for abstract Creeds than true Religion, by which I understand christian charity.—Man cannot truly love his God who hates his fellow-man;—and should his bill be rejected, the spirit of non-political semi-religious party, at the coming

elections, will do much to prevent a proper representation of political opinion. These questions, however, have to be dealt with, and the consequence be on the heads of those who agitate and urge them forward.

By the bye, there is a mistake in my letter of the 18th ult. It was not Connell and Read but Connell and Needham, who urged direct taxation for Schools. This must have been a mis-print. Read has always opposed direct taxation. He was highly displeased and noticed it in the House, wishing the Reporter to correct the statement. He accused Fides of malice, and hinted that he was in the House.—Johnson said the statement was certainly wrong, and requested the reporter to add his contradiction to that of Read, if it could be of any service to that gentleman. He affirmed that the House had nothing to do with the matter, stated that he claimed and should always exercise the right of discussing public matters through the press, regardless alike of the opinions or threats of any man. The matter here ended.

Mr Read is mistaken in supposing Fides to entertain any other than friendly feelings toward him; he is satisfied with the result of the old dispute in the papers, and has long forgotten it; he leaves Mr Read to be on the whole, a very useful County Member, and would rejoice in his being again returned. Mistakes may sometimes occur in his letters or in their publication, but he will feel pleasure as it is his duty, to correct them when important, but will never flinch from maintaining what is true, no matter where it hits or how much it may be felt. In this he has been, and will continue.

Yours, &c.,

FIDES.

From the Courier.

February 28.

The House proceeded to order of the day in further consideration of the Report of the Law Commission, a very long debate ensued on the Chapter codifying the Municipal Election Act, an amendment had been submitted by the Law Commission. Mr Cutler made a regular attack on the Government. Mr Connell also made certain charges affecting the sincerity of the Government in regard to the introduction of the Municipalities. The Attorney General warmly refuted these charges, and the House adjourned at 5 o'clock, reporting progress without coming to any decision on the amendment introduced by Mr Needham.

March 1.

Early in the morning the debate on the Report of the Law Commission codifying the act relating to Municipal Institutions was resumed. Mr Connell first replied to the Attorney General. Mr Cutler followed. Mr Boyd replied to a speech from his colleague, Dr. Thomson, in which Mr Boyd emphatically expressed his belief that a large majority of the inhabitants of the county of Charlotte was in favour of that county being incorporated.

Mr J. M. Johnston made a powerful speech in answer to the speech of the Hon. Attorney General, last evening. Mr Needham defended his amendment and the Law Commission.

After a long debate, in which a large number of members took part, the Attorney General replied at length and the Report of the Law Commission was proceeded with. A number of chapters—up to 44—were agreed to, and progress was reported.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr Hatheway, after leaving the chair, took the opportunity of making some observation on the proceedings of the day, complaining that Mr Williston accused him of partiality while in the chair. He also regretted having voted a single shilling of the public money in support of the Law Commission, as he saw no end to the discussions to which this Report gave rise.

Mr Connell, Mr Williston and others replied.—The report was accepted.

A discussion afterwards arose on the reception of a school petition, introduced by the Hon. Attorney General. The petition was not received.

March 2.

This morning the House engaged in discussing a Bill brought in by Mr Earle, for the purpose of taxing the owners of Wilderness Lands, to which Bill, Mr Williston moved another, having the same object in view, as an amendment. A long debate on the principles of these Bills followed, but as the subject has been before the Legislature for some eight or ten years, nothing new was elicited.

The principle of Mr Earle's Bill was sustained, and the matter referred to a select Committee, to report by Bill.

The House then proceeded to the further consideration of the Report of the Law Commission, and continued in debate until after five o'clock. The Hon. Mr Montgomery and Hon. R. D. Wilmot differed seriously with the Hon. Attorney General on this mode of managing the report. The Attorney General replied with warmth. Progress reported.

March 3.

The House this morning was occupied in routine business until nearly 11 o'clock, when the Report of the Law Commission was again taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole.—The day was spent in making progress; and division after division took place on proposed amendment. Some verbal amendments have been carried to several sections in the Chapters discussed, but no new principle has been sustained during the day's debate, which was really fatiguing. The Committee got through to Chapter 55, and the House adjourned at a quarter past five.

From the St. John Free Press.

FREDERICTON, March 7.

This morning the House passed and made progress in a number of Bills, chiefly local. A rider to morning Bill, passed all its three readings, imposing penalty of £10 and forfeiture of mineral raised, on owners of the soil operating without licence. Report of Law Commission again committed, and a number of chapters passed without debate, up to title 11, chapter 83. Mr Harding presented a petition of H. Gilbert, praying to be heard at the bar of the House, against the passing of the Bill to amend the Act incorporating the E. & N. A. Railway Company, received and prayer granted, counsel to be heard on Wednesday. Mr Kerr gave notice of resolution for an Address praying for a variety of returns connected with the Audit and Treasury Of fice.

Mr Cutler gave similar notice of a resolution praying for returns of another class of public accounts.

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47 Chests best CONGOU TEA, imported from Liverpool.

ALSO

50 Barrels No. 1 HERRINGS.

10 Barrels CRUSHED SUGAR,

For Sale by

W. J. FRASER.

25th January, 1854.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1854.

TERMS.—New subscribers Twelve Shillings and Six Pence, per annum, in all cases in advance. Old subscribers 12s. 6d. in advance, or 17s. 6d. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a large saving, we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it.

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EUROPEAN NEWS.

WE refer our readers to extracts in another page, and to our Telegraph Despatches, for information respecting the stirring events now transpiring in the old world. May an all-wise Being so order and direct, that the present conflict may promote the cause of liberty, and extend the blessing of civil and religious freedom among the nations of the earth.

OUR LEGISLATURE.

THE business of the Session progresses but slowly. The Law Report seems to engross nearly the whole attention of Members, and judging of the time already consumed, and the little headway made, we expect but little will be done with the work of the Commissioners this Session. It appears to us to be a very unseemly thing, to see Members of the Government differing so widely as they do, on many matters embodied in the Report, and more particularly to hear the Chairman—the first Law officer of the Crown—declare that he knows nothing about the Report, and that he has not had time to turn his attention to the matter. We should like to know what he receives his salary for? Is it not to attend to his public duties—and how could he be better employed during the recess, than assisting to simplify and correct our code of Laws.

We have devoted considerable space in today's paper, to extracts from the Journals, Telegraph Reports, &c., and also to our Correspondent's letter, to which we refer our readers for particulars. We have not, as yet, seen anything in the Debates, of sufficient interest to copy.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

By the last mail we obtained the Reports of the Board of Commissioners and of the Superintendent of the Provincial Asylum of this Province for the past year. By it we perceive the gross expenditure for the year amounted to £4,329 13s. 8d., from which may be deducted for money received from patients, donation, &c., £350 18s. 7d, leaving the amount paid by the Province £3,978 15s 1d. The number of patients at the commencement of the year was 132; received during year, 99; discharged, 75; died, 22; remaining in the Asylum, 127.

P. E. ISLAND.

THE Hon. T. H. Haveland, one of the Assistant Judges of the Supreme Court of this Colony, has tendered his resignation to the Lieutenant Governor, who has accepted the same. We perceive that that gentleman, in compliance with a requisition, numerously signed, has consented to be put in nomination to represent Princeton and Royalty, vacant by the death of James M'Kay, Esq.

The Hon. Mr Holl has accepted the office of Provincial Treasurer.

The Government advertise for Tenders from persons who are willing to run for one or two years, a good efficient Steamboat, of not less than One Hundred Horse Power, between Pistou and Charlottetown, twice a week, and between Charlottetown, Bodeque and Shediac, and back again, once a week, from the opening to the closing of the navigation. The said boat to carry the Government Mails,—for which service £750 (Island currency?) will be paid annually. The boat to be subject to the approval of Com-

missioners so be appointed by the Government.

Mr Whalen, Queen's Printer, having tendered his resignation of said office, Mr John Ings has been appointed in his stead.

COUNTY BONAVENTURE.

OUR Correspondent in this quarter, under date of Hope Town, February 1, has sent us the following communication:

"On the 18th ult., a special meeting of our Municipal Council took place in the Court Hall, New Carlisle, when the long-promised snuff box was duly presented to the Mayor, it having been purchased by J. R. Hamilton, Esq., Q. C. Not having been present we write from hear say.

"The inscription on the Box is, we understand, deficient in the most important part, as a public testimonial—there being no allusion whatever in the inscription thereon, to the fact of its having been presented to Mr McDonald, in testimony of his eminent services as Mayor of the Corporation. If such be the case, it is not in accordance with the motion of the Councillor (Wm. McPherson, Esq.) who proposed the tribute. By whom was the inscription worded? We have our opinion on the subject, but shall reserve it for a future *bon bouche*. We also learn from a reliable source, that great dissatisfaction has been expressed at the non appearance of an account to show what the Box really did cost. This to say the least shows great want of delicacy on the part of the *growlers*. Is it to be supposed that if it cost £10 in lieu of the £8 voted and paid by the Council, the learned Councillor would so far forget himself, as to boast of his generosity towards a *tried and valued friend*. If you are not satisfied Gentlemen, you have an easy remedy—weigh the Box—The real market price is easily ascertained, and as to the inscription that is engraved at per letter.

"Some important matters were discussed at the Meeting, and resolutions passed, of *vital importance* not only to this Municipality, but the District in general, which shall be duly chronicled and their merits considered in a future communication."

The same Correspondent under date of Pasphebiac, February 14, writes as follows:

"A Meeting of our Agricultural Board, Division No 1, took place in the Court Hall, New Carlisle, on the 7th inst., and we are happy to learn that the receipt of the £13 10s. alluded to in a former communication, was formerly announced by the Secretary. But the great feat of the day was the passing of a vote of censure on your humble servant, for having presumed to expose the short-comings of our Aristocracy. We have not yet been favoured with an official copy of this dread anathema, which we are anxiously expecting—as we mean to have it printed in letters of Gold, and placed in a conspicuous place in our humble dwelling, as a warning to our Children's Children, to beware how they have the temerity to venture on calling in question, the doings or even sayings of their Rulers.

"Not having been able to attend the meeting—as an auditor we mean—we are not prepared to give the full details thereof, but shall shortly be in a position so to do, and we shall at the same time give a copy of the correspondence between his Honor the President and ourselves, with explanations, in order that parties at a distance may form some idea of who is who in this quarter.

"In the meantime we beg leave to transcribe the following poor translation of Horace, by Creech, for the edification of whom these presents may concern."

"He who by principles is swayed
In truth and justice still the same,
Is neither of the crowd afraid,
Though evil broils the state inflame;
Nor to a haughty tyrant's frown will stoop,
Nor to a raging storm, when all the winds are up."

MARKET IN CHATHAM.

WE have much satisfaction in publishing the annexed Letter addressed by the Clerk of the Peace, to a new Committee selected by the Sessions for drawing up a code of Rules and Regulations for the establishment of a Market in the Town Chatham, in compliance with the Presentments of the Grand Juries in 1853 and 1854; as well as the order of the Session, appointing that Committee.

The necessity of a Market being established in the town, is every day more and more apparent, and we have repeatedly urged the subject on the consideration of the public authorities and the people. Why the Committee appointed last year did not attend to that duty, we are unable to state, and we are glad to perceive by the letter from the Clerk of the Sessions, that the fault does not lie with that body, as the subject has been urged; by him on the attention of the Committee. We also, during the last year, called the attention of the gentlemen to the subject.

We trust the parties now appointed, will perform their duty, and that ere another season passes away, arrangements will be entered into for carrying out this important measure.

CLERK'S OFFICE, NEWCASTLE,
14th February, 1854.

Gentlemen—I enclose you an order passed at the recent Sessions. In January, 1853, the Grand Jury presented to the Sessions, the necessity of passing Rules and Regulations for the establishment of a Market in Chatham. The Court appointed a Committee consisting of George Kerr, John T. Williston and John Mackie, Gentlemen, residing on the spot, to carry out the presentment, but notwithstanding their attention was repeatedly called by me to the subject they done nothing. The Grand Jury at the last January Term, again brought the subject before the Court, and they appointed you, with the full expectation that you would carry out the wishes of the Inhabitants of Chatham. I could refer you to the Act 13 Vic. Cap. 30, Section 10, Article 1, for the establishment and regulation of Market, Market Houses and Fairs, and for the