

ter world where no money is wanted, and you know, I suppose to your heart's sorrow, that you must leave all your goods and chattels behind, so you had better bequeath something to the School Fund of the Parish N. N. and have the same paid over to the Trustees of Schools for the said Parish.

Whereas the Schools are the nurseries and forehalls or porches of the Churches, and as it is very frequent to see collections made for the benefit of Churches, that the same may be done for the benefit of Schools, let Parish School Funds be erected to receive these collections.

That the good will and liberality of the higher classes are the most effective means to emulate the lower classes to efforts for the improvement of the Common School system.

That neither general assessment nor voluntary assessment are in accordance with justice as long as there are considerable sums of the public money wasted in expenditures befitting only single individuals and parties, whilst the bulk of the people groan under the want of Elementary Education.

Mr Editor, we conclude with the sincere wish, that you might condescend to lay up in your Office, either a petition to the House of Assembly or a request to the members of this County, containing our demand to have the salaries of our Teachers increased out of the Public Chest, for the signature of all persons who are like we, your servants, Friends to slow but sure

PROGRESS.

COUNTY OF RESTIGOUCHE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Dear Sir,—A person named Lawrence, hailing from a place called New Maryland, some where on the St. John River, appeared last week in our County, and informed the Public by placards, each nearly a yard long, that he would exhibit a number of Scriptural Diagrams from the Old and New Testaments, accompanying the same by text and explanations, also a number of Comic Views, the whole to conclude with Chinese Fireworks, and Electric Shocks to those inclined to take them. The religious (that is the greater) part of the community anticipated an opportunity of strongly impressing upon the minds of the young and rising generation the portions of the Bible he promised to illustrate and explain, and others expected fun and amusement from the comic views (?) fireworks, and electricity. One shilling and three pence currency was the moderate charge for each person, (supposed to be cheap enough). A large audience attended at the Temperance Hall in Dalhousie, a trumpery screen, about two yards square was stuck up at one end, behind which was esconced the exhibitor, with a Magic Lantern. The Scriptural Views commenced, but what a sight was there—never was anything so disgusting—never were scriptural characters so travestied, and turned into mockery—nothing could have been better suited to make an unbeliever sneer, and chuckle in his sleeve.

The hideous and gortisque figures representing our Saviour from childhood upwards, were abominable to look at—in short, nothing could be better calculated to throw the Scriptures into complete ridicule than this part of the exhibition, and which the sing song sniveling repetition of portions of the Bible by this operator Lawrence, did not tend to lessen. Then followed the comic nonsense, which might do very well for children, and costly at one penny each. Chinese Fireworks, nothing. Electricity, ditto.

It is but seldom we have an opportunity of witnessing public amusements here, and when they do come they are liberally supported.—We have been almost imposed upon several times, by itinerant exhibitors, but it remained for the advent of Mr Lawrence to fool us altogether. Had we not been essentially an order loving community, Mr L. would have been made to refund the quarter-dollars, and in all probability kicked into the bargain. Had he deferred his visit until the first of April we would have understood the man, and appreciated his wit, even at the cost of fifteen pence. We hope these few remarks may have the effect of warning your readers, especially in out of the way places, and that they, profiting by our experience, may not be fooled out of their money.

Restigouche, March 1, 1854.

Flour, Pork, Butter, &c.

The Subscribers have in Store the following GOODS, which they offer for sale on moderate terms.

150 barrels Canada No. 1 Superfine FLOUR,
20 barrels Mess PORK,
20 barrels BUTTER,
10 puncheons Molasses,
10 barrels Crushed Sugar,
Barrels Brown Sugar,
Chests, half chests, and boxes TEA,
Boxes Soap and Candles,
Boxes assorted Confectionaries,
Boxes Salaratus,
Boxes Castor Oil,
A large and well assorted Stock of DRY GOODS, READY-MADE CLOTHING, Boots and Shoes, Small Wares, and several other Articles too numerous to mention.
BURKE & NOONAN
Chatham, 30th December, 1853.

Legislative News.

OUR CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

FREDERICTON, 11th March, 1854.

Dear Pierce,

House still engaged in Law Commission Report—reasonable progress made—a discussion to-day on the consolidation of the statutes, authorising the various clergymen to solemnize matrimony. The Commissioners have taken up the various acts, and in one section enumerated the various denominations, adding the general clause, that Ministers and Teachers of Religion, having charge of congregations, should also be allowed to marry by licence from the Governor. Another section, requiring all clergymen, except those of the Churches of England and Rome, and the Kirk of Scotland, to file certificates of ordination, &c., with the Provincial Secretary. The Commission suggest that in lieu of these provisions, a simple section as in Nova Scotia, should be adopted, authorising every Christian Minister or Teacher of Religion, to marry, either by licence or publication of Banns. It was agreed that while this section did not extend the actual rights of parties, it put all upon a footing without invidious distinction, and so long as due regard was had to the proper certificates being recorded in proof of the civil contract, and to secure the inheritance of the offspring, the House had nothing to do with the religious nature of the contract. On the other side, it was contended, that as the old law gave all the right, it was no objection that many were specially named. The recommendation of the Commissioners was adopted (after several divisions) by a vote 19 to 17—all your members except Attorney General voting for it.

A Bill to change the commutation of statute labour, was committed to-day, and progress reported. It is proposed to raise the amount from 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. or 4s. making £200 property instead of £100 taxable with one day's labour, and taxing property of non-residents. Kerr was in the chair, Williston, Johnson and others thought much consideration necessary. The present law made laborers, &c., pay four days, and if the amount was raised to 2s. 6d., they would require to pay double, while the man of property would only pay half the present sum—this they could not agree to, and provision must be made to diminish the number of days before the commutation should be increased. The tax upon non-resident property would create confusion, and in some cases work injustice. A man having £20,000 of property in Chatham, would only work 60 days, but another having £10,000 in each of two parishes, would by the change work 54 days in one, and 50 in the other parish—if any change is made I think care will be taken to guard against injustice.

On Tuesday the House goes into Committee of ways and means, and the Revenue Bill will be discussed. How would it do to retain the one per cent duty for School purposes in addition to the sum now granted in aid of Parish Schools? The amount raised in the past year from this impost—is about £12,000. The duty falls pretty evenly on all. The rich man would thus pay for his purple and fine linen, &c. &c., in proportion to their cost, and the Parish School Teachers obtain an increased stipend, without direct taxation. There is of course but an idea thrown out without much consideration, and I don't know what the feeling or reasoning on the subject may be. The Tariff will not be much changed, all parties being afraid to open the general question, each fearing the change may be against his own views. It is really astonishing to find men in the present day as much as ever wedded to protection, as they call the absurd system of taxing a country, or compelling a healthy and prosperous business to support those branches which will not pay, and should therefore be abandoned. They lose sight of the grand fact, that home Market, a speedy and safe return is of much more importance to our farmers and tradesmen; it sounds well to tell the shoemaker, or hatter that he is protected by impost duties on the article he produces, but the fact is, the shoemaker pays on his hat, &c. &c., more than he makes by the protection (so called.) Let any of these branches calculate the additional sum he pays on the necessary articles of life, in order to protect the other branches, and deduct the amount he receives in the protection of what he produces, and the result will be that all loose; but let there be added to this the diminished Market in consequence of the tax upon all those things required for lumbering, ship building, and other purposes, and the tallacy becomes palpable. Duties must be imposed for Revenue purposes, and should be confined as much as possible, to the luxuries of life—at least any tariff levied by way of retaliation, on other countries, should be confined to those things which can be produced in our own country, at nearly the same cost as abroad—and in cases where the foreign country requires our Market. People

must not be carried away by the pleasant sound "protection"—let the result be investigated in all branches of business, ere we admit that the thing is what 'tis called. The circumstances and condition of New Brunswick will not admit of absolute free trade, and on no conditions, but those of perfect reciprocity, should such a thing be thought of—but we should guard against the opposite extreme, least in avoiding Scylla he be thrown into Charybdis.

I fear there will be little chance of getting a proper bill passed to regulate the sale and granting of Timber Births, and unless provisions can be carried to prevent the monopolizing evil, by restricting the licenses to operators, or at least limiting the number of square miles to be held by one person, any change will I fear, be for the worse. The first of these provisions cannot be carried through the House, and the second, if sustained in principle, cannot well be worked out in practice; parties would apply for grounds in the names of other persons, and evade the spirit of the law while adhering to the letter; and any provision that the first applicant should receive the license would enable those who hold large blocks, and have friends at court, not only to retain these lands, but in fact, to step in before applicants for new berths, by taking advantage of their great local knowledge, and the search and experience of the actual lumberers. The evil is equally great and difficult to remedy. Your Representatives are all anxious to put this matter on a better footing, but are at a loss how to accomplish their desire. Your readers must excuse my writing so much in the nature of comment, and so little in the way of narrative. I have no desire to force my opinions upon them but rather desire to encourage thought and enquiry on the subject referred to.

FIDES.

Extracts from the Journals.

February 27.

Mr Cutler, by leave, presented a Petition from James Long and others, on behalf of a meeting of the inhabitants of the Parish of Dundas, in the County of Kent, praying to be relieved from a Warrant of Assessment issued on the said Parish, for the reasons set forth; which he read. Ordered, That the said Petition be received and lie on the Table.

On motion of Mr Cutler, Resolved, That the Petition of Jehn Coates, Joseph Doherty, Meracious Atkinson, and other Mill owners and Lumbermen of the County of Kent, on the subject of existing monopolies of Timber Berths, presented to the House on the 23rd day of February instant, and ordered to lie on the Table, be now referred to the Committee on the subject of the Lumbering Interests of the Province, to report thereon.

March 1.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to make further provision for the support of Buoys and Beacons in the Bay and Harbour of Miramichi. Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

On like motion of Mr Hatheway, Whereas the Bridge across the Nashwaak was carried away by the Flood last Fall, and it is highly desirable that a new Bridge should be erected on the former site with as little delay as possible, and a contract entered into without delay for that purpose; therefore, Resolved, That a humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to appoint a Commissioner to enter into a Contract for this object before the Snow goes off, and to superintend the erection of the said Bridge and this House will provide for the same out of moneys that may be appropriated for the County of York. Ordered, That Mr Hatheway, Mr Boyd, and Mr Gilbert, be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with this Address.

On motion of Mr Johnson, Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to appoint a Commissioner to enter into Contract for the erection of a Bridge across the Taxes River, near Boiestown, in place of the old Bridge carried away by the Freshet last Autumn, and that this House will make provision for the same at this Session out of the Bye Road money for the Counties of Northumberland and York. Ordered, That Mr Johnson, Mr English, and Mr Hatheway, be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

March 2.

Mr Gordon moved for leave to present a Petition from John Doran, William Taylor, and James Blackball, Esqrs, Justices of the Peace for the County of Gloucester, together with one hundred and forty others, Merchants, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the said County, praying that the Great Road on the south side of Caraquet River may be improved, and a Bridge erected at the head of the Tide to avoid a troublesome and dangerous Ferry; and the Rule of the House, limiting the time for introducing Petitions for money or relief, being dispensed with in this instance, leave was granted, and the Petition then read. Order-

ed, That the said Petition be received and referred to the Committee to take into consideration the state of the Roads to report thereon.

The Honorable Mr Partelow, pursuant to leave granted, brought in a Bill to legalise the payment of the Funded Debt of New Brunswick; Which was read a first time.

Mr Read, by leave, presented a Petition from John Woolner, Jean B. Blanchard, Patrick Foley, and ninety eight others, inhabitants of the County of Gloucester, praying that an alteration may be made in that part of the Great Road from Bathurst to Caraquet, lying between Grand Ance and the head of the tide on the Caraquet River, 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.

March 3.

Mr Dibblee, Master in Chancery, informed the House that the Council had agreed to the Bill to make further provision for the support of Buoys and Beacons in the Bay and Harbor of Miramichi without making any amendments thereto.

From the New Brunswicker.

March 9.

Last evening after the House resumed, on motion of Mr Kerr, the following address to His Excellency was passed:—

Resolved, That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House a detailed statement of the charges and credits made by the Auditor in his accounts of 31st of December, 1852, in his audit of the Treasurer's account for 1853, whereby the balances in his audit of 1852 were made to correspond with the Treasurer's balances as rendered at same date.

A copy of all correspondence between the Government and the Auditor General and Provincial Treasurer since January 1853, relating to the Treasurer's accounts, and the differences appearing between the balances of the Treasurer and the Auditor's report in 1852.

A return of all surcharges and balances expended in the hands of Great and Bye Road Commissioners and other public officers having the expenditure of public grants, to the 31st December last, with the amount and date when such sums respectively accrued in their hands.

An account in detail of the expenditure during the last year by the Commissioners appointed to survey and mark the boundary line between Canada and this Province, with the amount of all warrants drawn on the Canada disputed territory fund; also, a report of the said Commissioners for the last year.

A statement of the salaries and contingencies, in detail, for the support of the following public offices for 1853, viz:—Secretary's Office, Surveyor General's Office, Post Office, Auditor's and Receiver General's Offices, Clerk of the Executive Council, and Provincial Treasurer.

An account in detail of the Expenditure for the erection of the offices for the Executive Council, Audit Office, and Board of Education.

This morning, Mr Connell presented several petitions from the County of Victoria, praying that the House investigate the circumstances connected with the application of that County for a Municipal Corporation, and the refusal of the Government. He then gave notice that he would move an address to His Excellency calling for all the correspondence on the subject and when that was before the House he would move the House into Committee on the subject.

Mr Kerr moved a resolution for a Select Committee to be appointed to examine and report upon the mileage received by the members.—This set the House in an uproar, and a lively debate took place on the subject.—The resolution was supported by Messrs Kerr, Connell, Johnson, Gordon and Ryan. It was opposed by Messrs Barberie, Thomson, Pickard and Cutler. Messrs Smith, Lewis and Botsford did not actually oppose the measure, but regretted that the resolution was moved; and Messrs English, McPhelim, Street, Gilbert and Hatheway spoke without committing themselves for or against. Mr Stiles moved an addition, to the effect that members absenting themselves from the House, during the session, shall receive no pay during the period they are absent. The amendment was carried, and the original resolution was then sustained by a division of 22 to 4, the nays being—Thomson, Barberie, Read and McPhelim. The Committee was then appointed, consisting of fifteen members.

The House went again in Committee on the Codified Laws.

On the chapter on the Inspection of Flour coming up, a discussion arose on the last section, which read thus:—“Nothing in this chapter shall interfere with the rights and privileges of the Corporation of the City of St. John, or shall extend to the Counties of Northumberland, Kent, Gloucester, and Restigouche.”