

nation, he said that Mr. Fisher had fully justified his conduct, and now occupied a proud position before the country. Mr. R. then commented on the unconstitutional conduct of the Executive, and charged them with repeated acts of misgovernment. He alluded to his own conduct in the House in 1851, and to the desertion of Messrs. Wilmot and Gray, but deprecated any disposition to bring up matters of personal difference before the House. On this point he spoke with great caution and forbearance. Mr. R. reviewed the proceedings of the Government in the last House, and gave an amusing account of their old supporters, as contrasted with the members returned in their places. He wanted no office, but he wanted to see good government; he had contended for liberal principles, and he rejoiced that the time had come when they would be established. Mr. R. concluded a powerful speech, of which this is not even an outline, by expressing his determination to abide by the principles for which he had always contended.

Hon. Mr. Gray followed. This gentleman, whose speeches are excelled by none in the house for elegance of language, although not always powerful and effective, on this occasion excelled himself. He replied principally to Mr. Fisher, but as he had not been present when that gentleman spoke, and had received his information from others, he somewhat failed in attacking his positions. However, Mr. Gray made the very best of his case—contending that he was not responsible for the acts of the Government previous to his joining it. He charged Mr. Fisher with having violated Responsible Government himself as Mr. F. had been condemned and rejected by his constituents. On this point Mr. Gray insisted strenuously, and after reiterating the Attorney General's charges against him, he told Mr. F. that he would have to go before his judges; in unmistakable terms he intimated that the country would be appealed to, to decide this question. Mr. Gray denied Mr. Fisher's charge that the Council had been prostrate before the Governor. He had joined the improvement—he had done his duty while there, country was satisfied with him. Mr. G. went fully into all the charges brought against the Government, which he either denied or explained. His address was continued until five o'clock, when the House adjourned.

On Wednesday morning Mr. Tilley first occupied the floor, and delivered an admirable address. He supported the amendment for the reasons already given, and then added other charges—especially referring to the conduct of the Government in issuing warrants for large amounts without the authority of the House, or without giving the necessary information afterwards.

Mr. Gilmour followed in reply to Mr. Gray.—He said he was a liberal from conviction, and had been elected by a large constituency after a full declaration of his principles, his remarks were very pointed, and were well received by the House.

Mr. Smith spoke next, at great length, and with great ability. Following the path already marked out by his friends on the same side in the debate, he adduced instance after instance of misgovernment, he charged the Government with appointing themselves to offices, and limiting the patronage to a few families who had always enjoyed it from the first settlement of the Country.

Several other members followed. Mr. Boyd at some length, and Hon. Mr. Montgomery, briefly, in favor of the Government; and Messrs. McAdam, McPhelim, Steadman, McLelan, McNaughton, Macpherson, and Hatheway, against it. Several of the speeches were interesting, but it is impossible to notice them all more particularly. Messrs. Macpherson and Hatheway strenuously supported the stand taken by Mr. Fisher. Mr. McP. said that although personally favourable to some office-holders in the Government, he felt that they had submitted to insult, without resenting it;—he wanted no office but he wanted the rights of his constituents to be protected, and he would stand by the country, whatever was the consequence. Mr. Hatheway very earnestly expressed his determination to uphold liberal views; he reviewed and defended his conduct during the four years he had been a legislator; he reminded Mr. Gray of some circumstances which he appeared to have forgotten, which occurred in 1851, and concluded a very effective and well delivered address, by declaring that after hearing Mr. Fisher's statements, containing facts which had never been given to the public before, he would feel bound to support that gentleman's return to the Assembly in the event of the threatened dissolution, even though he should lose his own seat in consequence.

Hon. Mr. Wilson spoke next, but did not enter fully into the points of controversy. Unfortunately he became apparently greatly excited, and made a violent personal attack on Mr. Ritchie, who, in dealing with the same circumstances the day previous, had manifested extraordinary and unexpected forbearance.

Mr. Johnston followed, and spoke until the hour of adjournment, when he sat down with the understanding that he was to conclude on the following morning. Mr. J., at the outset, referred to the complaints made against him of speaking too much; he said that he was peculiarly situated in the last House, where, for three years he had been almost alone in the opposi-

tion; that circumstance had compelled him to speak longer and oftener than he could have wished; now he was surrounded by many older and wiser than himself, and was willing and glad to occupy a less prominent position. Mr. J. then went fully into the whole subject, eloquently urging his different points. Although much had been said on some of these points before Mr. J. commanded the attention of the House during the whole of his address, and left the most favorable impression, both as to his abilities as a public speaker, and the correctness of the views which he expressed.

After Mr. Johnston had concluded on Thursday morning, several members then addressed the House on the same side. Messrs. Connell, English, Botsford, Harding, End, and Cutler. These gentlemen spoke decidedly in favor of the amendment, and most of them brought specific charges against the Government. Their speeches are worthy of fuller notice than can here be given. Mr. Cutler, however, spoke at very great length, and rehearsed a series of misdeeds on the part of the Government, which excited in some instances surprise, as the matters of complaint had never been so fully noticed before. Mr. Cutler's speech was exceedingly severe and damaging to the Government.

Mr. Gilbert followed against the amendment, and against the Address. He voted with the Government, because he did not think the opposition had sufficient materials to form a new one.

It was now after four o'clock, and all the members who intended to address the House had done so, except Mr. Fisher and the Attorney General, who were each to close their case. Mr. F. requested an adjournment for an hour or two, or until the following morning, as he was unwell; he said that although the Attorney General and Mr. Gray had principally dealt in personal attacks against himself, he was willing to waive the right of reply, and let his character take care of itself before the country, provided the Attorney General would consent to let the question be taken immediately. The Attorney General, however, did not respond, and the House adjourned with the understanding that Messrs. Fisher and Street were to close in the morning.

On Friday morning, Mr. McLeod addressed the House at some length. He expressed his opinion that the discussion, as it had led to the definition of principles not fully understood, would do a great deal of good—although holding views in common with the amendment, he nevertheless could not consent to record his vote against the Government.

Messrs. Stevens, Landry and Ryan followed, each supporting the amendment. Mr. Landry said, had he been in the House when the Judges' appointments were discussed he should have voted with the opposition—that his constituents sent him to do that now. Mr. Ryan expressed unwillingness to vote against the Government, but said he could not vote against the amendment.

Mr. Fisher then delivered his closing speech for the amendment. Much of it was a refutation of personal attacks made by the Attorney General and Mr. Gray, and he evidently spoke under feelings of excitement and indignation.—The Attorney General had impeached his motives in resigning, saying, that Mr. Fisher only resigned because he was made Attorney General. Mr. F. went into the circumstance, appealing to his colleagues, and absolutely denying it—saying, moreover, that until he heard of Mr. Street's appointment, he had never conceived that in these modern times, a man with such antiquated notions of government, and whose influence, when separated from that of Mr. Rankin, never reached beyond his individual vote, would or could have been Attorney General.—Mr. Gray had spoken lightly of the political knowledge of the new members. Mr. F. told him he was one of the new members, and he supposed must sit at the feet and learn politics from his political Gamaliel! Mr. G. had also impeached Mr. Fisher's conduct in resigning, insisting that the loss of his seat, on responsible government principles, necessitated his resignation previously. To this Mr. F. replied, that such an opinion from the Attorney General would not have surprised him, but such ignorance of the principles of government from a man of Mr. Gray's education and modern notions, was unpardonable. Mr. F. then went on to define the principles of Responsible Government in such a case. A single constituency might reject a minister of the crown, but if a majority of the representatives sustained the government to which he belonged, he need not resign. It is not one constituency, but all the constituencies when collected together, which can give the opinion of the majority of the people. Mr. F. referred to several cases showing the correctness of his definitions, which, however was not disputed from either side of the House. The remainder of the speech had reference to the general topics of the debate.

Mr. Fisher, towards the close of his address, referred in highly complimentary terms, with much feeling, to his old colleague and friend, Judge Wilmot whose elegant voice had so often been heard in that House, and whose labours for the advancement of the rights and privileges of the people of New Brunswick would be appreciated through all future time.

Mr. Street then closed for the Government.—His speech occupied several hours that evening,

and was resumed on Saturday, and continued until the question was taken. He vindicated the Government not only from the general charges, but from the smaller grievances enumerated by different members. In some of the latter cases, his explanations must have been quite satisfactory. He insisted on his own integrity of character, and on his faithful discharge of his public duties. He complained of the conduct of the opposition in taking the Government by surprise, and as not representing the feeling of the country. He especially animadverted on Mr. Fisher's conduct, again impeaching his motives in resigning, and charging him with ambition, and with seeking to get his office. It is, however, impossible to give even an outline of a speech which occupied six or seven hours, and which alluded to so many circumstances, and covered so many topics. No doubt it will be fully reported in due time.

Thus terminated a discussion which occupied six days, and which led to the finest display of eloquence, parliamentary and constitutional knowledge, and independent action, which has ever been witnessed in the New Brunswick Legislature.

The division, with the names, was given in last week's Courier—for the amendment, 27; against it 12.

The Address having been completed, was presented to his Excellency on Monday. The reply was as follows:—

"I thank you for your address. I rely with perfect confidence on your loyalty to Her Majesty, and you may be well assured that I regard as sacred the constitution of the Province."

On Thursday, the Carleton (St. John) Water bill was read a third time, and a bill (introduced by Mr. Wilmot,) to repeal the duty on flour, corn meal, coal, molasses, and salted meats, was passed; and also a bill fixing the pay of Members of the Assembly at 20s. per day.

Mr. Street as a private member, introduced a bill to carry the Reciprocity Treaty into effect.

On Wednesday, the bill introduced by Hon. Mr. Fisher, to amend the Municipal Act, so as to give the majority of the people power to obtain a charter, was committed and passed.

At two o'clock, Hon. Mr. Ritchie announced the new Government as follows:

Hon. Charles Fisher, Attorney General;
Hon. John M. Johnson, Solicitor General;
Hon. S. L. Tilley, Provincial Secretary;
Hon. Wm. H. Steves, Surveyor General;
Hon. William J. Ritchie, Executive Council.
Hon. James Brown, and } Councillors, without
Hon. Albert J. Smith, } place.

The Reciprocity Bill was committed, and supported by Messrs. Ritchie, Partelow, Boyd, End, Gray, McAdam, Brown, English, Macpherson, and Gilmour and opposed by Messrs. McPhelim, Cutler and Ryan.

The Bill finally passed. Division on the third reading—19 to 4—Mr. Gilbert voting against it.

On Friday the Legislative Council passed the Reciprocity Bill, and the two Houses passed the following Address:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
The humble and dutiful Address of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, in General Assembly convened.

May it please your Majesty.

Freemen in every land are watching with intense anxiety the progress of the present despot of the North, and we beg permission to offer our congratulations on the success of your Majesty and your allies on the recent glorious victory at Alma.

It is with pride and thankfulness that we have witnessed the patient skill and bravery of the Soldiers of Great Britain and France and the Ottoman Porte, and enough has already transpired to convince the civilized world that fleets and armies of the East are worthy of their sires, their country, and the glorious cause in which they are engaged.

That the God of battles may bless your arms, that your reign may become as brilliant in war as it has hitherto been resplendent in the arts of peace, is the earnest prayer of your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects in this part of your wide spread Dominions.

The Governor came down at half-past three o'clock, and gave his assent to the Reciprocity Bill, the Municipal Amendment Bill, the St. John and Portland Water and Sewerage Bill, the Carleton Water Bill, the Bill providing for the Members Pay, &c., and the Bill for the abolition of duty on Flour, Pork, &c. The Legislature was then prorogued with the following Speech:—

"Mr President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

"Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I thank you for the consideration which you have given to the important subjects to which I called your attention at the commencement of the Session.

"I have readily given my assent to the Bills which you have passed, and I trust that they may contribute to promote the Commercial interests and to improve the sanitary condition of the Province.

"The congratulations which you have offered to Her Majesty on the success of Her Majesty's Arms, and those of her Allies, at the recent vic-

tory of Alma, will be laid before the Throne, and will, I am confident, be received by Her Majesty with satisfaction and pleasure, as an additional proof of the well known loyalty of Her Subjects in this part of Her Dominions."

Critic's Department.

MIRAMICHI :

GATHAM SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 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.

V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent is the only authorised Agent for this paper, in the Cities of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and is duly empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments. His Office is:—

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

LAST week we announced, in a telegraph despatch, that the new Government was sustained by a vote of 19 to 9. The following is the version of the affair copied from the Freeman. From what we have heard of Mr. Cutler, we supposed he was too shrewd a man thus to manifest his disappointment in not partaking of some of the loaves and fishes that have fallen to the share of the opposition; for to such a feeling alone can we attribute his uncalled-for and unnatural opposition:

On Wednesday Mr. Cutler brought in a resolution which amounted to a vote of want of confidence in the Government—which was as follows:—

1st.—The non-appointment of Mr. Kinnear to fill the first vacancy on the Bench, to which he is entitled by his position in the community, and as the sole representative of a most numerous and highly respectable portion of the people, and from which he is debarred by the claims which Mr. Ritchie asserts to the office.

2nd.—The non-observance of a promise made to him that a Catholic should have a place in the Council.

3rd.—The insult offered to the agricultural interests of the Province, by passing them over entirely.

Mr. Gilbert moved, in amendment, that the appointment of Mr. Steves, a member of the Legislative Council, as Surveyor General, was unconstitutional, and the question being taken on this, the votes stood as follows:

Ayes—Street, Partelow, Wilmot, Hayward, Gray, Cutler, Gilbert, Purdy, Boyd—9.

Nays—Ritchie, Smith, Brown, Gilmour, McAdam, Botsford, Steadman, Sutton, MacNaughton, End, Macpherson, Taylor, Landry, Harding, Connell, English, Ferris, McPhelim, McLean—19.

We have taken from the Courier, a brief synopsis of the debate which took place in the Assembly, on the want of confidence motion.—

It must have been a pretty sharp affair. We hope some effort will be made to give us a more extended report of the debate, as it must enlighten us, on many matters connected with the past administration of our Provincial affairs.

The Journals contain the treaty entered into between Great Britain and the United States, to which the Legislature has just given its assent, but as it was copied into into the Gleaner some time ago, we do not think it necessary to reprint it.

COUNTY KENT.

JAMES Long, Esq., has furnished us with the following inquest:

"An Inquest was held before James Long, Esq., Coroner, on view of the body of JOHN QUIRK, who was found dead on the Buctouche beach. Verdict.—Came to his death by a blow on the head above the right ear, which stunned him, and then thrown into the water, and there drowned, and that Roderick Gillice is the person who committed the act."

THE ELECTION.

It will be seen by an advertisement in another page, that the Election is to come off on Saturday, the 18th instant, and the nomination is to take place on the previous Tuesday.