

resolved, that Members shall in future only receive such expenses to and from the Assembly and their residence within the County they represent, and further, that those Members not residing within the County by whom represented, be allowed expenses only to and from the Shire Town of such County.

To which the Hon. Mr. Johnson moved as an amendment—to expunge all after the word "Resolved" and substitute the following:—

That Members shall in future receive only travelling charges to and from their places of residence, and in case of any Members residing out of the province, the distance shall be taken to the province line on the road to his residence by the ordinary mail route.

The question being put upon the proposed amendment, when the house divided as follows:— Yeas 7. Nays 13. Whereupon it was decided in the negative.

The question was then taken upon the original Resolution, when the House divided as follows:— Yeas 7. Nays 15. And this also was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. End, whereas in and by an act made and passed in the seventeenth year of the Reign of her present Majesty, intituled "an act to appropriate a part of the public Revenue for the services therein mentioned," it is among other things enacted, "That there be granted to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor a sum not exceeding £1,000, to be appropriated to facilitate the construction of a railway across the Isthmus at the Grand Falls, by the Grand Falls Railroad Company, no part of which sum to be drawn from the Treasury until it is certified to His Excellency by a competent Engineer, to be appointed by the government for that purpose, that the road is in efficient operation for traffic when £2000 shall be drawn and paid to the said Company, £1,000 in twelve months, and the remaining sum of £1,000 within two years after the said certificate shall have been furnished;" and whereas it is deemed expedient to give more unrestricted encouragement to a work, the completion of which will be of such advantage to the Province; resolved, that a humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to issue his Warrant or Warrants on the Treasury in favour of the said Grand Falls Railway Company for sums equal to one half the amounts which it may be satisfactorily proved to His Excellency in Council by a Commissioner to be by them appointed, the said Company may effectively expend towards the completion of the said Railroad, not to exceed in all the said sum of £3,000; provided always, that no such Warrant shall be issued for any sum less than £250; and part of the sum already expended be taken into consideration, and any money paid by virtue of this resolution shall be in lieu of the amount appropriated in and by the said in part repealed Act.

Upon the question for sustaining the resolution of this address, the House divided as follows: Yeas 15. Nays 8. And it was thereupon carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Wilmet, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor with the Address of the House of the 9th day of April instant, relative to the creation of Light Houses on Misou Island and Cape Tormentine, reported—that they had attended thereto, and His Excellency was pleased to say, he would have much pleasure in complying with the wishes of the Assembly.

On motion of Mr. McClellan, whereas in the opinion of this House it is deemed expedient that no Postmaster, Deputy Postmaster, Wey Office Keeper, or other person in charge of any Post Office or Wey Office within this Province, should receive or deliver any Letter, Paper, or Package, or should make up or forward any mail, nor should any courier or mail carrier convey any mail from any part of this Province to any other part thereof on the Lord's Day, called Sunday, except in cases where mails may be detained beyond their regular and accustomed time by storms, accident, or other unavoidable occurrences; therefore Resolved, that in the opinion of this House, it is highly desirable that the Executive Government make such Rules and Regulations as shall carry out as soon as conveniently practicable, the object of this Resolution.

To which Mr. Partlow moved the previous question—that the question upon the Resolution be now put. And upon the question, the House divided as follows:—Yeas 12. Nays 12.—It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Dibble informed the House that the council had agreed to join in the address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the subject of a steamer to ply between Shediac and Prince Edward Island.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Ritchie, Resolved, that a select committee be appointed to adopt during the recess, measures for establishing a Reading Room within the Legislative Hall, for the accommodation of the Members of this House, and that they order suitable Newspapers and Periodicals for the use of the House, from the 1st of February to the 1st of May hereafter.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

The Southern Mail due yesterday did not arrive until this morning. It brings the British Mail brought out by the Africa, which puts us in possession of papers to the 14th April. Below we give such extracts as our time and space will admit.

Camp before Sebastopol, March 26.

THE LATE BATTLE.

The affair of Thursday night and Friday morning had not so serious for us as was at first imagined. Our loss, instead of being nearly 100 killed, wound, and amputated, did not amount to much more than half that number. When the Mortar Battery was carried by an enormous force of the enemy on the 24th night, or more properly speaking Friday morning, they held it about 15 minutes, and were dislodged by a handful of men, who displayed the utmost gallantry and daring. Our men do not relish night fighting. They would sooner meet 10,000 Russians by day than 2,000 in the dark, but the circumstances attending this act evince the greatest coolness and bravery on the part of the men and officers engaged in it. At the time the heavy fire between the French and Russians was going on a portion of the 90th Regiment were employed on fatigue duty on the right of the new advanced works on our right attack. They were in the act of returning to their posts in the Garden Battery just at the moment the heavy firing on the right had ceased, when a scattered irregular fusillade commenced in the dark on the left of their position close to the Mortar Battery. Captain Vaugh-

ton, who commanded the party of the 90th, ordered his men to advance along the covered way to the works. They moved up in double time, and found the Russians in complete possession of the Mortar Battery. The 90th at once opened as heavy a fire of musketry as they could upon the enemy, who returned it, but the coolness and readiness of our men were giving us the advantage, when an alarm was given that our men were firing on the French; but the mistake was speedily discovered by the enemy's fire being poured in with mere deadly effect, and the small party of the 90th were thrown into great confusion. Captain Voughton at this moment shouted "Men of the 90th follow me!" and Sergeant Henry Clarke, Sergeant Brittle, a sergeant of the 7th Fusiliers, about 14 men of the 90th, and a few of the 7th, dashed out of the confused ranks, and rushed right into the Mortar Battery. In a few moments these brave fellows drove the enemy beyond the first traverse, and at the narrow way leading into the second traverse they made a stand, and opened a heavy flanking fire on the parapet, over which the Russians were making determined efforts to come upon them. The narrow pass was meantime defended by the sergeants and a few men, who delivered fire as fast as they could load right into the Russians, who gradually began to give way, with a loud "hurrah" the gallant little band sprang with the bayonet upon the enemy, who at once precipitately retired over the parapet, followed by our rifle balls, which were poured in upon them incessantly, till every round in the men's pouches were expended. In order to keep up the fire, the men grouped about among the dead Russians, and exhausted all the cartridges they could find in the enemy's pouches. At the first charge at the Mortar Battery the Russian leader, who wore an Albanian costume, and whose gallantry was most conspicuous, fell dead.

As an act of justice, the names of the officers and men of the party of the 9th Regiment whose conduct was distinguished in this affair should be recorded. They are—Clarke, Brittle, and Essex (sergeants), Caruthers, severely wounded (Corporal) Fane, Walsh, Nicholson (wounded), and Nash, Captain Voughton received a severe contusion in the affair. The courage displayed by Captain Cavendish Browne, of the 7th in another part of the works was most conspicuous. He was severely wounded at the commencement of the attack, but he refused to go to the rear, though nearly fainting from loss of blood. He led on his men, encouraging them by voice and gesture, to the front. When his body was found, it lay far in advance of our line with three balls in the chest. The 77th regiment behaved admirably, and Major-General Codrington has communicated to the 88th (and I believe to the other regiments of the brigade of the Light Division engaged) the satisfaction of Sir George Brown at their gallant conduct. It is not known how many Albion Chiefs there were with the Russians, but certainly the two that were killed led them on with intrepidity and heroic courage. One of them, who struggled into the battery in spite of a severe wound, while his life-blood was ebbing fast, rushed at a powder barrel and fired his pistol into it before he fell. Fortunately the powder did not explode, as the fire did not go through the wood. Another charged with a scimitar in one hand and a formidable curved blade, which he used as a dagger, in the other, right into our ranks twice, and fell dead the second time, perforated with balls and bayonets. They were magnificently dressed, and it is supposed they were men of rank.

LATEST TELEGRAPH DESPACHES.

Vienna, Thursday, April 12.—According to a telegraph despatch from the Crimea, dated April 1, the allied armies were quite ready to open their fire on Sebastopol. The Generals probably only awaited the arrival of despatches from home before beginning the bombardment, which might be expected to take place during the ensuing week. The Generals wished to spare the town and public buildings.

The Russians still shelled the allied camp and batteries, but the guns of the allied were nearly silent.

The weather was fine and dry.

Two fires had occurred at Balaklava, a circumstance which excited suspicions of treachery.

The Russians were concentrating themselves towards Balaklava.

The garrison of Sebastopol was on short rations, as the authorities preferred storing up their supplies in magazines to issuing full rations.

Marseilles, April 12.—The Hydaspes, which left Constantinople on the 2nd of April has arrived. 2000 Egyptians left Constantinople on the 2nd for Eupatoria.

Balaklava, March 31.—The Russians have constructed two new batteries, and have converted the ambulances into an advanced parallel. The allies have constructed two new batteries. The firing has been slack. It was said positively that the bombardment would commence on the 3rd of April. The weather was not so fine; it was very cold. Of even Russian admirals at Sebastopol at the commencement of the siege two only now remain.

According to another despatch from Marseilles, a third stockade had been formed in the harbour of Sebastopol, by sinking vessels in front of the entrance.

The Baltic Fleet.—Deal, Friday Morning.—Her Majesty's steamer Driver, with the Pelter and Ruby gun-boats in tow, has sailed for the Baltic.

Russian Power in the Black Sea.—Letters from St. Petersburg, received in Paris, speak in very positive terms of the determination of the Emperor of Russia to consent to no limitation of his force in the Black Sea, on the ground that the allies have gained no advantages which would justify them in making any such demand.

TO COMMISSIONERS HIGHWAYS.

The following changes have been made in the Act for repairing of Highways.

Roads to be repaired &c. by Male Inhabitants 18 years old and upwards (except as in late law.)

SCALE.—18 years to 21, 2 days, at 2s. 6d.; each; 21 and upwards, 3 days, do.; for property up to £100, 1 day do.; from £100 to £300; 2 days, do.; from £300 to £500, 3 days, do.; in every £200 above £500, 1 day additional, until the whole with the personal tax amount to 30 days, and for every £200 property over the sum which gives 30 days, a tax of 2s. 6d. is to be assessed and paid to the Commissioner in money.

The property of non-residents, Juniors, and females, whether divided or undivided, is to pay a tax the same as resident property being 2s. 6d. to first £100, and 2s. 6d. above that sum to £300, and 2s. 6d. for each £200 after, to be levied and collected the same as other Parish and County Rates, to be paid to the Commissioner of the Parish where the Estate is situate.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1865

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.

This Paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at Holloway's Fil and Ornament Establishment, 24, Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

CITY OF ST. JOHN.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.—RAILWAY.

OUR neighbours in the "Commercial City of the Province," are proverbial for periodically starting and agitating some new project for promoting the interest of their much lauded city, and bringing grist to their own mill.

The Railway project, so much lauded by the city press, which was to accomplish such extraordinary wonders, and confer such unheard-of benefits to the Province, it appears, is to result in nothing, notwithstanding the scheme has been long bolstered up by the city press, the contractors, directors, &c., all pronounced to be true and honorable men, ready, able, and determined to fulfill the engagements they had entered into with the company and the government.

Can we ever forget the august and solemn ceremony of "turning up the first sod," which was performed amid the roar of cannon, and the day celebrated in the city by a procession of all the trades, and other pomps and ceremonies, and a great and glorious "feed," at which toasts innumerable were drunk in sparkling champagne and other generous wines; speeches delivered by the Lieutenant Governor for the time-being—which was reported truly eloquent; by Mr. Jackson, M. I. P., which was pronounced to be a master-piece, and extremely business-like; and a score of other addresses from United States and Colonial celebrities, all of which were characterized as eloquent, chaste, to the purpose, or something of the kind. Well, after all this great parade and show—it turns out to be "much-ado-about nothing." A screw is loose, and the great undertaking is to be abandoned.

To reconcile the citizens to this untoward circumstance, cheer their drooping spirits, and keep up the prestige of their beloved city, our contemporaries—patriotic and philanthropic souls,—have revived the old subject of "the removal of the Seat of Government to St. John;" and for fear that this was not sufficient of itself, to dispel the ague-fit of disappointment consequent on the loss of this "great measure," they add another item to the bill of fare—"that the College will be re-established at that city."

When these great changes take place we wonder what will become of the "Cathedral City," and will not its inhabitants have cause to weep for the loss of the public offices, and more particularly for the absence of the great men to whose safe keeping our Provincial affairs are entrusted?

This piece of news, so discouraging to the citizens of Fredericton, we have no doubt will be gratefully received by the denizens of St. John; but we are inclined to think these "golden prospects" will speedily vanish, and the matter allowed to die and be quietly interred like many other great and important measures which have from time to time been brought forward for the exaltation and benefit of that fair city.

On the subject of the Seat of Government and the establishment of the College, the Editor of the New Brunswicker thus remarks:

"It will be consolatory to the friends of Mr. Fisher to know, that serious intentions are now entertained in a highly influential quarter of removing the Seat of Government to St. John.—The College will certainly be re-established at this city; or if not, it will cease to exist. There cannot be two opinions on this matter; the fiat has gone forth. The voice of the people of New Brunswick demands that it shall be so; and there are men in office, not having the fear of Mr. Fisher or his friends in the "central districts" before their eyes, who are resolved that the Seat of Government shall be here a.k.o."

The following paragraph in reference to the Railway is copied from the same paper. We are not sufficiently acquainted with the "doings of the Directors and of the Executive," to en-

lighten our readers on the subject to which the Editor alludes. We never had any faith in the project, and should it be abandoned, it will be nothing more than what the majority of the inhabitants of the Northern Counties always anticipated:

"The European and North American Railway.—We understand that the Directors of this Railway have received a communication from Messrs. Jackson & Co., stating that in consequence of certain doings of the Directors, and of the Executive Government of this Province, they feel that there are sufficient grounds for abandoning their contract in this Province. It is not stated that they will do so, neither is it stated that they intend proceeding with the works at present. In the absence of any official announcement on this important subject (to which the public are clearly entitled) we can only say that we fear Messrs. Jackson & Co. have strong grounds for declining to proceed with their contract without incurring the slightest discredit."

The Editor of the Courier thus alludes to the same matter:—

"Railway Affairs.—Some discussion seems to be going on in the community with respect to the Railway affairs, and the payment of interest on Railway debentures. We have enquired into these matters and have the best authority for saying that nothing whatever has occurred to affect in any way the contract, nor was the interest on the Provincial debentures delayed an hour. If any irregularity has occurred we are able to say it does not directly or indirectly rest with the present Government. We trust by the next mail to hear of preparations being made for carrying on the work with vigour. The present prospect of low wages and materials of all kinds will doubtless facilitate greatly the operations of the Contractors, which we hope will this season be on a large scale."

To the last sentence we heartily respond, but our hopes in reference to the prosecution of this enterprise have been so often blasted, that we have long since given up all expectations in reference to the enterprise.

THE CONTINGENT BILL.

WE give below the remarks of some of our Contemporaries and those of their Correspondents, on that ever fruitful subject of complaint—the Contingent Bill of the Legislature.

Year after year the same accounts of the peculation and dishonest doings of the members of our collective wisdom are recorded. New Houses assemble, and new men are returned, but the old acts of fraud and spoliation are perpetrated, but little or nothing is done to expose the parties who persist in rifling the public treasury, or to cure the evil. Surely there is a remedy, and it could be discovered, if the honourable and trust-worthy members of the Legislature—and there must be many such in both bodies—would resolutely determine and act with vigour to remove the abuses.

We of course, know not whether the charges set forth are true or false, but insert them with the hope that their publicity will lead to some investigation being instituted to elicit the facts, that the evils may be rectified:—

"Dear Sir.—The closing scene of the session on Wednesday and Thursday last, were indescribable. Members squabbling as to who should have the precedence, each having some favourite bill or address he wished to get the House in committee upon or, as has been frequently the case, a member clamouring for justice to be done him and his constituents by the House passing some long neglected bill entrusted to his charge, that he might have moved the House in committee, upon any time these six weeks, but had purposely put it off until he knows it is too late, when he flusters and raves in order that he may go home and say to his constituents "I tried to get the House into committee on your bill, but they refused."

While the House was squabbling below, a dozen members jumping up together vociferating "Mister Speaker!" at the utmost tension of their lungs, the Committee on Contingencies were grumbling, quarrelling, threatening, examining witnesses, in one of the committee-rooms above. I did not write you on Thursday, because I wished to be possessed of full particulars first. I have not fully succeeded, but shall in a few days; meantime I will give you such information as I feel at liberty to impart before I am fully "posted up."

"What think you then, of the mere contingent expenses of the House, such as stationary, wood, coals, candles, furniture, new and repaired, &c., costing the Province about fifteen hundred pounds in one year! What think you of the stationary alone costing over four hundred pounds, and what think you of fourteen gross of wax candles are included in the Stationer's bill of goods imported from England? What do you think of the Committee finding out, by Williams, that not a single wax candle was burnt in the Province building, and that he put