

## Legislative News.

Extracts from the Journals.

Fredericton, March 7.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor £12,500 towards the encouragement of Parish Schools, agreeably to a Law of this Province.

March 10.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to repeal the export duty on Hacmatac Knees.

Ordered, that the bill do pass.

March 12.

The Honorable Mr Johnson, by leave, presented a petition from Messieurs J. H. and J. Harding, John Haws and Company, and one hundred and one others, inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, praying that a Bill now before the House to regulate the survey of lumber in that County may pass into a law; which he read.

Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Street, by leave, presented a petition from Alexander M' Laggan, William Muirhead, and twenty five others, inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, of a like prayer for the passing of the Bill to regulate the survey of lumber; which he read.

Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Kerr, by leave, presented a petition from Robert B. Wasson, Abel Pond, and sixty others, inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, praying the bill relating to the survey of lumber in that County may not pass into a law; which he read.

Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Kerr, by leave, presented a petition from John M. Johnson, William Letson, Esquires, and forty-nine others, inhabitants of the Parish of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland, against the passing of an Act authorising the rate payers to make compensation to Parish Officers; which he read.

Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

On motion of Mr Kerr, the House went into Committee of the whole on—A Bill to extend the Gaol limits of the County of Northumberland. Mr Gray in the Chair of the Committee. Mr Speaker resumed the Chair. The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the bill before them, the following was moved:

Resolved, that the further consideration of the bill be postponed for three months. Upon the question, the Committee divided as follows:

Yeas 24. Nays 14.

And it was thereupon carried in the affirmative.

BY TELEGRAPH TO MIRAMICHI GLEANER OFFICE.

Fredericton, March 22.

No business done this morning owing to the absence of members on committee. A Bill relating to the Atlantic Telegraph Company was presented by Mr Gray, and referred to a committee. More petitions presented for and against the removal of the shire town of Kings. The Road Committee met this morning, estimates not yet before the House, amount appropriated said to be less than that of last year.—The House resolved itself into a consideration of the Railway Bills at half-past two, a short discussion took place, a motion was made to postpone till Monday. Amendment moved by Mr Gray that bill not be taken up again till 31st March, amendment lost, only 2 voted for it, original motion carried. No other business of importance transacted. Several bills presented. A long discussion took place upon the proposal of certain amendments to the revised statutes, progress reported. House adjourned at half-past 4 o'clock.

March 24.

After transaction of routine of business this morning, progress was reported on the bill to incorporate the trustees of St. David's Church, in the City of St. John. The bill relating to the Eastern and North American Railway, was taken up a few minutes before 12 o'clock. Mr Steadman spoke for upwards of an hour in support of the scheme, and in justification of the arrangement with Jackson & Co., Mr Wilmot spoke briefly in condemnation of the scheme. He considered the undertaking too heavy for the Province. Mr Hatheway made a short speech in favor of the scheme, and accused members of making a second trial of the government.

This was contradicted by Mr McPhelim, who spoke for one hour on the Railway on the St. John river, and in favor of the line from St. John to Shediac. Allan spoke for half an hour in support of the bill. He was not favorable, however, to the details of the scheme.

Hayward condemned the scheme, and believes its effects would be felt by future generations.

Fredericton, March 25.

The bill to incorporate certain districts in the parish of Woodstock received a third reading. Mr McLeod presented a bill to increase representation King's County. The consideration of Railway bills was resumed at 11 o'clock. Mr Landry made a short speech in support of the scheme. Mr Connell spoke for one hour. He advocated Railways and the necessity of constructing line by the St. John river to Canada. He supported the scheme as being at present best for the province. Mr Armstrong followed in a short speech opposing the arrangement with Jackson, and the 2 1-2 per cent duty. Messrs. Botsford and Stevens also spoke briefly in opposition to the scheme.

In the afternoon Mr Ryan made a short

speech stating his intention to support the bills. Mr Montgomery condemned the scheme as prejudicial to the interests of the province. Mr McPherson spoke nearly one hour, and his speech was admitted by all to be more productive of mirth than all the previous speeches of the Session. He hoped the bill would pass. His Honor the Speaker and Mr Gilmore made the closing speeches of the day. The former gentleman supported the scheme, excepting one provision in the last bill. The latter gentleman warmly advocated the extension of the European and N. Am. line to Cstais. 28 of the members have already spoken on the bills—14 to 14. The question not expected to be taken before Thursday.

Fredericton, March 26.

No business transacted this morning prior to the discussion of the Railway question. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor came down to the Council and assented to several acts. Mr Cutler spoke for 1 hour in support of the Railway scheme and upon the contract with Jackson as a stupendous humbug. Mr McLellan made a short speech in favor of the bills. Mr McLeod followed, approving of the scheme, although doubtful as to the anticipated result. Mr Gilbert condemned the scheme as prejudicial to the interests of the Province. Mr Tibbits spoke for 1 hour, supporting the bills and warmly advocated a Railway to Canada. Mr L. R. Harding made a short speech in favor of the Bills. Question taken on postponement of bill for three months. Yeas—Gray, Wilmot, Godard, Armstrong, Purdy, Street, Hayward, Montgomery, Gilbert, Botsford, Stevens, McPhelim, Lunt, End, Kerr—15. Nays—Fisher, Tilley, Brown, Watters, J. A. Harding, Steadman, McLeod, Ryan, Cutler, Ferris, Connell, L. R. Harding, Tibbits, Johnson, Smith, McAdam, Gilmore, Speaker, Sutton, Allan, McPherson, Hatheway, McLellan, Landry—24. McNaughton absent. Boyd in the chair.

The several sections of the first bill were then taken up and passed by a majority of 9, same division, after which progress was reported. House adjourned at 5.

Fredericton, March 27.

After reading the journals this morning at the request of Mr McPhelim, the name of McNaughton was added to the nays on the Railway bills passed yesterday. The second Railway bill was taken up, a few minutes after 11 o'clock. Sutton in the chair. First section passed without discussion. To the second section Gray moved an amendment—that no money be expended until after the completion of the line from St. John to Shediac. Amendment opposed by Street, Kerr, and others; supported by McPhelim, Hayward, Wilmot, and Stevens. On the question being put ten members voted for the amendment. Gilmore also proposed an amendment to same section—lost, only one voting for it. Section then presented. The third section then passed as amendment by the Atty. General, fixing the extension of the St. John river to be commenced from Fredericton, upwards, and placing the amount at not less than £50,000 to be expended in 1857. Six other sections of the second bill passed, without much opposition, when progress was reported. House adjourned quarter before 6.

Fredericton, March 28.

Bill to enlarge and extend power of incorporation to the City of St. John, received a third reading this morning. There was a long discussion upon the bill to incorporate Trustees of St. David's Church in St. John, which was finally passed. Mr. Reynold's Bill relative to Railway to Indian Town, presented and read a first time. House resolved itself into Committee of whole, in consideration of second Railway Bill. All the remaining sections of which passed, without discussion. Third bill to provide funds for construction of Railways also passed without opposition. Progress reported on bill relating to debt and property in the City of St. John. The Bill to lay an impost for Railway purposes was taken up at half-past two o'clock, and occupied the rest of the afternoon. It was supported by Tilley, Johnson, Boyd, Cutler, and Tibbits, and opposed by Gray, J. A. Harding, McPhelim and others—on the majority of the House sustained the Bill by a majority of 24 to 13. Four Railway Bills consequently passed. No other business transacted. House adjourned at a quarter before 6.

## MAIL CONTRACT.

Persons desirous of entering into a CONTRACT for the Conveyance of the MAILS between Newcastle and Campbellton,

Three times per week each way, commencing on the 1st of MAY next, are requested to send in Sealed Tenders, addressed to the Postmaster General, stating the sum per annum for which they will agree to perform the service.

The Mails to be conveyed on such days, and at such hours, as may be from time to time appointed by the Postmaster General, and at a rate of speed of not less than Six miles an hour including stoppages.

Tenders must be made on the printed Forms furnished by the Department, which can be obtained from any Postmaster.

Tenders will be received until SATURDAY, the 29th MARCH next, at noon.

N. B. It is to be distinctly understood, that persons tendering for the above service, will have no claim whatever upon the Legislature, for any, the smallest remuneration, over and above the amount named in the Tender.

J. HOWE, P. M. G.

General Post Office,  
Saint John, February 21, 1856

## News of the Week.

THE SOUTH AMERICA.  
News from California, Oregon, and Central America.

The steamship Northern Light, Capt. Wamack, from San Juan del Norte night of the 5th inst., and Havana night of the 9th, arrived at New York on Thursday night.

The residents of this city were aroused this morning, at twenty-three minutes past 5 o'clock, by a most violent shock of an earthquake, which was felt in every portion of the town. The vibration appeared to be from N. E. to S. W., and, as far as we can learn, not a single building escaped the terrible shock. The first movement of the earth was very sudden, and the buildings swayed to and fro heavily afterwards, and finally, the vibrations were short and rapid. Evidences of the violence of the shock were visible in different portions of the city this morning, and it is surprising that there was not much more damage done.

The defences of San Francisco harbor are progressing rapidly towards completion.

The miners continue to do exceedingly well, and the yield of the mines was never greater than at present. All we want is an additional force of 100,000 men in the mines to make ours one of the richest states in the world. The amount of gold coming to this market daily, assay and coinage is believed to be greater at present than during any time for eighteen months past.

The farmers have now nearly completed the sowing of their wheat, and the plant will be a very broad one. The amount of barley and potatoes sown during the coming spring will also be very large.—From the Alta California, Feb. 15.

NEWS FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

Curious Intelligence from Nicaragua.—The news from Nicaragua is important. Gen. Walker had seized all the boats of the Nicaragua Transit Company, annulled their charter, and granted a new charter to another company.

The Costa Rica authorities had refused to receive Mayor Schlessinger, the Nicaraguan Envoy, on the ground that Costa Rica did not recognise the foreign party in Nicaragua.

We learn from Capt. A. G. Morrison, one of the indicted filibusters who returned in the Northern Light, that a force of 5000 troops from Costa Rica was on the march against the town of Castilla, which was occupied by a company of 70 men only. Guatemala has leagued with Costa Rica to invade Nicaragua, and her forces, commanded by that "human butcher" Guardiola, were already in the field.

In the face of these threatenings, the army of Walker was in the highest spirits and eager for the fray. It is certain that they will shortly have fighting to their hearts' content.

UNITED STATES.

Burning of a Ferry Boat—30 Lives Lost.—Philadelphia, March 15.—About half-past 9 o'clock to-night, the ferry-boat New Jersey, while crossing the Delaware River to Camden, took fire in the middle of the stream. There being a great deal of floating ice in the river, much difficulty was experienced in managing the vessel, and she was finally run upon the bar, opposite Arch street.

About one hundred passengers were on board, many of whom jumped into the river.—Some were rescued by boats, and others saved themselves by clinging to floating ice, but it is feared that a large number are drowned.

The boat is now burned to the water's edge. Great confusion prevails, and it is impossible to gather authentic details. Steamers immediately went to the assistance of the passengers, but all who could be found had been saved by small boats. It is asserted that not less than thirty lives have been lost.

The boat belonged to the Philadelphia and Camden Ferry Company. The loss of life is chiefly owing to the fact that the vessel was unprovided with either boats or life preservers.

The number of persons dead and missing is about thirty.

NOVA SCOTIA.

This is the twenty-sixth day since the first heavy fall of snow in January, since which time there has been excellent sleighing. Yesterday a large number of persons took the rational way of enjoying themselves, and we understand that the "going" was quite satisfactory.

Since our last the House has not been opened to the public. On Thursday, in consequence of the lamented death of James McLeod, Esq., member for the County of Cape Breton, the galleries were not opened, although some business was transacted with closed doors. The House unanimously resolved to attend the funeral of their deceased member, which takes place at 2 o'clock this day, from the St. Mary's Cathedral. The Legislative Council recorded a similar expression of respect to the memory of the deceased.

Hon. Solicitor General moved the House into committee of supply, and then moved the Road vote, as follows:—for the ordinary road service, £32,000; and for the great roads, &c., £10,000.—Halifax British Colonist, March 24.

CANADA.

Seat of Government.—We published yesterday, a brief announcement that Mr. Gamble's amendment to postpone the consideration of the Seat of Government question, was negatived by a majority of 11. We subsequently re-

ceived a private message from Toronto, that the debate had terminated at 11 o'clock on Monday evening, by the carrying of an amendment to the effect that it was desirable to ascertain (before proceeding further with the main question) what would be the cost of requisite buildings in case of permanency. This amendment was carried by a majority of 5, in a very full house, there being 121 members present; and, with the negating of the other amendment, it may be regarded as the first actual step taken by the Legislature towards abolishing the log-rolling system.—Quebec Chronicle, March 19.

The Bill to change the Constitution of the Legislative Council, by rendering the same Elective, was again considered in committee, and reported without any amendment.

Mr. Papin then moved that the bill be re-committed to amend the same, by the insertion of a clause removing the necessity of any real property qualification for members of the Legislative Assembly, and making their eligibility depend exclusively upon the confidence of the people. Yeas 27, nays 52.

Mr. J. B. E. Dorion moved that the bill be re-committed, by providing that the present members of the Legislative Council shall cease to form part thereof immediately after the election of the new Councillors, unless they shall have been elected members thereof by the people. Yeas—26. Nays—47.—Quebec Morning Chronicle, March 20.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

New Brunswick Oil Works Company.—Application has been made to the Legislature for an act to incorporate this Company, and we are pleased to learn that their extensive Oil Works Establishment in the Parish of Lancaster will be immediately completed upon a scale sufficiently large to produce 350,000 Gallons Paraffine Oils, per annum. These Oils will be made from Albertite (of Asphaltum vs. Coal notoriety,) the produce of the Mines of the Albert Mining Company at Hillsboro', and as illuminating or lubricating agents, they are described to be of greater value than Sperm, the most valued of all Oil hitherto in use.—New Brunswick.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM JAPAN.

Jeddo Destroyed by an Earthquake—Thirty Thousand Inhabitants Lost—100,000 Buildings Destroyed, &c. &c.—The clipper schooner Page, Capt. Morehouse, at San Francisco, from Japan, brings news of a terrific earthquake, which occurred on the 11th of November. A part of her freight consists of a portion of the cargo of the brig Greta, which vessel, it will be remembered, was captured by the allies last year.

On the 11th of November, at 10 o'clock P. M., a violent earthquake occurred at Jeddo, which destroyed one hundred thousand dwellings, 54 temples and thirty thousand inhabitants. Fire broke out at the same time in thirty different parts of the city. The earth opened and closed over thousands of buildings, with their occupants. The shock was severe at Simoda. Although the distance from Jeddo to Simoda is but sixty miles, it appears that no official account of the earthquake had been received at the latter place at the time of the sailing of the schooner Page—December 10. The news was obtained through the Dutch interpreter. The Japanese seemed to attach little importance to the catastrophe. The inhabitants of the portion of the city destroyed were forewarned of the disaster, and many of them escaped. The buildings of Jeddo are chiefly of one story, and constructed of very light material. The temples of worship, however, are lofty, and in some instances are constructed of heavy masonry.

EUROPE.

On the 4th of August, Lord Cowley replied by telegraph—the French Government will not oppose the projected expedition to Asia Minor under Omar Pacha, provided that the numbers of the Turkish contingent before Sebastopol are not diminished.

On the same day, Lord Clarendon telegraphed to Lord Redcliffe—Omar Pacha can go to relieve Kars, provided he does not diminish the Turkish troops before Sebastopol or disturb the garrison of Yenikale.

General Williams meantime continued note after note to Lord Redcliffe, and at length he complains that he had written fifty-four despatches and fifty-four private letters, and the only reply he had received was a request to try to recover some Russian Ladies who had been carried off by a Turk! Desire Vivan to hold himself in readiness to go to Eupatoria with his Turkish contingent. Napoleon seems to have interposed some new objections.

On the 29th of August, Lord Cowley again writes to Clarendon, and says the Emperor has no objection to the removal of the troops from Balaklava, and to their being replaced by others, provided that the Allied commanders have no objection, but he will not take upon himself the responsibility of saying more.

On the 10th Dec. General Codrington writes to Lord Stratford—I wrote Marshal Pelissier in the General tone of your letter, expressing to him the great object it seemed to be to get the Turkish troops to Trebizond, and that if done at all it should be done at once, and offer my assistance, if I could by communication with the Government navy, to further this object. His answer was that he could not consent to their leaving Eupatoria without the express sanction of the Emperor of the French.

At length Lord Redcliffe vouchsafed the following lame explanation:—It remains for me to say a word respecting my silence towards Gen. Williams. It has in truth continued