

from all future difficulty. Everything depends upon the first efforts. It is a new position for her to assume; but the only one consistent with that spirit of self-reliance which distinguishes every branch of the great Anglo-American family. The Towns and Cities of the west, with but scanty means of obtaining money except by direct taxation, have for years been constructing Railroads by loans obtained at excessive rates of interest, while New Brunswick, with boundless resources, has shrunk from the responsibility of pledging her own credit for such purposes. I was informed in London when I urged our freedom from debt, that it was our misfortune; that if we owed a million or two, we should be known, and our credit established—that it was an argument against our enterprise. It must be gratifying to the feelings or our people to know, that the Government can, on its own responsibility and by its own agency, procure funds, and construct public works, and that there is no necessity of having recourse to the aid of some third party, however eminent or influential. Until we establish our own character, we must expect to labour under disadvantages. Our first efforts, like those of the infant to stand alone, will be the most difficult. By a prudent use of our credit it will be thoroughly established.

These great instruments of progress may be secured, our resources developed, increased value given to our lands, continual employment provided for our people, a healthy emigration fostered, and the country enabled to enter upon a career of prosperity which will permanently benefit all our interests. These are no mere idle speculations. The lessons of experience derived from the example of every other country where Railroads have been introduced, prove that they are facts.

A day or two before I left London, I was informed that the Government of Canada were making arrangements with the Directors of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, for a room to exhibit her productions. Remembering the anxiety His Excellency evinced to have New Brunswick represented at the Paris Exposition—which for want of time could not be effected—and having learned the great advantage Canada had derived from the exhibition of her productions there, I made enquiries, with a view to obtain a room for this Province, and requested Mr. Robertson to adopt the necessary measures to secure a space, immediately adjoining that allotted to Canada, in which to exhibit our productions.

I cannot close this letter without expressing the great obligations I am under to the Hon. Joseph Howe, Chief Commissioner of the Railway Board in Nova Scotia, for the assistance he has rendered me. As soon as I intimated to him the probability that New Brunswick would adopt the course which Nova Scotia was pursuing, he came to this Province for the sole purpose of giving me his advice; and from that time has given me the full benefit of his counsel and influence, and I think largely contributed to the success of my mission. I have been occupied during the whole time since my return in superintending the copying of the correspondence enclosed, and preparing my Report. I have the honor to be, Your obedient servant,

CHARLES FISHER.

To the Hon. S. L. Tilley, Provincial Secretary.

Extracts from the Journals.

Fredericton, March 4.

On motion of Mr. McNaughton, the House went into Committee of the whole on—A Bill relating to the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in the County of Gloucester. The chairman reported that the Committee had the bill referred to them under their consideration, and agreed to the same under the title of—A bill relating to the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Gloucester.

Ordered, that the report be accepted and the bill engrossed under the amended title.

March 5.

Mr. Sutton, by leave, presented a petition from Thomas Willoughby, Alexander Saunders, and two hundred and fourteen others, Lumberers and other Inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, against the passing of an Act to alter the existing Law regulating the Survey of Lumber: which he read.

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

March 6.

The Honorable Mr. Johnson moved for leave to bring in—A Bill to amend Chapter 112 of title xxx. of the Revised Statutes, "Of the Registry of Deeds and other Instruments." Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

The Honorable Mr. Johnson also moved for leave to bring in—A Bill to amend Chapter 120 of title xxxi. of the Revised Statutes, "Of Banking." Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

March 7.

To the Commissioners of Light Houses in Gulf of St. Lawrence £100 to provide for the salary of a Keeper for the year 1856 at the Light House on Point Esquimaux.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Johnson, Resolved, that the Petition of Martin Crannay, John Bryson, James White, and others, for a continuation of the grant in support of the Roman Catholic School at Chatham, and which was presented to the House on the 22nd day of February last, and ordered to lie on the table, be now referred to the committee of supply.

March 8.

The Honorable Mr. Johnson, by leave, pre-

sented a Petition from James Donald, George Arbo, Junior, and forty four others, inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, praying that no Act may pass to alter the rate and mode of Surveying Lumber in the said County; which he read.

Ordered that the said Petition be received and lie on the table.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Johnson, the House went into committee of the whole on—A bill to amend Chapter 112, of title xxx. of the Revised Statutes, "Of the Registry of Deeds and other Instruments." The chairman reported, that the Committee having the Bill referred to them under their consideration, had made progress therein, and he was directed to ask for leave to sit again.

Ordered, that the report be accepted and leave granted.

BY TELEGRAPH TO MIRAMICHI GLEANER OFFICE.

Fredericton, March 15, 1856.

No business of any consequence transacted this morning. Notice of Address to his Excellency and resolution respecting expenses of old and new Government, passed. Another discussion took place in reference to the Prohibitory Law, no time fixed for taking up the Bill. Petitions received from County Gloucester praying that Prohibitory Law may be amended. Petitions also presented for repeal of Law. The report of the chief Commissioners of Board of Works was laid before the House. The several Railway bills were read in Committee and fixed as order of the day for Monday. House to go into a committee of the whole, in consideration of the same at 2 o'clock that day. Hon. Mr. Tilley laid before the House estimate of the Income and Expenditure of the current year. House adjourned at a quarter past 3 o'clock.

Fredericton, March 17.

Usual routine business transacted in the morning. Progress was reported on Gray's bill relating to patents. Several grants entered on supply book. Motion to enter grant for service performed by W. H. A. Keans under 2th victoria, chapter 65 was rejected. At 1 o'clock McPhelim suggested that House adjourn early in honor of Saint Patrick. Business resumed in the P.M., a few minutes before 3 o'clock. The reports of the light house commissioners, steam boat inspectors, &c., were laid before the House. Entered on supply book the sum of £24,730 for the Great Roads for the present year. The House resolved itself into committee of the whole in consideration of the Railway Bill—Gilbert in the chair—Hon. Atty. General spoke 3 hours and a quarter; he contrasted the condition of this Province with that of Maine and Nova Scotia in their Railway enterprises, and dwelt upon the numerous benefits that would be derived from the carrying out of the present scheme. Respecting compensation for lands damaged, he stated that it was intended to introduce a bill to make provision for losses sustained in this way. He believed the proposed arrangement with Jackson was the best that could be effected. Debate resumed to-morrow at 11 o'clock. House adjourned at 6.

Fredericton, March 18.

Several bills were under consideration in the House this a.m. The bill to incorporate the St. Stephen's gas Light Company passed in Committee. The Railway Bills were taken up a few minutes after 11 o'clock. Mr. J. A. Harding was the first speaker. He did not say whether he would condemn or support the scheme. He was alive to the importance of Railways, but did not believe in the payment of such a large sum to Jackson. Mr. Boyd spoke for one hour in opposition to the scheme, and in favor of the principle of taxing the wild lands. He also advocated the necessity of doing something for the St. Andrew's and Quebec lines. Hon. Mr. Brown entered into a lengthy history of the progress of Railways in this Province from the commencement down to our present position, and spoke for some time in support of the scheme before the House. Mr. Gray spoke for two hours in opposition to Gray's proposition, and in favor of carrying out the arrangement with Jackson & Co. Debate resumed at 11 o'clock to-morrow. Tilley probably will be the next speaker. House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

Fredericton, March 19.

Several bills of minor importance disposed of this morning. Cutler's bill to prevent certain persons from holding seats in the Assembly, stands as the order of the day for Tuesday next. Railway bills taken up a few minutes after 11 o'clock. McAdam made a short speech in favour of the scheme, Hon. Mr. Smith spoke for nearly one hour in support of the proposition and in justification of the course pursued by the Government respecting the arrangement with Jackson & Co. Street spoke for one hour and three quarters in condemnation of the present Railway scheme; he expressed himself favourable to the proposal made by Jackson & Co. on a previous occasion, Hon. Solicitor General spoke for upwards of two hours in support of the scheme; and contended that it was a great misfortune that the Province had ever been galled into the arrangement with Jackson & Co. Debate to be resumed at the usual hour to-morrow. The Bill to incorporate the town of Woodstock has passed the Legislative Council with certain amendments. House adjourned a few minutes after 6 o'clock.

Fredericton, March 20.

The bill to alter the division line between the Parishes of Chipman and Waterborough, in Queen's County was postponed three months. The House proceeded to the consideration of Railway Bills at 12 o'clock. End condemned the scheme in toto; he stated that he was appal-

led by its magnitude. Kerr followed in opposition, and took the ground that the state of the Province would not warrant such heavy undertakings, the only line to which he was favourable was that from Shediac to the Bend. Hon. Mr. Tilley delivered a speech of nearly two and a half hours in length: he reviewed the arguments that had been used by the opponents of the scheme, and defended the course pursued by the Government respecting reporters, he thought that if the Bills were not passed we should be without railways for some time. Debate was to be resumed at usual hour on Saturday. Gray and others were anxious to adjourn the house till Monday, but not acceded to. Bill to incorporate Victoria College passed the Legislative Council. House adjourned at a few minutes after half-past five.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1856.

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. To Clubs of five and upwards, to one address, Ten Shillings a year in advance.

CENTRAL BANK AGENCY, CHATHAM.

Discount days TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, Hours for business from 10 to 3 o'clock. Notes for Discount to be lodged at the Bank before 3 o'clock, on the day immediately preceding the discount day.

SAVINGS' BANK.

Deposited 3rd March, £224 5 0
Withdrawn 4th March, 135 6 8

This paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at Holloway's Pills and Ointment Establishment, 244 Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

LEGISLATIVE documents have accumulated on our hands during the week, and how Her Majesty's Printer at Head Quarters, manages to get through such an amount of work, is somewhat of a puzzle to us. It is really amusing to hear certain members constantly denouncing the heavy expenses of Printing, and to see them appoint committee after committee to effect that object, while they take a very peculiar method of lessening the cost, by ordering a much greater number of Journals than were ever before published, and having printed bills, accounts, correspondence, despatches, &c. &c., innumerable.

We have in another page, given the Attorney General's very interesting and highly satisfactory Letter, in reference to his Railway mission to Britain. Every candid person must admit that he has shown much zeal and energy in this business; and if he has not accomplished all we could wish, when we consider the difficulties he had to encounter, the unpropitious period selected for his mission, when the mother Country was involved in a desperate and bloody war, and the money market consequently depressed, the wonder is that he succeeded as well as he did.

The Government have laid their Railway Bills before the Legislature, and we perceive by the Telegraph despatches, that they have afforded an opportunity to the obstructives to impede the business of the Session, and to make another effort to thrust them from office. But the Government need not fear the result. Let them in case of defeat dissolve the House, and appeal to the people, and then their opponents will find that they have committed a sad mistake.

That Railways are necessary for the prosperity of the Province, and that they must be built, is universally admitted; but the Government scheme for accomplishing this desideratum, has raised, as might have been expected, a host of conflicting opinions in this quarter, and it would also appear, in the Assembly. Some contend that it embraces too much, as it involves too large an expenditure of the revenues. Others, that it is not sufficiently extensive. One thing is plainly apparent, and is admitted on all hands, that St. John has got the Lion's share.

It is impossible to please all parties, but we feel satisfied no pains have been spared by the friends of this section of the Province in the Government, to mete out to the Northern

Counties a measure of justice. The principal fault we have with the scheme is, that while it makes provision for joining on to the STATE OF MAINE, nothing is said about connecting us with NOVA SCOTIA. The motives, however, are plain, and perfectly understood in this quarter. It is a pity in such a gigantic undertaking, that the miserable cloven foot of local interests and rival jealousies, should be allowed to appear so prominent, and mar its usefulness.

We hear a good deal said respecting the arrangement entered into with Jackson & Co. It has been currently reported here for some days past, that there is a clause in the original contract, which subjects that firm to a penalty of Thirty Thousand Pounds, should they fail in executing the work. We have heard a very different story. Will some friend in the Legislature or some of our contemporaries who are better acquainted than we are in Government secrets and matters, enlighten us on this subject, for the benefit of the inhabitants living on this side of the Province. If there be such a penalty, we have no hesitation in saying that the Attorney General acted unwisely in making that firm the offer he did to relinquish the contract. If there be no penalty attached, the case is widely different, and puts a very different face on the matter.

We give below such extracts from the Railway Bills, as will enable our readers to form a good idea of the scheme proposed. We also publish the Report of the Finance Committee on the Financial affairs of the Province. They are bad enough—but we have seen them in a much worse condition. Had the Legislature last session, confined themselves to the estimates laid before them by the Government, matters would be in a much better condition than they are at present; but they paid no heed to this document, and the scramble for the public money went on unchecked, as formerly, and we now see the result. Every effort has been made by the opposition to fasten the blame of our present unfortunate financial condition on the Government, but the facts are too plain, and the artifice too shallow, to deceive the most ignorant of our population. We also give below the estimated expenditure of the Province for the present year, drawn up, we presume, by the Government, and laid before the Members of the Assembly for their guidance. We wonder they have taken the trouble to compile such a document, when they reflect what little attention was paid to the similar one introduced by them last session.

The Council have thrown out the Bear Bounty Bill. Mr. Botsford moved that it be postponed for three months, which motion was sustained almost unanimously. This bill was introduced by Mr. Street in accordance with the wishes of some of his constituents. Bears are yearly becoming more troublesome in several parts of this County, and have caused uneasiness and much loss to the settlers.

Judging from what has transpired, the members of the Assembly appear to be afraid to meddle with the Prohibitory Liquor Law. They are constantly nibbling at it, but postpone its consideration from day to day. It is no doubt a knotty question, but the sooner it is decided the better. As it now is, both parties are arrayed one against another, and keep up a running fire, which causes much angry feeling to be engendered throughout the Province. This would be considerably allayed were the matter finally disposed of by the Legislature.

Estimated Expenditure of New Brunswick, for the year 1856.

SUMS PROVIDED FOR BY LAW.	
Civil List,	£14,500 0 0
Clerk of the pleas,	250 0 0
Judge Parker,	800 0 0
Clerk of the Crown on the Circuits,	250 0 0
Interest on Debt,	6,190 0 0
Education,	19,600 0 0
Andrew Barbare,	100 0 0
Pr. Penitentiary,	300 0 0
Salary to Provincial Treasurer,	500 0 0
Pension to Old Soldiers,	420 0 0
Agricultural Societies,	2,800 0 0
Post Office Department,	4,500 0 0
Expenses of Legislature,	9,000 0 0
Juror's Fees,	1,200 0 0
Board of Health,	1,000 0 0
Fishery Wardens,	150 0 0