

exercise of these powers, their need be no fear but the capacity thus engendered will enable them to rise superior to all the ordinary difficulties or disadvantages to which they may be subjected, and prosper when under different circumstances they would have become impoverished.

It is now pretty generally conceded in all countries and by all parties, that the "bounty system," is not calculated to give a durable stimulus or permanent prosperity to any branch of industry. It is besides held to be unjust to other branches of trade, and a tax upon profitable employment and useful industry.

Such means of supporting or proping up a business may be aptly compared to stays on females; they deprive the back of its natural support by furnishing a very inferior artificial one; and while worse than useless to the part of the system where applied, are injurious in a degree to the whole body.

Fishery Bounties are now only upheld in those countries where fish are absolutely necessary and can only be obtained by such means, or where an overstocked population render it inadvisable to give the means of earning half a livelihood. They are indeed continued in France and the United States, but it is believed they are so, not so much on account of their being considered desirable, as because of class and local interests brought to bear upon those in power, and because the danger of abolishing them would be something like direct taxation for schools among us. The public are not prepared to stomach such medicine, even though its utility is known and explained by their physicians.

The Bounty given by the United States to their fishing vessels is no compensation for the distance to and from the fishing grounds, the duty imposed on salt, and the many other disadvantages to which their fishermen are subjected.

This fact together with other circumstances, such as the United States Market being now open on the same terms to fish caught by Colonial and American vessels, and the many facilities and advantages offered to other branches of Commerce by the Reciprocity Act, must give our vessels a decided advantage over those of the American fishermen, and thus a powerful impulse can hardly fail to be given to the Fisheries of this Province.

A large sum of money being annually granted by our Legislature to Societies formed for the professed object of encouraging and extending the catch of Fish on our coast; and this Society having availed itself of a part of the sum so granted, the retiring Board of Directors, Resolved to continue the scale of bounties and prizes, which was adopted by their predecessors in office, and which was as follows:

A Bounty on the Catch of Mackerel, £40 0 0  
Do. on Fall Herring, No. 1, 35 0 0  
Prizes on the Catch of Codfish, 25 0 0  
£100 0 0

No legitimate claim, however, has been made either for the bounties offered on the catch of Barred Fish, or the premium on Codfish.

The Treasurer's account—an abstract of which is hereto annexed—having been duly audited by a committee, was found correct and satisfactory. Balance in the hands of the Treasurer £164 8s.

As a new era has arisen in the history of our Fisheries, and as we are now to be brought into direct competition with the American Fishermen, the *cure or quality of our Fish*, may be of more consequence to us, than even the *quantity we may catch*. This is the time to merit and secure "a good name" for our fish in every market, in which they are to be sold; and if the present moment be allowed to pass unimproved, or without an effort being made to better the cure, or in other words to improve the quality of our Herring, Mackerel, and Codfish, it will be found very difficult, in a few years hence, to accomplish this desirable object. Impressed with these views, the Board submit, whether—if the Society intends to claim in future a share of the Legislative Grant—it would not be advisable to devote a portion of the Society's funds to the operation of such measures as may be deemed the best calculated to insure a uniform conformity to regulations adopted in Britain, Holland, and the United States, for the curing, barrelling, and preserving Fish; and as an auxiliary to such measures, they recommend that the remaining copies of the code of instructions prepared for this society, at the termination of the first year of its existence, be circulated among the Fishermen along shore.

Respectfully Submitted,

JAMES CAIE, Secretary.

#### ABSTRACT OF TREASURER'S ACCOUNT. 1855.

To Contingent expenses, for Printing, and Salary of Secretary, &c.	£11 12 6
1856.	
January 15, Balance on hand, per Audited Account	£164 8 0
	£176 0 6
1855.	
Balance on hand,	£116 15 0
Subscriptions and Donations,	8 5 6
Provincial Grant,	51 0 0
	£176 0 6
1856.	
January 15, By balance on hand,	£164 8 0

#### HIGHLAND SOCIETY.

##### ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Annual Meeting of the Highland Society, held in Witherall's Hotel, Newcastle, on Monday, 14th January, 1856, the following Gentlemen were unanimously elected Office Bearers for the present year.

President.—Richard Hutchison.  
Vice-Presidents—Alex. McLaggan, John McDougall, George H. Russell.  
Treasurer—Thomas C. Allen.  
Chaplain—Rev. Mr Henderson.  
Secretary—Alex. Morrison.  
Directors—Roder. McLeod, Alex. Fraser, Jr., Peter Morrison, Peter Mitchell, William A. Black, Wm. Masson, Alex. Loudoun, Robt. Johnston, Jr., Jas. Mitchell, James Fish, David Johnston, H. B. Carmichael, Hugh Bain, Wm. J. Fraser, R. H. Davidson, D. McNaughton, Jas. Caie, James Kerr, William Muirhead, David Ritchie, Samuel Thompson, John Nevin, A. Fraser, (Black Brook), J. McAllister, (Bathurst.)

Extract from the Minutes.

ALEX. MORRISON, Secretary.

Miramichi, 16th January, 1856.

##### REPORT

Of the Highland Society of New Brunswick, at Miramichi, for the year 1855.

Another year of our Society's history has again rolled round, a year too fraught with numerous circumstances in our Country's annals, which will cause it to be ever well remembered by us all. Britain, the home of our Sires, is still engaged in war, which from all present appearances, is not likely soon to be terminated by an honorable peace. Our haughty and yet powerful enemy, possesses an untiring perseverance, which the many salutary lessons the allied forces have bestowed upon him, have failed to humble or daunt; and when we read of the many desperately fought battles, and glorious victories which have been achieved by the allied arms, since the sword was first unsheathed upon the enemy's soil, we cannot but pause to commend the valorous and patriotic spirit that led them from their peaceful homes, the indefatigable courage and daring bravery that has unceasingly inspired them during the whole campaign; and proud ought we to be to claim country with even a part of that noble Army. But it were useless at present for us to dwell on their many valorous deeds and noble achievements, as you are doubtless all aware of them as well as of the gallant conduct of our brave and distinguished countrymen Sir Colin Campbell and the Highland Brigade under his command. Sir Colin is daily receiving well merited testimonies of the high esteem in which he is held by all classes, and our sincere hopes is that he may long be spared what he long has been, an ornament to the army and an honour to his country. The remembrance of those and the many thrilling incidents connected therewith, as well as the great depression which has existed in our country's commerce, will tend to bring the year 1855 vividly back to our recollection, and the fact too, that during that year no less than three of our members have been numbered with the dead; two of those Mr Wm. Loch, and Mr John Alexander have long been faithful adherents to our banner, and Mr Charles Richardson, altho' but three years a member of our Society, deserves our grateful remembrance.

Since last Report we have elected fourteen new members, and if we continue to interest ourselves in our Society's behalf, and judiciously apply its funds, we doubt not many more Scots and their descendants, may yet rally round our standard, and as our Society is the only one of its nature within a hundred miles of us, surely there are yet around us many more sons of

"That Land renown'd in Song,"

who must know and feel that the philanthropic and charitable objects of this Society, tend to unite us in social union and happy friendship, and although they are far separated from the home of their sires, yet in this, the land of their adoption, they should feel that we all spring from one loved country, and should still be joined in hand and heart.

Our Society's Funds now amount to £336 16 7 currency, of which £36 are the receipts of the past year, and available for expenditure. During 1855 our donations have fully reached the amount at the disposal of the Committee. Five pounds of which was appropriated to the relief of a suffering fellow-countryman, and the remaining Twenty-five pounds was remitted by our President, to Scotland, in aid of the Patriotic Fund, agreeable with our Constitution. Besides this donation, the Members, at a meeting held in February last, subscribed the sum of Eighty-five pounds ten shillings, towards the Patriotic Fund raised in this Province, which was duly remitted to the Provincial Secretary, as ordered by the meeting. This so far, has accomplished the wishes and recommendation of last year's Committee, and we trust has benefited the recipients, and we now hope that while we are in such a good position to carry out the charitable intentions of our society, that its Members will ever have an open ear for legitimate claims upon our bounty, as to do good is our intention. Let the conviction of our having done so be our aim and gratification.

Your Committee have further to report, that the Society's Ball of last season came off at Bowser's Hall, in Chatham, on the 26th January. It was numerously attended by the members, each bringing with him one or more friends, as guests. The room was most taste-

fully decorated, and the cheerful and happy appearance of our fair friends who honored us with their company, caused the evening to pass most pleasantly away. Dancing was kept up till a late hour, when we all separated, our friends evidently well pleased with our Highland hospitality, and your Committee being of opinion that such social meetings tend to augment friendly interest in our Society's behalf, as well as afford pleasure and enjoyment to the greater portion of our members, would suggest that this meeting appoint a committee to carry out some such demonstration during the present year.

Respectfully submitted

ALEX. MORRISON, Secretary.

##### THE SEASON.

DURING the brief period winter has set in, we have been visited with a series of snow storms, until our roads are now nearly blocked up. The last one occurred on Monday, with a heavy wind from the South-east. With us it was bad enough, but on to the south we learn, it was far more severe. Some idea may be formed of the state of the roads in that quarter, when we inform them that the mail due on Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock, did not reach Chatham until about five on the afternoon of Thursday. The mail which left on Monday to meet the British steamer at Halifax, did not arrive at the Bend in time to be forwarded. This is the second mail that has been already detained this season. We would advise all writing to Britain to make sure work of it in future, and despatch their letters by Friday's mail.

Misery, it is said, likes company—and if it be any consolation to our readers, we can assure them that they are not alone in their weather afflictions, as will be seen by our extracts. The Halifax Colonist obtained by Wednesday's mail, says:—

"Some three or four mails, we think, are now due at this place, from the New Brunswick direction. The roads, we learn, are in a dreadful state from the late snow-storm. A gentleman travelling on the Chester road on Tuesday, informs us that one part of road, the coach took eight hours to get over about eleven miles."

##### P. E. ISLAND.

THE Editor of the Charlottetown Examiner, in his paper of the 7th inst., in an article headed 'a few words in season,' gives us the following pleasing picture of the prosperous condition of that little Province:—

"But to shut our minds against these gloomy reflections, and others of a desponding nature, which the departure of an old year suggests—let us ask how the past twelve months have fared with us in our Island home? No pestilence has visited our shores, and suddenly decimated our population—no calamity has befallen our people, and reduced them in a moment from comfort or affluence to want and destitution. Other countries have not been so abundantly blessed in these respects famine and pestilence, calamitous fires, have passed with devastating stride over other portions of the globe. Here, uniform health and prosperity, and an ample reward for industry in almost every walk of life, have been beneficently vouchsafed to all our people. The earth has generously given a bountiful return for the seeds entrusted to it, and Commerce has been busy in carrying to liberal and highly remunerative markets our superabundant products. Every branch of trade and industry has flourished to an extent we did not anticipate at the beginning of the year; and this is fully demonstrated by the fact, that the public revenue for the past year will nearly equal—(perhaps will not fall more than two or three thousand pounds short)—of that of the previous year, when, with a reduced tariff, we realized the very large sum of forty-six thousand pounds; but ship building, an important branch of our trade, was in much greater activity than it has been since. This state of things cannot be but gratifying to all parties anxious for the welfare of the Colony, but must be especially so to the Government into whose hands the Colony is committed."

##### BRITISH NEWS.

WE learn by telegraph, that the Mail Steamer arrived at Halifax on the evening of Wednesday last. The mail by her for this quarter, cannot be looked for before Sunday night or Monday morning. In another page will be found two despatches, containing summaries of the news received by this arrival, as well as by the Steamer at New York.

They contain many items of importance. The rumours of a prospect of speedy peace are still prevalent, but judging from what has occurred, and the high tone assumed by Russia, we have but little faith that the negotiations recently entered into, will lead to any practical result. The weather in the old country has been very similar to that we have experienced—cold and stormy.

##### ANNUAL REPORTS.

THE Annual Reports of various Societies which we publish to-day, give us but little space for extracts. The delay in the arrival of the mails has considerably curtailed the number of our exchanges, and as the few that have been received, are nearly barren of news, it is most fortunate that something local has occurred to give us a helping hand to fill our sheet.

##### UNITED STATES.

THE House of Representatives had not made choice of a Speaker at the latest advices from Washington. A Correspondent of one of the Boston Journals, writing from Washington on the 30th of December, thus alludes to the unusual course of the President in sending down his Annual Message to that body.

"Had the President sent a bombshell into the House, its explosion would hardly have produced more sensation than the peaceful transmission of his message. The debate upon its disposition discovered a good deal of talent.—Mr Dunn, of Indiana, gained perhaps the most reputation out of it. To-night this novel proceeding of the President is the topic of universal and most spirited conversation. The Democrats generally defend the President. They feel relieved, measurably, from the previous pressing necessity for a Speaker. The opposition denounces the act as a Napoleonic usurpation—an outrage of the most alarming character—the severest blow ever struck at the independence of Congress."

The papers are filled with accounts of heavy snow storms throughout the various States of the Union, which nearly put a stop to travelling on the railroads. In Indiana and Michigan, it was reported, that the snow was two and a half feet deep.

##### NICARAGUA.

INTELLIGENCE received from this country reports that the principal inhabitants have joined together to oppose the operations of Walker, and his speedy discomfiture is looked for.

LARGE HOG.—Mr Henry Bowser, of Chatham, killed a Hog a few days ago, which was only 16 months old, and weighed 448 pounds.

✂ We omitted to mention the receipt of a letter from our Campbellton Agent. His orders were attended to. Matters satisfactory.

SHIPWRECK.—The Halifax papers inform us that the Steamer Pilot, from St. John, N. B. for Digby and Annapolis, was totally lost on Tuesday night, 8th instant, on Light House Rock, near Digby;—crew, passengers, and mails saved.

✂ The Fredericton Reporter informs us, that the Hon. Attorney General had reached Britain, and that he was in London on the 20th of December.

##### CROWN LAND NOTICE.

CROWN LAND NOTICE. December 29, 1855. The undermentioned Lots of Crown Lands will be offered for sale by Public Auction on THURSDAY, the fifth day of FEBRUARY next, at noon, by the respective Deputies, at their Offices, agreeable to the Regulations of 11th May, 1843, and no sale on credit will be made to any person who is indebted to the crown for previous purchases. (Not to interfere with the right to cut Timber or other Lumber under License applied for previous to the applications for the purchase of the Land). (No person is allowed to hold more than one hundred acres payable by instalments.)

##### NORTHUMBERLAND.

By Deputy Peters, at Chatham.  
50 acres, block 6, Hardwick, John Donalds.  
50 acres, lot 49, block O, Nelson, Henry Gratton.  
100 acres, lot —, block O, Nelson, Alex. Clarke.  
By Deputy Davidson, at Oak Point.  
50 acres, lot 42, block 2, Alnwick, Rd. Taubrid, improved.  
83 acres, lot 48, block 2, Alnwick, P. Morrison.  
100 acres, lot 49, block 2, Alnwick, Allan Johnston.  
100 acres, lot 50, block 2, Alnwick, Edw. Barry, improved.  
100 acres, lot 22, block 2, near River du Cashe, A. Savoy.  
50 acres, lot X, Truro Beach, R. Young.

##### KEWT.

By Deputy Douglas, at Buctouche.  
142 acres, lot 23, block 5, Black River, Alexander White.  
100 acres, lot 118, block O, Black River, D. Richardson.  
35 acres, lot 121, block O, Wellington, Des. Myres.  
100 acres, lot 112, block O, Wellington, O. Mollet.  
74 acres, lot 67, block Z, Richibucto, J. Little, improved.  
By Deputy Muzerall, at Richibucto.  
67 acres, lot 21, block F, Palmerston, Sam. Maillet.  
36 acres, lot P, block F, Palmerston, P. Poirier.  
50 acres, lot S, block F, Palmerston, J. Richardson.  
47 acres, lot T, block F, Palmerston, J. Richardson.  
50 acres, lot —, on Trout Brook, Amb. Richardson.  
61 acres, lot —, on Trout Brook, Sam. Johnson.

JAMES BROWN, Sur. Gen.