

spring roads will admit of travelling, and will, I hope, spend a year in the work. When his church thinks how usefully he is employed, I hope they will throw no obstacles in the way of his agency. We look for a favourable response from New Brunswick. The College does not belong to Nova Scotia, and we wish our sister Province to continue her aid in its support. But as for like long communications I close.

J. W. BARRS, Treasurer of Acadia College.

Lieutenant Gray, Instructor of Musketry, to H. M. 96th Regiment, delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture, before the 1st Company of New Brunswick Royals, at their Drill Room last Tuesday evening. The lecture consisted of a description of the Enfield Rifle, in all its various details, with explanations and illustrations of the art of Gunnery.

In the course of his remarks, Mr. Gray spoke in very warm terms of the Volunteer movement and of the objects it had in view, and said he felt sorry that his short stay among us prevented his addressing the Volunteers of this City generally, on a subject of so much importance, to those into whose hands that delicate and beautiful weapon has been entrusted.

A large number of the Royals were present, as also, were several of the officers of the 16th and 96th Regiments.

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on the 4th inst., it was resolved, that a Petition to the Lieut. Governor in Council be prepared, to be signed by the merchants and other inhabitants of St. John, praying the Government to take such steps as will ensure a safe and frequent communication by steam vessels between Shediac and Dalhousie, and intermediate ports, on the opening of navigation the present season, and that a copy of said petition be inserted in one or more of the City papers. The following is a copy of the Petition:

To His Excellency, Hon. ARTHUR HAMILTON Governor, and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, in Council: The petition of the undersigned merchants and other inhabitants of the City and County of St. John, Respectfully sheweth,

That it is of great importance to the interests of the Province generally, to foster the trade, and extend the communication opened the past season, between this City and the ports of the North-Eastern coast of New Brunswick. That so useful a trade would be promoted, if the Revenue increased, Domestic Manufacturers increased, and the receipts from the line of railway from St. John and Sigeac greatly enlarged. That to secure such advantages, your Petitioners are of opinion a first class steam vessel, combining suitable draught of water, a high rate of speed, and sufficient accommodation for passengers and freight, should, on the opening of navigation, be engaged to connect with the line of Railway between the ports of Shediac, Miramichi, Bathurst and Dalhousie, by weekly communication.

That judging from experience of the past year, your Petitioners are of opinion, during the present and perhaps for a year or two to come, Great will not be sufficient traffic in passengers and freight to induce parties to purchase a boat on the proposed route without Government aid.

That in view of the advantages to be derived by the establishment of such a line, in order to insure regular, safe, and speedy communication between the ports named, your Petitioners would respectfully recommend the payment of such reasonable amount from the Provincial Chest, as might be required for the purchase of a suitable steam vessel for this purpose, in consideration of such aid, an arrangement should be made with the Proprietor of the steam vessel receiving it, defining the number of trips to be run, the time of departure and return from and to the respective ports, and a Tariff of charges for Passengers and Freight.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Excellency in Council will take the subject matter of this Petition into your favorable consideration, and make such arrangements as will insure the attainment of the objects referred to. Add your Petitioners will ever pray.

in requiring a property qualification, either from the Candidates or from the Electors, or from both. In South Australia, and Tasmania, a tolerably high qualification is required from electors, but none whatever from the elected.

By the Prince Edward Island Act, on the contrary, (copying that of Canada) the electors qualification is the same as that for the Assembly. But the qualification of a Candidate is one which will materially limit the choice of the Constituents.

He must have resided in the Colony for five years—he must possess six hundred pounds (£600) worth of land, and (what is most unduly restrictive) his residence, or his property qualification, must be within the District for which he is elected.

Moreover, he will lose his seat if he lose his property qualification—that is, if he lose his farm from one Electoral District to another.

I entertain a strong opinion, that these provisions are most injudicious, and that in order to make a Council what it ought to be, the property qualification should be applied, not to the Candidate, but to the Voter.

Speaking broadly, a well chosen constituency, such as men as they may describe, and limitations upon its choice, can only operate by occasionally preventing them from choosing the best. An ill chosen constituency, on the contrary, will tend to choose an indifferent representative; but this tendency will not be controlled by any property qualification, which can never be so stringent as to prevent their finding, within the prescribed limits, some such man as they may desire.

And in the same way, if it is desired that the two Chambers shall somewhat differ in character from each other—the one supplying what the other may be supposed in some degree to want—this object, it appears to me, can only be effected by creating two, somewhat different constituencies, and unreservedly trusting each of them to elect that person, whatever his property or station, whom they may deem the most able and trustworthy representative of their views.

inhabitants of Charlotte, praying for the repeal of an Act imposing tax on unwrapped goods &c. &c.

Progress made in Mr. Boyd's Bill to change certain public places in Charlotte.

Progress made in Mr. Stevens Bill to amend the law relating to judgments and Executions, and proceedings thereon.

Mr. Allen presented a petition of R. L. Armstrong, of Woodstock, praying for Mr. Lindsey's seat, should it be declared vacant, he having received five votes without any liability to the charge of bribery and corruption.

House went into Committee on, and are now discussing the claims of E. O'Brien for £300 money lost from a letter sent to Mr. Scott, St. John.

For the Baptist and Visitor.

Obituary.

Died at his father's residence, in Prometo Village, Donald, fourth son of Mr. Archibald McLean, in the 28th year of his age.

At Douglas, York, December 17th, Mr. Benjamin Stoot, aged 78 years. His end was peace. On Sunday morning, after a lingering illness, he departed this life at Edinburgh, Scotland, in the 31st year of his age.

St. John and Halifax Packet.

TO LET—Possession Immediately.

THE LARGEST STORE FRONT on Prince William Street, No. 22, for sale.

TO LET—Possession Immediately.

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The last Notice for the Season.

Friend's FURS!!

Friend's FURS Selling Below COST!

Ladies Don't FORGET Your Friend!

Buffaloes Selling Cheap At Friend's.

Indian Bead Work.

Weather Strips.

Perfumery.

Light! MORE LIGHT! TO ARRIVE.

American Despatches

(To the St. John Associated Press.)

The Confederate Sloop of War "Merriam," screw steamer, 3,200 tons, iron clad, carrying 40 guns, has been doing mischief.

BANGOR, March 10th.

Last Saturday, the iron-clad war steamer "Merriam" belonging to the Confederates, came out of dock at Norfolk, with the armed sloop "Jamestown," (sloop of war, 985 tons and 22 guns) and the "Yorktown" (steam sloop of war, 508 tons, and 18 guns) and attacked the Federal sailing frigates "Cumberland" (50 guns, 1877 tons) and "Congress" (50 guns, 1877 tons) at the mouth of James' River. (Probably above Fortress Muro and the Rip tides.)

The "Merriam" bore down on the "Cumberland" amidst a heavy fire of shot and shell. The number of killed and wounded on the "Cumberland" is stated at 160!

Ship News

ARRIVED.

Monday, 10th—Bark Jane Lovitt, Horton, Dublin, G. Thomas.

Friday, 11th—Schr Laura, Barbore, New York, G. McQuinn.

Friday, 12th—Schr Aymer, Hall, New York, G. McQuinn.

Monday, 10th—Bark Jane Lovitt, Horton, Dublin, G. Thomas.

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DEATHS.