GREAT-BRITAIN, &c.

LONDON, JANUARY 6.

The Emperor of Russia has published his proclamation to the Poles. He requires unconditional submission—a surrender of arms—and a total overthrow of the Provisional Government. He declares that he never will address "men without honour or faith, who have conspired against the tranquility of their country," and will not listen to traitors with arms in their hands. He is now putting his forces in motion, and expects to be in the field on the 14th of January. The Poles have driven out the Cossacks on the Silesian frontier, and every where are preparing for combat. The German papers maintain, however, that the people of Warsaw are much discouraged by the resolute line of the Emperor.

JANUARY 8.—According to a letter from Warsaw, of the 22d Dec. the news just received there, that the Emperor had refused to listen to the proposal of the Polish deputation, instead of creating alarm, had excited general joy. The women, according to ancient custom before battle, were already making lint and other dressings, and great preparations were every where going forward with an enthusiastic alacrity, to give the Russians a warm reception.

According to a letter received at Paris from the Hague, the members of the Dutch Government sat six hours in Council on the receipt of the protocol of London, and had come to the resolution, that, although the five great powers had assumed the right of disposing of what belongs to another, this would not prevent the King of the Netherlands from "settling his account with his rebellious subjects," and employing all the means in his power to re-establish his authority over the provinces which have overthrown it.

The transactions of the money market have been generally without importance to day. A trifling rise in consols occurred in the early part of the day, but it was not maintained, and the closing price for the account was 82⅜ to ½.

State of Trade in Yorkshire.—Huddersfield market continues comparatively brisk. The demand for goods is fully equal to the supply, and prices are looking up. There is, however, considerable distress prevailing among the operatives, not so much for want of work as for low wages. Indeed, all the distress complained of in this country is attributable to the low rate of wages. Bradford market, on Thursday last, was very brisk, and a great deal of goods were sold at *advanced* prices.—*Leeds Mercury.*

We are gratified to find that the trade of this port continues not only to flourish, but greatly to increase; for the receipt of Customs' duty alone here, we find, has exceeded three millions and a half sterling, during the year ended the 5th instant, being an increase on the preceding year of very nearly a quarter of a million, and this too, although the rate of duty on sugar and other articles has been lowered.—*Liverpool Albion.*

Colonial-built Vessels.—Last week, in the course of some remarks on the shipping interest, we spoke of the difficulty of getting insurance done on this class of vessels. We have since been assured, by an extensive ship-owner, that, though he has had several colonial-built ships in his possession, he never experienced the difficulty alluded to: on the contrary, his vessels being good, he always got them insured on favorable terms. He assures us, that he has had a colonial-built vessel running for seventeen years.

It is said that the immediate cause of the existing difference between Colonel Fitzclarence and the King, arose from the refusal of his Majesty to give the colonel a peerage.

Mr. Alexander Baring has withdrawn himself as a partner from his late house of business, preparatory, as some say, to his elevation to the peerage.—*Evening paper.*

The Late and the Present Ministry.—Perhaps in nothing is there presented so striking a contrast between the members who compose the present administration and those who formed the last, as the fact, that the present are the representatives of counties and populous towns when the franchise is open; while of the late administration not two members sat in the lower House otherwise than as representatives of treasury or rotten boroughs.

JANUARY 9.—We have received the *Gazette de France*, and the other Paris papers of Friday. The private letters state that the brother of the King of Bavaria, a Catholic, and closely connected with the houses of Austria and Prussia, will be the new Sovereign of Belgium. It is also reported that France is about to issue paper to the amount of ten millions, in a form similar to our Exchequer Bills.—*Globe.*

Election of Pope.—Private letters received from Rome on Friday say, that on the last scrutiny the whole of the votes, except one, were in favour of the elevation of Cardinal Weld to the Papal Chair. There can be little doubt, therefore, that the next scrutiny will exhibit the desired unanimity This Ecclesiastic is, we believe, a native of Ireland, and the proprietor of Lulworth Castle, the late residence of the Ex-Monarch of France.

A letter from Paris states that three camps are immediately to be formed—one within a mile of St. Omer, another at Valenciennes, and a third near Verdun. The conscripts are exercised for about five hours daily. Three thousand francs is the sum at present paid for a substitute.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—The Protocol of the Five Powers at the Congress in London relative to the affairs of Belgium has been published, together with a note from Ld. Ponsonby and M. Bresson to the Belgian government, and the reply to the Belgian Diplomatic Committee. The Protocol acknowledges the independence of Belgium without any stipulations, but reserves the rights of the King of Holland over the Grand Duchy of Luxemburgh. The note of the Ministers states that the Powers are urging on the French government the revocation of all impediments to the navigation of the Scheldt. The reply of the Belgian Committee is rather cavalier; they say that the Powers have not accomplished their task till the Scheldt is free, and they claim possession of the whole left bank of that river, with the provinces of Limburg and Luxemburg.

It was reported that France had made a demand upon the Spanish Government of eighty millions of francs—a debt incurred, it is to be presumed, on the score of the occupation of that country by French troops.

It is asserted as a positive fact, that the English Cabinet has formally declared to Ferdinand that the indispensable situation of Kings of the 19th century, requires that justice and consistency should be adopted with respect to their subjects.

The French papers mentions a report which prevails at Rome, that the majority of the cardinals appear decided to vote cardinal Fesch, Archbishop of Lyons, and uncle to Napoleon, to the papal chair.

The further prosecution of the works of the Thames Tunnel is still delayed, but hopes are entertained that, in the course of the ensuing spring, the subject of the completion of the Tunnel will be more actively considered. In the year which has just ended, about 28,000 persons have visited the works, and among them many foreigners of distinction.

The Hebrew Synagogue, in Duke Street, London, has been robbed of massive plate, and the Laws of Moses, written on parchment, destroyed, which cannot be replaced.

IRELAND.—*New Catholic Association*—On Thursday last a meeting was held in the Parliamentary-office, Dublin, having been convened by Mr O'Connell, in the following terms:—"In consequence of a most illegal and highly unconstitutional document, signed E G Stanley, I request a meeting of the subscribers to this office this day, the 6th instant, at three o'dock, to make arrangements for the formation of a society to be called 'The General Association of Ireland, for the prevention of unlawful meetings, and for the protection and exercise of the sacred right of petitioning for the redress of grievances.'" Immediately on the arrival of Mr O'Connell, two peace officers entered the room, and announced that they attended there for the purpose of reporting for Government Every accommodation was provided for them by Mr. O'C. and they were seated at the same table with the reporters for the press. Dominick Doyle, Esq. was in the chair. Mr. O'Connell addressed the meeting at great length, and concluded by moving, in accordance with the advertisement, that an association should be formed, to which members should be admitted upon paying five shillings each, and that Mr. Dwyer, secretary *pro tem.* should convene a meeting of the society as soon as one hundred members had paid their subscriptions. Mr. Fion and other gentlemen followed—the resolutions were adopted, and the new association formed.—*Liv. Albion, Jan.* 10.

PUBLIC RECEPTION OF MR. O'CONNELL.—Yesterday morning Mr. O'Connell made a public entry into this city, on his return from England. From an early hour in the morning the different trades of the city had collected along the line of road from Howth to Dublin, each bearing banners of orange and green colours, on which were inscribed a variety of mottos, among which were, "Repeal of the Union, but no separation," "Union is strength," "William the Fourth, and long life to him" "Civil and religious liberty," "Liberty of the press," "the King and Constitution," "1792," &c. The walls were placarded with bills on which were printed, in large characters, "Repeal the Union," "Emancipate the Jews," "Abolish Slavery," "Ireland as she ought to be," "Liberty of the Press," &c. There could not have been less than fifty thousand persons collected. Each trade was regularly marshalled, and marched in line, to the airs of "Patrick's Day," "Garryowen," &c. Mr. O'Connell did not arrive in Dublin until after five o'clock. The houses in the different streets through which the procession passed were illuminated. On arriving at his house in Merrion square, Mr. O'Connell addressed the multitude assembled, from the balcony. He said—"the people of England are, like you, beginning to think for themselves. They have cried out for reform in Parliament, and a Reform in Parliament they must have. They are determined that the system of perjury, bribery, and corruption, hitherto pursued, shall be put an end to.—*(Cheers.)* We have got rid of the Wellington ministry, and have now got a new one. Sure, they wanted me to join them, but I would not. Some of the underlings came to me, and asked what would satisfy me. I had my answer ready for them, but it was an Irishman's answer. I asked them what it was they proposed to do for Ireland. They said, 'Oh, confide in the present ministry, they are your friends, and in time they will see what can be done.' I never like the future tense. I always preferred the present, and so, as they refused to do any thing for my country, I refused to give them my support."—*(Cheers.)* Mr. O'Connell continued some time to address the people.

He concluded by promising, that so sure as the sun shown out upon the morrow, the Union should be repealed. 'I wear,' said he, 'about my neck, the medal of the order of liberators, which was once suspended by a green ribband. It is now attached to a ribband of orange and green. Orange, that colour which I freely confess, was once hateful to me, but which I now press to my heart. They want upon this question to separate the Protestants and the Catholics. They shall not do so, and, in the face of my God, I pledge my existence, that if they take my advice, they must, they shall have their Parliament.—The immense multitude then dispersed. There were some windows broken in the course of the night, of houses that did not illuminate.—*Dublin, Dec.* 29.

MR. O'CONNELL attended a Dinner at Drogheda, of the friends of Radical Reform and a Repeal of the Union. Mr. Steele officiated as Chairman, and gave as a toast, "The Repeal of the Union;" and remarked, let Mr. O'Connell tell you how and by what means it is to be repealed.

Mr. O'Connell accordingly rose, and made a very long speech, from which the following are passages: "I do not condescend to argue the case (the repeal of the Union) as one of necessity. I am an Irishman, and I deny that any nation upon earth is our superior. I know of no people who are more virtuous, I know of no nation possessed of superior talent, and I deny that any country is entitled to be the master of Ireland—(hear, hear.) I know of nothing in our composition which should make us grovel to the earth before others, and I, for one, can never consent to be a slave—(cheers.) We are too good, too stout, too strong, to wear fetters, and we are too unanimous to endure them—(cheers.)" "We are in a state of madness: in the time of our insanity, Catholic was turned against Protestant, and Protestant against Catholic. Our country was driven into a rage and fury, in which blood and embarrassment only filled her distressed mind, and while we were in the very excitement of lunacy, the strait-waistcoat of the Union was put upon us—(cheers.) The time of Ireland's madness, is, however, gone by—the moon no longer is obscured—it shines bright and clear, and the coldness and purity of the frozen season of winter has cooled the veins of Ireland. Her people are returning to reason, and as they begin more distinctly to understand the delusion into which they have been seduced, they become the more determined to regain the rights of which they have been deprived—(hear, hear.)" "Am I to be told that we are not strong enough to be independent? Am I certain I underrate the inhabitants of Ireland when I estimate them but as *eight millions*—(hear.) Is there not in Ireland, then, a sufficient number to constitute us an independent nation? It was a maxim of Grattan—and it was one which has long since sunk deep into my heart—'let no country submit to be a province when she is strong enough to be a nation'—(cheers.) Portugal has only two millions of inhabitants, and is an independent nation. Spain, wide as she is, has not above six or seven millions of inhabitants, and she is an independent nation. Naples is an independent nation, and she has not above three millions of inhabitants, Scicily included. Switzerland, which is now turning into one republic, has not above a million and a half, of inhabitants. Prussia one of the most powerful states of the Continent, and which has not above six millions of inhabitants, is dreaded by all the nations of Europe. Sweden has not more than three millions of inhabitants—she, too, is an independent nation. Poland, blessed be God for it, with her four millions, is an independent nation. Do I forget Belgium? I believe not: it is a mistake I am not likely to commit. She has something under three millions of inhabitants, and she has dissolved her legislative union, and despite of the despots of Europe, she has been proclaimed independent—(loud cheering.) How superior is the situation of all those countries to Ireland!

The Chairman's health having been drunk, he concluded his speech by calling upon Mr. O'Connell to fulfil a promise he had made him the day before, to propose the health of the "Orange men of Ireland" in a bumper of the Boyne water—(tremendous cheering.)

Mr. O'Connell immediately rose, and gave the toast with smiles and expressions of joy and happiness. The company simultaneously stood up, and a burst of triumph resounded through the place of meeting, and the band struck up the tune of "The Boyne Water." It was twice encored, and it was proposed and carried, amidst peals of acclamation, that it should be forever henceforward the charter tune of the Drogheda Independent Club.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, FREDERICTON,

Thursday, February 17.

(Continued from Supplement.)

Mr. Partelow, Chairman of the Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts, submitted to the house a long and interesting report on said accounts: after reading which, the hon. gentleman observed, that, in the detail, he had deviated from the beaten path which had been introduced at an early day in the house, which had been followed up by other Committees successively, and which, doubtless, had answered every purpose, while the provincial accounts were but few in number, but would be found entirely ambiguous in the present day. The present report, he trusted, would be found to be clear and comprehensive. It had met with the fullest approbation from the other members of the Committee, and he hoped, therefore, the house would receive it as an improvement.

On the presentation of the above mentioned report, a high compliment was paid by several hon. members, to the Committee, and especially to the hon. Chairman, for the ability displayed in the arrangement and execution of the report. These gentlemen pronounced it the most able and satisfactory that had ever been presented to the house.—Report ordered to be printed

The House went into Committee of the whole, in consideration of the Bill for providing for the expenses of the Judges, &c.

Mr. Weldon briefly advocated the bill.

Mr. Simonds was not at present prepared to consent to the continuance of this act, for many reasons. The exertions now making by the mother country, to simplify and lessen the expense of the law, rendered it necessary that this Province should follow her example. The house ought to go thoroughly into the subject. Before continuing an act of that kind, something ought to be done to reduce expenses of the law. That subject should come on, before considering the present bill. A former bill on this subject had stated, that the Judges of this Province had made application to his Majesty's ministers at home, to grant them an allowance for their services. This was refused, on the ground that it was a matter under the control of the Legislature of the Colony. This house then saw sufficient reasons to continue this bill; under the conviction that the allowance given by the bill would be the only one that the judges were to enjoy. But since that time, the judges had made further calls, and had drawn an additional sum from the casual revenue. They now receive double the amount intended by the act.—But this is the age of retrenchment. The house should take care to allow no improper expenses in the province. He (Mr. S.) did not by any means wish to make the judges' allowance so low as to prevent their keeping their proper station in society, but he was unwilling to grant unnecessary expense.—If an act were again passed to continue the allowance to the judges, it was highly proper that they should be allowed to take no fees in cases in the Supreme Court. He thought the judges themselves did not wish the continuance of fees. All judges' fees ought to be struck out of the fee table. There could not be a better precedent in this matter than that afforded us by the mother country.—He (Mr. S.) was not at present exactly informed as to the amount of the judges' fees, but he believed them to be considerable. If the house should follow the practice of the mother country and strike out all judges fees, it would do a good thing. It would decrease the expenses of suitors. The salary of judges in England is in lieu of all fees. It had been found that some fees could not be well abolished, and they are now therefore paid into the exchequer. So, in this country, such fees should be paid into the treasury of the province. Let the bill not be hurried. Let hon. members have time to think on the subject; whether it would be advisable to continue the bill at all. It could never be intended that the salaries of judges should be double what the act contemplated. The question, therefore, could be, what sum is necessary, to enable the judges to support the dignity of their station? He Mr. S. would move for the postponement of the bill for a few days.

Mr. Allen concurred. Possibly, in the mean time, his Honor might receive some information from England, as to the disposal of the civil list, which might be laid before the House. It would not be advisable to hurry the business.

Mr Chandler had no objection; but he submitted the propriety of continuing the bill in its present shape for a year or two. The present Lord Chancellor of England had taken great pains to simplify the law; and when that desirable object should be effected, it would undoubtedly be advisable to adopt it in this country Although he Mr. C. was himself a lawyar, yet he could cheerfully lend a hand to simplifying the law, and to specify what fees should be allowed. He should be very happy to hear that the bill for that purpose was passed in England; and to promote such a bill in this country, after that has been done. But he certainly thought it advisable to continue this bill for a short time longer. The judges and circuit Clerk's fees for travelling expenses were formerly a very heavy burden on the people; a burden which amounted in fact either to a denial of justice, or at least to a grievous imposition on suitors. Consequently, the Legislature had thought fit to make provision for the travelling expenses of the judges and circuit clerk; which enactment had proved highly beneficial. It would therefore in his, Mr. C's. opinion be advisable to discontinue that act at present. It would be better to continue its operation for a year or two, till the whole law could be revised. If the bill should now be negatived, the consequences would be very serious to the country; as it would throw very great expense again upon suitors —He Mr. C. had heard it observed, that the judges now receive more from the public funds than they formerly did; that they received one allowance under this act, and a farther sum from the casual revenue. He believed the reason of this to be, that the duties of the judges had of late years greatly increased; and it was therefore but fair that their salaries should be in proportion to their labours. He felt quite sure that if honorable members would examine the matter, they would be fully satisfied of the necessity of the judges being independent. They possessed very great power of several descriptions. The greater part of their time was devoted to the public benefit. Upon their honor, industry and integrity, depended the property, the reputation, and almost the lives of the people. For these reasons, he should be disposed to continue the present act for a year or two longer, till the contemplated law reforms in England had taken effect, and proved their utility. When that had been done, he would be the very first person to promote a similar measure in this country. He greatly wished to see the mode of proceeding in the law, its forms, and its expences, simplified and improved. There certainly was, throughout the country, a *strong prejudice* against judges, lawyers, and legal proceedings, in consequence of the many fees payable to them and the enormous expenses of providing witnesses in civil causes.—He hoped however, the Committee would listen to the continuance of the bill for a short time. Altho' they might not decide the question to day, yet he hoped they would not throw it out altogether just now. Such a proceeding would produce very serious consequences in the present state of things.

Mr. Cunard said, it would be far from him to oppose the postponement of the rejection of this bill for a short and reasonable time; but he rejoiced that the honorable member for Westmorland had pledged himself to lend a hand to the correcting or regulating fees and other law expences, in due time. This was a subject he would rejoice to see brought before the House. The pledge the honorable member had given was a truly patriotic pledge, and deserved the thanks of the House. When a similar question had been brought before the Legislature of a sister province, the violent opposition it had met with from legal gentlemen, had disgraced the Legislature of Nova Scotia. He would go for the present deferring of the question, until the fees and expenses could be effectually regulated.

Mr. Simonds observed that he believed the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at present received from the casual revenue, the sum of £100 sterling per annum, which, with the allowance by the act, made his whole stipend from the public funds £850 sterling. The assistant judges, he believed, each received from the casual revenue, yearly, £75 sterling, making their total share of the public funds, each £650 sterling. These were very large sums, when reduced to the currency of the province. The question, therefore, was, whether these sums were not a sufficient allowance to render the judges respectable and independent. He would be very willing to give them a liberal salary, if they merely filled the office of Judges, and were unconnected with political subjects. But the Judges do not confine themselves to their own official duties. They are Members of the privy council of the province, and also of the legislative council. They thus possess a tremendous and totally unconstitutional power; a power which has been generally reprobated in England. Their official station also gave them very considerable patronage, which is equivalent in estimation to a further degree of salary. Perhaps, then, the Judges would rather wish to retain this patronage with a less salary; than to enjoy the larger salary, and be deprived of their patronage. The immense combination of powers now possessed by the judges, ought not to exist in any free country. They unite in themselves three distinct powers. While this state of things exist, he could not vote for any increase of salary. If the privy and legislative councils should be reformed, and the Judges should retire from their seats in those Councils, then he would be for giving them a very liberal salary. But the House before granting that liberal allowance, must take care that the Judges do not exercise functions not belonging to them. It might be very dangerous to invest Judges with such extraordinary powers. There might be no evil arising from it, during the lives of the present Judges, who were well known to be disposed to exercise every power they possessed in the most beneficial manner; but they are mortal and may be succeeded by others, not so well disposed as themselves, and who might therefore cause much evil. It had been held, that "money is power." If therefore, the house gave the judges more money, it would, in effect, give them an increase of power. The allowing Judges political power, would necessarily make them sometimes members of parties. Hence, it might possibly happen that the judges might be seen canvassing through the country, for the purpose of effecting some particular party object. Such a thing ought never to exist in a British colony. It could not exist in England. Doubts had some years ago arisen on the subject there, and it had been and now is the decided opinion of all the great statesmen of England, that a reform was necessary in this respect. The impropriety of judges holding political situations had been fully proved there. He would refer honorable members to those opinions, which might serve to guide them in considering the matter, as it relates to their own country.

Mr. Cunard replied, that if the constitution was defective, the sooner it was altered, the better for the country. But because the judges exercised various functions, and discharged various duties, under the constitution, was that a reason why they should be paid less than the value of their exertions? He thought it should not make one iota of difference. He had never known an instance of either of the judges abusing their political power. If he were to judge from what had come under his own observation, they had always exercised their rights for the good of the country; and were indebted to the unbounded thanks of every man in the community, small and great, poor and rich, black and white, for the manner in which they had maintained the general interests.

Mr. S. Humbert could not concur in what had fallen from the honorable member who had spoken last.—He was very sorry to see this bill brought forward. He thought it required great consideration. As to the contemplated reform of the whole law; it would require honorable members to think upon it, to pore upon it, to meditate upon it. It was no trifling question. He believed, the Lord Chancellor of England's plan of reform would for some time be merely an experiment in a few counties. [We could not distinctly catch some of the honorable member's subsequent observations.] Every man in this country must be thoroughly convinced, either from his own personal experience, or from a knowledge of its effects on others, that reform of the whole law is necessary. As to the Judges: the question was, how much would be a sufficient allowance for them. Of all men, they most especially ought to be independent in every respect. In considering then, the question as to their salaries, it must be ascertained what they now get. Do they now get enough? He was not very well versed in this matter, but in his opinion, founded on what he had heard and seen in figures, they get at least £1000 per annum each. The twelve Members of the Council get more than £1000 per annum each, on an average. [We could not hear some observations of the honorable member.] If the Judges since the appropriation made for them by the law, out of the public revenue, have received a further sum from the casual revenue, he certainly could not support this bill. He never had been favourable to the Judge's bill. It had never been passed while he had formerly had the honor to sit in that House. It had only been passed after he had had the honor of retiring from it. But he was of the same opinion now as he had ever been. He now thought on consideration of the whole matter, that for the present it ought to be postponed.—He would not say he should not vote for it in some shape or other. But the house had better pause a little on the subject.

Mr. Weldon would not press the matter at present.

The Chairman left the chair, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The bill for facilitating the recovery of Seamen's wages was committed, progress made and reported, and leave granted for the committee to sit again.

Friday, February 18.

Mr. Partelow presented a petition from Benjamin L. Peters, Esq. praying that he might withdraw his former petition, for a scrutiny of the votes given for W. B. Kinnear, Esq. at the late election for the county of St. John. The petitioner had fallen and hurt his leg, and had been for some time confined from the effects of the accident, and was therefore unable to use those exertions for carrying on the scrutiny, which the case would require. In fact he believed it would not be possible for the petitioner to come up to Fredericton for the purpose of attending the House. (The petition, by leave, was read.)—On a former occasion, a somewhat similar petition was presented by a gentleman, now an honorable member for St. John, and he was thereupon allowed to withdraw his former petition, and return home. The petitioner in this case was the only complaining party, and he hoped, under the circumstances, to be granted a similar indulgence.

Mr. S. Humbert, though he should support the prayer of the petition, thought it a matter of great importance to have this petition before the house. It was not the first of the kind. It states certain reasons why the petitioner wished to be allowed to withdraw his petition. But there may be other reasons than those stated. Those alledged were not quite satisfactory, though he would not be against the petition. But a lame leg might not prevent the petitioner from causing vigorous exertions to be made, for the purpose of carrying on the scrutiny. The gentleman had come to the poll with good prospects of success, and might have had a fair chance of succeeding in prosecuting his first petition. He therefore feared there were other reasons for this application, besides those actually stated in the petition. He had his suspicions that there were reasons founded on the present defective state of the law of elections. That law was founded in corruption; there was manifest impropriety in passing such oppressive acts. That law was most probably the reason of this petition. The immense expense which would attend the scrutiny, was probably the sole reason of the petitioner wishing to withdraw. The old election law is a good law. It served every purpose, and satisfied every one. There was no sort of reason for changing it; but it had nevertheless been altered. The consequence is, that in proceeding upon it, in cases of controverted elections, every inch of the way is hedged in with thorns. A scrutiny is now attended with such vast expense, that it is a grievous burden. A petitioner must come to the House with the fear of being obliged to put his hand down to the very lowest corner of his pocket. He was sorry to see this petition. He hoped the gentleman would be able to obtain his right. He hoped the house would be able to expunge the oppressive law. He should vote for the prayer of this petition as a matter of course.—Petition received, and ordered to lie on the table.—It was afterwards, resolved,—That the House went into consideration of the petition, and, for the reasons therein stated, ordered the prayer of the petition to be complied with.

Mr. Partelow moved the order of the day; upon which the House went into a Committee of Supply.—Mr. J. Humbert in the chair.

The sum of £25 was agreed to, after some discussion, as the remuneration for the services of the Chaplain of the House of Assembly.

On this question, Mr. Scott said that he thought £20 very good remuneration. No doubt, if the House could not afford to pay the Chaplain at all, the Rev. Gentleman would be quite disposed to render his services gratis, from the conviction, that we ought to begin all our services in humility and with prayer. But he (Mr. Scott) thought the grant an improper one. That was always his opinion; not from an hostility to prayer, but he wished the mode of offering it up to be altered.—The House should adopt another rule. Either the Speaker, or the youngest member, or the lowest on the poll-book, should offer up the prayers. They could make use of the same prayers and the same form. They could have the same book. He thought it would be quite as good. Why should not the house at all times save every item of the public money that they could? He would acknowledge the necessity of prayer; but he knew the necessity of money. The country had a great deal of uncultivated land, and wanted a good many roads, and bridges, and schools. It had a good many wants for money, which could not well be supplied at present. It is certainly our duty to pray; but it is certainly our duty to save all the money we can. With every devotion, prayers ought to be read; and if they are read by the Speaker, there would be as good attention paid, as if it was done by the Lord Bishop himself. If any money was granted for this purpose, it should be £20; and no more—by any means.—He (Mr. S.) wished he was as well paid, for all that he did.

The following resolutions were then agreed to:

The sum of £50, and an allowance of 20s. per diem, during this session, to the Clerk of the Council.

To the Clerk of the House of Assembly, the sum of £200, for his services during the session.—[This item was made on the principle of an annual salary, instead of an allowance per diem.]

To the Clerk Assistant of the House of Assembly, the sum of 20s. per diem during the session.

To the Sergeant at Arms of the Council, 20s. per diem during the session.

To the Sergeant at Arms of Assembly, do.

To the Door-keepers attending the House of Assembly, each 12s. 6d. per diem.

To the Keeper of the Light-House on Partridge Island, the sum of £100, for his services during the year 1831.

To the Keeper of the Beacon Light in the harbour of St. John, a sum not exceeding £100, for the year 1831.

Saturday, February 19.

The House went into a Committee of the whole, in further consideration of the bill to extend the act for the encouragement of the Cod and Scale Fisheries.

[The debates which ensued, partake so much of the nature of those previously given, on the same subject, that we do not think it necessary to insert them.]

The bill was agreed to, with amendments, extending its privileges generally.

On the House dividing for the question, the names were called; which were as follow:—

Yeas.—Messrs. Clinch, Hill, Dow, Brown, Wyer, Hayward, Miles, Slason, End, Chandler, Scott, S. Humbert, Cunard, Vail, Smith, J. Humbert.—16.

Nays.—Mr. Speaker, and Messrs. Barlow, Ward, Partelow, and Weldon.—5. Majority 11.

The bill to repeal the act for excluding certain persons from serving in the House of Assembly, was re-committed; when an amendment was proposed by Mr. S. Humbert, and adopted by the committee. The amendment provides that no ordained or licensed Clergyman or Minister shall be allowed to sit in the House of Assembly; that an election of any such person shall be void; and that if any such person shall be elected, and shall sit in the House, he shall be liable to a fine of £50 for every day he shall so sit.——Bill agreed to with amendments.

Monday, February 21.

Mr. Partelow informed the House, that the Committee appointed to prepare the Address to His Majesty on the subject of the reduction of the duties on Foreign Wood, had performed that duty; and, by leave, Mr. P. read the Address, which was as follows:—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Petition of your Majesty's Council and House of Assembly of the Province of New-Brunswick, in General Assembly convened,—

May it please Your Majesty,

"Your Majesty's most faithful Subjects, the Council and Assembly of New-Brunswick, being greatly alarmed at a report which has reached this Country, of an intention entertained by Your Majesty's Ministers, so to alter the duties upon wood imported into the United Kingdom, as to destroy the protection afforded to Colonial, over Foreign wood, by the existing system of duties; a measure, if carried into operation, fraught with consequences so ruinous to all your Majesty's North American Colonies, and to New-Brunswick more extensively than any other, beg leave to lay at the foot of the Throne this their humble representation.

"Under the protecting system originally adopted, for the purpose of rendering the Mother Country independent of Foreign nations for a supply of wood, a trade of vast magnitude has grown up, in which British capital alone is enjoyed and British interests alone are promoted.

"We have not at command the documents from which we can accurately ascertain the actual extent of this trade, but, from the information which we possess, we are induced to believe, that the number of vessels employed in the whole trade, with the Canadas and the lower provinces does not fall short of two thousand annually, and that the number of sailors required for navigating them amount to Twenty-five thousand.

"This is the staple trade of New-Brunswick. In its two Branches, of ton timber and Deals, nearly the whole Commercial industry of the Country is interested, while the Commercial establishments and outlay of capital are altogether employed with a view to its prosecution.

"We have as yet no articles of export which would find a market in the United Kingdom, but the produce of the Forests, and if our means of paying for British manufactures cease, the importation of those manufactures must cease also.

"With a sinking commerce, our credit with the British Merchant must wear away; the Revenues of the Country must diminish, internal improvements be stopped, and the settlement of the wilderness lands in a great measure suspended.

"That the commercial intercourse between the United Kingdom and the Northern Colonies, especially the Province of New-Brunswick would be very greatly reduced, if not altogether annihilated, by withdrawing the protecting duties on our wood, and the consequent increase of supply of this article to the mother country, from the northern powers of Europe, we fear is too evident to need any proof; and we therefore contemplate the disastrous consequence of such a measure with no small degree of discouragement and dismay.

"But the Commercial evils which would ensue to these Colonies, are not the only ones which we apprehend. We very much fear that the ruin of the wood trade with the United Kingdom, following so soon after the opening of the West-India Colonies to the United States, would be viewed by all the North American Colonists, as such an abandonment of their interests in your Majesty's Councils, as could not fail to excite discontent, and have a strong tendency to shake the loyal affection which they have hitherto cherished with such honest zeal towards the Parent State: and there is no political evil which the inhabitants of this Province would more seriously deprecate, than a weakening of their ties to that country, which they and their fathers before them had so steadfastly adhered to, throughout every change of fortune, prosperous, or adverse.

"We forbear to enlarge upon the effects which a change of the existing policy with regard to the Colonial Wood Trade, would have upon the general interests of the Empire, in its bearing upon the shipping interests, and as a nursery for British seamen. These are topics, upon which your Majesty's Ministers must have far more extended means of information than are within our reach. But there is one most important consideration connected with this trade, which we cannot refrain from distinctly bringing to notice; another is, the facility which it affords for the emigration to these Colonies of the surplus population of the United Kingdom, and the means of employment which it lays open to the emigrant after his arrival in the Colony. Circumstances which we do not hesitate to declare, are both of them absolutely essential to the continuance of that tide of emigration, which now so fortunately both for the mother country and the Colonies, is directing its course to these British American shores. If the Colonial Wood Trade cease, there will be neither ships to bring out the emigrants, nor business in the Colonies to give them wages for their labour, until they can clear and cultivate their lands; *nor a market* for the produce of their soil, after their cultivation of it has rendered it productive.

"The Council and Assembly therefore most humbly implore Your Majesty to take the foregoing circumstances into your most gracious consideration, and earnestly pray that your Majesty's Government may not be induced to alter the present system of protection to the Colonial wood trade, which is so vitally important to the interests of these North American Provinces, as constituent parts of the British Empire.

"And as in duty bound will ever pray."

The Report was received by the House; after which, on the motion of Mr. Partelow, the house went into a committee of the whole, in consideration of the address.

[An animated discussion ensued on the reading of the 8th section of the address. Mr. Humbert and Mr. Cunard opposing it as savouring of disloyalty.—On the question being put, the original address was agreed to, without amendment.]

This being the day for taking into consideration the petition of G. F. Street and others, complaining of the undue election and return of John Allen Esq. the House after some considerable discussion, resolved to refer the same to a select Committee. The Petitioning Candidate and Sitting Member were allowed to appear by Counsel, (Mr. Street being Counsel for himself;) eleven names were drawn, and the Counsel alternately struck off names from the list, until the Committee stood named as follows:—viz

Messrs. End, Harrison, Barlow, Ward, and Slason;—Mr. Partelow, nominee for the sitting Member; and Mr. Chandler, nominee for the Petitioning candidate; all of whom were duly sworn at the Clerk's table.

On the motion of Mr. Weldon, the time for the Select Committee to commence their investigation, was fixed for Monday next, the 28th inst. at 9 o'clock A. M.

Mr. Hayward presented a petition from 444 freeholders of the County of York, stating that G. F. Street Esq. was not duly elected at the last election, that the petitioners are very well satisfied with the return of John Allen Esq. as their representative, and praying that if the house shall see fit to vacate his seat, the return may not be filled up with the name of G. F. Street Esq. but that the county may have an opportunity of making their free choice.—Petition received, and ordered to lie on the table.

On the motion of Mr. Barlow, the House went into a Committee of the whole, on the Bill to prevent delay and inconvenience in the administration of justice in the city of St. John.—Mr. Harrison in the chair.

Mr. Barlow and Mr. S. Humbert briefly stated the existing inconveniencies in carrying on corporation suits in St. John, and the necessity of the bill.—Bill agreed to without amendment, and ordered to be engrossed.

Tuesday, February 22.

PARISH SCHOOL BILL.

On the question whether teachers who had taught in a school during six months only, should be entitled to the provincial allowance,—

Mr. End observed, that when he reflected on the many benefits of education, and on the present state of the country, he felt inclined to vote for semi-annual schools. In very many places, poor persons have children, who, during the summer months, are engaged in labouring pursuits; and it is only in the winter that such people can afford to give up the time of their children, and allow them to go to school. It was quite necessary that in such places trustees should hire competent teachers, and if, therefore, such persons do their duty during the six months that they are actually employed, they should receive the province allowance for that time.—In those parts of the country where the rivers are frozen up and the navigation stopt for six months in the year, many persons are employed during the summer months as under clerks in stores, who have no employment during the remainder of the year. Such persons might be very willing and competent to teach schools during the winter months, and it was hard that they could not at present get the provincial allowance for doing so.—As to the school licence, he (Mr. E.) thought its only use was, to make the poor schoolmaster pay a guinea to the Executive.—The hon. member would vote