Saturday, March 6.

BOUNTY ON HEMP.

The House went into a Committee of the whole, in consideration of a Bill to encourage the growing and dressing of Hemp.

This Bill was introduced by the hon. and learned member for Gloucester, (Mr. End,) and led to a tedious, desultory debate, occupying nearly three hours, hon. members agreeing as to the utility of the measure, but differing slightly as to detail. Mr. End went very fully into the subject, in an able and lucid Speech—showing among other things the quantity of, and amount paid for, Cordage imported into this Province each year, for several years past; also the amount paid for Hemp imported for the last few years. This he thought might all be kept at home and put in the pockets of the Farmers. The hon. and learned member paid some handsome compliments to the Manufacturing Establishment of Messrs. Carvill & Wallace of St. John.

Mr. Boyd also spoke in the highest terms of a similar Establishment at St. Andrews.

Hon. L. A. Wilmot said at the close of the debate, that he feared it was time thrown away to legislative upon the subject at all. In Flanders (said Mr. W.) when large quantities of Hemp is grown, it is found that 3½cwt. of dressed Hemp is a good crop for an acre of land. He was therefore satisfied that a Farmer in this Province who raised one acre, would never attempt it again. (Mr. End—I am very sorry to hear you say that.) He (Mr. W.) was very sorry too—very sorry—but he feared it was too true; the labour required for dressing an acres growth was immense. The Bill was finally passed without a division; the most important provisions of which are as follows—

That a sum not exceeding £1000 shall be placed at the disposal of the Government, for the encouragement of the growing of Hemp. That the Clerks of the Pence for the several Counties shall, upon the production of the necessary certificates, pay a bounty of 10s. per cwt. to the growers of Hemp, reserving to themselves five per cent. for their trouble.—*Morning News.*

Monday, March 8.

The House took up the adjourned order of the day from Saturday last, and resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, in further consideration of His Excellency's Messages—Major Hayward in the Chair.

CROWN DEBTS.—The first subject taken up was a message from His Excellency, relative to Crown Debts throughout the Province. It appears from a statement made by Mr. Partelow, that there is due the Crown, in the different Counties of the Province, upwards of £5000, all of which is in sums not exceeding £20, being for the most part for land purchased from the Crown by poor settlers. Mr. Partelow moved a resolution, referring the whole matter to a Select Committee to report thereon. This subject elicited a short debate, which ended in the adoption of the resolution.

THE LEPROSY.—The next subject which occupied the attention of the Committee was the Report of the Board of Health, connected with the Lazaretto on Sheldrake Island, in or near the County of Northumberland.

This subject, as usual, occupied some two hours. Hon. Mr. Hazen went into the past history of the Institution—the cause of its erection—and the amount of money paid by the Province for its support. The hon. and learned member concluded by observing that it remained with the Committee to say whether the Institution should be continued or not.

Mr. Partelow observed that the House had come to the conclusion last year to grant no further sum for the support of this institution; but at the close of the Session a resolution had been passed, authorising the Government to continue the Establishment for another year, and that the House would make provision therefor. He had not made up his mind upon this subject, as to the propriety of continuing the grant; but as the House was pledged to provide for the expenses of the past year, he should now move that the report of the Board of Health, together with the accounts, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

A tedious debate ensued, during which some heart-reading descriptions were given of this dreadful disease by Messrs. Brown and Carman, both of whom had visited the institution. Mr. Carman in particular made a most effective speech. These gentlemen describe the disease as being of a most loathsome character—that it attacks the extremities—the fingers, nose, &c.; contracts the muscles, producing a short respiration, or difficulty of breathing, and finally ends in death; the patient lingering in some cases for ten or twelve years. From what fell from hon. members during the debate, it appears that the Medical Faculty differ as to the nature of the disease—some asserting it to be of a contagious character, others denying this to be the case. It appears that the Commissioners appointed by the Government in 1844, to examine into the case was a disease, were of opinion that this disease was not contagious, which fact appears by their report to the Press, which fact appears by their subsequently denied by the—This opinion was subscribed to by John, who wrote a series of letters signed by gentlemen of Saint John, which appeared in the public printed on the subject.

Mr. End complained bitterly that the Government had totally neglected to take any precautionary measures for the prevention of the spread of this disease in the County of Gloucester.

Mr. Partelow's resolution was carried, and the Committee reported progress.—*M. News.*

On Tuesday the House went into committee of Ways and Means, when a debate of a rather novel nature arose on a resolution introduced by Mr. Partelow, the substance of which was to pledge the House to the passage of the last year's Revenue Bill without any alteration, and to secure the passage of a Bill to repeal all the Imperial Acts now in force imposing duties on articles imported into this Province. To this resolution Mr. R. D. Wilmot moved, as an amendment, a resolution which was intended to test the feelings of the House on the subject of Protection Duties. This movement placed the friends of Protection in an awkward position, from which they could not escape during the debate of yesterday, although the House did not adjourn until nearly six o'clock.

On Wednesday the Hon. Mr. Hazen rose to explain that a misconception had taken place, as to what he had said in debate on the subject of the Master of the Rolls, viz.—that he had admitted that the Lieutenant Governor was to blame for not at once suspending that officer. He had said that the present forbearance had been exercised towards that officer, and a consideration for him, which had not been reciprocated had led to that forbearance; but he thought it was that dignified forbearance, which was becoming towards a judge of the land, under the facts which had transpired. He never admitted that the slighest blame could be attached to His Excellency for that proper forbearance, and he wished to be distinctly understood, as entirely approving of the course pursued towards that officer, and that he was prepared to defend the proceedings of the Government of which he was a member throughout the affair.

The House afterwards again went into Committee of Ways and Means, and agreed to Mr. Partelow's Resolution, to adopt the Revenue Bill of last year, by a large majority. Mr. R. D. Wilmot's Resolution of yesterday, respecting the principle of protective duties, was also carried by a large majority. After the House resumed, Mr. Partelow moved a Resolution expressing the opinion of the Committee respecting the Revenue Bill; also another pledging the House to the passing of an act to repeal all the Imperial duties now levied on articles imported into this Province.

The Bill to incorporate the Fredericton Gas Light Company was committed on Wednesday, and passed the Committee without amendments and without opposition.—*Head Quarters.*

The Committee of Trade have recommended a grant of £500 from the Light House fund, to be applied towards the erection of a Breakwater at Dipper Harbour, if, after a proper survey, it be ascertained that such erection will be attended with beneficial results to the Trade.

With respect to the petition of the Chamber of Commerce, relative to the heavy burthens now existing on tonnage, by the tax for supporting Light Houses, the committee of Trade report, that they cannot recommend its prayer.

On Thursday Mr. Woodward introduced a Bill against extra-judicial Oaths, when Mr. Ritchie in Amendment submitted the following Resolution:

"Whereas it is necessary that a Revenue should be raised to provide for making and repairing Roads and Bridges, educating the people, developing the resources and meeting the other enquiries of the Country; and whereas "it is by the application of the labor and industry of the Productive classes of this Province, to the natural resources of the country, that the wealth, well being and comfort of the people are to be insured:" therefore

Resolved, That in framing a Revenue Bill in a new Country like this, such a just and fair discrimination should be introduced as will while it encourages the productions and manufactures of this Province, secure the advancement of the general interests of the Country at large, and not enrich the few to the injury of the many, but confer the largest amount of benefit on the number of people, thereby increasing the real wealth and elevating to its just and proper standing the true character of this Province.

This, after a pretty long discussion in which little new was elicited, was carried.

YEAS.—Messrs. Rankin, Hannington, Fisher Baillie, Thompson, Miles, Hazen, Brown, Street, Barberie, Boyd, Carman, Read, Ritchie, Cranny, End, Partelow, Wark, Smith, Jordan, Wilson, Steeves, Tibbetts, Porter, Botsford, Connell, Woodward, Landry, L. A. Wilmot.

NAYS.—Messrs. Earle, R. D. Wilmot, Gilbert, Vail, McLeod.

The Bill was then taken up, and after some debate was posiponed three months.

The House next went into Supply, and several Grants were disposed of.

On the Hon. Mr. Hazen moving the usual Grant for the Indians of the County of York, Mr. L. A. Wilmot rose and said, that he would resist the appropriation until he knew how the Executive were going to apply it. The present usage experienced by these unfortunate people, was a disgrace to humanity, and also to the physician, Dr. Toldervy, who had been appointed by the Government as their Doctor. His, (Mr. Wilmot's) father, had frequently applied to Dr. Toldervy, at a time when some of the Indians lay dead, and others dying on the opposite bank of the River; but beyond one visit the Doctor could not be persuaded to go, and he then gave them some oil, and left them to die! Dr. Hartt had then been applied to, but he declined, on grounds of professional etiquette, to visit them more than once. This he (Mr. W.) was prepared to prove. They were left to die without help, and being found in these circumstances some of the neighbours were forced as far as possible to relieve them

Mr. End regretted that those charges had been brought, as the party accused could not be present to defend himself; and he also regretted that the Hon. Member had not lodged his complaint with the Executive at the time. Several others declared their opinions, when Mr. Hazen said he would withdraw the motion, until the extraordinary charge which had been made should receive investigation. In this opinion Mr. J. A. Street concurred, and the motion was accordingly withdrawn.—*Fred. Rep.*

COMMUNICATION.

[FOR THE COURIER.]

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I had believed that no appointment made by His Excellency could now be matter of surprise to the people of this Province. I have, however, been mistaken. The nomination of the new College Council, as it is the latest, so is it also the most *astounding* measure which has signalized the sojourn of Sir William Colebrooke in New-Brunswick. The humorous eccentricity, the studied impropriety of the selection are so obvious, that I earnestly trust the Governor may be recalled before the *eclat* of the transaction can be diminished by the perpetration of some less conspicuous absurdity.

It is well known that for nearly ten years the Charter of King's College has been under discussion in the Legislature. It was alleged (and with some plausibility) that the appointment of the Bishop and Archdeacon of the Diocese as *ex officio* the Visitor and President, and the exclusion of all but members of the Church of England from the Council Board, excited prejudices against the Institution highly detrimental to its utility. This opinion was expressed not merely by Dissenters, but by many staunch Churchmen, who acquiesced in the propriety of surrendering all that bore even the semblance of illiberality. By the provisions of the Bill for altering the College Charter, it was enacted that the Bishop should no longer be Visitor, nor the Archdeacon (*then* the head of the Church) be President. The appointment to this last office was vested in the Governor; the doors of the Council-Chamber were thrown open to persons of all religious views, and some other changes were effected.

This Act became the law of the land during the administration of our present Governor. He himself assented to it, and transmitted it, with no expression of disapproval, for Her Majesty's sanction. He cannot plead ignorance of the Legislature's wishes. The debates in both Houses were ample and explanatory. He *must* have read them, and he *may*, for aught I know, have been present, incognito, during the discussion. There are some who will not scruple to gratify their morbid curiosity by any sacrifice of personal dignity. At all events the Bill interprets itself. Its intent is obvious to the most ordinary intellect; it was not, it could not have been mistaken by Sir William Colebrooke.

If I had been in the situation of the Governor, I should have pursued one or other of two courses. Had I disapproved of the Bill, my oaths of office, my duty as the Queen's representative, as the Chancellor of the University, nay, as an *honest man*, I should have been compelled to reject it. Had I approved of it, I should have felt bound to carry out the well known wishes of the Legislature, and to fulfil the expectations of the people—I would never have ratified the letter of an enactment, the spirit of which I was resolved to violate. But my views of political morality are perhaps too narrow and restricted for the present times; it is quite certain that they have not suggested themselves to His Excellency's mind.

Who may have been Sir William's prompters in this matter, I know not. If I may believe what I have heard from Head Quarters, the Governor's constitutional advisers are unpleasantly anxious to disavow any the smallest share in the credit of the transaction, and that more than one Executive Councillor has paid this rather equivocal compliment to His Excellency's judgment. It is highly probable that he will be permitted to enjoy the honour unmolested. I have known several great men who have done strange things, but never till now have I known one without a solitary self-sacrificing of friends, who was willing ("for a consideration") to stand forth like Mawworm in the play, and exclaim—"I likes to be despised, it does me good." The secret adviser is satisfied with the approbation of his own conscience, and modestly shuns the noisy plaudits of the public.

At the head of the heterogeneous assemblage, now known as the College Council, stands the new President. It would seem to require no very profound wisdom to discern who *should* have filled that office; it was still more obvious who *should not*. As His Excellency has managed the affair it is hard to say whether the unjust omission of the one, or the injudicious nomination of the other, is more offensive. The gentleman to whom long rested all the temporal supply in managing the College, would now occupy the only seat at the Council Board which was worthy of his station in the Institution. Such an arrangement was expedient in itself, and was sanctioned by every precedent. It seemed but reasonable that he who was expected to guide the studies and enforce the discipline of the University should possess the means of originating such statutes and regulations as could alone render his control efficient. The alteration of the Charter, by vacating the office of President, afforded a favourable opportunity of uniting the chief power and the heaviest responsibility in the person of one whose happiness and reputation are peculiarly connected with the prosperity of the College. This measure might have been anticipated by all who have not studied the peculiarities of His Excellency's mind, and his singular propensity "*monstrari digito et dicier hic est.*" He has cautiously excluded the Principal of the Institution from even a bare seat at the Council Board, for no other reason than because it was the general opinion that he was by office and character the fittest to be its head. This is, however, a subject which grows upon one's hands, and I shall postpone, until next week, the further remarks which I have yet to make upon the conduct of Sir William towards the University, of which he is in theory the Protector. A. P.

The Courier.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1847.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.—In preceding columns we have given a synopsis of the proceedings of the Assembly on several matters of interest which have been brought before that body. By this morning's Mail we received the following letter.

FREDERICTON, March 12th, 1847.

The propositions, brought forward by Mr. Partelow, on matters of Revenue, after an animated discussion on Tuesday and Wednesday, were sustained by the House in Committee of Ways and Means, at half-past four o'clock on the latter day, by a large majority; and yesterday that gentleman submitted two Bills to the House in conformity, which have been read a second time. By these Bills the Revenue Act at present in operation will be continued until the first April, 1848, and the whole of the Parliamentary duties will be repealed to take effect on that day. In the meantime, the existing duties will be collected as usual at the Custom House, and a Committee will be named to address Her Majesty's Government, as was stated by Mr. P., with a view of obtaining at least a reduction of half the present annual charges upon the Provincial Revenues for the support of the Custom House Establishment. I think that the decision of the House on those important subjects is wise one; for next year the House will be put in possession fully of the views of Her Majesty's Government, and be enabled, unfettered, to impose such duties as may be deemed necessary, *all* to be collected at the Treasury department. There appears to be an immense amount of business before the House, and Members are all actively employed.

I see by the New-Brunswicker of yesterday, *that the House had voted £37,000 for Roads, in supply.* I know not who is the correspondent of that paper here, but you will be surprised to learn that *no report has even yet been made by the Road Committee.*

Your's, truly, SENEX.

It is currently reported that matters will be so arranged between the Executive and the Master of the Rolls, that no delay of justice can take place in the Court of Marriage and Divorce; and that the Master of the Rolls has preferred his charges before the Home Government.

We hope that this is the case;—the Master of the Rolls is a sound lawyer, and we have no doubt that the British Government will take proper measures to support the dignity of the Courts of Justice, and, by so doing, protect and preserve the rights of the Crown and the liberties of the subject.

THE NEW-BRUNSWICK RAILWAY.

We have observed by the Journals some activity on the part of our Legislature in promoting the St. Andrews Railway, and most cordially agree in the sentiments almost unanimously expressed by the Members of the House of Assembly, that every encouragement should be given to these undertakings. But why, we ask, is not something also done for the New Brunswick Railway? Surely the inhabitants of St. John have an equal right to expect that the same facilities will be extended to their line, and more especially as, by the last advices from England, the agents there have suggested that the very encouragement now obtained by the St. Andrews Railway is precisely what is required to ensure the immediate disposal of Stock in the New Brunswick Railway. The importance of our traffic with the upper part of the Province is far beyond that of any other port, and the consequent increase of revenue which would ensue on the completion of the Railway to this City, would more than counterbalance the amount of guarantee which the Province is called upon to give. We are informed that in the opinion of the most eminent Engineers at home, that even on the statement of the present trade of the River Saint John, most ample returns would be obtained for the outlay required to construct a Railway. Can it be supposed, then, for a moment, that the Province will ever be called upon to pay anything? All that is required is the assurance to the English capitalist that we ourselves have sufficient confidence in the result as to guarantee a certain sum on the actual cost of the Railway; and when we reflect on the great benefit to be derived from the expenditure of so large a sum as the construction of this great work will require, we should consider our Legislature blind to the best interests of this Province were they to hesitate in giving all that has been asked. The following, we have heard, are the required facilities;—That so soon as that part of the Railway between Fredericton and Woodstock is completed, a certain sum should be guaranteed, so as to make the profits to the Shareholders five per cent. per annum, for ten years on the capital laid out—a proportionate sum when the Railway is completed between Woodstock and the Grand Falls—and a proportionate sum when the Railway is completed between Saint John and Fredericton; or, in other words, when the whole line is finished. Also a grant of Wilderness Land at the same ratio to the grant of the St. Andrews Railway; and, lastly, a grant for the preliminary survey of the proposed route. Is there anything unreasonable in these requisitions, or ought any inhabitant of this Province to object to a single item of the above, when there is not a single individual resident who will not incidentally feel the benefit of this Railway when in operation, or even before, in consequence of so much money being brought in and expended here? Our port,—our mercantile establishments—the line of country the St. John line passes through—the number of bridges to be constructed, are all infinitely superior in consideration to those of the St. Andrews line. Nature clearly points out the grand viaduct of the Railway to Canada to be by the Valley of the Saint John; and when the New Brunswick Railway is made to the Grand Falls, Canada will be glad enough to join with us. We make these remarks, disclaiming all feelings of opposition to the St. Andrews Railway.—We do not consider their line an antagonist line at all—we are glad they have obtained the encouragement they asked. All we contend for is, that equal privileges should be granted to us; and that must be done this session, or it may be too late.

The opening of the New-Brunswick Railway Share List, as we have ascertained by personal application, has been only delayed until the action of the House of Assembly upon the guarantee is known, so that the next Mail to England may carry the news home, when Subscription Lists for shares will be opened there and in this Province simultaneously. We have no doubt that £100,000 will be subscribed for here; and if the House of Assembly agree to the terms proposed, it is equally certain that the required amount of Stock will be immediately subscribed in England, and the Railway commenced in the spring.

CULTIVATION OF HEMP.—The House of Assembly having passed a Bill for giving a bounty on the cultivation of Hemp in this Province, we trust such exertions will be made by our farmers and others as will give the subject a fair trial, notwithstanding the discouraging statement made by Mr. L. A. Wilmot in the Assembly. We intend to return to this subject again, and in the meantime would acquaint those who wish to try the experiment of growing Hemp in New Brunswick, that there will be no difficulty in procuring a supply of Seed in the city in due season.

Mr. Bennison's advertisement respecting the new and much improved system of learning to sing, is deserving of, and we trust will receive, very general attention. He has laboured with much assiduity for several years past in giving instruction in Singing, and has been very successful in imparting a knowledge of the art; but as we are assured the new plan is much easier than the one hitherto pursued by him, we look upon it as something very superior, and which must therefore eventually supersede the old method altogether. A specimen of the printed music has been left in our Office for inspection.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last Monday evening, Mr. Duval delivered an interesting lecture to a very respectable audience on "Mohammed and the Koran." The different points in the Imposter's history were lucidly stated, such as his birth,—his marriage to Kadijah,—the announcement of his pretended mission,—his flight to Medina,—his poisoning—his taking of Mecca,—and his death.—These, with their dates, were also exhibited on a black-board distinctly written.

Next Monday evening, P. Stubs, Esq., will deliver his fourth lecture on "Railways." He will be assisted on this occasion again by Mr. Pratt who will exhibit some new experiments with the model locomotive engine. Mr. Stubs' lecture will embrace a consideration of *inclined planes* and *turn tables*, with a description of the low and high pressure steam engines. A beautiful *sectional model of the low-pressure steam engine*, recently imported for the Institute, will be exhibited for the first time and explained.

We are pleased to [illegible] of the increase of Mechanics' Institutes throughout the Province. The up-country [illegible] at that place, and are endeavouring to get Mr. Temple, Wesleyan Minister, to join the Rev. [illegible] so laudable an undertaking, recently delivered one or two excellent Lectures on Astronomy.

ARMY MOVEMENTS.—We understand that the 20th Regiment, now stationed at Bermuda, is expected to relieve the 33d in this Province, which proceeds to England in the spring.

LATE FROM BOSTON.—By the arrival this morning of the Schooner Joseph Howe, Captain Scott, from Boston, we received from attentive correspondents in that City papers of Thursday last, from which we have extracted several items of news.

From the Head Quarters.

We have great pleasure in giving publicity to the following documents. This substantial testimonial to the merits of CAPTAIN WYLIE, admits of no kind of cavil. And the Company deserve, and we doubt not they will receive, the good wishes of the community for their handsome conduct.

Fredericton, 8th March, 1847.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in transmitting to you the following Resolution, passed at a meeting of the Stockholders of the New Brunswick Steam Boat Company, on Saturday evening last.

I have the honor to be, dear Sir, your's, &c.

W. M'BEATH, *Secretary.*

"*Resolved unanimously*, That whereas in consequence of the intended winding up of the affairs of the Company, the Services of Captain Wylie will not be required by them for the ensuing year, the sum of Fifty Pounds be presented to that Gentleman, together with the thanks and good wishes of the Stockholders, as a slight testimonial of the high sense the Company entertain of the fidelity, zeal and urbanity, with which he has discharged the duties of his office, and which have for so many years secured to him not only the entire confidence of his employers, but also an universal popularity among the travelling public."

"*Further Resolved*, That a Copy of the above Resolution, enclosing the sum named therein, be forwarded to Captain Wylie, forthwith, by the Secretary."

Extract from the Minutes.

W. M'BEATH, *Secretary.*

To Captain R. Wylie.

To William M'Beath, Esq., Secretary, &c.

SIR,—I beg that you will have the goodness to lay the enclosed before the Stockholders of the New Brunswick Steam Boat Company; and that you will, on your own part, accept my thanks for the handsome manner in which you conveyed to me their handsome communication.

I have the honor to be Sir, your obd't servant,

ROBERT WYLIE.

Fredericton, 9th March, 1847.

To the Stockholders of the New Brunswick Steam Boat Company.

GENTLEMEN,—I have just received your kind and gratifying letter, together with the generous and substantial gift which accompanied it, for which I beg to tender you my best and warmest acknowledgments.

During my connection with "the New Brunswick," I have endeavored, to the best of my ability, to do my duty, and it gives me great satisfaction to find by your flattering communication, that I have not been unsuccessful.

Wishing you prosperity and happiness, and assuring you that the kindness and courtesy which I have experienced from you, shall ever be remembered by me.

I remain, Gentlemen, your very obed't servant,

ROBERT WYLIE.

Fredericton, 8th March, 1847.

ACCIDENT BY FIRE.—A most distressing case of this kind took place, at Beaver Harbour, on the forenoon of Tuesday, the 2d inst., in the total destruction of the dwelling house of Mr. William Dickson, with all its contents. Mr. Dickson was in the woods at the time the accident happened. Some sparks from the chimney catching in the shingles, caused all the mischief. Mrs. Dickson, who has long been in a dying state and confined to her bed, with two daughters and a boy, were the only inmates at the time the fire broke out, and their care being necessarily diverted to the rescue and safe keeping of their aged and helpless parent, they had no time to think of saving any property. Mr. D. has long been known and esteemed as one of the most exemplary and useful men in the parish. We are, therefore, happy to learn that it is the intention of a few benevolent individuals to set a foot a subscription to aid him in repairing a loss, which, at his time of life,—60 years of age,—must press very severely.—*Charlotte Gazette.*

LEGISLATURE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—On the 9th instant, the important subject of the Commercial Policy of the Colonies came on the carpet, and excited a discussion to which we listened with much interest. During the day the Hon. Attorney General, from the Committee on the Revenue brought in his report. The Report is of a very important character.—The following are its features:—

First.—The late Imperial Act for granting the Colonies power to repeal all Imperial Duties, is declared to be a benefit and a boon, and should be accepted.

Secondly.—It sets forth that there should be perfect freedom of intercourse between the Colonies of British North America.

Thirdly.—It recommends an abandonment of deferential duties.

Fourthly.—That the Customs establishment be superseded as unnecessary, there being no longer any Imperial duties to collect, and so many of the officers as may be necessary employed in the Provincial Revenue department throughout the Province—the remainder to be provided for in a spirit of fairness and liberality.

Fifthly.—That a Bill should be passed—repealing all imperial duties after the 5th of July—and retaining the present duties until said act shall be assented to—the Imperial and Provincial Tariffs to be consolidated into one, and collected by the Provincial Revenue Officers.

Sixthly.—That addresses should be sent to Her Majesty and the Lieut. Governor praying assent to the above arrangements.

Seventhly.—That His Excellency would be pleased during the recess to ascertain the views of the other Colonies of British America on this subject.—*Halifax Post.*

LOST OVERBOARD.—We regret to learn that Mr. James Purney, mate of the Brig Primrose, was lost overboard soon after that vessel left St. John on her late passage to Ireland.—*Yarmouth Herald.*

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—*Election Riot.*—On the 1st instant a poll was opened at Pinette Mills, for the election of two members to represent the Belfast District, Queen's County, in the place of Messrs. McDougall and Little, whose seats were recently declared vacant, in consequence of riot and intimidation. These gentlemen, with Messrs. Douse and McLean, were proposed as candidates, and it is stated that a large number of Monaghan Irish, armed with sticks, undertook to prevent any of the candidates but Mr. Little being heard, whereupon a desperate row commenced with the Belfast Scotchmen, which resulted in the death of Malcolm McRae, a man upwards of sixty years of age, who had his skull fractured, and two others, named Taylor and McLeod, received such dangerous bruises, that they are reported to have since died. The Returning Officer closed the poll at three o'clock, and returned a riot.

ALLEGED SHORT ALLOWANCE OF PROVISIONS.—Chas. Scott, a carpenter on board the ship Hyperion, appeared to prefer a complaint against Captain Wheelan, of the same vessel, for an alleged deficiency of provisions. The complainant stated that he sailed to Valparaiso, at the commencement of the year 1846, and had not been supplied during the voyage with the proper quantity of peas, flour, &c, in accordance with the terms of the ship's articles. It appeared, however, that pork and beans had been served out as a substitute for the deficiency of the peas and flour, and also that more than the usual quantity of sugar had been given. Mr. Rushton thought, that, under the circumstances, the claim was vexatious, and dismissed the case.—*Liverpool Mercury Jan. 29.*

A NEW WORK BY SEARS.—Our readers will learn with pleasure, we are sure, that the celebrated Pictorial publisher, Mr. SEARS, of New-York, has now in press a new Pictorial work, entitled "*Scenes and Sketches in Continental Europe*, embracing descriptions of France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, Sicily, and Holland—together with VIEWS AND HISTORIES of Paris, Lisbon, Madrid, Cadiz, Barcelona, Geneva, Pisa, Leghorn, Rome, Naples, Herculanæum, Pompeii, Paestum, Palermo, Malta, Venice, Milan, Genoa, Ferney, Brussels, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, &c. &c. Illustrated with numerous Engravings from the best sources, and by the best artists."

At twenty Roman Catholic Churches in New-York and its vicinity, on the 28th ult. the collections for the relief of the starving peasantry in Ireland amounted to $12,067. 17 cents.—The amount collected at the Duane Presbyterian Church was $659 71 cents—of which amount the sum of $386 10 cents was appropriated for Scotland.

We learn that $145,000, mostly in small sums, went in the Steamer Cambria on the 1st instant, through Harnden & Co.—being the private remittances of Irishmen, for the relief of their friends in the old country.—*Boston paper.*

A NEW COMET has been discovered from the Cambridge University, and it is said will soon be visible to the naked eye.

On Wednesday, last week, it commenced raining at Charleston, and in the course of twenty-four hours, 5 1-2 inches fell.

ICE.—The National Intelligencer says,—"It may not be amiss to state, for the information of the ice dealers of the North, that the crop this winter has entirely failed South of Baltimore, and that consequently the demand for Northern ice will be greatly increased during the next summer. In fact the cities South of Baltimore will be entirely dependent on the Northern supplies for an article which habit has now rendered a necessary of life. In [illegible] short one, and a portion of the requisite supply for next summer must necessarily come from the North.

The amount of duties collected [illegible] the British Mail steamers, was $1,054,731. The value of the goods and specie brought was $4,445,000.

LOSS OF A BRITISH MAIL STEAMER.—The Arrevida, at New Orleans from Campeachy 19th February, brings news that the British Royal Mail Steamer Tweed, was lost on the 12th February, N. E. of Cardenas. Sixty persons were drowned. An expedition was sent from Campeachy to her assistance.

The Tweed left Havana on the 9th ult. for Vera Cruz and Tampico. The Alcranes, on which she was lost, lie about seventy miles from the coast of Yucatan, directly north of Merida.

The British steamship Antelope, which arrived at Rio Janeiro in 35 days from Liverpool, is understood to be the first of a line of steam packets, about to be established between Liverpool and Rio, touching at Pernambuco and Bahia.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.—The Session closed at Washington on the 4th instant.

The bill providing for war steamers passed both houses at the last moment. It provides for four first class war steamers, for which $1,000,000 are appropriated, and it authorizes a contract to be made with E. K. Collins, of New York, for four steamers, to run to Liverpool from New York, according to certain propositions he has made to the Postmaster General.—It also authorizes a contract with A. G. Sloo of Cincinnati, for five steamships, to run from New York (with the mails) to Charleston, Savannah (when practicable) and Havana, and thence to Chagress, (twice a month,) the Government not to pay over $290,000—and an officer in the Navy to command them.

A naval constructor, under the authority of the Navy Department, is to superintend the building of all these ships, and they are to be surrendered to the Government, if wanted for war purposes.

The Postmaster General is authorized to contract for steamers (or sailing vessels) to carry the mail between Panama and Oregon.

The Annual Appropriation bills have all become laws, though not without a severe struggle between the two Houses upon the amendments made to the Civil and Diplomatic bill by the Senate, some of which were agreed to, and others rejected or compromised.

The Three Million bill (without the restriction against slavery in any territory which may be acquired from Mexico) has become a law, but in a form different from what was originally proposed.

The Harbor bill, (involving appropriations to the amount of less than half a million of dollars) which passed the House of Representatives some days ago, and passed the Senate yesterday morning, is understood to have been retained in the hands of the President, and failed to become a law. Its twin sister, however, (the Lighthouse bill) has been approved.

The amendment to the Sub-Treasury bill,—introduced some weeks ago by Mr. Dromgoole, from the House Committee of Ways and Means,—which had been amended by having attached to it a provision for a branch mint at New York, came late to the Senate and was lost;—some Senator objecting to its reception.

The Lieutenant General project failed in both houses. Mr. Benton for whose aggrandizement it has been supposed to have been intended, has been made a Major General, but can only be brought into the supreme command of the army by the recall of Generals Scott and Taylor. It is said that the President wished to obtain from Congress the right to give the command to *any* Major General, but that it was refused.

Among the bills which failed during the two last days of the session, were the bill organizing the Oregon territory, the bill amending the sub-treasury act, that establishing the territory of Minesota, and the Irish relief bill.

When we consider that the name of Oregon was a spell to raise the country with but a short time since, it seems strange that there are none of those who were once so ready to fight for who now care enough for her welfare even to furnish her with a form of Government.

The Senate bill to appropriate half a million of dollars, in the name of the people of the United States, towards the relief of the sufferers by famine in Ireland, met the fate which we anticipated when we heard of its commitment, in the House of Representatives, to the Committee of Ways and Means. It has not been heard of since; and thus the benevolent purpose of the mover and supporters of that measure has been defeated.

A Bill for the relief of the heirs of John Paul Jones, which passed both Houses of Congress was found on the floor of the Senate Chamber on the morning after Congress had adjourned, and of course has not become a law, in consequence of not having the President's signature attached to it. This is a singularly hard case.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS.—David Tod, of Ohio, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near his Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, vice Henry A. Wise, recalled at his own request. John R. Clay, Charge d'Affairs at Peru. Richard Rush, of Pennsylvania, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to his Majesty the King of France. George W. Hopkins, of Virginia, Charge d'Affairs of the United States to the Queen of Portugal. Major Generals—Thomas Hart Benton, of Missouri; Wm. Cumming, of Georgia. Brigadier Generals—George Cadwallader, of Pennsylvania; Enos D. Hopping, of New York; Franklin Pierce, of New Hampshire.

Important from the Seat of War—The Enemy near Saltillo—Gen. Taylor's outposts driven in—Threatened attack on Matamoras—Mexican Army this side of the Mountains.—The schooner Cora arrived at New Orleans on the 26th ult., from Brazos 19th. The intelligence of a prospect of an action at Saltillo, is confirmed. All of Gen Taylor's outposts are said to have been driven in, and an attack, if made at all, was expected during the first few days of February.

General Taylor's command at Saltillo would exceed *six thousand men!* Many believed that when the Mexicans found him in such force, the idea of an attack would be abandoned.

Very many officers were still of opinion that Santa Anna meditated a serious blow in that quarter, and that the movement was but a feint, and that he will lead the main body of his forces to Vera Cruz.

Rumors have reached New Orleans by this arrival that a *general engagement had taken place.* The Picayune attaches no credit to them.

Much apprehension was felt at Matamoras of an attack by Gen. Urrea, who is understood to be *on this side of the Mountains* with four thousand men, two thousand of them not to be surpassed by any in the Mexican service; the remainder are Rancheros.

Col. Drake, commanding at Matamoras, has provided muskets and ammunition for citizens in case of an attack, and had sent to Point Isabel for several pieces of ordnance.

The Picayune does not deem the danger threatening Matamoras very imminent.

Troops were embarking at the mouth of the Rio Grande as rapidly as possible. Gen. Scott sailed on the 13th.

Gen. Worth had not left on the 19th, and would not until the whole command was on shipboard. It was not supposed that the army could move from the Island of Lobos before the 18th of March.

The Picayune of 25th ult., contains Brazos dates to the 18th. A correspondent writes that in three days the whole command will depart for Vera Cruz. Gen. Minon reports his prisoners to be 82 in all. Besides Americans taken, there was one Mexican named Galeano, who had been near our troops as a spy or guide. He was immediately put to the sword, although Maj. Gains interceded. Captain Heady of Kentucky was also captured two days after Borland's party, by a party of Rancheros. The number of the captured is now said to be 93. Their camps were surrounded the night after they marched 40 miles.

A rumour was current among the squadron off Anton Lizards, on the 4th February, that the whole United States naval force in the Gulf of Mexico would collect on the 20th of the month, to be in readiness to co-operate with Gen. Scott in the expected attack on Vera Cruz, and it was the general impression throughout the squadron that they would have a fight at last.

Preparations for an Attack on Vera Cruz.—The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Wright, got under weigh last evening for Brazos Santiago, Island of Lobos, and Tampico. Major General Jessup and staff, Captain Grayson, Commissary, and a number of other officers were passengers in her. One hundred and eighty-five horses were also on board. The materiel for the army operations has now gone forward, and we may soon expect to hear of the great demonstration upon Vera Cruz. We are greatly deceived if we don't hear something, ere long, of striking, and it may be bloody interest.—*N. Orleans Tropic.*

A letter dated Monterey, Jan. 31st, states that General Wool has written to General Taylor, that a force of from ten to thirteen thousand of the enemy is advancing on him, and urges in the strongest terms the presence of Gen. T. at Saltillo. Gen. Taylor had accordingly gone up with a large force, intending to give the enemy battle, if they could be found.

Later from the Seat of War!—By the schooner Delta, at New Orleans on the 1st instant, Tampico dates to the 20th ult. has been received.

General Scott arrived at Tampico on the 19th, where it was reported that Vera Cruz had been evacuated by order of Santa Anna, and the Mexican troops marched to the interior.

It is stated that Santa Anna was to march upon Saltillo, previous to attacking Monterey.

General Urrea, with 5000 troops, at Victoria, was to attack Matamoras, and both expeditions must prove successful,—so writes Santa Anna's private Secretary.

It is pretty certain that Santa Anna is now at Saltillo, and it is even reported that he had been engaged in a conflict with Gen. Taylor, but the latter is not believed at Tampico.—There is little doubt that Gen. Minion will give Gen. Taylor considerable trouble. The latter was much in want of light horse.

IMPORTANT FROM THE RIVER PLATE.—Montevideo papers to the 2d January, contain intelligence of the capture of Paisandu, by Gen. Rivera, Commander-in-Chief of the Montevidean forces. Paisandu was held by a garrison of 600 or 700 men, in the interest of Gen. Oribe, (who is backed and supported by the Government of Buenos Ayres,) all of whom were killed or taken prisoners. Oribe was formerly President of the Montevidean Republic, but was forcibly supplanted by Gen. Rivera. He then fled to Buenos Ayres, raised an army, and with the assistance of the latter power, has been endeavouring ever since to recover his lost authority. What effect this defeat will have upon his prospects, or upon the overtures for peace which have recently been made, remains to be seen.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Small sales of Genesee Flour at $7; 1000 brls. flat hoop Ohio, for May, at $6,12½.—Corn looks better—5000 bushels Southern white sold at 62 cents.—Freights rather up—26d. is the rate for corn in bags to Liverpool; Flour, 7s. 6d. to 8s.

At New Orleans, on the 27th, id. continued to be the asking rate for Cotton to Liverpool; Corn 27d. to 27½d. to Ireland.

The rates paid at Baltimore on the 6th inst. were 8s. 6d. for Flour, and 27d. to 28d. for Corn to England and Ireland.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"A Seaman" and "A Parody on a Parody" next week.

LIFE! LIFE!! LIFE!!!

"All that a man hath will he give for his life." so we find recorded in the most ancient and best of books, but as we see thousands dying around us of Cons