The Courier.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1850.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.—We give to-day the Speech delivered by His Excellency on Thursday last, at the opening of the Legislature of the Province. Although such speeches are generally formal, stately and well-pointed, yet they seldom contain much startling or novel information. The speech in question, however, is a good one, and contains some useful hints and recommendations relative to an extension beyond the ordinary period of one year of our Revenue Bill; the initiation of money votes by the Executive; local control over local charges, which, we presume, means the expenditure of grants by the respective Counties or districts to which they are made, and the power of managing such taxes as are levied for local purposes; and a more stringent and searching audit in our public accounts. As alluded to by His Excellency, it is of the greatest consequence that our merchants should know beforehand, with some degree of certainty, what kind of tariff is likely to be in operation at the time of the importation of their goods, and not be liable to the annual changes which have been in practice here. The other topics alluded to, are, the death of the Queen Dowager; the abundant harvest; our escape from the cholera; Agriculture, and Professor Johnston; the Navigation Laws; water communication between the Bay of Fundy and the St. Lawrence; the Railway between St. John and Shediac; the Fisheries; the consolidation of the Laws; Post Office; the revision of the School system; Canadian Boundary Line; the Corporation of St. John; and the Crown Lands. His Excellency seems to be aware of the wishes of the people generally for the introduction of economy in the transaction of the public business.

(Correspondence of the Courier.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, FREDERICTON,

7th February, 1850.

This being the day appointed for the meeting of the Legislature, the little City of Fredericton assumed, at an early hour, quite a lively appearance, and before half-past one o'clock the population, male and female, appeared to have emptied themselves into the streets and avenues leading to the Province Hall. At ten minutes to two o'clock a guard of honor from the 1st Royal Regiment took up its station in front of the principal entrance to the Council Chamber, and the Royal Artillery, with their guns, occupied the Bank of the River St. John, opposite the Province Building.

At two o'clock, precisely, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor made his appearance at the lower end of Queen Street, attended by a numerous Staff, and preceded by the City Authorities and the High Sheriff and Coroner of the County of York. His Excellency was received by the guard of honor with the usual formalities, and immediately proceeded to the Council Chamber, followed by his staff and a number of civil and military officers, who had joined the cavalcade at Government House, and who in their turn now followed by a rush of "all sorts and conditions of men," anxious to hear the Speech from the Throne, and to witness the imposing ceremony of opening the last Session of the present Provincial Parliament. The Council Chamber presented a spectacle which was really worth looking at. The benches to the left of the Throne were filled with a dense array of the beauty and fashion of the City and neighborhood, and never, perhaps, on any occasion, was an equal number of ladies seen within the walls of that spacious apartment. The large space outside the railing, to the right of the throne, was also densely occupied by Judges, Barristers, and Clergymen, in their robes, interspersed with military officers in full uniform; and every inch of standing room in that part of the hall seemed to be completely occupied by the most respectable gentlemen in the community. Behind the bar of the House, the crowd was equally dense, and, after the Members of the House of Assembly had taken their places, a pin might have been heard to drop in any part of the Council Chamber, while His Excellency read in a clear and distinct tone of voice the admirable opening speech, a copy of which I enclose.

Immediately after the return of the Members of the House of Assembly to their own House, I endeavoured to gain admittance to the gallery, but found, to my surprise, that, contrary to former usage, it was closed, and several of the *Reporters* were cooling their heels or their heads—I hardly know which—at the door. When I did get in, I found that the Speech from the Throne had been read, and that the House was engaged in discussing the appointment of a Clerk Assistant to the House, in the room of the late lamented Mr. Lee.

From what I could gather from the speech of Mr. Street, who had then the floor, it appeared that the Clerk of the House had nominated his brother, T. R. Wetmore, Esquire, to fill the vacant office, and that when the question was about to be taken on this nomination, Mr. Ritchie moved as an amendment, that Mr. G. J. Bliss be appointed to fill that office. The question was then argued, whether the right of nomination was in the Clerk of the House, or in the House itself. Mr. Barbarie, Mr. Street, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Partelow, Mr. Wilmot, and others, supporting the former proposition, but all seemed to be of opinion that the House could, of its own mere motion, circumscribe the powers of the Clerk in this respect, while there appeared to be an equally unanimous opinion that the House could reject any candidate, and continue to reject until such was offered as the House would approve of.

The question was then taken on the Clerk's first nomination, and rejected—yeas, 13; nays, 17.

A resolution affirming, that the nomination of the Clerk Assistant was vested in the Clerk was passed — yeas, 10; nays, 10—and immediately after, the Clerk rose and nominated Mr. George Johnston Bliss, as a fit and proper person to be appointed Clerk Assistant to that House. His Honour the Speaker then put the question, which was sustained *unanimously*.

The House immediately proceeded to the appointment of the usual Committees. When the Road Committee was moved by the Hon. Mr. Partelow, Mr. Wark moved an amendment, to the effect, that the *division* of the sum appropriated for the Great and Bye-road service should be made by that Committee, consisting of one member from each County; but that *the sum to be granted* should be fixed upon in Committee of the whole House. This led to some discussion, and the motion was finally lost—two only appearing in support of Mr. Wark's resolution—himself and the Hon. Mr. Baillie.

When the Committee on Public Accounts was moved for by Mr. Taylor, Mr. Wark moved a resolution to the effect, that no member who belonged to the Executive Government, or who was concerned in the collection or expenditure of the Public Revenue, should serve on this Committee. Mr. Wark's motion passed without a division—Mr. Taylor having withdrawn his motion.

Something was said about the number of Journals to be printed daily, and also about reporting the debates, but as both of these matters are in the hands of Committees appointed during the last Session, nothing will be done in the matter until these Committees shall have had time to bring in their respective reports.

Yours, &c., B.

THE SPEECH.

"Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"It is with great regret that I announce to you the decease of an illustrious Lady, the Queen Dowager of England, whose kindness and benevolence had endeared her to the English Nation.

"At the close of your last session, I expressed a confident hope that, by the blessing of Providence, an abundant Harvest might restore the prosperity of the Country. I now with sincere pleasure congratulate you on the Crops which have been vouchsafed to us. I trust with equal confidence, that our Commerce may revive, and that such Manufactures as the Province can advantageously carry on, may thrive within our limits.

"Another ground for thankfulness on the part of the people of this Colony, is the fact that we have been spared the ravages of that disease which has proved so fatal in England and elsewhere.

"In pursuance of the Resolution of the House of Assembly, passed in the last Session, Professor James Johnston has visited this Province, and after traversing it in every direction, has prepared a Report, which will be placed in your hands. I am persuaded that the publication of his views, with reference to your Agriculture, will greatly tend to promote an Immigration of a satisfactory character, and will stimulate the industry of those who have perhaps hitherto undervalued the resources of their native country.

"I earnestly recommend to your consideration Professor Johnston's suggestions. I think it especially important that an accurate Survey and Report on the extent and probable productiveness of our Coal Field, should be obtained from persons practically conversant with the working of that mineral; and that a plan for imparting Agricultural instruction to all classes, should form the subject of your deliberations.

"A most important change has taken place in the Navigation Laws of the Mother Country—a change which cannot fail to interest this Colony. I know that fears have been entertained by many persons as to the effect of this alteration on the trade of New-Brunswick. I may be sanguine, but I confidently hope that these fears will prove groundless; and that the advantages for Shipb-uilding enjoyed by this Province will enable us to compete with any nation, whilst the removal of restrictions on the cargoes of British ships in foreign ports will create an increased demand for those vessels which form one of our staple exports.

"It will be for you to consider how far it is expedient to address Her Most Gracious Majesty, under the provisions of the Imperial Act, with reference to the Coasting Trade of this Province and the other North American Colonies. The Members of the several Executive Councils of Canada, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick, who met at Halifax in the course of last Autumn, felt, I believe, the full importance of increased facilities for Trade, and I know that Her Majesty's Government at home, are anxious to concur in any measures which, by promoting greater freedom of intercourse, whether between the Colonies themselves or other Countries, will allow our commerce to expand and develope itself.

"I am deeply impressed with the great commercial importance to Canada and New-Brunswick, of improving the means of communication between the Bay of Fundy and the River Saint Lawrence. In order to derive the full benefit from the Act of last Session, authorizing an outlay on the Survey and improvement of the River Saint John, I applied for the services of an Officer of Royal Engineers from Canada. This aid Her Majesty's Government was pleased to afford; and I have much pleasure in stating that a careful Survey of the Rapids and Rocks impeding the Navigation between Fredericton and the Grand Falls, has been made by the joint labours of Captain George Bent of the Royal Engineers, and Mr. John Grant; the final Report itself, with the detailed Plans, is in a state of forwardness, such as may, I trust, allow of its being laid before you in the course of this Session.

"An able Report by Mr. Wilkinson, on the Railway between Shediac and Saint John, will also be laid before you, and I shall be glad to find that any steps may be taken to promote so important an undertaking, consistently with the Financial Resources of the Province.

"A Report from Mr. Perley on the Fisheries of our Coasts will receive at your hands the consideration which the importance of the subject warrants.

"I trust you may be able, in the course of this Session, to revise and consolidate the principal Laws of the Province, so as to present them in a form less complicated than that in which they now stand. A measure will be laid before you, having this object in view.

"The Parliament of Great Britain have passed an Act, enabling the Colonial Legislatures to deal with the subject of the Post Office. I think you will be able to frame such a measure as will materially relieve the people of the Province, and facilitate the transmission of Letters within its limits.

"The Act regulating the Common Schools requires renewal and revision. The zeal which you have hitherto shown in the cause of Education, makes me confident that you will devise means for extending its benefits, and improving its character.

"I regret that I have no definite information which I can afford you with reference to the settlement of the Canadian Boundary, but I know that the subject is under consideration, and that its importance to the welfare of New Brunswick, as well as Canada, is appreciated.

"The Act relating to the Corporation of Saint John has been brought into operation. I have every reason to believe that the Police of that City is properly organized, and answers the purpose for which it was intended.

"I have taken care that rules and regulations should be framed for carrying out the Act of last Session on the subject of Lands sold by the Crown. I wish you to consider whether that Act can produce its full effect without some modification of the tax on emigrants. It is essential, however, that due security should be maintained for the protection of the health of passengers, and that object is greatly facilitated by recent enactments of the Parliament of Great Britain.

"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"The Accounts of Revenue and Expenditure for the past year will be laid before you without delay. You will see with satisfaction that the moneys paid into the Treasury show a considerable improvement in our Finances, and I trust you will find that all proper economy has been exercised in expending the sums appropriated by you.

"In the event of your passing any Act imposing Duties on Imports, I seriously recommend for consideration the expediency of promoting Commerce, by ensuring greater certainty in our Revenue Laws.

"The mere fluctuations of markets render commercial speculations hazardous without the additional risk attaching to the shipment of goods, whilst the rate of duty which those goods may have to pay is wholly conjectural.

"I am persuaded that such uncertainty is more injurious to the shipper and importer, and consequently to our own Revenue, than a higher Tariff would be, on which they could calculate beforehand with tolerable security.

"I trust you will not suppose me desirous of suggesting any course which should imply a diminished controul over the Taxation of the Province by the Representatives of its people.

"Under all circumstances, in your hands must rest the discretionary power of altering the Duties, and in your hands must remain the appropriation of the moneys so levied.

"These Constitutional rights would not be affected by the adoption of a Bill exceeding in its duration the ordinary period, and whilst on the one hand it would be perfectly understood that the Provincial Legislature might alter or repeal any of the Duties at any moment, the Merchant would feel secure that no such change would take place without due deliberation, and without a special reason for such a course.

"This is virtually the state of things in England, and this, I am fully persuaded, would be the principle most likely to foster Commerce in our own Province.

"Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I cannot conclude this Speech without expressing to you distinctly my own convictions on one or two Constitutional matters of the highest importance.

"I believe, in the first place, that it is most desirable to define more accurately the responsibility attaching to the initiation of money votes. This can only be done by throwing such responsibility on the Executive Government.

"The undisputed right to originate money votes is vested in the House of Assembly; and the Members of the Executive Council, it is now understood, practically retain their seats only so long as they are presumed to enjoy the confidence of the people, expressed in the Legislature.

"To the people therefore through their Representatives, as well as to the Crown, they are strictly responsible; and although the burthen of being answerable for the introduction of money votes would be a heavy one, that burthen might be lightened by leaving to local controul such local charges as no central Government can by any amount of vigilance efficiently check. Local controul over local charges, presents moreover advantages of its own with which every man of English race is sufficiently familiar. Economy would be promoted—habit of self reliance and self government would be fostered—and the elements of true political freedom would be developed by the management of the affairs of each separate district.

"I believe, too, that an Audit based on powers more stringent and more searching than those which now exist, would ensure greater regularity in all our Accounts, and would give confidence to the public at large.

"It implies no mistrust of the people or the Legislature of this Province to advocate principles and measures practically a part of the Constitution of England, and of the Constitution of other Colonies, where free and Responsible Government is acknowledged as completely as in New Brunswick.

"In themselves, these measures would bring to the Representative of Her Majesty, and to Her Majesty's Councillors, nothing but an amount of trouble and responsibility from which they are now exempt.

"I name them to you with the full conviction that they contain the best means by which the people may be assured that their expenditure will correspond with their probable income—that the credit of the Province will be properly upheld—and that no abuse of Public Money is likely to take place with impunity.

"I will only add, that I believe such changes may be combined with an actual and immediate saving to the Provincial Revenue.

"I could not properly meet you in this, the last Session of the present Assembly, without imparting, frankly, my hope, that in the course of your deliberations you may, at any rate, pave the way for measures such as these to which I have adverted.

"To those deliberations you will now proceed, and I entertain a conviction that they will be guided by a spirit of loyalty to the Queen, and zeal for the public welfare, worthy of this Province. When we last met, we had to look back upon a year of war and tumult in Europe—the wrecks of mighty States seemed to float around Great Britain, and to justify our confidence in the strength and soundness of those institutions, by help of which she had, under Providence, ridden out the storm—that confidence, therefore, you have every reason to maintain unimpaired, and it will always be my duty to foster and encourage it by all constitutional means."

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPA—FOURTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE!

Telegraphic Despatch to the Associated Press.

HALIFAX, FEBRUARY 8.

The Europa, Capt. Lott, arrived about seven o'clock this evening, bringing Liverpool dates to the 26th ult.

Commercial affairs are still in quite a satisfactory state, but at the same time less buoyant than a week ago. The sales of Foreign and Colonial produce were to a moderate extent during the last eight days, but holders being firm in their demands, full prices generally have been paid.

The improved tone with which our Cotton market closed on the 14th inst., manifested itself upon opening on Monday. The demand was to a fair extent, and was tolerably well supplied by holders, at the full rates of this day se'nnight.

On Tuesday morning the Boston Steamer of the 9th inst. arrived, bringing advices of an advance of one cent per lb. in Cotton, and decidedly more unfavorable accounts as to the probable amount of the crop. The market immediately manifested a very excited aspect. Speculators became exceedingly anxious purchasers, and an advance of ¼d. and in some instances ⅜d. per lb. was at once obtained by holders, and the day's sales reached 30,000 bales—20,000 on speculation. Since Tuesday there has been less activity, and the demand has been upon a much smaller scale, which holders freely supplied at a decline of ⅛d. from the extreme prices current on Tuesday, and the market closes to-day quietly, at an advance of ¼d. to ⅜d. per lb. upon the quotations of Friday last. The sales to-day were 7000 bales—3000 on speculation. The total sales this week are 83,000 bales, of which speculators have taken 28,000 American. The authorised quotations to-day for fair are—Boweds, 7d.; Mobile, 7d.; New Orleans, 7⅛d.

THE CORN MARKET continues to exhibit much langour—buyers confine their purchases to immediate wants; still there is at present not much likelihood of prices going much lower than our present quotations. At our market held here to-day, the best Western Canal Flour was sold at 23s. 6d. to 24s.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 25s. to 25s. 6d.; New Orleans, 24s .to 25s. 6d.; and Indian Corn is steady at 31s. to 31s. 6d. for white; 29s. to 29s. 3d. for yellow; and 28s. 6d. to 29s. for mixed. The Corn market continues firm, with an upward tendency.

IRON.—The last American mail brought considerable orders for rails; and there is a disposition to buy for the completion of some of the English lines. Scotch pig iron has been in demand, and prices had improved; the quotations are: Merchantable Bar Iron, £5 15; best rolled, £7; Hoops, £7 10s.; Sheet, £8 5s.; Scotch Pig, No. 1, nett cash, £2 16s.

We have very few remarks to offer on the state of the Money Market for the past week.—Cash remains abundant, but is expected by the large discount houses to become tighter, in consequence of the large accession of speculation bills, and the operation of the Russian loan.

The impetus given to produce of all descriptions by the abundance of money has this week to some extent been checked, and a reaction has taken place in the value of Coffee, and other produce. The future course of the markets for some time will be downwards.

In Consols no fluctuations of any moment have occurred. The market has been very quiet, and closes to-night at 96¼—being ¼ per centum lower than last Friday.

Tobacco.—The sales since the 1st instant are 1260 hhds., of which 430 were for Ireland, 160 taken for exportation, and 670 by the trade. The market has been very firm throughout, and full prices paid for all descriptions.

Provisions—American.—Bacon; holders of new do not appear inclined to give way in price, and the stock of old having become moderate, an advance of 1s. per cwt. has been obtained on low qualities. Beef—the sales are 400 to 500 tierces. Ordinary old brought 50s.; good brands of new, 75s. to 77s. 6d. Pork—old Prime Mess is in demand for export. Good new realizes 50s. to 55s.; very fine, 56s. to 58s; shoulders, ordinary, are selling at 16s. to 17s.; good, at 18s. to 19s. 6d.

Cheese of prime quality is in fair demand.—*Lard.*—The transactions have again been extensive—the sales for the last fourteen days being fully 500 tons, at an advance of 1s. per cwt.—30s. being now the lowest quotation for ordinary fine qualities.

Coffee.—There has been less activity in the demand, but holders generally are firm. *Sugar.*—There has been less disposition to purchase all kinds of Colonial this week. In Foreign the transactions are—Porto Rico 39s. to 41s., being full rates, Brazil 34s. to 35s. 6d. duty paid—for ordinary brands.

The Russian loan has been largely dealt in at the prices ranging from 4¼ to 3 prem., although the scrip is not yet issued. It closed to-night at 3⅜ to 4 premium.

FREIGHTS have been on the whole well supported, notwithstanding some interruption to the inland communications by frost, and considerable arrivals of shipping; but in passengers we can notice no improvement — they continue scarce, and are taken at underrating rates.

The splendid New-York packet ship Hottingeur, Capt. Bursley, has fallen a prey to the fury of the elements, and, from the tenor of the last accounts respecting her, a melancholy loss of life attended the disaster. The Hottingeur sailed from Liverpool for New York on the 10th inst. She had twenty-nine cabin and steerage passengers, together with a crew of thirty men and boys, and had a very full freight, of various descriptions of goods. She had only passed as far as Blackwater Bank, which is off the coast of Wexford, when she struck on one of the dangerous ledges of rocks which lie concealed in that quarter. This occurred on the morning of the 12th. On the occurrence of this mishap, a part of the crew and all the passengers were sent ashore. Captain Bursley and thirteen of his men remained on board, determined not to leave the ship while there was the remotest chance of saving her. On the following morning, the 13th, the ship floated off Blackwater Bank, and bore away before the wind, and struck on Arklow Bank, where she afterwards went to pieces, and sad to relate, Captain B. and twelve of the noble band who determined to see the last of their ship, met a watery grave. At the time the passengers left the ship, her situation seemed to be utterly hopeless—the hold was full of water, and the sea making a clear sweep over her. It was with extreme difficulty and peril that the passengers and seamen were passed into the boats—the sea beating with dreadful violence on the banks. The passengers were unable to take anything out of the ship, except the clothes they had on at the time. The boats happily succeeded in reaching the shore, although with extreme difficulty, as they were seven miles or more from the land. Capt. B's. son, who was on board the ship, up to the time she struck on Blackwater Bank, is a passenger on board the Europa.

The Foreign news is almost devoid of interest.

In France business progresses slowly in the Legislative Assembly. The Budget is still in committee.

The war against the press continues.—The *Reforme* has been suspended, and *La Presse* seized.

The weather throughout France and especially in the south has been more rigorous than for many years. The Buenos Ayres expedition is said to be abandoned.

PRUSSIA.—The threatened dissolution of the cabinet appears to have been averted by some compromise. The King comes down disposed to take the oath of the constitution. The *Erfurt* parliament is declared to be an imperious political necessity for Prussia.

WIRTEMBURG.—In Wirtemberg there appears to be a rising opinion favorable to Russian influence.

The Hanoverian Chamber refuses to recognise the central commission of Austria and Prussia.

A constitution is recommended for Germany.

AUSTRIA is occupied with numberless constitutions for her provinces. The Provincial diets were to be convened in October, and that of the empire will assemble in 1851.

ROME.—It is said that want of money prevents the Pope from returning to his capital, and that France has offered funds to His Holiness. The Archbishop of Bourges is stated to be the bearer of this offer made in the name of the French episcopacy.

SARDINIA.—The Sardinian Chamber of Deputies has approved the treaty of peace, concluded at Milan between the Piedmontese and the Austrians. It is expected the Senate will also approve it.

At Berlin, negotiations for the treaty of peace with Denmark have been renewed.

The Russians having resumed diplomatic relations with the Porte, it is expected that the Austrians will not be slow to follow.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE NEWS ROOM.]

The Europa had no passengers for Saint John.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 26.—*Pine Timber.*—Stock of Pine is large. Sales of the month consist of two cargoes Quebec, at 13½d. and a cargo of Restigouche, at 12½d. No late sales of St. John Planks—latest sales, one cargo of Spruce, one of Pine, at £7 11s. 6d. per Standard; cargo of Shippegan Yellow Pine, £8 per Standard.—*Boards and Scantling*—import largely exceeds last year, so also the consumption. Last sale—Boards at 1 1-16d. per foot; Scantling at £7 per Standard. *Birch*—prices rule firm; demand good for fresh and good qualities.—Last sale St. John, with cargo, at 13d. per foot, and a part at 18d. per foot.

SHIP NEWS.

Arrivals from St. John.—Jan. 11th, Argo, at Clyde; 22d, Lord Fitzgerald, at Galway; 23d, Britain Queen, at Yarmouth; Deva, at Gravesend; 24th, Olive, at Liverpool.

Sailed for St. John—Jan. 20th, Princess, from Liverpool; 23d, Oromocto, from Hull.

MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—The annual meeting of the Mutual Insurance Company was held at the Mechanics' Institute on Monday evening, the 4th instant. The Secretary, agreeable to the Bye-Laws of the Company, submitted his Annual Report, by which it appeared that the number of unexpired risks on the 31st Dec. (to which period the accounts are made up) exceeded that of any previous year. The losses during the past year amounting to £1777 12s., with all other claims against the Company, had been promptly and satisfactorily adjusted. The Report was adopted, and the following Gentlemen elected Directors for the present year:

Joseph Fairweather, S. L. Tilley,
Thos. M. Smith, Jos. W. Lawrence,
and Z. Ring.

At a meeting of the Directors, held the following day—

Joseph Fairweather, Esq. was chosen President;

Isaac Woodward, Esq. appointed Secretary, and J. M. Robinson, Esq. Solicitor.

The Company made a liberal donation of Ten Pounds, towards purchasing a new Fire Engine for No. 5 Volunteer Company.

With reference to the annexed documents, we are desired to say that Mr. Archibald's letter to Messrs. Brown and McGrath, with the accompanying Address, was received at the time, but the public duties of one of the gentlemen prevented its being attended to, till Thursday last week, when they waited on Dr Waddell with the Address.

The papers were then handed to us for publication, but not having room for them in our columns of last week, we have much pleasure inserting them now.

Truro, January 16th, 1850.

GENTLEMEN,—I am solicited by the subscribers to the accompanying address, to request you—the one a native, the other some time a resident of the County of Colchester—to present to Dr. WADDELL this testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by those among whom he formerly resided. Feeling assured it will afford you pleasure to be the channel by which a well merited compliment is conveyed to our fellow-countryman, who has lately taken up his residence in a sister Province,

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
Your's, respectfully,
A. G. ARCHIBALD.

MESSRS CHARLES BROWN and JOHN MCGRATH,
St. John, N. B.

TO JOHN WADDELL, Esquire,
Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London.

DEAR SIR,—

Your recent acceptance of an Office in New-Brunswick, rendering it necessary for you to reside in that Province, your numerous friends and acquaintances in the County of Colchester are unwilling to lose the opportunity afforded by your removal to the sphere of your new duties, to give expression to the feelings of respect and esteem which they entertain for you.

To many of us you have been known from your early youth: all of us have enjoyed your acquaintance for some years; and it affords us great pleasure to assure you, that the energy and ability you have displayed in the discharge of the civil and professional duties incident to your position, the undeviating probity and integrity which have characterized your business transactions, and the zeal with which you have devoted yourself to the advocacy and promotion of such institutions as you considered conducive to the best interests of society, have not been observed by us without producing sentiments of more than ordinary respect.

With these principles to guide you in the new position to which you are called, we feel that we may reasonably anticipate for you a fair measure of success.

Accept, dear Sir, for yourself and your family, the assurance that it will at all times afford us gratification to hear of your welfare.

Truro, 16th December, 1849.

Charles Blanchard, *Sheriff of Colchester.*	William Cutten, J. P.
A. L. Archibald, M.P.P.	Duncan Black, J. P.
A. G. Archibald, *Judge Probate.*	David V. Crowe, J. P.
Thos. I. Brown, J. P.	Daniel Morrison, J. P.
Samuel Muir, M. D.	John I. Baxter, *Presbyterian Minister.*
John Dixon, *Curate of St. John's, Truro.*	Henry Wiswell,
Thos. C. Leaver, A. B.	John Goudge,
D. B. Lynds, M. D., J. P.	J. F. Blanchard,
James Bayne, *Presbyterian Minister.*	James K. Blair,
George Duncan,	Richard Christie,
Thos. M. Crow, *County Treasurer.*	J. W. Teas,
S. Archibald, *J. Peace.*	Robert Henesy,
Charles Tucker,	A. C. Soley,
E. S. Blanchard, J. P.	John Kent,
J. Marsters, *Master Ex. in Chancery.*	James Thompson,
Isaac Rayne, J. P.	Jas. B. McNutt,
J. R. Dodson, J. P.	Thomas Johnson,
George Yuill, 2d,	James A. Cutten,
Charles B. Archibald,	Peter S. Smith,
J. D. McNutt, *Barrister.*	Winkworth A. Sharp,
John Dickson, J. P.	David Page,
A. Campbell, *Custos Rotulorum & M. L. C.*	Andrew Moore,
Silas H. Crane, J. P.	Wm. McLeod,
William Faulkner, J. P.	Geo. Reading,
Alex. Kent, J. P.	George Blanchard,
M. D. McCurdy, J. P.	John Waller,
Benjamin Tupper, J. P.	David McCurdy,
David Fulton, J. P.	David C. Wilson,
Wm. Rutherford, J. P.	Richard Craig,
Wm. Byers, J. P.	Thomas Pearson,
James Dickson, J. P.	Abner Doggett,
Robert Hamilton, J. P.	James Kent,
A. D. Morrison, J. P.	Wm. McCulley,
E. F. Munro, *Barrister.*	J. B. McCulley,
Isaac Logan,	Alexander Kent,
Jos. Dickson, J. P., C. P.	Chas. H. Blair,
W. C. Eaton,	Isaac McCurdy, J. P.
John B. Woodworth,	Joseph Crow,
William McNutt,	Charles D. Upham,
Donald Ross, J. P.	John Pearson,
James Moore, J. P.	H. Hyde,
	Jno. Ross,
	J. Ambrose,
	Robert Smith,
	Isaac N. Archibald,
	John Gammel, 2d.

GENTLEMEN,—Have the goodness to communicate to Chas. Blanchard, Esquire, Sheriff of Colchester, and other friends there, the following reply to the address of which you have very kindly permitted yourselves to be the channel of conveyance. JNO. WADDELL.

Messrs. Brown and McGrath.

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you most cordially for the complimentary address that has just been presented to me: coming as it does from those who best know me—my old acquaintances and kind friends in Colchester—I esteem it of greet value.

It is gratifying to me to learn that the duties arising from the various relations in which I have had the honor to stand to society in my native County, have been discharged in such a manner as to meet with your approval; and it is peculiarly pleasing to know that my humble efforts to promote the welfare of those institutions having for their object the advancement of the best interests of society, are by you so highly appreciated.

I beg to assure you that the principles by which I have hitherto been governed shall be my guide still; and I need hardly inform you that while the duties of my new position require in their discharge my highest mental energies, that at the same time they afford an am le field for the culture of the best feelings of my nature. You may rest satisfied that I will spare no exertions to accomplish at least all that you anticipate for me—"a fair measure of success."

Permit me gratefully to acknowledge your kind expression of good wishes for myself and family. In their absence I think that I may be justified in saying that it will be our united and earnest endeavour to sustain by our future conduct that place in your affections which it has been our happiness already to secure.

In conclusion allow me to say that it will always afford me a high degree of pleasure to be informed of your individual prosperity—associated with the prosperity, in all its interests, of the beautiful County of Colchester.

JNO. WADDELL.

St. John, N. B., January 31, 1850.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Mr. Duval lectured at the Hall on Monday evening last, on the Common School system of the New England States. The Lecturer stated, that he had visited them last Summer, and was much pleased with what he had seen: he had made a special report to his Excellency on the subject. In his Lecture, he shewed many of the advantages attending their system of supporting the schools by direct taxes levied and expended by the respective districts. They had a much superior class of teachers than we have in this Province, and are much better paid: the people having to pay for education, take care that they derive the advantages of it, and they also see that the teachers are properly qualified persons. He also mentioned, that female teachers, properly trained and educated, were much in requisition there; their services being secured at a much lower rate than those of male teachers; and in the case of Primary Schools, many people being of opinion that the females were much more suitable. The School Houses he described as being handsome buildings in the large towns; and the furniture of an elegant description, each boy being accommodated with a desk and an arm-chair; the most of the schools being also provided with pianos; and all this at the public expense. We are scarcely prepared, however, to recommend the introduction of such extravagancies into this Province; but we should like to see a more efficient system of education adopted here, something similar to that in practice in the State alluded to.

The concluding portion of Mr. Duval's lecture, having particular reference to our own Province, we procured it for publication, and will insert it next week.

On Monday evening next, Mr. John McLardy will lecture, at the Institute, on "*Human Progress.*"

THE WEATHER.—We have had a few days unusually cold this week, much colder than any we have had during the winter. In this City, last Tuesday evening, the thermometer ranged from 17° to 20° below Zero; and in Fredericton, on the same day, it is stated to have been from 32° to 35° below Zero. After this intense cold had lasted for three days, it moderated on Thursday morning, since which time it has been delightfully mild, almost like summer. We must lay out, however, for a few more cold days yet before the winter is over.

AN INQUEST was held before James Wetmore, Esquire, Coroner, on the 1st inst. on view of the bodies of Eliza Lindsay and Nancy Jordan, found on the ice, between Mr. B. Appleby's ship yard, Kennebecasis, and Long Island, so called, supposed to have been frozen on the night of the 30th January. Verdict of the Jury—"That the deceased, Eliza Lindsay, came to her death under the influence of liquor, and by excesive cold and fatigue; the latter, Nancy Jordan, supposed to have been assisting the former, became fatigued, and excessive cold was the cause of her death." Mrs. Jordan has left a husband and family; Mrs. Lindsay was a widow woman, and has left three young children. They both resided on Long Island, and were on their way home from the City, when overtaken by an awful death.

The following is a copy of an official Despatch received by Lord Elgin, from the Home Government:—

Colonial Office, Downing Street,
London, Jan. 9, 1850.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to acknowledge your despatches of the dates and numbers quoted in the margin. I have laid these despatches before Her Majesty, and also the Address of the Warden Councillor of the Municipal Council of the Gore District; the Address of the Lieutenant-Colonel and Officers of the first and eighth battalions of the Dorchester Regiment of Militia; the Address of the Officers of the first batallion of the Kamouraska Regiment of Militia; the Address of the inhabitants of St. Anne; and the Address of the Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding and other Officers of the Quebec Regiment of Militia—all enclosed in the 2d and 3d of these despatches—which Her Majesty has been pleased to receive very graciously.

It afforded Her Majesty great satisfaction to receive the expressions of that loyalty and attachment to the British Crown, which she trusts is generally felt by her Canadian subjects.

With regard to the "Address of the people of Canada," in favor of severing the Province from the British dominions for the purpose of annexation to the United States, which forms the subject of these addresses and your despatches, I have to inform you that Her Majesty approves of your having dismissed from her service those who have signed the document, which is scarcely short of treasonable in its character.

Her Majesty confidently relies upon the loyalty of the great majority of her Canadian subjects, and she has therefore determined to exert all the authority that belongs to her, for the purpose of maintaining the connexion of Canada with this government, being persuaded that the permanence of that connexion is highly advantageous to both countries.

Your Lordship will therefore understand that you are commanded by Her Majesty to resist, to the uttermost of your power, any attempt which may be made to bring about the separation of Canada from the British dominions; and to mark in the strongest manner Her Majesty's displeasure with all those who may directly or indirectly encourage such a design.

And if any attempt of this kind should take such a form that those who are guilty of it may, (according to such advice as you may receive from your legal counsel) be made responsible for their conduct in a Court of Justice, you will not fail to take the necessary measures for bringing them to an account. I am, &c. GREY.

By Telegraph to the News Room.

BOSTON, February 7.

The Steamer Empire City, arrived at New-York last night, with 2,100,000 dollars in gold, and 270 passengers.

The Oregon, from San Francisco, brought $1,129,227 in gold dust, on freight, to Panama; and the trunks of her passengers might have contained at least another million of dollars.

Several steerage passengers are known to have had in their possession $10,000 a piece, and sums of two, five, ten, twenty and even fifty thousand dollars lined the trunks of others.

A destructive fire occurred 24th Dec., which threatened for a time to reduce San Francisco to ashes, caused destruction of a million and a half dollars worth of property.

At Stockton a destructive fire took place 24th Dec., destroying $150,000 worth property.

LUMBER, 200 to $275 per thousand. The fires at San Francisco and Stockton had a tendency to increase prices of building materials.

The Gold accounts continue good.

Jan. 1.—Pine Timber, $175 a $200; Scantling, $300 a $325; Potatoes, $3 a $3 20 per bushel; Shingles $28 a $30.

FIRES.—On Tuesday, 5th inst., a dwelling house at St. Stephens, N. B., occupied by three or four families, was entirely consumed by fire; and sad to relate, an old lady named McGeorge, was burnt to death. The fire originated in her apartment, from what cause is not known.

On the same night, two buildings were burned at Ellsworth (Me.), in one of which the town records were all destroyed.

Explosion, Fire and deplorable Loss of Life.

The boiler connected with the large printing-press manufactory of Alva B. Taylor, No. 7, Hague Street, adjoining Hull & Son's Soap Factory, exploded at twenty-five minutes before 8 o'clock this morning, with most disastrous effect. The entire building, which was of brick, and seven stories high, was instantantly razed to its foundations, burying in the ruins, a large number of the workmen, many of whom were killed outright.

It had been much less disastrous had not the flames broke out in the ruins, which, despite the efforts of the firemen, still continue to advance, and no doubt, numbers have been literally roasted to death by a slow fire. The groans of the sufferers, some of whom could be distinctly seen, were truly agonizing.

The quantity of rubbish and brick which covered them (the walls having fallen into the interior of the building) was so great that the task of removing it seemed hopeless. Numbers of the firemen, however, plied themselves with energy an effected the rescue of several individuals. In the meantime, a consultation was held by the Mayor with the Chief of Police, and under the authority of the latter, some 100 men were brought up from the Wharves, and set to work.

The conflict between the fire and water is absolutely appalling. The poor victims are heard now crying to the firemen to throw on water to counteract the growing heat,—now to desist to save them from being deluged and drowned.

It is supposed that about 100 men were in the building at the time of the explosion, a large proportion of whom are missing. Though many of them are still able to converse, giving directions to the firemen as to the quantity of water proper to be thrown on, their condition approaches desperation.

The explosion was powerful as to blow out a portion of the front wall of Hull's Soap Factory, adjoining, sixty feet distant.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Feb.* 4.

NEW YORK MARKETS, Feb. 6; 2, P. M.—*Flour.*—Common grades are buoyant, sales 1000 brls. at $4,87 a $5 for common to straight State, and $5,44 a $5,56 for Genesee; Southern is pretty firm, and in fair demand for export, sale 500 brls. at $5,16 a $5,32. *Cornmeal*, nominal, $2,87 a $2,94. *Grain.*—There is no change to notice in our wheat market; holders are pretty firm, stock being small. *Corn* is in fair demand, and not plenty, at 57 a 59½c. for yellow Southern, and Jersey at 62½c. for handsome white Northern; sales come up to 10,000 bushels at quotation. *Provisions.*—A limited demand for Pork at $13 for new mess, and $340 for prime; old nominally the same. Beef is heavy at $5.75 a $6 for prime, and $8,50 a $8,62 1-2 for country mess. Lard is in good demand: sales 100 bbls. at 6 5-8.

Miss Magee, and Mr. J. H. Waugh, Mr. Shcraton of