Communications.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

MR. EDITOR,—The House of Assembly being now in session, a more favourable opportunity to represent the grievances of the people, cannot be chosen than the present moment. I have been somewhat astonished at the silence of the press of this City on the question of the late Enactments of the Legislature relative to the Fire district. I am aware, Sir, that the petition from the Citizens to that body was premature and ill-digested, and it is to the hurry of the moment, and the excitement then prevailing, rather than a disposition to oppress the oppressed, that I attribute the Legislative misnomer that then occurred. Had time been given for our Representatives to have "read, marked, and inwardly digested" the public mind on the occasion of the late great calamity, another and a very different result would have been arrived at by that body. When, Sir, I contemplate the sufferings and misfortunes of the owners of properties in that section of the City, over which the destroying angel had swept his devastating wings; when I picture to myself their houselessness and desolation, I cannot but feel persuaded that our Representatives must and will sympathize with and assist them from out of the public coffers, which are now yielding Scripture measure, "full to the brim, and running over." How then, Sir, can I, or any one possessing the milk of human kindness, realize the idea of a body wise and just, as are the people's choice, passing an enactment that would rend from them (the sufferers) the last fragment of their remaining hope, their houseless lots, and sell them at the hammer to realize a sum of money for the beautifying of the city, and for the accommodation of the whole country!! It cannot be, I cannot believe it; our Representatives are men, and possessed with human hearts. They surely will not sacrifice the unfortunate, they will not beat into the dust the bruised reed. Let them consider how justly, how liberally they have acted on former occasions, and let them now "go and do likewise." When the Mill Bridge was widened, a circumstance which enhanced the value of property in that vicinity, they conceiving it to be a great public improvement, and a benefit both to Town and Country, did as a natural and a very proper consequence, come forward and meet the Common Council half way, with a grant which reflected honor on their judgment and justice. They did not then, as *now*, ask the proprietors of the soil to contribute £6 per running foot for enhancing the value of their property. Dock Street then is a continuation of the same great thoroughfare, and will we feel assured, be improved on the same footing and from the same funds, and the more especially and justly will our Representatives feel themselves assured in so doing, when they reflect that the poor man who has lost his *all*, and must, if he venture to build on the ashes of his former property, mortgage the soil to enable him to erect for his shivering family a shelter from the pittiless storm.

That the street should be widened, is admitted on all hands, but that the price of it should be the ruin of the sufferers, is too revolting to bear reflection.

The City of St. John furnishes at least one half of all the taxes of the Country, and maintains also one half of the paupers of the whole Province. How then, I would ask, can any member of that House (the Assembly) raise his voice against a grant to the People who so mainly contribute to the Public Revenue? A CITIZEN.

St. John, Feb. 1. 1840.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1840.

EMIGRATION TO THE COLONIES.

If we may judge from the prominent place which this subject occupies in all the British Journals and periodicals of late, and the talent displayed in discussing it, we may reasonably conclude that it has become matter of very great interest with the people of Great Britain, and that the spirit of emigration has been fairly roused among them. The Colonial Gazette of 20th November says,—

"The Elizabethan spirit of Colonization has revived in our day. A disposition to emigrate now prevails, more or less, among all classes, excepting the very rich; and the younger sons of even the richest men, and of persons of rank, are no longer ashamed to seek fortunes in the Colonies. This change of feeling, or fashion, has taken place in the course of less than ten years. The effects of the new disposition of the higher classes to rely on their own exertions, rather than on the public purse, and to imitate the gentry of another age, by settling in the Colonies, will supply those countries with capital, and far more easily with laborers. More easily for three reasons—first, because the emigration of capital provides immediate employment for those laborers who choose to emigrate along with it; secondly, because Hodge and his wife cannot doubt that the country to which my lord's or the squire's son is going, must be a good country to go to, however distant; and thirdly, as respects the Colonies where this system (the South Australian) is adopted, the purchase of waste land by the emigrant capitalist pays for the passage of the poor emigrant laborer. As respects South Australia, the land may be bought here, whereby the purchaser entitles himself to a free passage for the laborers that he wishes to take with him. This plan directly promotes the emigration both of capitalists and laborers, just the two classes whom it is most useful for a Colony to receive."

The same paper remarks that nearly all the colonies of modern Europe, exhibit one common feature, which is described by either of the relative and convertible terms "redundancy of land" or "scantiness of population." It lays down as a principle, that wherever property in land can be very easily acquired—where, in one word, land is very cheap—there it has ever been impossible to produce much wealth, except by means of some kind of slavery. It then proceeds as follows:

"The reason is sufficiently plain. Land being very cheap, nearly every head of a family obtains land of his own; and thus the whole labour of the community is not only cut up into fractions no larger than the number of hands in a family, but is employed in the very same occupation. Hence two evil consequences in particular. Although the labour of a single family, when employed on very fertile land, returns a course abundance for all the hands at work, it produces little more; and when all the members of a society work at the same occupation, and of course produce the same things, they have no motive for exchanging the products of their industry. In such a community there is little combination of labor in each work, a very small surplus produce, if any, over what keeps the producers in a rude plenty, little or no division of employments, scarcely any trade, and finally social monotony and stagnation.—Lord Durham draws the picture of such a community. Speaking of the "country district" of both Canadas, New-Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, he tells us of 'a widely scattered 'population, poor and apparently unenterprising, though hardy and industrious, separated from each other by tracts of intervening forest, without towns or markets, almost without roads, living in mean houses, drawing little more than a rude subsistence from ill-cultivated land, and seemingly incapable of improving their condition.'"

The Colonial Gazette inclines to the opinion that in the whole Colonial Empire of Great Britain, (on whose prosperity, the Editor affirms, her own is essentially dependant), there is not a sufficiency of population to insure the greatest productiveness of industry, or even, now that slavery is abolished, to present such a condition of society as Lord Durham says he beheld in the wilds of Canada. And there are some very able remarks on the plan of securing the services of immigrants as labourers for hire, by means of enhancing the price of land throughout the Colonies. Without some measure of that kind, it would be idle to introduce labourers, because if land remained as cheap, as easy of acquisition as it is at present, the immigrants would not labour for hire, but would occupy and cultivate land, each family by itself and on its own account, and the means of surplus production for external commerce would be in no degree augmented.

Since last year much highly valuable information has been collected, as to the evils which result from excess of land, or deficiency of people in these British North American Colonies. Upon the evidence taken by Lord Durham's Commission relative to the economical wants of British North America, and the means of supplying them, the Commission formed a plan of emigration from the Mother Country, of which the High Commissioner speaks in the following terms;

"If that plan, or any other founded on similar principles, should be adopted by Your Majesty and the Imperial Legislature, I do firmly believe that an impulse will be given to Your Majesty's North American possessions, surpassing what their most sanguine well wisher, if unacquainted with the facts, would be capable of imagining, and more calculated than any other reform whatever to attach the people of British North America to Your Majesty's Throne, and to cement and perpetuate an intimate connexion between the Colonies and the Mother Country."

Blackwood's Magazine for December, under the head of "Colonial Neglect and Foreign Propitiation," has a very long and ably written article respecting Emigration and the Colonies generally, in which some very surprising statistical facts are brought forward to show their great importance to the Mother Country. The article begins thus—

"Among the various and pressing interests, the consideration of which is now brought home to the British Empire, there is none which is of such paramount and growing importance as the extension of our Colonial Empire, and the securing of our connexion with it. The more minutely and anxiously that our social condition at home is considered, the more it will be found that the maintenance, not only of our domestic prosperity, but of our National independence, is entirely dependent upon promoting the growth and maintaining the connexion with our Colonies; and that our trade with other countries, so far from being a source of strength, may at once be converted into the greatest cause of weakness on the next occasion in which this country is engaged in a maritime contest."

Some very striking facts relative to Colonization were brought forward by Mr. Sheriff ALISON, at a dinner given upon the occasion of the embarking of the first Emigrants to New Zealand, at Glasgow, and the writer in Blackwood quotes very liberally from this interesting Speech, which he says exhibits in a more striking light than has yet been done, the incalculable importance of the British Colonies, not merely to the extension, but to the independence and existence of the Mother Country. We give the following as a specimen of Sheriff Alison's speech, and regret that want of space precludes our giving more:

"Let us no longer strain after the impracticable attempt to disarm the commercial jealousy of the European States; but, boldly looking our situation in the face, direct our main efforts to the strengthening, conciliating, and increasing of our Colonial Empire. There is to be found the bone of our bone and the flesh of our flesh. There are to be found the true descendants of the Anglo-Saxon race; there the people, who, already imbued with our tastes, our habits, our artificial wants, must be chained for centuries to agricultural or pastoral employments, and can only obtain from the Mother Country the immense amount of manufactured produce which their growing wealth and numbers must require. So strongly, gentlemen, am I impressed with these principles—so clearly do I see the future path traced out to England, not less by her duty, than her interests, that there is no one circumstance in her present condition, not even those which are most justly considered as pregnant with danger and alarm, that may not be converted into the source of blessings, if a decided and manly course is taken by the Nation and its Government in regard to its Colonial interests. Indeed, so clearly does this appear, that one is almost tempted to believe that the manifold political and social evils of our present condition, are the scourges intended by Providence to bring us back, by necessity and a sense of our own interests, to those great national duties from which we have so long and so unaccountably swerved. Are we oppressed with a numerous and redundant population? Are we justly apprehensive that a mass of human beings, already consisting of five-and twelve millions, and multiplying at the rate of a thousand souls per day, will ere long be unable to find subsistence within the narrow space of these Islands? Let us turn to the Colonies, and there we shall find boundless regions, capable of maintaining ten times our present population, in contentment and affluence, and which require only the surplus arms and mouths of the parent State, to be converted into gigantic Empires, which, before a century has elapsed, may overshadow the greatness even of European renown. Are we justly fearful that the increasing manufacturing skill and growing commercial jealousy of the Continental States may gradually shut us out from the European market, and that our millions of manufacturers may find their sources of foreign subsistence fail at a time when all home employments are filled up? Let us turn to the Colonies, and there we shall see Empires of gigantic strength rapidly rising to maturity, in which manufacturing establishments cannot for centuries take root, and in which the taste for British manufactures, and the habits of British comfort are indelibly implanted in the British race. Are we overburdened with the weight of our poor rates and the multitude of our paupers, and trembling under the effect of the deep-rooted discontent produced in the attempt to withdraw public support from the maintenance of the adult and healthy laborer? Let us find the means of transporting these healthy workmen to our Colonial settlements, and we shall confer as great a blessing upon them as we shall give a relief to the Parent State."

A new periodical has recently been started in London, entitled "The Canadian, British American and West Indian Magazine," a large portion of the pages of which is devoted to the subject of Emigration. In one of the first articles the editor says, that the interest in emigration as a National question, is so much on the increase, and from its immense importance, politically and economically, is creating so much attention, that he can render no better service than to give currency to facts and opinions bearing upon and illustrative of the subject theoretically and practically. But on a careful examination of the first six numbers, which are now before us, we find that all the information relative to emigration is wholly confined to Upper Canada, and the superior advantages of that North American Colony over all others are painted in very glowing colors. New-Brunswick is scarcely noticed except in one short article relative to the establishment of the Mechanics' Institute in this City, the moral effect of which is descanted upon and much good predicted as likely to flow from it. Another short notice speaks of the Geological survey of the Province as having developed vast sources of mineral wealth, which would undoubtedly be of great advantage to the country; but of the capabilities of New-Brunswick for improvement, or the prospect it offers to intending emigrants, nothing is said. The Editor has clearly mistaken the title of his work, and should amend it by shortening the appellation to that of "The Upper Canada Magazine"—at present he sails under false colors.

We shall probably recur to this subject again, and give some more extracts from the great number and variety of well written articles which have lately reached us; meantime we recommend a perusal of the article in Blackwood to all who feel an interest in the welfare of these Colonies.

We were much gratified in learning from the Secretary of the New-Brunswick Auxiliary Bible Society, that His Excellency Major General Sir JOHN HARVEY, our much esteemed Lieutenant Governor, has voluntarily requested his name to be placed on the list of subscribers to that Society, for *Five Pounds annually*.

The Hon. Thomas Baillie, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Surveyor General of this Province, having resigned, the Hon. Mr. Shore is, we understand, attending to the duties of that office. It is stated that the Hon. John Simcoe Saunders has been recommended to the Home Government for the situation.

The *British Queen* had not arrived at New York up to Tuesday morning last.

The speeches His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, and the answers of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, will be found in succeeding columns—they will doubtless be read with much pleasure and satisfaction by the inhabitants of this highly favored Province.

The Hon. Messrs. Chandler and Robertson were the committee of Council, and Messrs. J. R. Partelow, L. A. Wilmot, and End, the committee of Assembly, to prepare the addresses in answer to His Excellency's speech.

A letter from His Worship the Mayor to Major Brookes, enclosing a Resolution of the Common Council, expressing the thanks of that body for the very excellent services rendered by the Officers and Men of the 69th Regt. at the recent Fires in this City, and Major Brookes' Answer, were handed us at too late an hour for insertion to-day. The documents shall have a place in our next paper.

We learn that the Rev. I. W. D. GRAY, A. M. has been appointed Rector of this Parish, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Doctor GRAY, who retains the situation of Chaplain to the Garrison, and we are informed will be a visiting Missionary in this Province.—*Gazette.*

The Court of Nisi Prius terminated its sittings on Friday last. There were 73 cases on the docket for the term, and several criminal cases.

ANOTHER FIRE.—About 4 o'clock, on Friday morning, a new two-story House in Carmarthan street, unfinished and unoccupied, owned by Mr. G. T. Ray, was discovered to be on fire, and before the progress of the flames could be arrested, was destroyed, together with an adjoining small front building, occupied as a tavern, &c. by Mr. T. A. Glennie, and a two-story House in the rear, occupied by Price Thomas and others, owned by Mr. G. Scribner. The fire is supposed to have been caused by some dissolute female characters who at present infest the city to an alarming degree. The Military, as usual, were early on the spot, and rendered essential service, as did also a number of active citizens. Fortunately the night was mild and copious showers of rain having fallen some hours before, a partial supply of water was at once obtained in the streets, which was of great use in preventing the fire from communicating to the surrounding buildings—but a further supply was necessary.

One of the Fire Engines was taken to the Reservoir of the Saint John Water Company, at a short distance from the fire, a hole was made in the roof of the building, and a suction pipe lowered into the water. This effected, and the engine being put in operation, and the hose led to the fire, so abundant was the supply of water, and so constant the stream thrown upon the flames, that they were in fifteen minutes much diminished, and by half an hour, it was apparent that no other buildings than those actually in flames would be lost.

It affords us sincere pleasure to hear that the Committee of the Common Council, appointed to report upon the condition of the City, in respect to Water for the use of its inhabitants, (Messrs. Porter, Humbert, and VanHorne,) have given in a report, advising that the operations of the Water Company shall be extended thoughout the City, under the guarantee of the Corporation in regard to the Interest of the funds to be furnished by the Water Company in such undertaking; and also, that, upon the urgent recommendation of the Grand Jury, on this subject being read in Common Council, His Worship the Mayor was added to the above stated Committee, in order to prepare a Bill and Petition to the Legislature, in accordance with this measure, to be forwarded as soon as prepared.

This is as it should be: the City may do without many improvements for years to come; but a supply of water for the health, comfort, safety and convenience of its inhabitants can no longer be delayed, and since the poor of the City must have places to resort to, where they may procure water *gratis* at all times, we rejoice that the supply is to be under the guardianship of the Corporation, in place of any other body of men or individuals.—*Courier.*

MURDER!—An Inquest was held on Wednsday last before Dr. W. Bayard, Coroner, on view of the body of *Jane Wise*, who was found dead that morning in St. James' street, Lower Cove, with marks of violence on her head sufficient to cause her death. After a patient examination the Jury returned a Verdict of *Wilful Murder* by some person or persons unknown. The deceased was an elderly female, latterly, it is said of loose habits, and the night previous had been at the house of a black man named *Burr*, where one of those midnight orgies, which, we understand, are prevalent in the outskirts of the city, was held, and at which some of the youths of the town were present. Some of the party left the house between eleven and twelve o'clock, soon after which she also went out, and is said not to have been again seen by the inmates until found the next morning. We have not heard that any reward has been offered by the authorities for the discovery of the murderer, but we trust that the police are secretly making exertions to arrest and bring to punishment the perpetrator of the deed, for although the deceased may have led a disgraceful life, yet justice demands that her murderer should not escape with impunity.—*Ib.*

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Dr. GESNER delivered an excellent Lecture on Monday evening last, *On the influence of Mechanics' Institutes upon society.* The subject was treated in the most eloquent manner, and the account of popular superstitions and the appeal in behalf of the aborigines of the country, with a few specimens of their language, translated into English, were peculiarly interesting. The members of the Institute no doubt feel grateful to this Gentleman for his promptness under a short notice, and his willingness to serve them.

The Rev. Mr. ANDREW will commence a course of Lectures on Astronomy on Monday evening the 10th instant.—*Ib.*

Mr. Foulis gave a Lecture last night at the SCHOOL OF ARTS, on Oxygen and its combinations, and illustrated the subject in his usual happy style of experimental exhibition. Mr. F's. explanations were plain & lucid—calculated to instruct as well as please.—*Ib.*

Mr F's. next Leeture was announced for Friday Evening, when the action of the Compound Oxyhydrogen Blow Pipe will be exhibited.

SHIP CANAL,

For uniting the Waters of the Bay of Fundy with those of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

At a meeting of persons interested in the projected undertaking, held at the Court House at Amherst, on Friday the 17th January, 1840, JOSHUA CHANDLER, Esq. High Sheriff of Cumberland, in the Chair, *it was Resolved*—

That Share Lists should be opened for subscription.

That a General Meeting should be held at this place on Saturday the 15th of February next, at Two o'clock in the afternoon, at which all persons interested in the concern are requested to attend, to adopt measures for forming a Company, pursuant to the Act of the Province of Nova-Scotia for that purpose.

That the Hon. J. S. Morse, R. B. Dickey, W. W. Bent, M. Gordon, and I. Woodman, Esquires, be a Committee for preparing a Prospectus of the Company, to be submitted to the Meeting.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

Fredericton, N. B., 28th January, 1840.

This being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor came in state to the Council Chamber, and having commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly, His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following SPEECH:

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

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

"When I reflect upon the many unequivocal manifestations on the part of the inhabitants of this loyal Province, of their anxious desire and firm determination to remain in indissoluble connexion with that glorious country, 'Our Parent State,' under the shadow of whose protecting power they feel themselves in the enjoyment of a degree of rational liberty, which has probably never been attained under any other than British institutions,—it is with, if possible, an increased degree of pride and satisfaction, that I again meet you in Provincial Parliament for the purpose of co-operating with you, as the Representative of a gracious and beloved Sovereign, to whom the happiness and prosperity of all classes of Her subjects are dear, in the consideration and adoption of such measures as may, in our concurrent judgment, tend to increase that happiness—to promote that prosperity, and to call forth the varied resources of this highly favored portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

"Upon the actual condition of the Province, I rejoice in being enabled to offer you my hearty congratulations; its Trade, and consequently, its Revenues and Financial affairs are flourishing beyond any former period. The unavoidable increase in the expenditure of the past year, owing to the proceedings of a neighbouring State, has been happily met by a corresponding increase of the Revenue; accordingly, I have the satisfaction of informing you that every demand upon the Provincial Treasury, arising out of the emergency to which I have adverted, has been fully met, under your appropriation, by the *Surplus* Revenue of the current year, without imposing upon me the necessity of disturbing those for other services. The product of the Harvest, though not perhaps quite equalling the sanguine expectations which were at one time entertained, has yet been such as to leave our valuable agricultural interests without any reasonable ground of complaint,—in a word, there is nothing in the internal condition of the Province to cause regret, nor any thing in its external relations to excite uneasiness or alarm.

"I now proceed to advert to the ordinary business of the Session, and I know not that I can do this better than by recalling to your consideration some of the topics referred to in my Address to you at our last Annual Meeting,—adding such observations as change of circumstances may appear to render necessary or expedient.

"With regard to the "Great Roads," my impression remains unchanged as to the advantage of committing the care and superintendence of them, if only as an experimental measure, to Salaried Officers appointed by and responsible to the Executive Government, as the best mode which has occurred, or has been suggested to me, of ensuring uniformity in the system of their construction and repair, as well as economy in the outlay connected with this very important branch of the Public expenditure: With regard to that leading to Lower Canada, I invite your attention to the Report from the Supervisor which will be laid before you, and by which you will, I trust, find that the sum which your liberality placed at my disposal for the improvement of that very important Line of Communication, has been usefully and judiciously expended, and the views and recommendations of Her Majesty's Government, with reference to the proposed improved Post Communication between England, Halifax, and Quebec, so far carried out:—A further appropriation will, however, be requisite for the completion of this Road, as well as in aid of the passage of the Mails across the Bay of Fundy—which I accordingly reccommend to your favorable attention.

"With reference to the "Coast and Harbour Fisheries," I have received from the zealous and intelligent Naval Officers, who have been lately employed in their protection, several valuable practical suggestions, which shall be communicated to you, and I rely upon your extending to this valuable branch of the Provincial Resources, all due encouragement and protection.

"A Despatch from Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary of State will be communicated to you, upon the subject of an Exploration by a properly qualified Civil Engineer, of the best line for a Canal to connect the Bay of Fundy with the Gulph of St. Lawrence. On the subject of the Expense which may attend this exploration, I am ready to communicate with his Excellency the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governors of the Sister Provinces, should such be your wish.

"The Representations which have reached me from the Sheriffs, as well as the inmates of some of the Prisons of the Province, have induced me to institute Enquiry, which has satisfied me that their improvement, as well as that of the conditon of the incarcerated Debtor, calls for the interposition of a humane Legislature—Documents connected with these views will be laid before you.

"Persuaded as I am, and as is the Queen's Government, that in no part of Her Majesty's North American Colonies are the interests of the Aboriginal Inhabitants of the country more humanely attended to than in New-Brunswick, is is only necessary for me to remind you, that the present season has been hitherto adverse to their pursuits, and to recommend them to your compassionate Protection.

"I feel that I ought not to refrain from again inviting your attention to those Interests upon which the ultimate Prosperity of New-Brunswick appears to me to depend, in a far higher degree than either upon its Timber or Mineral Treasures, valuable and apparently exhaustless as are the latter—I refer to those of Agriculture;—of the most proper mode of giving encouragement to these Interests you will yourselves be the fittest judges.

"As intimately connected with this subject, I would request your attention to a communication which has been addressed to me by an Association composed of Individuals of high station, wealth and influence, called the "North American Colonial Association of Ireland,, (and of London), who profess themselves desirous of acquiring Land in this Loyal Province, and of co-operating with its Legislature and its Government in the introduction into it of a valuable class of settlers, under fixed and well considered Regulations, and upon receiving from the Province such reasonable aid and encouragement as it may be disposed to offer in promotion of this most important object. The high price of labor, owing to the insufficiency of its labouring Population, which prevails throughout the Province, is confessedly cramping the enterprise and exertions, and otherwise operating most injuriously upon its Commercial and Agricultural Interests, and this consideration would alone appear to me to offer sufficient inducement for entertaining a proposition which I understand to go to the extent of insuring a regular and adequate supply of that valuable Class of our fellow Subjects, to whom encouragement and assistance is proposed to be given to enable them, whenever so inclined, to settle upon Lands of good quality to be previously selected and purchased by the Association for that purpose. I cannot too strongly recommend this proposition, and the subject of "Immigration" generally, to your serious and favourable attention, under the conviction which I feel that by no other measure can the prosperity of the Province be more certainly and rapidly advanced, than by the judicious outlay of capital in the introduction of a respectable class of Emigrants.

"I have deemed it to consist with my duty to the Province, to cause several of our frontier battalions of Militia to receive a certain degree of training, during the past summer, which has been done in a manner highly creditable to the officer whom I selected for the performance of this useful service.—Five thousand of our militia have had the benefit of this training—and I rely upon your liberality to enable me to continue a system of instruction which, while it affords satisfaction and confidence to the militia themselves, has the effect of greatly increasing the efficiency of that loyal, brave, and constitutional force,—for a limited number of which I have also felt it proper to cause Provision to be made of a suitable Uniform Clothing of good quality, in order, in the event of any emergency occurring, to guard against the inconvenience and suffering to which some of them were exposed last winter.

"There are other matters upon which I will communicate with you by Message.

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

"I have given directions for full and detailed Accounts of all Receipts of the Public Revenues, as well as of the Expenditure under the Acts of Appropriation and otherwise, to be laid before you, and I rely with unabated confidence upon your disposition to make all due provision for the exigencies and probable contingencies of the Public Service during the ensuing year.

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

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

"I will not conclude this Address without expressing to you the confident expectation which I entertain that the result of the exploration of certain parts of the Disputed Territory which has been recently made by Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty for that purpose, will enable Her Majesty's Government to advance such propositions to that of the United States, as the basis of the settlement of the momentous question involved, as must lead to its early, amicable and final adjustment. In the mean time I would express my hope that sentiments of moderation and forbearance may prevail on either side."

Legislative Council Chamber, January 29.

The following Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech was approved of by the House; and the Hon. Messrs. Chandler and Robertson appointed a Committee to wait upon His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, to know when the Council would be received with their Address.

To His Excellency Major General Sir JOHN HARVEY, *Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, and Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

The Humble Address of Her Majesty's Legislative Council in General Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council in General Assembly, beg leave to express to your Excellency, our best thanks for your Excellency's Speech at the opening of the present Session.

We rejoice to learn from your Excellency that the Revenues and Financial Affairs of the Province are flourishing beyond any former period, and that the increased and unavoidable expenditure, caused by a recent emergency, has been fully met by the increased Revenue of the current year.

While offering the assurance of our gratitude for the happy internal condition of the Province, we desire to express the great satisfaction with which we receive your Excellency's assurance, that there is nothing in its external relations to cause uneasiness or alarm.

We are fully impressed with the importance of the subject of *Great Roads*, especially the proposed improved Post communication between Halifax and Quebec, and we assure your Excellency that we shall not fail to give our earnest attention to the Report of the Supervisor of that Road, which Your Excellency has been pleased to say shall be laid before us, and we shall cheerfully concur in any further appropriation which may be required for the completion of this Road, as well as in aid of the passage of the Mails across the Bay of Fundy.

We thank your Excellency for the assurance that information shall be communicated to us upon the subject of our *Coast and Harbour Fisheries*, and your Excellency may be assured that any measure calculated for the protection and encouragement of this important branch of the resources of the Province, will receive our cordial concurrence.

We desire to express our satisfaction for the information that the subject of the Canal to connect the waters of the Bay of Fundy with those of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, has engaged the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and we thank your Excellency for the assurance that the despatch from Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary of State upon the subject of an Exploration, by a properly qualified Civil Engineer, of the best line for this Canal, shall be laid before us. Viewing this undertaking as of great National importance, we confidently anticipate that the neighbouring Provinces, aided by the Home Government, will cheerfully contribute towards the expense of such survey and exploration.

We duly appreciate the humane consideration which induced your Excellency to institute enquiries into the state of the Prisons of the Province, and fully agreeing with your Excellency that the subject calls for the interposition of the Legislature, we shall not fail, seriously to deliberate upon any provisions which may be proposed for their improvement.

We regret that the present season has hitherto been adverse to the pursuits of the Aboriginal inhabitants of the Province, and we feel the propriety of still extending to them the compassionate protection of the Legislature.

We are fully sensible of the paramount importance of affording every protection and encouragement to the Agriculture of the Province, and we beg to express our full concurrence in the opinion so often impressed upon us by your Excellency, that the permanent prosperity of the Province depends in a much greater degree on the success of its Agriculture than upon either its Timber or Mineral resources.

Connected with these views we shall not fail to give every attention to the subject of *Immigration*, as brought under our notice by your Excellency; convinced as we are that the introduction into the Province of a respectable class of emigrants from the Mother Country will tend more than any other measure, rapidly to advance its best interests.

We are happy to learn from your Excellency that the training of several Frontier Battalions of Militia during the last Summer, has been conducted with so much success, and we shall cheerfully co-operate in any measure having for its object the discipline and efficiency of that loyal and constitutional force.

We beg leave to express the gratification which we feel at the announcement of your Excellency's confident expectation that the recent exploration of certain parts of the Disputed Territory will enable Her Majesty's Government to advance such propositions to that of the United States as must lead to an early, amicable and final adjustment of this momentous question; meanwhile we participate in the hope expressed by your Excellency, that on this subject sentiments of moderation and forbearance may prevail on either side.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, THURSDAY, Jan. 30.

This day at 2 o'clock, the House of Assembly, with the Speaker at its head, went up to Government House, with the following Address:—

To His Excellency Major General Sir JOHN HARVEY, *Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, and Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New-Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

The Humble Address of the House of Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

"We, the Representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the people of New Brunswick, thank your Excellency for your speech at the opening of the Session.

"While we feel secure in the enjoyment of a degree of rational liberty, which can only be attained under British institutions, we are happy to assure Your Excellency of the unalterable determination of the inhabitants of this Province to preserve, as far as in them lies, their connexion with the Parent State, and of our desire to co-operate with Your Excellency in the adoption of such measures, as may tend to increase the happiness, promote the prosperity, and call forth into vigorous action, the various resources of this highly favoured portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

"Your Excellency's assurances of the state of the Province, both as regards its internal condition and its external relations, cannot fail to produce joy and satisfaction throughout the whole land; and we are happy to learn that the pecuniary aid so cheerfully contributed by the Colonial Legislature, for the preservation of national rights, have been applied without prejudice to those domestic appropriations, to which the Provincial Revenues have hitherto been exclusively devoted.

We shall continue to devote our best attention to that very important branch of the public expenpiture, *the improvement* of the Great Roads, and shall attentively consider the recommendation of Your Excellency on the subject. We receive with much satisfaction, the information afforded by your Excellency, that the amount placed at your Excellency's disposal for the improvement of the great road to Lower Canada, has been usefully expended, and it will be our earnest endeavour liberally to promote the views and recommendations of her Majesty's Government, by facilitating the communication between the North American provinces, now rendered so particularly necessary by the improved post communication between England and Halifax.

We shall be happy to receive any practical suggestions on the subject of the coast and harbour fisheries; and we beg to assure your Excellency, that every reasonable encouragement and protection in our power, shall be extended to this inexhaustible source of national greatness.

The connexion of the Bay of Fundy with the Gulf of St. Lawrence by means of a canal, is a project of such importance, both in a national and provincial point of view, that we shall feel obliged to your Excellency for any information thereon; and we sincerely hope that immediate and successful efforts for the execution of this great public work, will be made by the Sister Provinces, conjointly with ourselves, on a scale commensurate with the magnitude of the undertaking.

The state of the provincial prisons, we well know requires improvement, and we are therefore prepared to give our cordial assistance, in devising and establishing such plans and regulations for their future government, as may be best calculated to remove all existing causes of complaint.

Under the influence of that humane disposition, which has always actuated the Legislature, the aboriginal inhabitants of the country shall have our favorable attention; and we shall willingly adopt any measure that may be suggested, for ameliorating the condition of that unfortunate race.

The continuing and permanent prosperity of this Province, is so inseparably connected with its agricultural interests, that we shall at all times diligently apply ourselves to the favorable consideration of every question which may come before us for the support and advancement of so important a branch of domestic industry, and as proof of our sincerity we are ready to hold out a very reasonable inducement for the promotion of immigration, an object so desirable both to the commercial and agricultural interests of the Province.

The communication promised by your Excellency, from the North American Colonial Association of Ireland and London, on this subject, shall receive our attention.

It affords us much gratification to hear of the success which has attended the training the frontier battalions of Militia, during the past summer; and entertaining the most unlimited confidence in your Excellency's supervision and management of this loyal force, we shall cheerfully do all in our power to enable your Excellency to continue the system of instruction already established. Connected with this subject, we have no doubt, that the provision made by your Excellency of suitable uniform clothing, to be used in the event of any emergency occurring, has been judicious and necessary.

We thank your Excellency for having directed the public accounts to be laid before us; and your Excellency may rely with confidence upon our disposition to make all due provision for the exigencies and probable contingencies of the public service.

An early and amicable, but at the same time *just* settlement of the boundary question, has long been most anxiously looked for by the people of this Province; and trusting that the results of the recent exploration, may be such as will conduce to the attainment of that desired object, we humbly respond to your Excellency's hope, that in the mean time sentiments of moderation and forbearance may prevail on either side.

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following Reply.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

I thank you for this loyal and dutiful Address. The assurances which you give me, that my suggestions will receive your favourable consideration, are highly acceptable to me, and afford me the most gratifying conviction that our joint labours for the general good, will not be ineffectual.

It was resolved in the Assembly on Tuesday, "that no petition be received, or bill brought in after the twentieth day of February next, except by special leave of the House."

An application has been made to the Assembly from King's County, for the re-payment of the cost incurred in the trial and execution of certain murderers, during the last summer, amounting to £167 4s. 10d. The petition was ordered to lie upon the table, and will probably be referred to a committee, who will consider the subject as it affects the other counties of the province.

On Wednesday, upon motion of Mr. Woodward, the following motion was agreed to: "Whereas a committee was raised at the last session, to whom was referred the several petitions of individuals, praying for return of duty on articles destroyed by fire on the 17th August last, reported on the 18th September, and in their report recommended "That the return duties prayed for should be granted to such of the petitioners as should on an investigation at the present session, appear to be entitled to the same; therefore resolved, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the said petitions, as well as such others as may be presented at the present session, of the like nature, and investigate the same and report thereon. Messrs. Woodard, End, Rankin, McLeod, and Weldon, committee.

Mr. Wilmot brought in a bill yesterday to amend the charter of King's College.—*Fredericton Sentinel.*

TAX ON WILD LANDS.—Mr. Fisher has introduced into the House of Assembly a Bill to impose a Tax on all Wild Lands in the Province, of which we have been favoured with a copy. The late hour at which we received it, precludes our giving it entire, and we have only space to state briefly, that the Bill proposes levying a tax on all wild lands already granted, excepting only lots of two hundred acres, or less, on which the proprietor resides, or of which, in case of non-residence, he shall have enclosed and cultivated at least ten acres. The tax to be due on the 10th May in every year, and if not paid, the lands to be advertised and sold—the tax to be paid over to the Commissioner of Roads, to be expended on the highways of the Parish where the Lands are situate.

This proposition being an entirely novel one in this Province, requires serious consideration, and will no doubt bring forth some animated debates. We have only time to give our readers the earliest information of the proposed measure.

On Saturday the House went into Committee on the general state of the Province, and passed a resolution to pay off £5000 of the funded debt of the Province.—*Halifax Times.*

THE NORTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY.—We learn from the National Gazette that an express from the Govenor General of Canada with despatches for the British Minister at Washington, arrived at Philadelphia on Monday evening in the very short time of five days from Toronto, U. C. and proceeded to Washington in the rail-road line at eight o'clock on Tuesday morning. It is presumed that the North-Eastern Boundary question is the matter in question.—*New-York New World.*

In the U. S. Senate on 17th ult. Mr. Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, spoke as follows on the Boundary question:—

"Allow me, said Mr. B. to make one general remark before I take my seat. I am very apprehensive that we may have serious difficulties with the British authorities before the close of this controversy. My earnest desire is, therefore, that our proceedings may be marked with such justice, moderation and firmness as to justify us in the eyes of all mankind. A contest must be avoided if this be possible consistently with the national honour; and then, if it s hould be forced upon us, we shall be a united people."

The tone of these remarks coming from so staid a man as Mr. Buchanan, is, we confess, of a nature to excite apprehension. In the language of the National Intelligencer, "We had hoped—nay, we still *hope*—*better* things. We cannot bring ourselves to believe that the dispute upon this point can be carried to extremities between two nations having the good feeling towards each other which the People and Governments of Great Britain and the United States now really have."

NORTH EASTERN BOUNDARY.—On the 23d Jan. the Vice President presented to the Senate after the reading of the journal, a message from the President of the United States in relation to the boundary question, and in answer to the resolutions of inquiry adopted by the Senate last week.

The Message was made up of a correspondence between the Secretary of State, the British Minister and the Governor of Maine.

The message has excited some interest, from the fact that the Secretary of State demands the enforcement of the agreement between General Scott, the Governor of Maine, and the Lieutenant Governor of New-Brunswick.

The British Minister, in his letter to the Secretary of State, did not feel authorized to command the withdrawal of the troops; but he says he has laid the application before the Home Government. Mr. Forsyth expects that the Home Government will see the necessity of complying with the terms of the agreement, and that the troops will be withdrawn.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

The Maine Boundary.—