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The Garland.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Short is our stay on this terrestrial ball,
And numerous are the shafts of ill we feel;
But, yet, how happy is the fate of all,
Who do to Christ their numerous wants reveal.

Not much we know of life, before our eyes,
Much less of things to come, than of the past;
Great God, command us hence, not by surprise,
Support us, through the Saviour, to the last.

On thee affix our wandering souls, while here,
Our false ambition to be great, not good;
Bring every mind to exercise thy fear,
And let thy word by each be understood.

Goodness is greatness—not the good man's lot—
The stubborn will how little is inclined;
Greatness allures, while goodness is forgot.
Almighty Sov'reign, heal the canker'd mind—

Increase our faith, our hope without alloy,
Thenceforward come, to cheer our fainting mind;
To animate the feeble strings of joy,
Thy word in mercy rich thou hast designed.

St. John, Feb. 5, 1831. C. J.

MISCELLANEA.

Devastations of the Ocean.—"Proofs of the great power of the waves of the sea in removing masses of rock of enormous weight, are found in the Shetland Isles, which are both battered by the waves of the Atlantic, and ground down by a strong current. A block of nine feet by six, and four feet thick, is described by Dr. Hibbert as having been, in the winter of 1818, hurried up an acclivity to the distance of one hundred and fifty feet, with many other equally striking facts of the same nature. Indeed, the erosive force acting on the western coasts of Britain and Ireland is far more powerful than that which attacks the other side; though the coast being composed of harder rocks, the degradation is perhaps not so rapid. The remarkable ragged sea line of the western isles, the Shetlands, Orkneys, and the west coast of Scotland and Ireland, as well as of Norway, is no doubt chiefly attributable to their exposure to the violence of the westerly swell of the Atlantic, and the equally powerful north-west current that sets directly against them. Hence these coasts are worn to a mere skeleton, the hardest rocks offering the longest resistance, and projecting in bluff capes and islands, or clusters of needle-shaped rocks, the last shreds of masses once continuous. Even these appear, from the observations of Dr. Hibbert, to suffer perceptible degradation by almost every storm. We learn from the same source that lightning co-operates on this coast with the violence of the ocean in shattering solid rocks, and heaping them in piles of enormous fragments both on dry land and beneath the water.

"In the isle of Sheppey fifty acres of land, from sixty to eighty feet above the sea, have been swept away within the last twenty years. The church of Minster, now near the coast, is said to have been in the middle of the Island only fifty years ago; and it is computed that, at the present rate of destruction, the whole of the island will be annihilated in another half century! The tradition that the Goodwin Sands were once the estates of Earl Goodwin, points, no doubt, to the former existence of an island or extension of the coast in that direction, which, like Sheppey, has been washed away; and the idea of the former union, of England with France, gains an appearance of probability from the proofs of rapid degradation still occurring on our coasts, collected by Mr. Lyell. —The French side of the channel is equally corroded by the violence of the great tidal current which flows up this passage in the manner of a vast river."—*London Quar. Review.*

Money Speculations.—We believe at no period of the history of the world were money speculations pushed to such an extent as they have been of late years in England. The following has been reported to us as a specimen of the scale on which great houses do business. The firm of Rothschild held, it is said, previous to the commencement of the fall in the English Funds, the enormous sum of three millions of 3 per Cents; and to their holding that large amount is chiefly to be attributed the steadiness of the Funds previous to the breaking out of the French Revolution. Allowing a fall of only 5 per cent, on that sum, the firm must have lost by the late changes, in one item of their accounts, no less a sum than £150,000. But this is a trifle compared to the sums lost on every description of European Stock—on the Prussian Funds, for the conversion of which Mr. Rothschild had contracted—on the French loan, which was wholly his own, and which has been at a discount ever since it was brought into market. The amount of all these we have heard stated at above a million sterling! If we could credit this, how immense must be the resources of a House which not only bears up under such losses, but whose commercial credit they do not in the slightest degree affect!—*Spectator.*

The difference between rising at five and seven o'clock is the morning, for the space of forty years, supposing a man to go to bed at the same hour at night, is nearly equivalent to the addition of ten years to a man's life.—*Doddridge.*

Good manners is the art of making easy those people with whom we converse—whoever makes the fewest persons uneasy is the best bred in the company.—*Swift.*

There is not so variable a thing in nature as a lady's head dress. Within my own memory I have known it rise and fall within thirty degrees.—*Addison.*

Learning is like mercury, one of the most powerful and excellent things in the world in skilful hands; in unskilful, the most mischievous.—*Pope.*

The mind is not a barren soil; a soil which is soon exhausted, and will produce no crop, or only one, unless it be continually fertilized and enriched with foreign matter.—*Sir J. Reynolds.*

Those who attempt to level, never equalize. In all societies consisting of various descriptions of citizens, some description must be uppermost. The levellers, therefore, only change and pervert the natural order of things; they load the cellars of society, by setting up in the air what the solidity of the structure requires be on the ground.—*Burke.*

UNITED STATES.

Extracts from the Message of Governor Throop, to the Legislature of New York—1831.

"Our municipal laws have been relieved from much which belonged to a less enlightened age; the severity of our criminal code has been materially mitigated; large provision has been made for public education, and our canals, dispensing their benefits through various channels, are evidence that an enlightened spirit of public improvement has guided our counsels.—There is yet, however, much to do; and all these subjects will require your ceaseless exertions.

"To what extent the industry of the country may be facilitated by the expenditure of money on works of public utility, depends essentially upon the condition of the treasury, and our means for producing a revenue. Under no form of Government can a people be happy and prosperous, if a careless and prodigal use of the treasures and credit of the state is indulged.

"No government can be administered without money, and the means of defraying its expenses, must in some shape be furnished by those for whose benefit it is administered. It therefore becomes necessary to consider from what sources our exhausted treasury can be replenished. This involves an inquiry into the means placed at the disposal of the legislature for that purpose.—These means are taxation, or loans on the credit of the government. If money is borrowed, the interest must be paid, and eventually the capital. If in addition to the current annual disbursements, the money to pay the interest on previous loans must also be borrowed, it is obvious that with compound interest there will be a rapid accumulation of debt, and the public creditor will ultimately require some further security for his loans, than the credit of the State. Such measures would result in impaired public credit; taxation could not long be delayed; and it is to be feared, that when it becomes necessary to levy upon the people the amount of the current expences, together with the interest accruing upon debts incurred for the expences of preceding years, swelled by compound interest, the taxation will be found burthensome and may become perpetual.

"There is no mystery in financial operations, save what ingenious men have found necessary to throw around them, to conceal their own measures from the public knowledge. What would be said of a farmer who should thus manage his private concerns, and trust to borrowing on the credit of his farm, for the annual expenses of his living, instead of deriving support from it by his earnings?

"It is an extraordinary fact, and shews the evils which a maladministration may bring upon a community, that the period of time, which enlarged the constitutional privileges of the English people, gave birth to legislative measures, which drew a new distinction between the people, and divided them into public creditors and labourers. All the wealth of the nation has been grasped by the comparatively few holders of government stock, and the privilege to support them by the earnings of their labour, is nearly all that has been left to the many.

"It is a plausible doctrine, which has been urged with some success, that it is no matter how much money is expended by government, provided it is employed upon suitable enterprizes for improving our internal condition; because the money remains among the people, and gives them employment.

"This is indeed true, when the money is disbursed from a full treasury. But when the money expended, is borrowed of individuals on legislative security, and interest is to be paid for its use, to be collected by taxation, upon the annual products of the labor of the people; the money may remain among us; the aggregate wealth of the country may be increased; but it is unequally divided; an undue proportion goes into the hands of the few who monopolize the stock, while the remainder of the people are impoverished by the operation.

"Internal improvements by means of canals and rail roads, have become fixed objects of legislative care, and are among the most interesting subjects which will claim your attention.—Their influence in diversifying the pursuits of labour, and equalizing the value of its products, in adding to individual and aggregate wealth, stimulating enterprize, and binding society together in ities of amity and interest, is not only acknowledged in theory, but has been practically demonstrated by our experience.—These considerations will induce you to examine with industry and lively solicitude, into the means within your control of their future prosecution.

"Our country is peculiarly well adapted to the construction of canals and rail roads, and affords in all directions, from its excellent soil, its forests and its mines, those ponderous productions, which owe most of their value in market, to the cheapness of transportation. Each of these modes of communication has its peculiar merit, and is yet susceptible of much improvement.—It remains to be seen what elevations of surface may be overcome by stationary power, as part of the line of a canal, an improvement deserving more attention from those conversant with such subjects, than it seems to have received.

"Experiments made in England, during the past year, with locomotive engines, upon a rail road between Liverpool and Manchester, have produced results more favourable than were anticipated. Loaded carriages now pass regularly between those cities at the rate of 18 miles an hour. Indeed light carriages have been moved with a rapidity which almost exceeds belief. An enterprising company is now constructing a rail road between this city and Schenectady, which as a specimen of such works and as affording means to judge of their usefulness and cost, will be of great public advantage. It will probably be finished during the present year.

"While canals peculiarly adapted to the transportation of bulky articles, may be made in suitable situations, rail roads, on account of their fitness for rapid transmission, to operate at seasons when canals are useless, and perhaps to overcome elevations insurmountable by them, will no doubt, in future times, be extensively distributed throughout the state.

"In determining upon the expediency of beginning any new work, it will be proper to consider its public benefits, its probable returns of revenue, and the means of the state. If the State possesses funds for the object, without imposing any burthens upon the people, it will be sufficient to look at its bearings upon the public prosperity, without reference to revenue. If the state should not be in that condition, then it is a necessary preliminary to ascertain, with considerable exactness, that it will contribute, in tolls, will be set to pay for necessary repairs and attendance, the interest of the debt to be created on its account, and within a reasonable time, the principal. If it will not do this, then your duty requires you to determine whether the people will consent to be taxed to make up the deficiency of its revenue, and if so, to impose such a tax, contemporaneously with the act authorizing its construction.

"The canal debt amounted on the first day of January instant, to 7,825,035 dollars.

"The tolls received upon the Erie and Champlain Canals during the past year, will amount to about the sum of 1,027,327 dollars.

"There are nine thousand and sixty-two school districts in this state, and eight thousand six hundred and thirty have made returns according to the statute.—One hundred and ninety new districts have been formed during the year, and the number which have made returns has increased three hundred and thirty eight in the same period. There are in the districts from which reports have been received, four hundred ninety seven thousand five hundred and three children between five and sixteen years of age, and four hundred ninety-nine thousand four hundred and twenty-four scholars have been taught during the year in the common schools of the state; the general average of instruction having been about eight months. The returns show an increase of children between five and six ears, compared with the preceding year, of twenty-four thousand one hundred and ninety four, and an increase of the number instructed, of nineteen thousand three hundred and eighty three scholars.

"The public money apportioned among the several school districts, during the past year, amounts to two hundred thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and thirteen dollars. Of this sum, one hundred thousand dollars was paid from the state treasury, and the residue was derived from a tax upon the several towns, and from local funds possessed by some of them. In addition to the public money, there has been paid to teachers by the inhabitants of the districts three hundred forty six thousand eight hundred and seven dollars, making a total of five hundred & eighty-six thousand five hundred and twenty dollars, paid for teachers wages alone, in the common schools of the state.

"The prison at Auburn, contains 558 cells in its north wing, and had, on the seventh day of December last, 613 convicts.

"The prison at Sing-Sing, contains 800 cells, and had on the 24th day of Dec. last, 806 prisoners, having increased 228 during the last year. Of these 114 have been received from the city of New York alone.

"I am not able to state the amount of the earnings of the convicts at Sing-Sing, nor to compare it with the expenses for their support. But I learn from the agent of the Auburn prison, that he will not find it necessary to apply for any appropriation from the treasury.

"Our laws relative to imprisonment for debt should be carefully examined for the purpose of amendment. The notion of imprisonment, in the nature of punishment for debt, is repugnant to humanity and condemned by wisdom.

"Imprisonment for debt should be tolerated so far only as is necessary to enable the creditor to secure the property of his debtor. In respect to debts of large amount, ample provisions, beyond the reach of the smaller debtor, seem to have been made; for it is provided that whenever a person considers himself insolvent, he may, on application to a proper officer, and due notice to his creditors, assign over all his property, and obtain exemption from arrest or imprisonment."

Our whole navy force, building and launched, consist of 12 ships of the line, 16 frigates, 16 sloops of war, and 7 schooners, making 51 sail; mounting in all, probably, 2,300 guns.—Of these, 1 ship of the line, 4 frigates of the first class, 1 frigate of the second class, 12 sloops of war, 4 schooners, in all 22 sail, are in commission.—*New-York paper.*

COLONIAL.

PARLIAMENT OF LOWER CANADA.

Quebec, Monday, Jan 24, 1831.

The serious indisposition of His Excellency Lord Aylmer, prevented his attendance to open the Legislature to-day.

Tuesday, Jan. 25.—Mr. Secretary Glegg, at three o'clock, informed the House which had met, that His Excellency would be ready to open the Parliament the following day at two o'clock.

Wednesday, Jan. 26.—This day, at the appointed hour of two o'clock, the Legislative Council and the Assembly both went up to the Chateau St. Louis from their places of sitting, and the Assembly received from the Governor in Chief the command to elect their Speaker, to be presented for approbation to-morrow at one o'clock.

The Assembly having returned to their room, Mr. Bourdages, senior, moved, seconded by Mr. Cuvillier, that L. J. Papineau, Esq., Member of the West Ward of the City of Montreal, be Speaker of the House, which was agreed to *nem. con.* The House then adjourned to to-morrow at one o'clock.

Thursday, Jan. 27, 1 P. M.—Both Houses of the Legislature attended at the Chateau St. Louis, when the Honble. the Speaker of the Legislative Council, in his Excellency's name, approved of Mr. Papineau as Speaker, with the usual formalities. His Excellency then read his Speech to both Houses, on opening the First Session of the Fourteenth Provincial Parliament of Lower Canada, as follows:—

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

The convening of a New Provincial Parliament, which has been rendered necessary by the death of His late Majesty, and my own recent appointment to this Government, are circumstances which would have made it desirable to call you together at an earlier period; but I have been induced to defer doing so until the corresponding season of last year's meeting, under the impression that was thereby more effectually consulting your personal convenience.

The loss which His Majesty, and the Royal Family, and the whole of His Majesty's subjects have sustained by the demise of His late Majesty, will, I doubt not, have been the cause of grief, to His Majesty's faithful Canadian subjects.

My inexperience in regard to the local concerns of this Province does not, as yet, permit of my directing your attention to any particular object connected with its internal improvement; but I can assure you that I am now, and have been ever since my arrival amongst you, diligently employed in acquiring such information on these points, as may, I trust, enable me hereafter to offer some useful suggestion for your consideration.

There is, however, one subject to which I wish briefly to advert, I mean the Currency, and I do so merely, for the purpose of informing you that I am in possession of some further information on that subject, which shall be placed at your disposal in the event of your taking up the consideration of it again.

I had entertained a hope that I should have been enabled to lay before you some communication from His Majesty's Government upon the question of Finance which has occupied much of the attention of the legislature of this Province, but not having it yet in my power to do so, I think it necessary to apprize you that I have reason to know that the unavoidable pressure of public business incidental to the death of His late Majesty, and the change of Administration which has recently taken place in England, have interrupted the progress of measures contemplated by His Majesty's Government on that subject.

These measures, I have every reason to believe, will soon be brought to maturity. In the mean while it may be satisfactory to you to learn, that His Majesty's Government is deeply impressed with the necessity of an immediate and satisfactory adjustment of the question to which I have alluded, and I am sanguine enough to hope that the instructions which I am led to expect, will be calculated to prevent the chance of future collision on this subject.

Under these circumstances you will, I trust, see the necessity of making some provisional arrangement for meeting the expenditure of the Government, upon the assurance that His Majesty entertains an earnest desire to see the financial concerns of the Province placed without loss of time upon a footing, which may be at once compatible with the exigencies of the public service, and with the wishes and feelings of His Majesty's faithful subjects in Lower-Canada. His Majesty has no desire to call upon them for any supplies beyond such as may upon full consideration be found essential, His Majesty having no object more at heart than the comfort, the prosperity, and the happiness of a people who are endeared to him by many ties, and whose growing importance in all the relations of the British Empire, His Majesty fully appreciates.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

The accounts of the past year are in a forward state of preparation, and I have every reason to believe that they will be ready to be laid before you previous to the expiration of the period fixed by Legislative regulation for the production of the public accounts.

An estimate of expenses for the ensuing year is also in preparation, and will shortly be ready to be submitted to you.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

The accession of His Majesty King William the Fourth, and His Consort Queen Adelaide, an event which has filled with joy the heart of every British subject, affords an opportunity of expressing those sentiments of loyalty and attachment to the Reigning Royal Family, by which His Majesty's faithful and Loyal Canadian subjects have ever been distinguished.

Were I to consult my own inclination on the present occasion, I should avoid saying any thing regarding myself personally. But, appearing before you, as I now do, for the first time, I think it necessary to detain you a few minutes longer while I express the deep sense I entertain of the importance of the arduous duties which the King has been graciously pleased to confide to me; and though personally a stranger to this part of His Majesty's Dominions, I am, nevertheless, fully aware of the nature and extent of the difficulties by which those duties are surrounded.

How to surmount the difficulties to which I now allude, shall be the object of my constant study, and conscious of my own deficiencies I will endeavour to supply my want of ability for the task, by a strict and steady adherence to those principles of justice and impartiality which I am quite sure will never mislead me.

It may be, that my efforts are not destined to be crowned with success: I will, at least, endeavour to deserve it.

In conclusion: It is worthy of observation that your present meeting is marked by peculiar circumstances. You are now for the first time, called together under the authority of His present Majesty King William the Fourth, and the popular Branch of the Legislature which has been considerably extended by a late Legislative enactment, assembles now, also, for the first time with its augmented numbers.

These circumstances, Gentlemen, constitute the commencement of a new era in your Parliamentary History: an era, which I do most earnestly hope may be distinguished by that harmony and good understanding between the several Branches of the Legislature, which is an essentially necessary to give full effect to the advantages of the Constitution you have the happiness to possess, and for the preservation of which, as by Law established, it is, I am well convinced, equally the interest of every Canadian subject of His Majesty to pray fervently to Almighty God.

Quebec, January 27.

We regret to state that His Excellency the Governor in Chief has been indisposed since the middle of last week, since which he has been confined to the Chateau, and for the four last days to his bed. His illness is supposed to have been contracted while walking, an exercise to which he is partial, and which he daily took, extending his walks some distance out of town. We are sorry to learn that Lady Aylmer is also indisposed.

With duties so arduous as those of a Governor of this Colony on the opening of a new Parliament, and the strong disposition in His Excellency to perform them with perfect fairness and to the satisfaction of the public, His Excellency's illness has given rise to a general feeling of condolence.

January 31.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government will be sworn in as Governor in Chief as soon as his health will permit it. His Excellency's health has so far improved that it is understood the oaths will be administered to-morrow or Wednesday.

The rumour which we mentioned some time ago that two or three of the Members of the Assembly were likely to be called to the Executive Council, gains strength, and we have reason to believe that it is now entitled to some credit.

The Address of the House of Assembly in answer to the Governor's Speech was agreed to on Saturday. The question to re-expel Mr. Christie is to be debated to night.

Montreal, Jan. 20.—We understand that a General Court Martial is ordered to assemble at York, of which His Excellency Sir John Colborne is appointed President. It is not yet known with any certainty who is to be brought before the Court for trial, but the matter for examination is supposed to be of a grave nature, from His Excellency being named as their President.

The following is the number of Indians in Upper Canada:—Delawares 200, Chippeyways 260, Mohawks on Grand River 200, River Credit 220, Lake Simcoe 500, Rice Lake 300, Grape Island 130, Mohawks elsewhere 250, Kingston Indians 100, number supposed to be in the western part of the Province 850. Total 3010. On an average each family is composed of four individuals.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.

OPENING OF THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

Fredericton, Monday, February 7th, 1831.

The Members began to assemble between 10 and 11 o'clock, A. M. but it was nearly 1 P. M. when the whole House was convened.

At 10 minutes before 1 P. M. 26 members being present, the Hon. Judge Bliss entered the House of Assembly, and immediately proceeded to administer the oaths to the Members; who, after severally subscribing the same, took their respective seats.

Precisely at half past 2, (the hour previously appointed,) His Honor the President arrived; and immediately after, the Usher of the Black Rod summoned the Members of the Lower House to attend his Honor in the Council Chamber.

On the return of the Members to their own house, they proceeded to the election of a Speaker.

Mr. Allen rose, and briefly proposed Charles Simmonds, Esq. a member for the County of St. John, as a fit and proper member to be the Speaker of that House. From the gentlemanly, honorable, impartial and able manner in which that gentleman had formerly filled the chair, and from his known integrity of character and uprightness of deportment, he (Mr. A.) trusted that he was every way qualified to become again the head of that house.—Mr. Dow seconded this nomination.

Mr. S. Humbert spoke a few words in commendation of the candidate, and stated his conviction that it would be to the interest of the House to call him to the chair. On the question being put by the Clerk of the House, the *Ayes* were found to be 12—viz Messrs. *Partelow, Ward, S. Humbert, Barlow, Gilbert, Harrison, Hayward, J. Humbert, Allen, Slason, Dow, Taylor*; upon which

Mr. Wyer rose, and proposed as the Speaker of that House, Edward B. Chandler, Esq. an Hon. and learned Member for the county of Westmoreland. As a Member of the learned profession, he would, in his (Mr. Wyer's) opinion, fully fill the chair, and as a man of talent, integrity, and independence, he would do honor to it.—Mr. Conard seconded the nomination of Mr. Chandler, and briefly added a few words in favour of the nominee. On the Question being put, the *Ayes* were found to be 17—viz Messrs. *Crane, Smith, Scott, Ford, Weldon, Conard, Miles, Vail, Wyer, Brown, Hill, Clinch.*

The House being thus equally divided, Mr. Allen moved—That this House do adjourn till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning; which motion was seconded by Mr. S. Humbert.

Considerable desultory argument now took place between the Members, as to the propriety of adjourning.

Dr. Smith contended that till a Speaker was elected, the Members were not a House; which argument was seconded by Mr. Crane.

Mr. Wyer rose, the Clerk of the House, reminded the Members that the same question could not be brought forward again on the same day, and that, therefore, if the House were not adjourned, it must sit till the following morning, before the election of a Speaker could be renewed. Mr. Scott considered it quite advisable to adj.

Mr. Ford insisted that the House had no right to adjourn, till they had elected a Speaker.

Mr. Simmonds contended for the adjournment.

Mr. S. Humbert also argued for the adjournment, on the ground that though the body was without a head yet that it still was a body; the House being to all intents and purposes a House, and so styled in His Honor the Presidents' precept for the election of a Speaker, although no Speaker has yet chosen, & therefore, having a right to adjourn under the present circumstances, Mr. H. also contended that the House were not commanded *forthwith to elect a Speaker*, but *to elect a Speaker*, and, having so done, *forthwith* to *present* him to His Honor the President; and he insisted that it was advisable for the Members to retire from the House, in order to consult how to act in this emergency.—Mr. Taylor and Mr. John Humbert also advocated the adjournment.

After much uninteresting disquisition on this subject, the question was put and carried by a considerable majority, and a message was accordingly forwarded to the Council Chamber to inform His Honor of the adjournment of the House until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Some few Members then left the House, but shortly after the House was summoned to the Council Chamber, where His Honor commanded them to proceed to the election of a Speaker at 12 o'clock to-morrow.—House accordingly adjourned, about 4 o'clock.

Tuesday, February 8.

The Members began to meet at 10 A. M. but it was past 11 before the business of the House commenced.

The Journal of the preceding day was then read; upon which considerable discussion took place among the members, as to the propriety of recording on the Journals the Message of his Honor the President, and the attendance of the House upon his Honor accordingly, after the House had formally adjourned.

Mr Simmonds rose, and stated that as the Journals then stood, it would appear that the House had no right to adjourn. Whether the House had or had not a right to adjourn before they had elected a Speaker was a very important question. It was very easy to give up a right, but not so easy to regain it when ceded. He therefore contended that the House possessed that right of adjournment under the circumstances, and quoted a case from the Journals of the House of Commons, in support of the position. There was no doubt whatever in the matter. In the absence of a Speaker, the House could do no business whatever, and the only alternative was to adjourn. The Hon. Member wished that the Journal could be so amended as that it should appear that the House had formally adjourned of its own right. He was unwilling to give up any right of the House. They were most undoubtedly a House assembled at Fredericton according to proclamation for the dispatch of business, and being so assembled, they were an important part of the government of the Province, and in full possession of their privileges. He therefore wished that the Journal should be amended, but made no motion in the matter.

Mr. Partelow thought the journals stood very well, inasmuch as they stated only the actual facts that had occurred.

Mr. Chandler considered that the House had full power to adjourn itself, and required no direction from the executive for such purpose.

Mr. Ford concurred with the Hon. Member for St. John, that under the present circumstances, the house possessed an exclusive power to adjourn itself. The doctrine was not only true that it had such power, but also that it possessed an exclusive power to adjourn itself.

Mr. S. Humbert was very sorry to perceive such a discussion at this stage of the business. He considered that altho' the House was not a perfect House, yet that it was sufficiently strong to do what it had done, and any argument upon the subject was therefore premature.

Mr. Allen was of opinion that the Journals needed correction very materially. No doubt existed in his mind as to the power of the House to adjourn itself. The message of his Honor the President, ordering the attendance of the House a second time, after the House had actually adjourned, was therefore irregular, and the Journals ought to be correct in that respect.

The latter part of the Journal was then, at the request of some of the Members, read again by the clerk, upon which

Mr. Slason observed, that it was plain that the House had been formally adjourned by itself, previous to the President's second message. The second attendance therefore, of the House upon His Honor, and the second adjournment, was irregular, and the Journal ought so far to be amended.

The Clerk of the House stated that the Question of adjournment was, it was true, carried before the delivery of His Honor's message; but at the same moment the messenger from the Council Chamber was at the door; he was admitted; the members assembled took their seats; the message was delivered, and the members did accordingly attend His Honor. Whatever was done in or by that House must of necessity appear upon the Journals, and, consequently, the acts in question were recorded. The President had a right to command the attendance of the House at any time, while the members were assembled for the dispatch of business.

Mr. Simonds denied the right under the circumstances, and proposed that that part of the Journal which recorded the second message of the President, and the second attendance of the House after it had adjourned, should be expunged. It was of no importance that those subsequent occurrences should appear upon the Journals.

Mr. Conard seconded the views of the Hon. Member for St. John, and considered that the Journals were decidedly incorrect. The House had adjourned till 10 o'clock this morning, and could not therefore be there as a house until that hour. There was no power whatever to command the House to be there before the hour to which it had adjourned. The President's summons was therefore irregular. He (Mr. C.) did not attend to that summons, and he considered that its appearance on the journal was incorrect.

The Clerk of the House could not say how many members were required to go to the Council Chamber, but that they did go was a fact, and that after the motion for adjournment had been carried. If therefore that fact was not recorded on the Journal of the day, a new Journal must be commenced on the same day, since it was necessary to record it.—Mr. Chandler observed that the House had certainly adjourned. The Journals could not stand as they then were. The House had frequently amended their Journals contrary to what the real facts were. Scarcely a Session passed without such amendments. He thought it best to expunge the latter part of the Journal.

[*Some further discussion on this subject, is reported without however coming to any decision, which we omit.*]

After the above lengthened conversation, the members left their seats, and remained about an hour in that state, until the arrival of the President, at 12 o'clock, when Mr. S Humbert called the house to order.

Mr. S. Humbert. It is 12 o'clock, and we may quickly expect to hear "a voice from above." It is to me most astonishing that we have as yet no Speaker. It is utterly astonishing that this most important question has been delayed, not till the eleventh, but actually even to the very twelfth hour. I may probably be answered that it is no delay—that the business of the House is proceeding. But I would ask, how or where is it proceeding or proceeding? Let us proceed upon principles of right and sound reason. This House is a constituent and important part of the head of the Province. Its rights, and the rights of the individuals that compose it, are sacred. The right of each here is two, tamount to that of the whole House. It is his honor and his duty to support that right. But what is the House doing? It is not a complete step. A stop utterly unknown to this House. Something must be done by the House, and that quickly. But nothing can be done without consideration. Proper measures must be immediately taken to elect a Speaker; but none must be elected in this House. For my own part, I never in my life compromised my right in this House. This I say; that every one here ought to have an unbiassed choice in the election of their Speaker. Their choice ought not to be biassed in any way whatever. Two choice has already been exerted in the nomination of two gentlemen; and it has been negatived by an equality