I have no hesi- ... commend it to the ... the Provincial Legisla- ... dent persuasion, that those ... consent to the proposals ... about taking such precautions ... receive requisite for effectually se- ... public interest.

GREY.

Governor sir W. M. G. Colebrooke, &c.

7, Broad Street Buildings 31st May. 1847.

My Lord.—I am desired by the Directors of the North American Colonial Association of Ireland, respectfully to tender our services to Her Majesty's Government for the purpose of promoting the more rapid and systematic Colonization of the Province of New Brunswick.

A List of the Directors of the Association, together with the Acts of Parliament by which it is incorporated and invested with powers for carrying out its objects, are submitted herewith for Your Lordship's inspection. I am also directed to forward an Act passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick in 1840, authorizing the Lieutenant Governor and Council to Grant to the Association, on certain terms of purchase, 100 000 acres of the Wild Lands of that Province, belonging to the Crown.

Circumstances, with which it is unnecessary to trouble Your Lordship, have hitherto prevented the Association from availing itself of this Grant, and indeed, from exercising the powers which it possesses for purposes of Colonization. But the Directors think that the time has now arrived, when, if Her Majesty's Government be pleased to make use of its instrumentality, the powers in question might be employed with benefit alike to the Mother Country and the Province which they have selected as the fittest field for their operations.

The principal object which the Association has in view, is to render available its powers and the facilities which its organization affords for conducting the business of Immigration and settlement in New Brunswick, by offering its co-operation to the many Landholders in Ireland and desire to encourage and assist the surplus population of their respective estates to establish themselves in British America. The Directors are led to hope that by their agency, in connexion with such Landholders, it will be found practicable to locate upon tracts well suited for Agricultural purposes, and not too remote from Lands already reclaimed from the waste, considerable bodies of Emigrants coming from the same neighbourhood, and bringing with them the Ministers of Religion, and other means and appliances of civilization, and to make, at the same time, effectual provision for the comfortable maintenance of the Settlers, until they shall have reaped their first crop.

The Directors of the Association are willing to undertake their part in this useful work, if Your Lordship be disposed to afford them that degree of maintenance and assistance, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, which is necessary to enable them to carry it on with good effect.

To this end it is essential that the Land upon which Emigrants of the description in question are to be located, should be placed at the disposal of the Association at a very cheap rate. Your Lordship will aware that the means of such parties as well as the means of their landlords of assisting them when applied to any considerable number of persons, are extremely limited; and this circumstance has prevented the Directors from turning the high priced Lands which they already possess in Lower Canada, to the use now proposed, for the cheaper Lands of New Brunswick. But the Directors do not seek a remission or abatement of the price of 3s. Halifax currency (equivalent to 2s. 6d., sterling) per acre, stipulated for in the accompanying Act of the Colonial Legislature. They ask that they should be enabled to prepare the Lands, at this price, for the actual occupation of the Emigrants, by being permitted to discharge the claim of the Government by the legitimate and proved expenses incurred in the survey and sub-division of the Wild Tracts which it is intended to reclaim, and in the construction of the necessary Roads. Otherwise, such outlay, must, of course, be added to the original cost of the sale, and with due precaution for the safety and well being of the Emigrants, which it is alike the steps of Survey and Road making involve only a part of the preliminary expenses which must be incurred before settlers can be thrown upon their own resources in the forests of New Brunswick.

Adverting to that consideration, and to the fact that the Directors desire to embark in the useful enterprise which they have in view, as the Agents of the Government, and not as a matter of speculation, they request in the second place that they may be required to pay for the Land which the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick may be pleased to place at their disposal, only as they are able to sell and settle it, the land reverting to the Crown, if not paid for within a certain limited period.

The Directors are aware that the power of disposing of the Crown Lands in New Brunswick has been conceded to the Local Government; but they entertain no doubt, that, on such representation from Your Lordship, as would demonstrate your confidence in the views and intentions, at least of the Association, and your wish that a favourable field might be granted to its endeavours to carry those views into execution, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Legislature of the Province would be alike disposed to give every reasonable encouragement to the objects which the Directors desire to accomplish. They feel the more assured of this, because they have reason to know that this was the spirit in which the Provincial Parliament passed the Act of 1840, and the inability of the Association to avail itself of the opening afforded by that Act has been much regretted. The Directors have a further guarantee that a fair trial will be both afforded to the experiment, and that, even, if not so eminently successful in its issue as they hope and trust it will be, the parties who may proceed to New Brunswick under the auspices of the Association, will, at least, be protected from injustice, and from that severe suffering which has too often followed upon the heels of ill-advised Emigration. Mr. Perley, the Government Emigration Agent of that Province, has long been a Shareholder in the North American Colonial Association of Ireland. The Act of 1840 was obtained by his exertions as its Agent, and he is now desirous, with Your Lordship's sanction to undertake the management, in New Brunswick, of the operations for which it is the object of this Address to obtain the countenance and support of Her Majesty's Government. If Your Lordship shall be pleased to favour the Directors with an assurance to that effect, they will lose no time in taking such measures as may place them in a position to begin to carry their plans into execution immediately upon receiving an intimation of the readiness of the Local Government to afford them that cordial co-operation essential to success.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES DEWAR, *Sec'y.*

Secretary's Office, Fredericton, 26th August, 1847.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you, that your communication relative to the proposed purchase of Crown Lands in this Province, by the North American Colonial Association of Ireland, was duly laid before His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the 19th of this instant month, and I am directed to inform you that the Executive Government cannot depart from the terms prescribed by the Act 3 Vic. cap. 82, but that 20 000 acres of Land may be granted to the Association under the conditions of that Act.

(Signed) J. S. SAUNDERS.

M. H. Perley, Esq., Commr. N. A. Col. Ass. of Ireland, St. John.

St. John, 12th August, 1847.

May it please Your Excellency,

I have the honour of representing to Your Excellency, that the North American Colonial Association of Ireland, by instrument, bearing date the 16th June, 1847, have appointed me their Commissioner, for the conduct of the affairs of the Association in New Brunswick.

As such Commissioner, I beg to refer to the letter from the Association to the Right Honorable the Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 31st May last, and to His Lordship's reply, copies of which it is understood, have been transmitted to Your Excellency.

On behalf of the Association, I have now to state their desire to purchase twenty thousand acres of Land, West of the River Saint John, between Woodstock and the Sea, as parcel of the quantity of one hundred thousand acres which the Lieutenant Governor and Council are authorized by the Act of 1840 to sell to the Association by private sale.

The Association ask to require this portion at the minimum price stated in the Act, of three shillings currency per acre, and pray that Your Excellency in Council, will give the necessary instructions to Her Majesty's Surveyor General for the Survey of this quantity, in some fitting locality to be agreed upon by that Officer and myself.

In the letter to the Right Honorable the Earl Grey, the Association states its desire to render available the powers and facilities its origination affords for conducting the business of Emigration and Settlement in New Brunswick, and that thro' its agency, it will be found practicable to locate upon tracts well suited for Agricultural purposes, and not too remote from lands already reclaimed, considerable bodies of Emigrants coming from the same neighbourhood, and bringing with them the Ministers of Religion and other means and appliances of civilization, and to make at the same time effectual provision for the comfortable maintenance of the Settlers until they shall have reaped their first crop. And as the Association desire to embark in this useful enterprise, as the Agents of the Government, and not as a matter of speculation, I have to solicit a favourable consideration of its request, and the expenses of Survey and Road may be deducted from the purchase money of the Land; and in the second place, that they may be required to pay for the Land placed at their disposal only as they are able to sell and settle it, the Land reverting to the Crown, if not paid for within a limited period.

From the high standing and character of the Noblemen and Gentlemen who constitute the Board of Directors of the Association, there can be no doubt that they honorably intend to fulfil the objects they have started; and the experiment they now propose to make, if successful cannot fail to prove highly beneficial to this Province, and lead to its settlement on an extensive scale, in a manner which will be highly desirable.

I have the honor, &c. &c.

(Signed) M. H. PERLEY,

Commissioner.

To His Excellency Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke, K. H., Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c.

Monday, February 7.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to authorize Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Queens' County to make provisions for the payment of the County Contingencies. That the Bill do pass.

The honorable Mr Hazen, by leave presented a Petition from the Reverend the Presbytery of New Brunswick, adhering to the Westminster Standards, praying that the Ministers of the said Presbytery may be placed on the same footing in regard to the Solemnization of Matrimony as the Ministers of the Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, and scotish churches; which he read. Petition received and lie on the table.

Mr. Smith moved for leave to bring in a Bill to establish the Road leading from Isaac Derry's, in the Parish of Harvey, to the Post office, thence to Point Wolf River, in the county of Albert, as one of the Great Roads of Communication in this Province. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

THE DESPATCH.

Extract of a Despatch from Earl Grey to Sir John Harvey, dated Downing street, 31st March, 1847 —No. 25.

Upon a careful comparison of these very able Papers, in which the Members of your Council, and their political opponents, have stated their respective views as to the manner in which the Executive Government of Nova Scotia ought to be conducted, I am led to the conclusion, that there is not, in reality, so wide a difference of principle between the conflicting parties as would at first sight appear to exist; and that it may not be impossible to chalk out a system of Administration to be hereafter adopted, if which, without the slightest sacrifice of consistency, both might assent.

On the one hand, I find that the Members of your Council declare that they desire in no degree to weaken the responsibility of the Provincial Government to the Legislature; and I gather from the general tenor of their Papers, of the 28th and 30th January, that they are aware, that in the present state of affairs and of public opinion in Nova Scotia, it is necessary that the Governor of the Province should, in administering its affairs, have the advice and assistance of those who can command the confidence of the Legislature, and more especially of that branch of the Legislature which directly represents the people.

On the other hand, I can hardly doubt that the Gentlemen of the opposite party, who have insisted so strongly upon the necessity of what is termed Responsible Government, would admit the justness and importance of many of the arguments which have been used, in order to show the danger and inconvenience of making the general tenure of offices in the Colonial service to depend upon the fluctuations of political contests in the Assembly.

I am the more convinced that the gentlemen of the opposition will recognize the force of these arguments, because I observe in the various Papers in which they have stated their views, frequent references, either direct or implied, to the practice of this Country, as that which affords the best model for imitation in laying down rules as to the manner in which the Government of Nova Scotia should be carried on.

Now there is scarcely any part of the system of Government in this Country which I consider of greater value than that, which, though not enforced by any written Laws, but deriving its authority from usage and public opinion, makes the tenure of the great majority of offices in the public service to depend *upon good behaviour.*

Although, with the exceptions of those who hold the higher judicial situation, in which judicial independence has been considered to be necessary, the whole body of public servants in the United Kingdom hold their offices technically, during the pleasure of the Crown: *in practice, all, but the very small proportion of offices which are distinguished as political, are held independently of party changes,* nor are those who have once been appointed to them, even, in point of fact, removed, except in consequence of very obvious misconduct or infirmity.

Thus, in fact, though the legal tenure "during good behaviour" is rare, tenure during good behaviour, in the popular sense of the term, may be said to be the general rule of our public service.

The exception as in the case of those high public servants whom it is necessary to invest with such discretion as, really, to *leave in their hands the whole direction of the policy of the Empire, in all its various departments,* such power must, with a Representative Government, be subject to constant control by Parliament and is, therefore, administered on'y by such persons as from time to time enjoy the confidence of Parliament, as well as of the Crown.—These Heads of Departments, or Ministers, together with their immediate subordinates, who are required to represent or support them in Parliament, are almost invariably Members of one or other House, and hold their offices only as long as they enjoy the confidence of Parliament. Though it is not without some inconveniences, I regard this system, as possessing, upon the whole, very great advantages. We owe to it that public servants of this Country, as a body, are remarkable for their experience and knowledge of public affairs, and honorably distinguished by the zeal and integrity with which they discharge their duties, without reference to party feeling. We owe to it, also, that as the transfer of power from one party in the State to another, is followed by no *change in the holders of any but a few of the highest offices;* political animosities are not, in general, carried to the same heigh, and do not so deeply agitate the whole frame of society, as in those countries in which a different practice prevails.

The system with regard to the Tenure of Office which has been found to work so well here, seems therefore well worthy of imitation in the British American Colonies; and the small population and limited Revenue of Nova Scotia, as well as the general occupation and social state of the community, are in my opinion additional reasons for abstaining so far as regards that Province from going further than can be avoided, without giving up the principle of Executive responsibility, in making the Tenure of Offices in the Public Service dependent upon the result of party contests. In order to keep the Executive Government in harmony with the Legislature, it is doubtless necessary that the direction of the internal policy of the Colony should be entrusted to those who enjoy the confidence of the Provincial Parliament; but it is of great moment *not to carry the practice of changing Public Officers further than is absolutely necessary for the attainment of that end,* lest the administration of Public affairs would be deranged by increasing the bitterness of party spirit, and subjecting the whole machinery of Government to perpetual change and uncertainty.

In the political application of these views, there will, I am aware, be room for considerable difference of opinion. In this, as in all questions of classification, varying circumstances and the various views taken by different men, will give rise to discussions, and occasional alterations with respect to particular offices. Your acquaintance with what has passed, and is passing in the Mother Country, will suggest to you instances in which the question has been raised, whether a particular office should not be a Parliamentary Office, and some in which different offices have been deliberately removed from the one into the other class.

The question, how many of the Public Offices in Nova Scotia ought to be regarded as political, is one to be determined on the general principles I have before laid down, and with reference to various considerations arising from the peculiar exigencies of the Public Service, and the Finances and social state of the Colony. The practical end of Responsible Government would be satisfied by the removability of a single public officer, provided that through him public opinion could influence the general administration of affairs. Without quite assenting to the too modest estimate which your present Council have given of the resources of the Province, I admit that the smallness of the community, its want of wealth, and the comparative deficiency of a class possessing leisure and independent incomes, preclude it from at present enjoying a very perfect division of public employments. Small and poor communities must be content to have their work cheaply and somewhat roughly done. Of the present Members of your Council, the Attorney General and Provincial Secretary, to whom the Solicitor General should perhaps be added, appear to me sufficient to constitute the responsible advisers of the Governor. The holders of these offices should henceforth regard them as held on Political Tenure, and with a view to that end the Provincial Secretary should be prepared, in the event of any change, to disconnect from his office, that of the Clerkship of the Council, which seems to be one that should on every account be held on a more permanent tenure.

It is possible that in the event of any change being rendered necessary by the course of events in the Provincial Parliament, the party succeeding to power might insist on increasing this number of Political Officers, by adding to the list of those to be so regarded. In case such a question should arise, I must leave it to your discretion, on a view of various local and temporary circumstances, which I am unable at present to appreciate, to form your own decision with respect to any such demand. I should feel no objection to somewhat increasing the number of Political Officers, (for instance, by appointing a financial Secretary and a responsible Chief of the Department of the Public Lands and Works,) should the expenses of doing so, without injustice to those now in the public service, be found to be not more than the Colonial Revenue would conveniently bear.

But I rely on your using your influence *to resist that disposition,* which, a party succeeding to power often exhibits, *to throw open the various offices of emolument to their friends, without sufficient regard to the mischiefs thereby permanently entailed on the public service;* and it is but due to what I have said of the conduct of the principal advocates of Responsible Government in Nova Scotia, to express my reliance on their public spirit, and sober estimate of their Country's position and interest, as the most effectual safeguard against any abuse of power.

There is another safeguard, which, even with the less considerate members of any party, you will, I think, find sufficient to protect the public interests against any great disposition, unnecessarily, to place offices, hitherto held on what has practically been a tenure of good behaviour, on one of a more precarious nature. However desirous the people of Nova Scotia may be to establish the principle of Responsible Government, they would, I feel assured, shrink from affecting any reform, however just or necessary, *at the cost of injustice to individuals.* Now when individuals have engaged in the public service under a belief, sanctioned by custom, that they obtained a tenure of their offices during good behaviour, it would be most unjust to change that tenure to one of dependence on a Parliamentary majority, *without ensuring them a provision that would make up for the loss of official income.* I think that the consideration that that improvident grasping at any particular office would necessitate the provision of an adequate pension for its occupant, will be a salutary check on any disposition to carry Party Government beyond its just limits.

This condition must be applied to the removal of those Public Officers who now have seats in your Executive Council, unless where they have clearly accepted office on an understanding to the contrary effect.

I cannot suppose that the necessity of providing the requisite pensions will be deemed by the Assembly an unreasonable accompaniment of the establishment of Parliamentary Government: and hereafter I think it would be proper to recognise, *as an invariable rule, that no person should, without such provision, be deprived of any office,* (except upon the ground of unfitness or misconduct) unless he had accepted it on the distinct understanding that it was to be held virtually, as well as nominally, during pleasure.

I entertain a strong conviction, that the adoption of such a rule will be found conducive, not only to the interests of the holders of offices, but also to those of the public, and to a true economy of the public money. As I have already observed, it is impossible to expect that men of superior capacity will devote themselves to the public service unless they are assured that their employment will be permanent, or are offered emoluments so large as to make up for the uncertainty, a strong temptation is given to holders to endeavour to make up for these disadvantages by irregular gains, and thus to give rise to practices equally injurious to the community in a pecuniary and in a moral point of view. You will observe, that in the preceding observations I have assumed, that those only of the public servants who are to be regarded as removable, on losing the confidence of the Legislature, are to be members of the Executive Council. This I consider to follow from the principles I have laid down.

Those public servants who hold their offices permanently, must upon that very ground be regarded as subordinate, and ought not to be members of either House of the Legislature, by which they would necessarily be more or less mixed up in party struggles; and on the other hand, those who are to have the general direction of affairs, exercise that function by virtue of their responsibility to the Legislature, which implies their being removable from office, and also that they should be members either of the Assembly, or of the Legislative Council.—But this general direction of affairs, and the control of all subordinate Officers, it is the duty of the Governor to exercise, *through the Executive Council;* hence the seats in that Council must be considered as in the nature of political offices, and if held in connection with other offices, must give to these also a political character. This, however, leads me to observe, that if only two or three of the principal Offices are to be regarded as political, it may, very probably, be advisable to assign salaries to two or three of the Executive Councillors, as such. The Executive Council has duties of a very important character to perform: those duties, and the effects in the manner in which they had then generally been discharged, I find thus described in a confidential Despatch, which the late Lord Sydenham, then Mr. P. Thomson, addressed to Lord John Russel, from Halifax, in the year 1840:—

"The functions of Executive Council on the "other hand, are, it is perfectly clear, of a totally "different character: they are a Body upon whom "the Governor must be able to call at any or at all "times for advice, with whom he can consult *upon* "*the measures to be submitted to the Legislature,* and "in whom he may find instruments within its walls, "*to introduce such amendments in the Laws as he may* "*think necessary,* or to defend his policy. It is obvious, therefore, that those who compose this Body, "must be persons whose constant attendance on the "Governor can be secured; principally, therefore, "Officers of the Government itself,—but when it "may be expedient to introduce others,—men holding "Seats in one or other House, taking a leading "part in Political life, and above all, exercising "influence over the Assembly.

"The last, and in my opinion by far the *most serious defect* in the Government, is the *utter absence of* "*power in the Executive,* and it total want of energy "to attempt to occupy the attention of the country "upon real improvements, *or to lead the Legislature* "*in the preparation and adoption of measures* for the "benefit of the Colony. It does not appear to have "occurred to any one that it is one of the first duties "of the Government to suggest improvements "where they are wanted. That the Constitution, "having placed the power of Legislation in the "hands of an Assembly and a Council, it is only by "acting through these Bodies that this duty can be "performed, and that if these proper and legitimate "functions of Government are neglected, the necessary result must be not only that the improvements which the people have a right to expect, "will be neglected, and the prosperity of the Country checked, but that the Branch of the Legislature will misuse its power, and the popular mind "be easily led into excitement upon mere abstract "theories of Government to which their attention is "directed as the remedy for the uneasiness they "feel."

In this view of the proper functions of the Executive Council, I entirely concur; but I greatly doubt whether they could be adequately discharged by a Council composed of only two or three persons holding offices in the public service, and of gentlemen serving gratuitously. It is hardly possible to expect that those so serving should devote any portion of their time to their public duties, and it therefore appears to me highly desirable that salaries should be assigned to at least one or two seats in the Executive Council.

On such terms as these, which I have thus detailed, it appears to me that the peculiar circumstances of Nova Scotia present no insuperable obstacle to the immediate adoption of that system of Parliamentary Government which has long prevailed in the Mother Country, and which seems to be a necessary part of Representative Institutions, in a certain stage of their progress.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, FEBRUARY 18, 1848.

We have at length arrived at a crisis in the history of New Brunswick, which harbingers a lasting and momentous change, for evil or for good, in the future management of our governmental affairs, and in the political prosperity and happiness of the Province. Viewing the future, with an eye vividly impressed with the images of the past; and regarding the organic changes at work around us, with a mind imbued with the reminiscences of experience and with veneration for the bye-gone glories of the *genuine* British Constitution, we confess that we contemplate the crude experiments of political quackery and charlatanism with no complacency; and prognosticate much of evil and little or nothing of good, as likely to arise therefrom. The ancient landmarks and bulwarks of British Constitutional Government, are being violently swept away by the infuriate hurricane of radical empiricism; the broadest principles of democracy or republicanism, under the specious and deceptive title of "Responsible Government" are being violently forced upon us, by the unprincipled intrigues of selfish demagogues, in all their odious absurdity; the Ministerial policy of the Mother Country has of late years fatally aided such insidious agitations, and tended to drive these hitherto loyal British Colonies into the arms of Republican confraternity; by conciliating traitors and rebels, encouraging and rewarding seditious and disloyal demagogues, neglecting and disgusting truly loyal subjects and consistent lovers and supporters of genuine constitutional principles, the Parent Government have for some time past evinced a systematic tendency to repress loyalty, and to foster every species of anti-British feeling and principle, in the North American Provinces; and thus to lend the impulse of their power and influence in effecting the final severance of these Colonies from the British empire, and their absorption in the neighbouring inflated republic. The recent Despatch of Earl Grey to the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, which appears to afford our Provincial agitators and demagogues a pretext for cramming the absurdities of *miscalled* Responsible Government down the throats of the loyal inhabitants of New Brunswick, is the climacteric evidence of the propositions we have advanced; and the fatal effects of the quackery, if practically put in operation, will speedily develope themselves. Should this political humbug be established in this Province, popular clamour will henceforth be the ruling organ of political operations among us—Mob-ocracy, in its most fatally influential phase, will be installed as the paramount principle of Provincial Government. They who can most successfully pander to the sympathies of an ignorant and credulous mob, will engross to themselves all the Governmental loaves and fishes; all the fat places and perquisites of power and influence. Talent, integrity, learning, industry, age, experience, genius, will henceforth be of little or no avail, as qualifications for promotion or patronage; *Votes* will be the sole criterion; electioneering chicanery and intrigue the only sure road to political exaltation or official station; the principal ministerial dignities, high legal offices, and places of trust and responsibility, will be conferred exclusively on those who can most obsequiously stand cap-in-hand, and most servilely seduce the "sweet voices" of the mob; and popular Representatives of "the Sovereign people" will, without reference to other qualification, unblushingly be pitchforked into preferment, over the heads of their more modest, more upright and delicately minded seniors, who disdain to solicit, by grovelling and degrading sycophancy, the promotion justly due to their own personal merits. Whether changes such as these will prove essentially beneficial to the Province and its best interests, can scarcely be a problem; whether such changes will not tend to substitute cunning for talent, servility for integrity, a grovelling sycophancy for independance of spirit, and pliant subserviency for pure and upright principle, can scarcely be a question. We are evidently, fast approaching the worst and most disgusting practical principles of republicanism; and may, if doomed to experience the threatened empirical changes in our Provincial system of Government, soon sorrowfully bid adieu to the long cherished and venerated characteristics of the British Constitution. When once the Rubicon is passed; when once the downward road to Democracy is taken, the result, sooner or later will be inevitable. That result, whenever it shall happen, will be chargeable on the unprincipled intrigues and reckless presumption of a few contemptible agitators of the present day, and on the blind fatuity of the Ministry of Great Britain, whose mistaken policy, if practically persisted in, will compel us to a destiny, which our own loyal and genuine British principles detest, and would have for ever avoided if left to our own choice.

There is yet, however, a faint hope, that the common sense of a majority of our Legislators, will save New Brunswick from the threatened degradation and political ruin. On a calm perusal of the Despatch of Earl Grey, it will be seen, that its recommendations are NOT IMPERATIVE on any Colony; they are merely explanatory and directory, intended simply as guides for procedure, to such Provinces as may *choose* to adopt them. Even as addressed to Nova Scotia, the Despatch merely lays down a plan of proceeding, in compliance with the *precious request* of that Colony; it does not *direct* or *command* its adoption even there; it merely states in effect, that if Nova Scotia determines on practically adopting the theory of Responsible Government, it must work out that theory in the manner laid down in the Despatch; still leaving it entirely optional with the people of Nova Scotia, to adopt or reject the new system at pleasure. If, then, the despatch be not compulsory on that Province, to which it was especially addressed; still less can it be so on any other. It is stated, indeed, to be equally *applicable* to other Provinces; but its applicability depends entirely on the *voluntary adoption* of its principles by any of those Provinces respectively; it is binding on none of them without such voluntary action; and it is only when a Province declares its willingness to establish the principles of Responsible Government, that the dispatch becomes *applicable, as a guide* for the working out of those principles. Let our Legislators, therefore, ponder well ere they decide; let them calmly and dispassionately weigh all the consequences of their decision; let them remember, that they are in *no way bound* to adopt the principles of this important dispatch, but possess an undoubted free will in accepting or rejecting those principles; and let them pause ere they fasten on this Province a system, the manifold evils of which, (*as it is intended to be worked by our present agitators,*) in a young, thinly populated and far from wealthy colony, they can scarcely foresee, but will surely entail on their country by its adoption. If, however, Responsible Government *must* be established, let us have it *fully* and in its *integrity,* as plainly marked out by Earl Grey; and not in the mutilated, half-and-half, corrupt mode designed by the demagogues of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Let our Legislators carefully weigh the meaning of each paragraph in the Dispatch. Let them observe, that genuine Responsible Government, as practised in Great Britain, couples power with responsibility; that it involves the yielding of the initiation of money grants and the general direction of Governmental affairs to the Executive; that it is absolutely necessary that a system of Pensions be established, as a provision for political Officers of Government, deprived of their posts by changes of Ministry; that all suggestions for important matters of legislation must originate with the Executive, whose responsibility is solely based on the power thus invested in them. This is the genuine and indivisible system of Responsible Government, explained in Earl Grey's dispatch: this system *in its entirety* we must have, or *nothing of the kind;* and unless our Legislators are prepared to effect this great and comprehensive change, let them resist every insidious attempt at innovation.

His Worship the Mayor is expected to arrive in town this evening from Fredericton.

More Robberies.—On Saturday night Mr. Keltie's brewery, in Union Street was entered by thieves, and about £4 in money and a gun and a pistol abstracted therefrom. They entered the premises by getting under the outside gate, and then, being out of sight and hearing, easily effected an opening through the office window.

The Bake House of Mr. Smith, in Main Street, Lower Cove, was broken into on Saturday night, and eight or ten dozen loaves of bread and a quantity of flour were quietly taken off by the robbers.

☞ A very unfortunate occurrence took place at the Provincial Penitentiary on the afternoon of Saturday last, and which eventually terminated in the death of a prisoner named Justus Hoyt, who was convicted of a Larceny at the last sitting of the Supreme Court, and sentenced to confinement in the Penitentiary for Six Months. It appears that there is a guard of several armed men stationed round the prison enclosure, and at the time mentioned above, Hoyt attempted to escape and was pursued by some of the guard, but finding the prisoner too fleet for them, a shot was fired over his head in order to deter him from further flight, which he however did not regard, and a second one was fired at his person—the gun being loaded with large shot, a few of them took effect in Hoyt's back, mortally wounding him, and of which the unfortunate man died on Sunday morning. An inquest was held on the body on Monday, and after a lengthened deliberation the jury returned a verdict of Justifiable Homicide.

Several communications, regarding the North American Colonial Association of Ireland will be found in our impression of this day. They are important, and require very deliberate attention on the part of the House of Assembly and the Executive Council; by whom they should be received with a great deal of jealousy,—contemplating as they do, locking up a large portion of wild lands in the Province for the benefit of the Association, for which they modestly ask to pay *as they are able to settle it*—the lands reverting to the Province if not paid for within a limited period!!!—The Executive Council can do more justice to the Province by attending to individual settlers, than by accepting such terms from the North American Colonial Association of Ireland.

In the House of Assembly last week, Mr. L. A. Wilmot made a powerful, eloquent, and impressive speech in favour of the Protective interests of this Country, which seems to have taken the House rather by surprise.—It is gratifying to find that even this extreme radical Member of the Assembly, and at the eleventh hour, is opening his eyes at last to the true interests of the country; but a strange inconsistency marks his conduct, as well as a great many other people who call themselves *Protectionists,*—that while they are violent radicals in politics, and in every thing else, they are, or pretend to be, conservatives in commerce. The Colonies have never derived benefit either from a Whig Government in England, or a Radical House of Assembly at home, and the same thing will apply to individuals:—the true interests of a country are only studied and accomplished by a general conservative course of conduct, both in public bodies and private individuals; and it is to be hoped that the Hon. member mentioned above, having made one move in the right track, will continue therein, and shortly renounce altogether the error of his way, and by an honest and conservative course of procedure, turn his talents to a redemption of the past. His transgressions are many, and as nothing but dissaffection and turmoil accompanied his advent into the Councils of the Country, we hope at last to see his support given to heal its wounds, and forever promote that loyalty and affection to British institutions for which New Brunswick has ever been pre-eminently noted, and in supporting her in the proud and peaceful position she has always maintained between the rebellious faction in Canada, and the party violence of the sister Province of Nova Scotia.

We understand that the Governor General received by this last mail, a Despatch from the Home Government, in which it is announced to him that a new and satisfactory Postal arrangement has been made with the United States, and that it will come into operation in April next.—*Montreal Courier.*

Mechanics' Institute.—Last Friday evening Dr. Paterson resumed the subject of Electricity, and exhibited, by various interesting and beautiful experiments, much to the gratification of a large and respectable audience, several of the phenomena that attend the electrical manifestations of the Atmosphere.

Monday evening, Mr. John Boyd delivered a highly gratifying lecture on *Intellectual Improvement,* to a very large and respectable audience. It is pleasing to find a young man thus coming forward, and both by example and argument, endeavouring to stimulate his compeers both in age and station to put forth the energies with which God has endowed them in improving their faculties both physical and mental, that they may take part in the grand moral and intellectual progress of the present age, instead of wasting their time in frivolous and insipid amusements or sottish and sensual pleasures, which can prepare them only for a premature grave or a despicable and useless manhood.

Friday evening Mr. Foulis will enter upon an explanation of *Oxygen,* with experiments, administer the *laughing gas,* and explain how *Chloroform* is made and administered, &c.

Next Monday evening, Mr. James Agnew will deliver a lecture on *Horology.*

On Monday the 23th instant, Mr. LaSueur's subject will be "*The Potency of Female influence, especially in the Maternal Relation, and the consequent importance of its right application.* This we now mention, because it was not announced in the Programme.—*Observer.*

A new Wesleyan Methodist Church, at the Bend of Petitcodiac, was opened and dedicated to Divine service on Sunday the 23d ult. Appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. H. Pickard, M. A., Principal of the Sackville Academy. On the 30th, the Rev. Mr. Boyer, of the Church of England, conducted divine service in the church.—*Observer.*

Snow.—Our western neighbours appear to have had an unusual quantity of this indispensable, while this Province has suffered much for the want of it. The Boston *Advertiser* of Saturday last says that the roads have been much obstructed by heavy snow drifts. In some parts of Worcester county the roads were almost impassable. The railroads, by means of the great power of engines, which is bro't to bear upon the snow-plough, have been so expeditiously cleared, as to prevent serious delays. The train from Albany came through yesterday and the preceding day, on the Western and Boston and Worcester Roads, notwithstanding much drifting, particularly in Worcester county, about an hour behind the usual time.—The upward train to Springfield, yesterday morning, was retarded several hours, in consequence of which the downward train was delayed, and it did not arrive in town until late in the afternoon. The New Haven Mail, as we learn by telegraph, did not pass Springfield until 6 o'clock, and it had not arrived here when our paper went to press.

The Eastern Railroad was more seriously obstructed yesterday. We learn that the morning train for this city had not advanced beyond Salem at 4 o'clock, P. M. when the train from Portland, which was due here at half past 12, arrived there. The train, with the mail, arrived here at a quarter before 9.

The snow storm of last week extended to the State of Maine, where the roads have been, in some parts, much obstructed.

At different times we have published articles descriptive of the English and French Police, as hints to those who pretend to perform that duty in this City.—From a late number of the London *Spectator* we copy the following, descriptive of

THE IRISH POLICE.

"The entrance to the town of Ballycastle, shaded by rows of trees, is very pretty. As I was walking in, I met a party of policemen dragging some unfortunate victim to the guard-house. The regulations of these police officers are very beneficial to the country, and deserve the highest commendation; the men are usually efficient and active; and, indeed, it is surprising how in some instances they have traced a culprit through the almost inaccessible fastnesses of the country; and when they have found him, their courage in making a capture, opposed as they are by hundreds, is highly creditable to their bravery; and by this time they have an accurate knowledge of all the desperate characters, and of their favourite haunts. Every town and village in Ireland have police stationed in them, regulated in number by their size, and the disposition of the inhabitants round about; for some neighbourhoods are more dangerous than others.—They are all dressed in dark green cloth jackets and white trousers, these latter being of grey cloth during the winter; each man is armed with a cartouche, pistols and sabre; and they have a manly appearance. It happened to be fair day when I was at Ballycastle; and of course there was a row in the evening, and the usual incitations of the 'face of a Papist!' and 'the face of an Orangeman' were loudly vociferated. A regular battle ensued; the shillelagh was flourished in double quick time, the stones flew about like hail; the Police were instantaneously called out; and I could not but admire their activity and dauntless conduct. The quickness with which they pierced through the dense crowd and laid hold of the most desperate offenders were wonderful; but they were a small party, and the crowd hemming them in on all sides, they were ultimately, though reluctantly compelled to fire in self defence; and soon the valourless multitude was quickly dispersed.

A meeting of the Colonization Society was held in the Hall of the Representatives at Washington on the 18th January, and Henry Clay, President of this Society, took the Chair. He made a speech on the occasion, of which the following is an extract:—

The two races can never become one harmonious and homogeneous people. In what State of the Union (if there be one I do not recollect it) does the black man enjoy equal political rights with the white? No where. It is out of the question. He is no where regarded as standing on an equality of condition with the white man. The laws of almost all our States have become more rigorous against the blacks. In some of the States emancipation has been prohibited. A remarkable case of this kind occured to myself. A respected and Reverend citizen of Alabama, whom I never saw, three or four year since, devised to me in absolute fee twenty five or thirty slaves, without giving in his will any intimation as to the cause or motive of this bequest. I had reason to believe it was from some confidence in me, and because he desired that they should be sent to Liberia. I took measures to accomplish this result, through the Colonization Society; and I am happy to have learned since I arrived here, that twenty-three of them are ready to embark at New Orleans, (and the rest will soon follow) for the coast of Africa, cheerfully going home to the land of their ancestors. (Cheers.) What would have been their condition but for this Society? They could not have been set free in Alabama. The laws of that State, through the unhappy agitation of the North, prohibit emancipation by will, or other means. I had to take them as my slaves from Alabama to New Orleans, where they are still held as mine, and must be so regarded until they are out of the jurisdiction of the United States. This is but a single case. Alabama is not the only State which has been compelled, by the unhappy agitation, to make more stringent laws against the blacks. Most of the States have enacted similar laws.

English Mail.

An express bringing the English Mail arrived here on Wednesday last from Halifax, where it was brought by the Mail steamer *Hibernia;* she left Liverpool on the 30th of January.

A gradual revival of trade is stated to be taking place in Britain; though many more failures had occurred. The timber trade, likewise, had assumed a more firm aspect, and better prices were obtainable for our staple article.

No further tidings had been heard of any of the officers or crew of the ill-fated war steamer *Avenger,* among whom as Mesters' Assistant, we regret to state was Mr. Thomas Otty, son of Captain Otty,