

gone to the Council, and were beyond the reach or control of the House. If the Bill did not pass, he trusted that those who opposed it would not make objections to the details, but would propose another scheme of a feasible nature.

Mr J Young said, that as the question had already undergone a lengthy discussion; he would bring it to a point, by moving that the blank in the first clause of the bill, should be filled up with £4000. If any gentleman was desirous that a smaller sum should be inserted, it would be competent to him to move an amendment. The question being taken upon the £4000, it was lost 19 to 18. A number of the members entering at this time, and it being conceived that their presence in the division, would have changed the fate of the question, some gentlemen moved with a view to test that fact, that the sum of £3500 should be inserted in the first blank. The question being taken, it passed by a small majority and the sum being settled, the bill went through its subsequent stages with but little opposition.

**THE LEGISLATURE.**—We give to-day another paper full of Debates—and the next sheet will probably contain all that our Reporter has been able to preserve, when we hope to present our Readers an agreeable variety of lighter wares than those with which their minds have been recently burthened. The Address to His Majesty, some of the debates on which appear to-day, was carried through the House nearly word for word as reported. The opposition did not succeed in striking out a single clause, although upon some there were large minorities. On the last question, however, for passing the whole, but five voted in the negative. It was carried up to the Governor by the whole House on Monday.

A good deal of debate arose during the past week on the bill for preserving the evidence before such of the Election Committees as had not reported. It was stoutly opposed and defended, up to Saturday night, when the minority became too formidable to afford any chance of its passing. The third reading was only carried by the casting vote of the Speaker, and yesterday it was postponed by a majority of one. Mr McLellan was yesterday confirmed in his seat by a majority of one.—*Novascotian*, April 19.

THE NEWS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 26, 1837.

**EFFECTS OF THE EMBARGO LAW.**—In our paper of the 12th instant, we denounced the embargo law as impolitic, and an uncalled for exercise of legislative authority; but we were not prepared to see our predictions, as to its pernicious effects on the interests of this section of the Province, so speedily realized.

By accounts received here on Thursday last, it appears, that on the very day on which we printed that article, the P. E. Island *Gazette* directed the attention of the Legislature to the subject, and although that body had nearly finished their business for the session, and were about to return to their homes, they instantly passed a bill prohibiting the exportation of grain and potatoes from the Island. During its progress through the House and the Council, two small vessels, partly loaded with oats, for the Albion Mining Association, and the Eastern Stage Coach Establishment, made their escape for this port, and brought the doleful intelligence, that we may expect no more from that quarter this season. The immediate effect of this was, that seed oats which were previously selling for 2s. 6d. to 3s. rose to from 4s. to 5 per bushel, and other grains and potatoes in proportion.

Behold now, ye wise men of the Legislative Hall, the effects of your political wisdom. Thousands of poor settlers from Cape Tormentine to Canso and Cape North, who were looking to you for relief, are thus by one of your acts plunged into tenfold misery. It is in vain that you offer them the loan of a few hundred pounds to enable them to get seed and bread.—As many thousands to persons in their now accumulated

sufferings, would not suffice to give them relief. In vain do you tell them that seed potatoes are plenty and cheap to the westward of Halifax, and along the shores of the Bay of Funday, and that you have taken care that the owners do not carry them at road; when you have at the same time been the means of shutting them out from their natural, cheaper, and more convenient market of P. E. Island. To any person the least versant in these matters, it is easy to see, that supplies might nearly as well be at the Cape of Good Hope, as where they are said to be, as regards any benefit which the inhabitants of these shores are likely to derive from them; and were any person now to send to the other end of the Province for the articles in question, the speculator would be ruinous to him, while it would afford no real relief to the destitute people; they would in all probability arrive too late for sowing and planting, and would certainly be at a price far beyond the poor man's means.

As we anticipated, this extreme legislative measure, unsuited as it is to every part of the Province, has excited general indignation. The Halifax Press alone has remained silent on the subject, under the expectation, no doubt, that it would bring cheap potatoes, &c. to their market; but in which, if we are not much mistaken, they will be miserably disappointed.

**MORE LEGISLATIVE WISDOM.**—The last Halifax papers inform us, that the House of Assembly have voted the sum of £100 to Dr GESNER, as a public testimony for his valuable Work on the Geology of the Province. This may be all well enough, to encourage native literary talent according to their means; but when they are under the necessity of borrowing money to relieve the distress of the inhabitants, prudence might have dictated to them the propriety of deferring for a little this act of generosity.

But what will the freeholders and tax payers of the Country think, when we tell them that the Legislature have seriously entertained the idea of commencing a Geological survey of the Province. A motion was made in Committee of Supply by Mr J. Young, that £200 be granted to Dr Gesner for this purpose, with the understanding that £2000 or £3000 more would subsequently be wanted to complete the survey, and was carried 20 to 17. On the following day the subject was taken up by the House, and on dividing on an amendment moved by Mr Doyle, to the effect that the measure was inexpedient—there appeared for the amendm't 23, against it 17; thus by the small majority of six have we been saved from this insane project,—a project which went to compel us to pay for surveying what at present does not belong to us, thus tending to enhance in the estimation of the owners, and make them retain with firmer grasp, that property which it were certainly the wiser policy for Novascotians first to get possession of, and then survey. What would be thought of the man who would first pay for making valuable discoveries on his neighbor's farm, and then with the full knowledge of these discoveries before the owners eyes, go and purchase it from him? But some of our Members say that the Crown does not lay claim to lime, gypsum, ironstone, slate, freestone, &c., and will never prevent any person from working them; this is all nonsense: they are as much a part of the *Mines and Minerals* of Nova Scotia as Coal, and the moment the Crown is shown they are worth any thing, they will be wrested from us with as little ceremony as the coals were; or we will have to pay an exorbitant price for their purchase.

Further, we have to inform the Constituency, that in obedience to their almost unanimously expressed wish, the Legislature have withheld the grants to the Stage Coach Companies; but with unparalleled stupidity, they have voted £700 from the public purse, and that for three years, and into the same pockets in another shape—namely, in aid of carrying the mails along the Eastern and Western great roads—besides £1520 for General Post Communications. All grants which the legislature make to the Post Office from the

people's money, we conceive to be iniquitous in the extreme—as we believe that Department has means within itself, to pay all reasonable charges on it.

Not many years ago, the Post Office Establishment of a neighboring Colony, which annually appeared as a beggar at head quarters, was made to show the *why and because*,—when, lo! it was found that not only were its servants all well paid—some of them pocketing their *thousands*, but a surplus was actually remitted home. We should like to see a similar investigation made here.

**THE WEATHER.**—For some time past, the weather presented the most favorable indications of an early Spring, and some of the Farmers in this vicinity had begun to sow and plant; but yesterday we were visited with a heavy snow storm, with the wind at N. E. There is reason to fear that some vessels may have suffered in the storm—as the previous fine weather had induced not a few to venture out.

**NEW POTATOES!**—Mr James Skinner, of this town, has presented us with a sample of new potatoes, produced by him in his cellar. Six of them weighed 10 1-2 ounces, and one weighed 5 1-4 ounces. This is not so bad for a winter crop in Nova Scotia.

**LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.**—At its last Meeting, Mr James Hepburn lectured on "Hydrostatics." The perspicuity of his remarks, and the success of his Experiments—many of which were novel and ingenious—elicited the applause of the audience. Mr Hepburn intimated his intention of lecturing again on this subject, during the next session.

Henry Blackadar, Esq., will lecture this evening, on "Botany."

SHIP NEWS.

CUSTOM-HOUSE—PICTOU.

ENTERED.

Wednesday, April 19,—Schooner Aurora, Brooks, P E Island—oats and oatmeal; Schooner Sovereign, Wood, P E Island—oats; with pork, oats, and oatmeal for Halifax.

Sloop Lady, Dwyer, River John.

CLEARED.

Monday.—Sch'r Sovereign, Wood, Halifax—oats, oatmeal, and pork, by the Master.

Saturday.—Sch'r Aurora, Brooks, P E Island—salt by J. Johnston.

POSTPONEMENT.

THE SALE of John Henderson's LANDS, &c., at the Three Mile Inn, advertised to take place yesterday, was, owing to the inclemency of the weather, Postponed until TUESDAY next, at 11 o'clock—when it will positively take place. [April 26.]

For Sale.

(And immediate possession given)

AN EXCELLENT FARM, Fronting on the Gulf Stream, the property of the Subscriber, consisting of about

110 ACRES,

Sixty of which have been ploughed.

There is a DWELLING HOUSE and BARN on the premises; a school about 3-4 of a mile distant, and grist and saw Mills about 1 mile off. Salmon, herring, codfish, &c. may be caught off the shore in their season. Hundreds of cart loads of seaweeds are annually thrown on the shore, which may be advantageously used as manure. The mail road from Pictou to Cape Breton passes the House.

ALSO:

Separately, or with the said farm, a lot of WOOD LAND,

consisting of 50 acres, distant from the House half a mile, and from the mills quarter of a mile.

For particulars apply to James Purvis, Pictou, or here to JOHN McDUGALL.

Merigomish, 19th April, 1837.