

note. It is voluminous. The Spanish Minister constantly kept Mr. Secretary Clayton advised of the moving movement, by information from Spanish agents. In one of his letters, Calderon de la Barca complains bitterly of the *Nan*, and appeals to the Secretary of State for its prosecution, as a disturber of the peace; but no allusion is made to it in Mr. Clayton's answer.

The instructions sent to the naval commanders require, in the event of invasion, that all supplies under the American flag shall be stopped. This will be debated in the Senate, as involving a suspension of trade.

Mr. Clayton has written two letters to the American Consul at Havana, instructing him in relation to American citizens taken prisoners. He is to insist that a distinction shall be made between men committing and those captured under a mere intention to commit crime, and that the prisoners captured in or near a Mexican Island, not having committed any crime against Spain, are not subject to punishment in Cuba. Mr. Campbell, our consul at Havana, had already moved in the matter, in a letter to Count de Aleoy, the Captain General of Cuba.

Our government has indeed sent telegraphic and other despatches to Naval officers at Charleston, Norfolk, and Mobile, who go to the coast of Cuba to demand the release and surrender of one hundred and five men, captured by the steamer *Pizarro*, on Woman's Island, near Yucatan; the demand to be peremptory; a compromise, or the consequences are to be held as right out to Cuban authorities. War looks probable. Our consul at Havana has sent here for immediate aid. This news Mr. Clayton this day communicated to my reliable informant.

The amendment of Mr. Soule, of Louisiana, in Senate puts the compromise bill in a desperate situation. The whole south are expected to support the amendment, and there will be a hard fight on Texas boundary. Darkness covers the whole question.

POSTSCRIPT.

MONDAY NIGHT.

It appears that the two letters of Secretary Clayton to Gen. Campbell at Havana, instructing him very minutely in regard to the American prisoners taken at sea, and to demand of Count Aleoy, a fair trial for them, mean something. The first letter of the 31st May, is cool and moderate; that of the 1st June, betrays great anxiety, and Mr. Clayton is very particular in the difference to be made in the communication of a crime and the intention to do so, and demands that this shall be impressed upon the mind of the Captain-General.

Mr. Calderon, in one of his letters to Mr. Clayton, declares that no mercy will be shown to the pirates, if captured, and that no appeal will be listened to in their behalf.

We learn this evening that instructions have been sent to the Gulf squadron to demand the prisoners of Count Aleoy, captured on the high seas, in the American brig *Georgiana*. Also that Aleoy has decimated them, and that it becomes a grave business.

The brig *Georgiana* on her return to New Orleans when captured, having abandoned the enterprise, it looks like a speech of war in full relief. The report creates great excitement.

On to-morrow, our public works in this vicinity will be visited by the Governor General and suite, the Ministry and the members of both Houses, as also by thousands of others interested in the progress of these counties.

This demonstration is in honor of the admission of old Lake Erie to our Canal at Port Colborne, on its travels to pay a visit to the waters of Lake Ontario. These noble old inland lakes had lived in the same neighborhood, and the only mode by which they had any intercourse with each other, was by the Niagara Falls. This route was too noisy, and however sublime and magnificent the scenery, did not suit the utilitarian views of the present times. Talent, patriotism, and perseverance, united their powers to create another mode of transit, and have now accomplished the noble enterprise. We are informed that the *corège* will leave Toronto to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock, and arrive at St. Catharines by a steamer at 11 o'clock; a short stay will be made here, when an address from our Corporation, as also one from the United Counties, will be presented to the Governor, in our newly-erected Town-hall. The *corège* will then proceed up the Canal, and a steamer will be in readiness to receive it on the *Moulin*, some 3 or 400 feet above the level of Lake Ontario, and will proceed to Lake Erie, and from thence to Buffalo; thus in one day traversing the waters of both lakes, the canal uniting them, and visiting several interesting localities, all created by the industry and genius of the human mind, and we might add, that the mind of an unpretending and unostentatious individual—the Hon. W. H. Merritt. As he sails along on that day he may well be proud of the scenes and prospects opened up by this noble work. Honor to whom honor is due. While we thus write, we don't for a moment suppose that Mr. Merritt would thus think or thus speak. We can easily imagine him giving a due meed of praise to all those who by their talents, influence or labor, assisted in the accomplishment of this commercial highway from lake to lake. The Hon. Mr. Killaly has exerted himself to the utmost; his superior abilities and constant attention has been given to the completion of the work during his superintendence. Nor would we forget the humble laborer who worked faithfully in the excavation and building up of this noble work. His history is an instructive one; driven from the land of his fathers by misrule, he sought employment (not charity) in a strange land. He earned on this work by sweat and toil, a support for his family; but in many instances paid the penalty of over-exertion—a debilitated constitution and loss of life. Such the widow and fatherless who remain, and we know some of them now in want, be permitted to perish on the banks of the canal their fathers and husbands made? While the brilliant *corège* passes along, enlivened by the thrilling notes of music, we know some at least who will gaze on the passing pageant, and when it will have passed turn in sadness to gaze on children unfed, some of whom are dying. These remarks were not intended when we commenced this article. We would not willingly obtrude a subject calculated to sadden the

mind on the gala-day we are about to celebrate. We would have that day one of rejoicing and gladness; it will not be less so however, should we contribute something to lessen the sorrows of the afflicted, especially of those we know to be honest and industrious, and whose sorrows are not of their own making, but purely providential.

We are pleased that so many gentlemen from Canada East will have such an opportunity of seeing our public works and our magnificent country. We should very much desire that our French members had an opportunity of seeing and conversing with our farmers. If they travelled through Canada West, and made themselves acquainted with the independent circumstances, and comfortable establishments of our rural population, as also with their intelligence, we are quite satisfied that they would come to the conclusion, that such men are not to be thwarted, and cannot be coerced into a guilty acquiescence or approbation of any course of policy they do not require. All that is necessary is, that our French brethren know us, to make things go right. They will find that while we are perfectly willing that they should manage their own local affairs, we will permit no dictation, and certainly suffer no interference in ours. We should much rather, however, that the amicable and friendly feeling heretofore existing between the people of both sections of the province, should be strengthened, and we believe that nothing is so well calculated to do so as a friendly intercourse.—*St. Catharines Journal*, June 6.

From the Montreal Transcript.

A numerous deputation headed by the Honorables McGill, Moffatt, and Ferrier, waited upon Colonel Wetherall on Saturday, to present to that worthy soldier, a congratulatory and farewell address, subscribed by nearly 1500 names, on the occasion of his being about to leave the country. The address was read by the Hon. Mr. McGill, and the reply by Col. Wetherall himself. The scene was a most impressive one, and will be long remembered by those who had the good fortune to be present. After the completion of the business of the deputation, the Members composing it enjoyed the opportunity of paying their respects to the noble Colonel, and previously to leaving, of shaking him heartily by the hand, as they bade him adieu.

Following this will be found the address and the reply.

To Colonel George Augustus Wetherall, C. B. K. II., Deputy Adjutant General of the Forces, and Aid-de-Camp to the Queen.

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the City of Montreal, beg leave to offer you our sincere congratulations upon the distinguished honor recently conferred on you, by Our Most Gracious Sovereign, in promoting you to the high Office of Deputy Adjutant General of the British Army, and at the same time, to express our deep regret at your consequent approaching departure from Canada.

We are aware, from our own feelings and recollections, that you cannot have forgotten the circumstances which first made us more extensively acquainted with your eminent qualities as a Soldier; and we now assure you, that the respect and admiration we at that time felt for your important Military Services, have not abated, and that our long intercourse with you, as a Resident of Montreal, has only tended to increase the warmth of our regard for your character as a man.

We respectfully bid you Farewell: praying earnestly that the Almighty Disposer of Events may grant you long continued strength to perform your new duties, and bless Mrs. Wetherall and yourself with health, prosperity and happiness.

GENTLEMEN:—I thank you sincerely for your congratulations upon the honor which it has pleased Her Majesty to confer upon me—an honor as great as it was unexpected. The only alloy to my gratification, is the regret with which I leave Canada, and the many friends I have in the country.

Thirteen eventful years have passed since memorable circumstances first brought me into close communication with the inhabitants of Montreal, and is a source of pride to me that the opinion they then entertained of me has stood the test of so long a period.

I fear that you partially over-rate my character; but it is not possible to over-rate the regard I have for the many estimable men with whom I have been so long, and I hope I may say, intimately associated in Montreal.

Believe me, that the kind and good wishes you express for the future health, prosperity, and happiness, of Mrs. Wetherall and myself, are reciprocal. On her part, and on my own, I beg to thank you for them, and to assure you that the prosperity of Montreal, and the happiness of its inhabitants, will ever be a subject of our anxious prayers.

G. A. WETHERALL,
Dy'ty Adj't. Gen. to the Forces.

Dalhousie Square, June 1, 1850.

CONVENTION OF EDITORS.

The last *Christian Advocate* recommends a meeting of Editors in Toronto, for the purpose of making representations to Government on the subject of free exchanges, and other matters connected with the new postal arrangements. We think the idea a good one, and would gladly co-operate in carrying it out. There are various subjects upon which the members of the Press ought to be more united, and a general meeting would give full opportunity to come to an understanding. We hope that the "Fourth Estate" will be fully alive to its own interests, and agree upon some plan likely to meet the ends desired. Who will join in the undertaking? We should like the opinions of our contemporaries upon the subject of this Convention, and the sooner the better. The new Libel Law would be more fully canvassed at such a meeting, than in any other manner, and it is probable that improvements would be then suggested, which might materially increase its value. The Post Office Bill is already brought in, and the Press can only hope for due attention by united action. If a meeting such as described, is decided on, an early day should be named. All editors in favor of the plan, will see the necessity of at once stating their intention to take part, and in naming the day most likely to

suit, so that due arrangements may be made. Parties may be thrown overboard, for the nonce and a meeting of business purposes, alone, had in view. Forgetting this short article, as some people finish their letters, we need only say, "an early answer is respectfully requested."—*Journal and Express*.

Toronto Harbor.

At a meeting of the Canadian Institute, on Saturday evening last, Mr. Sandford Flemming read a paper, illustrated by numerous diagrams, on the formation and preservation of Toronto Harbor. He showed that the Peninsula was originally formed by the sand brought down by the Don, and by the destruction of the Scarborough heights. That the action of the waves, operating incessantly for a period of 30,000 years, had been the principal agent in modelling the Peninsula into its present form; and that the same cause is now rapidly extending its dimensions.

The enlargement of the Peninsula and the gradual destruction of the navigable entrance, he proved, by comparing his own measurement and soundings of the Harbors, with charts made respectively in 1815 and 1835, by James Bouchette, and Sir Richard Bonycastle. By this comparison he proved that the channel 35 years ago must have been four times its present width, and 15 years ago more than double; and that the sand has been depositing at the South side of the entrance at the rate of about 1,000 cubic yards per annum. A quantity of matter sufficient to close the entrance in less than 15 years, if it continue to be deposited in the same proportion.

He also laid before the meeting, plans for the preservation of the entrance, and improvement of the Harbor, which met with the entire approbation of the professional gentlemen present.

This is a subject of the greatest consequence to the City of Toronto, and it is to be hoped the Corporation will take some immediate action in the matter. It ought not to lay off too long, as the expense of dredging the annual deposit for two or three years after the channel gets too narrow for the navigation, might, if expended now in the way proposed, permanently keep open the entrance to the Harbor.

[We cannot help thinking Mr Fleming a little wild in his speculations, when he luxuriates in the period of 30,000 years. It is a common idea, and believed to be well founded, that the face of the globe underwent a total change at the time of the deluge, and whatever opinions may be entertained as to its age, derived from the solid geological formations, few persons are disposed to place the same reliance on such shifting features as sand-bars and mudbanks. We are pretty well satisfied, though we cannot now refer to our authorities, that the formation of this harbor is of comparatively late date.

The importance of attending to the "filling up" of the harbour, has been brought before the public several times, and particularly by Captain Richardson. This does not detract in the slightest degree from the obligation Toronto is under to Mr Fleming, for his practical observations and recommendations which "the City Fathers" will find necessary to pay speedy attention to.—*Patriot*.]

The Emigrants.

What is to be done towards relieving the numbers of emigrants, who, having arrived here are unable to proceed further for want of means. Every evening numbers are left on our wharves, who know not how, or where to provide food for themselves or their families. While we write this short scrap, with the thunder bursting over us—the lightning illuminating the heavens, and the heavy rains pattering against our windows—we cannot but think of these poor exiles that, without a roof to cover them, and hunger gnawing at their stomachs, are lying on our wharves. God help those forlorn wanderers,—wretched was their life at home—sad and sorrowful to many of them is it here. In the name of common humanity, can nothing be done? We call upon some of our wealthy citizens to step forward and take a lead in devising some means of relief for those truly unfortunate people.—*Kingston Herald*.

[Yet in the face of such facts as the above, members are found in the House who gravely propose a repeal of the Emigrant Tax. Are they prepared to advance relief out of public funds? No! they throw the whole burden on private charity or municipal taxation. Can we afford to give up a portion of this tax?—*Patriot*.]

POPULATION OF HAMILTON.—The census last completed shews a population of 10,248. The increase during the last two years has been very trifling, and yet we imagine that this City has made about as much progress as any of her cotemporaries. Public works are much required to give an impetus to business. As matters stand now, we are barely holding our own.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

We observe by the *Quebec Gazette*, that on the 28th ult, an action was brought before W. H. McCord and J. B. Trudelle, Esqs. by certain sailors, against Alfred Michael Rudolf, master of the steamboat *Alliance*, for amount of wages due them from the 1st to the 19th ult. It appears that the sailors had refused to eat coals on board the steamer on a Sunday, during the time of Divine Service, she was moored alongside of a wharf in Quebec, to enable the steamer to proceed on that day to Montreal with vessels in tow. The magistrates dismissed the action, publicly and openly alleging, as the grounds of such dismissal, through Mr. McCord, that the men, in their opinion, were bound to labor on the Sunday, at all times and hours, and to obey all the orders of their master, and that their complaints were dismissed, because they did not carry the coals on board the *Alliance* on the Sunday in question!!!—*Patriot*.

THE RECIPROCITY BILL.—Hon. John Wentworth writes to the *Chicago Democrat* that he "has serious doubts of our getting the freedom of the St. Lawrence this year, if we do for many years to come." The opposition is from all quarters, irrespective of party, and embraces too many interests to be harmonized.—*Onwego Times*.

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, June 3, 1850.

Mr. Monro was got leave of absence for eight days, he having urgent business in Lower Canada. REMOVAL OF DEUTY ON WEDNESDAY.

Hon. Mr. Hincks, in answer to Mr. Holmes, said that he had received information through a friend at Hamilton, that the Government of Nova Scotia had removed the duties from wheat flour. The Government had no official notice of this fact, but he had every reason to believe that information was authentic.

Hon. Mr. Hincks announced that the government were prepared to forward, as far as lay in their power, the complete representation of Canada at the approaching Industrial Exhibition in London. A message on the subject from His Excellency, was referred to a select Committee.

Tuesday, 4th June.

Mr. DeWitt brought in a Petition from some five hundred persons of the city of Montreal, praying an act to attach the salaries of Officials.

Hon. Mr. Baldwin opposed the motion. Hon. Mr. Price also opposed it, he thought the better place would be for the Heads of Departments to dismiss such Officers of the Government.

The House was engaged in routine business during the evening. The following are the only items of especial public interest, which were taken up.

Mr. Hincks introduced a Bill for the regulation of the Post Office Department; second reading Tuesday next.

On motion of Mr. Hincks, a resolution was adopted providing for the return of a moiety of the emigrant tax to persons passing into the United States.

On motion of Mr. Robinson, an address was adopted, for a return of claims under the Rebellion Losses Act, with the cost of commission; and also a copy of the instructions to commissioners.

The House adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, May 5.

The Contingent Committee made their second report. It appeared that on the 17th of April, 1849, there was a balance in the Clerk's hands of £566 4s. 1d.; and that he had subsequently received £6000 in consequence of two addresses being passed in April and May, 1849. He had expended £1331 7s. 1d. leaving in his hands a balance of £2230 17s.

Hon. J. Morris said it was only due to himself to say, that if he had been present last session when the last address was passed by the House, so large a balance would not now be in the clerk's hands. It was a thing altogether unusual, and very possibly might be matter of surprise to some Hon. gentlemen, but he and the gentlemen who generally acted with him, had been absent when it was passed. The money was now in charge of the Bankers, but he trusted that in a few days it would be available for the services of the House. The report was then adopted.

Hon. Mr. DeBlaquiere moved for a call of the House on the 18th inst., to consider the address to Her Majesty, on the Independence of the Legislative Council, of which he had given notice on Friday the 31st ult. He would not make any observations on the present occasion, with reference to the address, but content himself with observing that in debating a question of such importance, he considered it desirable to obtain the attendance of every hon. gentleman who occupied a seat there.

Hon. Mr. Irving was not prepared to dissent from the proposition of the hon. gentleman as the session was not far advanced, very few Bills had been brought before the House, and he believed that very few need be expected owing to the impediments thrown in the way of the Administration, and which he hoped would soon be removed, but he desired to submit whether this was a matter of so much consequence that it could not be considered in the ordinary routine of business, and without calling together hon. gentlemen from all sections of the Province. If it was a proposal for the establishment of an Elective Council, he could then readily understand the necessity for a call, and if that question ever did come up, he would be ready to meet the observations which had so often been uttered elsewhere, respecting the talents and business habits of that House; and would very gladly consider its decision as a test of the talent and ability to be found in the two Houses. The motion was passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Leslie, the Reciprocity Bill was read a second time. The Act to regulate the value of certain Silver coins was also read a second time.

Hon. Mr. DeBlaquiere, expected that this Bill would have been extended by the hon. gentleman at the head of the fiscal department, so as to assimilate the value of the American silver dollar to what it is in the States. It would be recollected that a Bill had been introduced by the hon. Inspector General with the concurrence of Lord Sydenham, but it had been subsequently amended in Council by the advice of Lord Sydenham, in order to assimilate the silver currency of the Province to the gold currency of England by raising the dollar one penny in value. In his opinion that amendment had produced very unfortunate results, and he would be glad to see the value again reduced, so as to adopt the silver currency of these countries instead of adhering to the gold currency of England.

A Bill to amend the Act 5th Wm. 4th, and to prevent the multiplication of costs in Lawsuits on Bills of Exchange, Promissory notes, &c. was brought from Lower House and read a first time.

The House then adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 5th June 1850.

The great part of the evening was occupied by a very animated debate on the subject of the dismissal of Thos. C. Dixon, Esq. The motion for an address to His Excellency for the papers and correspondence in relation to it, was negatived by 37 to 23. Several bills were introduced and read a first time, and other routine business transacted. The House adjourned at about 12 o'clock.