Provincial Legislature.

[*From the City Reporter.*]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, April 9.

PAYMENT OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS.

On motion of Mr. JOHNSON, the House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to provide for the payment of the President and Members of the Legislative Council. Mr. Willisten in the chair.

Mr. STEVES thought it was useless to debate this Bill, for he believed the House could never think of sustaining it. Last Session the House had almost unanimously passed an Address to Her Majesty, praying that the other Branch might be made Elective. That was the desire of the people, and to that wish Her Majesty had responded. But the Council had resisted both the Sovereign and the people, and thrown out the Bill introduced by a Member of the Government. Although it might affect himself, as being the means of preventing Members of that House from being paid, he should oppose the Bill; he therefore moved that its further consideration be postponed for three months.

Mr. HATHEWAY rose to second the motion.—When he saw the Council resisting public opinion, throwing out Bill after Bill the Lower House had passed to meet the requirements of the country, and meddling with matters connected with the revenue, he was more than ever convinced of the necessity of taking the power of the appointment of the other Branch from the hands of the Government, and placing it in the hands of the people.—Government brought down a Bill in the other Branch to make the Council Elective, and in spite of the Government—as it would appear—and the people, it was rejected. But why did not the Government introduce the measure in the popular Branch, and allow them to deal with it first?—or why did they not fill up the Council with men whom they knew were favorable to the measure? Did they not know the feelings and predilections of the Odell family?—and did they not know what course the Hon. Mr. Odell would pursue? He must say, that he did not think the Government was sincere in the matter (hear, hear).

Hon. Mr. PARTELOW—"Yes, they were."

Mr. HATHEWAY—If they were sincere, they could have carried their measure. They were all-powerful in the Council when they chose; but upon the occasion referred to, they had not made use of their influence. If they appointed a person favorable to the Bill instead of the Hon. Mr. Odell, and had filled up the other two vacancies by persons also in favour of the Bill, it would have been carried, as they would thus have gained three votes, while the opposition would have been one less.

Mr. BEARDSLEY would support the motion for several reasons. He believed as a general principle that Members of both Houses should be paid for their labour, but when he saw the Council stubbornly resisting the extension of the Elective Franchise, which the people must and will have,—when he saw them rejecting Bill after Bill passed by that House, which the circumstances of the country required, he could not consent to pay them for such services. It had been said that some of them would not serve unless they were paid, but the country would be better without them. He had heard within a day or two, that they were likely to throw out the Bill passed by that House recently to abolish the Judges' fees. It was thus the other Branch opposed all measures of retrenchment and reform. Who were the representatives of the people? Why, the Members of that House; and should they not decide what revenue should be collected, and what burthens removed from the people's shoulders? But at present they could not; they were controlled by the other Branch. What had become, he would ask, of a Bill that passed that House several weeks since for the payment of its members, and sent up to the Council? Nothing had been heard of it; they were evidently keeping it back to coerce that House into passing this Bill. He could but ill afford to come there and serve his constituents without pay, but when he found a desire on the part of the other Branch to coerce that House, he would willingly sacrifice his own pay, and would oppose the present Bill had he no other reason than to resist an attempt at coercion.

Mr. JOHNSON agreed with what had been said about the Council resisting the wishes of the people. That resistance, however, could not long prevail; the people had asked for a change and it must come. He had no reason, however, to doubt the sincerity of the Council in opposing innovations, although he thought them wrong. He would not oppose the present Bill as a measure of retaliation, for the Council had as much right to independent action as that House; and the hon. and learned member for Carleton should have recollected when he spoke against that House being coerced, that it would be equally wrong for them to attempt to coerce the other Branch. He (Mr. Johnson) had made up his mind that the Councillors ought not to be paid, and should vote for the postponement of the Bill.

Mr. WILMOT said he disapproved of hon. members being influenced by anything that had taken place in the other House, in the decision they might come to with regard to this Bill. The members of the other Branch had the same right to act according to their judgment as the members of that House. Those who thought the Councillors should be paid ought to support the Bill, independent of all other considerations; and least of all should they be influenced by the question whether or not they would get paid themselves.

Captain ROBINSON felt no hostility towards the Council for rejecting the Elective Council Bill.—He differed from what had been asserted by some hon. members, as to the people being anxious for the Council to be made Elective. He knew that the people in Charlotte are quite contented with the other Branch as at present constituted. The question had been agitated for years, and not a single petition in its favour had been received by the House, but one petition had been received against the change. He believed that if all the people in the Province were polled, a majority of them would be found against the measure. He had made up his mind that Councillors ought not to be paid, and should oppose the Bill on that ground; but he thought it would test the patriotism of some hon. members.

Mr. RITCHIE differed from what had fallen from the hon. member who had just spoken. He believed there was any one thing the people of this Province were unanimous in, it was to make the Council Elective. It was his opinion that the Legislative Council, as a principle, ought to be paid, but the present Council had resisted and outraged public feeling and the onward march of improvement to such a degree, that he could not vote for their pay.

Mr. TILLEY was surprised to hear from the hon. member for Charlotte the expression about testing their patriotism. He hoped there was no hon. member in this House who would vote for this Bill merely to induce the Council to pass the Bill for the payment of members of the Lower House.—There should be nothing like coercion on the part of either House. Were the Councillors elected by the people, he should say they ought to be paid, but as it is, they are supposed to represent the wealth and intelligence of the country, and being selected by the Government, had no claims upon this House, and should not expect the House to provide for them. Since he came to that House, he had been astonished at the attempts made to influence hon. members by allusions to the other House. He had heard a member mention a member of the other branch by name, as authority that the said branch will do this or that, thereby endeavouring to influence the votes of this House. He considered this practice very wrong indeed. Every measure should stand or fall by its own merits, without reference to what might occur elsewhere. In reference to what had been said about the Council being too much under the influence of the Government, he dissented with it; the experience of the present Session showed that the Council was not enough under Government influence.

Dr. THOMPSON explained the Constitution of England, showing that the Commons were formerly paid, but the Lords never were. The Lower House were peculiarly the servants of the people, for whom they had to work, not only during the Session but during the recess, thereby incurring trouble and expense. He thought they ought to be paid. With the Upper House it was quite different. They were chosen for their wealth and standing, and stood between the people and the Crown. He did not think they were entitled to pay.

Mr. HANNINGTON thought the people were generally in favour of making the Council Elective.—The matter was discussed throughout the country at the last General Election. The people did not give the late House much credit for passing the Address to Her Majesty in favour of Elective Councils, as they said it was done just at the close of the Session, to gain a little popularity, but they approved of the movement. He believed that the people had fully made up their minds on the subject, and although they might be resisted for a moment, Elective Councils must and would come. As to paying the Councillors, he had always opposed it, and should still do so. The present Council occupied an anomalous position; they owed no responsibility anywhere; they owed none to the people, who had no voice in their appointment;—they owed none to the Lower House, whose measures they rejected day after day; and they owed none to the Government, whom they had resisted (laughter) With respect to their own pay, it should not influence the vote of any hon. member in that House.

His Hon. the SPEAKER was surprised to hear hon. members talk about withholding the pay of the Councillors because that body had rejected some of their measures. Last year, when the Address was passed to Her Majesty, the reason urged why a change was necessary, was that, under Responsible Government, the Council was dependent upon a Government who were dependent upon the Assembly, and therefore could not exercise that unbiassed judgment which was necessary. Now the House complained of the Council throwing out bills, and resisting both this Branch and the Government. What did the House expect of the Council? If they were not to have the power to exercise a check upon this House, they might as well not be in existence: and if they were to exercise that power, it was not for hon. members of this House to say whether they were right or wrong. He was in favour of Elective Councils, but he would have them shorn of their power.

Mr. NEEDHAM would never support a bill to pay men who had acted as the Council had done the present Session. They had rejected measure after measure which this House thought necessary and the people approved of; they had resisted the wishes of the people and the Government, in reference to the bill for Elective Councils, and now they came to this House and asked for pay. He considered that all Legislators elected by the people, should be paid by the people, but while the Councillors were appointed by the Government, let them look to the Government for their pay. Hon. members talked of not coercing the other House, but what was that House trying to do? What had become of the bill passed the Assembly for the payment of the members? It had been sent to the Council about two months ago, and why had it not been taken up in its proper order, and either passed or rejected?—No, they were keeping it back, waiting to see if this bill would pass. He would oppose this bill were it the last vote he would ever give.

Mr. GRAY said the question with him was not what the Council had done, or what they had not done; that was not a subject for the consideration of that House. The Council had in some things differed in opinion with the Lower House, but in others they had agreed. The Council had given their assent to several very valuable measures.—When the other branch chose to reject a measure, it was not for a member of the Lower House to question its motives. He considered that every man who laboured for the public should be paid.—He was in favour of Elective Councils, but he would pay the present Council up to the hour of their dismissal. If it were right to pay the Councillors, they should be paid, irrespective of their conduct. Upon these grounds he would support the bill.

(More or less was said upon the subject by Messrs. Taylor, English, Barberie, Cutler, Macpherson, Gilbert, Hayward, Scoullar, Earle, and Botsford, but as no new feature was elicited, we here close our Report.)

Upon the question for postponement being put, the Committee divided as follows:—*Ayes*—Hon. Mr. Partelow, and Messrs. Crane, Hannington, Botsford, McPhelim, Cutler, Johnson, Read, Montgomery, Ryan, Purdy, Earle, Gilbert, Hayward, Scoullar, Taylor, Hatheway, Pickard, Macpherson, English, Beardsley, Reed, Robinson, Fitzgerald, Thompson, Wilmot, Ritchie, Needham, Tilley, and Steves. *Nays*—Hon Mr Rankin, and Messrs Gray, Porter, Barberie, and Chapman.

Mr. Ritchie then rose and said, that he held in his hand a series of resolutions which he wished to lay on the table for the information of hon. members, and that he would move them when the House was in committee on the state of the Province. The hon. member then read the resolutions (six in number) which were received and ordered to be laid on the table for the information of members.

The House then went into Committee of supply and continued occupied in discussion until 5 o'clock, when the House resumed and soon after adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 10.

The House went into Committee this morning on the bill to amend the Act for the collection and protection of the revenue. After several sections—moved by the hon. Attorney General—were passed, Mr. Wilmot moved an additional section to the effect that, in addition to smuggled goods being seized, and the vessel or carriage conveying them being confiscated, every person detected smuggling shall be punished by paying a fine not exceeding £100, or be imprisoned at hard labour for a term not exceeding twelve months, at the discretion of the Court. This section was supported by Messrs. Wilmot, Hatheway, Williston, Montgomery, and his Honor the Speaker; it was strenuously opposed by Messrs. Porter, Fitzgerald, Cutler, and English. Mr. Cutler then said he was astonished that any man of intelligence could support a section of this stringent character; it was opposed to the spirit of the age. His Honor the Speaker replied that if it was not in accordance with the spirit of the age to punish the guilty and protect the innocent, then was he mistaken in the spirit of the age. The section was sustained by a division of 12 to 9.

Mr. BARBERIE then introduced a section having for its object the reduction of the salary of the Province Treasurer to £400, and the Clerks in the establishment in like proportion.

After a long discussion, the part of the Section relating to the Clerks was struck out. The following are the remarks of Mr. Needham on this subject:—

Mr. NEEDHAM did not approve of this piecemeal legislation in reference to salaries. It would be recollected that last year a reduction was made in the salary of the Deputy Post Master General, and in his (Mr N's opinion, very improperly. What he (Mr N) thought was the fair, legitimate, and honorable legislation, was to bring in a bill to reduce the whole of the salaries—not one to-day and another to-morrow, but let there be a general reduction, and let them all stand or fall together. He (Mr N) thought that honorable members would admit it was petty retrenchment, and let this House take up the question of the reduction of salaries and he would not be found wanting. He would not say at present what amount he considered the Treasurer entitled to, but this he would say, he believed that he was faithful and efficient, and done good service, and he (Mr N) was not disposed to cut down his salary and let all the rest stand.

His Honor the Speaker said he came to the House pledged in favour of retrenchment, and he thought this was a proper occasion to do so. Since the withdrawal of protection from our staple export in the English market, and the depression of our trade consequent thereon, the Province was not in a position to pay such large salaries as was formerly established. Besides, a man could live much cheaper now than he could in this Province a few years ago. He thought £600 a-year enough for the Judges, and £500 enough for every other public officer. He also considered £200 enough for any Deputy Treasurer. He intended to go for reduction in every thing that came under their notice. By returns lately sent down to the House by the Lieut. Governor, it appeared that the Deputy Treasurer of Miramichi had drawn since he was appointed, upwards of £764 over and above his salary of £300 a year.

Mr. Montgomery wished the motion made by the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Wilmot to prevail. Deputy Treasurers were obliged to give security in the sum of £5,000. That was not very easy to find. It had been said that young men could be found to fill these offices at a reduced rate. A young man had, some years since, been sent to Dalhousie as Deputy Surveyor; he had given security, but he became a defaulter, when Government found out that his securities were forgeries. He was also appointed Postmaster at Dalhousie, and sent his securities to Government. They looked at the names, and considered them satisfactory. He held the situation but four months, when he stole £410 from letters and absconded. Upon examination it was found that he had forged the names of the securities, and also forged the names of the witnesses. That was the sort of young men they would be apt to get if they reduced the salaries so low.

Mr. Macpherson was in favour of this section, and also in favour of the reconsideration of the first section. He would not reduce the salaries of the Deputy Surveyors to £200 in one year, but £50 this year and £50 more next year. Upon the same principle he would reduce the salary of the Treasurer to £500 this year, and to £400 next year.

Mr. Wilmot said the great fault with political financiers in this country was this; that while they attempted to reduce salaries, they also endeavoured to allow foreign goods to come in and inundate the country, thus lessening the power of the people to pay. He, on the other hand, would build up the country by the encouragement of home industry, and enable the people to pay the present salaries. Supposing the population of the Province to be 210,000, one meal at four pence to each individual would amount to four thousand pounds, and that was the very utmost the greatest economist aimed to save.

Hon. Mr. Partelow explained that the Treasurer was obliged to find sureties in the sum £12,000, and Deputy Treasurers in £5,000.—There was some difficulty in procuring proper sureties, and salaries should not be placed too low. He was willing to go for the reduction of the Treasurer's salary to £500. As for the Clerks, they should not be included in the bill, as they could be dealt with in supply.

Mr. Johnson called the attention of the House to a report of Mr. Barberie's speech of the 4th instant, when on this bill, and which appeared in the *Head Quarters* of yesterday. The hon. member then read as follows:—

"Mr. BARBERIE said, before progress was reported he wished to say a few words in reference to what had fallen from the learned member from Northumberland (Mr. Johnson.) That gentleman in his (Mr. Barberie's) opinion, departed from the parliamentary course of debate, and had chosen to make a most unwarranted attack on the private character of the Deputy Treasurer at Dalhousie—a gentleman whose character for honorable conduct, strict integrity, and honesty of purpose, stood far too high to be at all sullied by any insinuation from the gentleman who had chosen to descend so low in debate as to make a personal attack on an individual who was not there to defend himself.—He (Mr. Barberie) would, in the name of his friend, throw back the aspersion in the face and teeth of the hon. member who made it, and would tell him that it was a base fabrication; that it was not only unparliamentary in debate, but it was ungentlemanly and unmanly. He would ask and demand of the learned member what he meant by the assertion that the Deputy Treasurer at Dalhousie kept two establishments? If by a person owning two horses and renting one of them was to be a justification for such an attack, he (Mr. Barberie) could not view it in that light, and the insinuation was therefore the more base and uncalled for. That gentleman's character was too well known in the community where he resides for his charitable and kind disposition to the poor and fatherless, to be at all affected by any such unfounded insinuations as those thrown out by the learned member for Northumberland, and only that it was made in debate, he (Mr. Barberie) should have considered it too mean and low for notice;—as it was, he felt it due to the gentleman who was absent to call the hon. member to account, and to caution him for the future. The hon. and learned member had never failed to trumpet his own praise within the walls of that House and in his numerous speeches to the gallery, and to tell them how high he stood in the estimation of the public—as a young man of merit and abilities in his profession; and that he stood at the top of his profession; how learned he was in the law, in literature, and in science; that he had lectured at the Mechanics' Institute, and in every hole and corner of his county to the praise and admiration of every body, and that only the young and rising men should hold office. Now if that gentleman should succeed to office upon his own terms and according to his own measure of vanity and conceit, the Lord help the Province. (Laughter.) Why the whole available revenues would not satisfy him—his services could never be paid for. His vanity, if possible, exceeds his beauty, all of which he never fails to tell us in his words, actions, and gestures. (Great laughter.)"

Mr. Johnson continued, stating that no such words as were here reported were ever uttered in the House.

Mr. Barberie said the report was correct; he would endorse them, and then and there repeated them.

(Mr. Johnson moved that the Speaker take the chair, Mr. Partelow moved the standing order; the Gallery was cleared, and the House sat full an hour with closed doors.)

On resuming, a motion was then made to fill up the blank, fixing the Treasurer's salary at £400. This was supported by Messrs. Steves, Gilbert, Johnson, Barberie, Williston, Stiles, English, Beardsley, and Ryan; and opposed by all the rest of the Committee.

The question was then taken on £500. For—The Speaker, Messrs. Partelow, Ritchie, Botsford, Scoullar, Crane, Chapman, Gordon, Reed, Tilley, Earle, Rice, Taylor, Pickard, Thomson, Purdy, McPhelim, Fitzgerald, Johnson, Cutler, Needham, Hatheway and McPherson.

Nays—Messrs. Rankin, Street, Wilmot, Gray, Montgomery and Robinson, (who were opposed to any reduction) and Messrs. Stiles, Steves, Gilbert, Ryan, Beardsley, Barberie, and English, who were in favour of a smaller sum.

Mr. Wilmot then moved the reconsideration of the first section, which was negatived 20 to 16. The bill then passed.—*New Brun.*

The Bill to abolish Judges' Fees came down passed to-day, with a suspending clause added.

The Bill amending the Canada Reciprocity Act has been rejected by the House, and consequently 3s. per barrel on Flour will have to be paid on Canada as well as American Flour. This has been occasioned in consequence of the Bill having been amended in the Legislative Council, which the House considered a breach of privilege, and consequently it has been rejected altogether.

MONDAY EVENING, April 14.

The House went into Committee at 12 o'clock to-day, on the State of the Province, and sat until half-past 5 o'clock. Mr Ritchie introduced his Resolutions with a speech of two hours and a half in duration. He was followed by the Hon. Messrs. Partelow and Street, and Mr. Gilbert. Mr. Street was in favour of the first part of the first Resolution, but he would strike out the latter part after the words "further Resolved," which states that the information furnished the House from Earl Grey's recent Despatches, by the Lieut. Governor, is unsatisfactory. Mr. Gilbert spoke against the resolutions and in favour of the Government.—Messrs. Hannington and Fitzgerald will support the first resolution. Mr. Ritchie's speech produced a very favourable impression. The Government looked very feble to-day, and their arguments were still more so.—*Ib*

FRIDAY, April 11.

The House went into Committee and passed a Bill to repeal the Fredericton Act of Incorporation, and to enact other provisions in lieu thereof. There was no discussion.

The House next went into Committee on the St. John Charter Bill; there being some difference of opinion among the St. John members as to the mode of proceeding, should it be found that the Mayor elect is not duly qualified,—on motion of Mr. Wilmot, seconded by His Honor the Speaker, progress was reported, in order that the six members for the County and the City of St. John may meet and consult together, and endeavour to agree.

Mr. Ritchie stated that in consequence of the hon. Atty. General being otherwise engaged, he should not move the House into Committee on the State of the Province to-day. After some conversation it was fixed as the order of the day on Monday next.

The House went into Supply, and passed several School grants, &c. Mr. Earle moved an appropriation of £15,000 to His Excellency towards paying off the Provincial debt. Several hon. members treated the matter as a joke, and alleged that it would merely be taking money out of one hand and putting it in the other.—Mr. Wilmot, however, said it was a serious matter, for unless there would be a surplus revenue to meet this sum, it would enable the Government to withhold the bye-road or any other grants. Mr. Gray took a similar view. The grant was sustained by a majority of one.

SATURDAY, April 12th.

Mr. Hannington read the following resolutions relating to King's College, which he laid on the table, giving notice that he would move them at three o'clock this day:—

"Whereas by an Act of the Legislature made and passed in the year 1829, providing for the endowment of King's College, at Fredericton in this Province, it was enacted by the third and fourth sections thereof, "That there be granted to the Chancellor, President and Scholars of said College, and their successors, for the endowment of said College and also for the establishment and support of Collegiate Schools, the yearly sum of £1,100, to be paid from the Revenue of the Province and drawn out of the same by Warrant of the Lieutenant Governor or Commander-in-chief of the Province for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Executive Council; Provided always, and be it further enacted, that the sum of money hereby granted is upon condition that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to grant for the further endowment of said King's College the annual sum of £1000 sterling out of his Majesty's Casual Revenue, or from or out of such other branch of His Majesty's Royal Revenue as he may be pleased to appoint for that purpose. Provided nevertheless that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to authorize the appropriation of any part of the Public Revenue of the Province without the consent of the Legislature thereof."

"And Whereas His said Majesty was graciously pleased to grant the said annual endowment of £1,000 sterling out of the Casual Revenues of the Province then under the control of the Crown.

"And Whereas the surrender of the Casual and Territorial Revenue to the people of this Province by His late Majesty King William the Fourth in exchange for a Civil List, the Royal endowment thus made formed a charge on said Revenues, and such endowment together with the grant made by the said Act from the Provincial Revenue, has been annually drawn for the support and maintenance of said College and Collegiate School.

"And Whereas in addition to such munificent provisions a large amount is annually derived for the support of said College from lands, and other sources at its disposal.

"And Whereas the returns from time to time laid before this House show that but a very limited number of persons have availed themselves of said establishment for the purposes of education, making apparent the inefficiency and failure of the Institution for the purposes intended, involving as it does an expense far beyond what the people can any longer bear, and entirely at variance with the condition or wants of the country, and whereas it is the opinion of this House that the time has arrived when the expenses of the said establishment should be materially reduced and its Revenues applied to a system of education better adapted to the wants of the country, and of more general benefit and advantage to the people of this Province.

"And Whereas this House is satisfied that the said appropriation should now be withheld. And whereas by the fourth section of the said recited Act the last proviso thereto attached unequivocally prevents the appropriation of the said sum of £1100 from the Public Revenues of the Province without the consent of the Legislature thereof,

"Therefore *Resolved* That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor praying that His Excellency will be pleased to withhold the issuing any further Warrants on the Treasury of this Province for the said sum of £1,100, or any part thereof, unless the same be hereafter appropriated therefor by the Legislature."

The House then went in Supply, and some discussion took place on the first grant, which was in aid of a Steamer to run in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, touching at Miramichi and Prince Edward's Island. The grant was rejected 21 to 13. Mr. Ritchie then stated that four of the St. John members were on the Scrutiny Committees—that they had promised the parties they would devote the whole of this day to their respective cases,—that the House might take up local bills, when their attendance would not be necessary; he therefore moved that they report progress. The Committee assented, and progress was reported.

The House went into Committee on a bill to incorporate the Jamestown Settlement and Land Company. Mr. Hatheway said he was opposed to locking up large blocks of land, he therefore moved the postponement of the bill three months. Colonel Hayward seconded the motion, which was carried by a large majority.

The House next went into Committee and passed a bill to incorporate the Grand Lake Agricultural Society.

The House then resumed Committee on the bill providing for the election of the Mayor of St. John, (the city and county members having agreed to a certain extent) several sections were passed, when the 30th section came up, which provided for the appointment of a Deputy Harbour Master by the Common Council. In favour of this section, Messrs. Ritchie, Gray, Wilmot, Tilley, and Needham were agreed,—five out of six of the representatives for the city and county—while His Honour the Speaker contended that if a Deputy was necessary the appointment ought to be vested in the Harbour Master. The majority of the Committee backed the Speaker, and an unprofitable discussion of two or three hours' duration took place upon this frivolous affair. At three o'clock, Mr. Hannington moved that they report progress, in order that he might bring forward his resolutions. The motion was negatived. Mr. Gray at length, in the endeavour to reconcile differences, moved to amend the section to the effect that the Harbour Master shall appoint the Deputy by and with the assent of the Common Council. This was negatived 25 to 9, the minority being Messrs. Gray, Wilmot, Ritchie, Tilley, Needham, Pickard, Fitzgerald, Steves and Chapman. The 30th section was then struck out by a vote of 22 to 10. Mr. Porter then moved a new section, vesting the appointment of a Deputy, if one is necessary, in the hands of the Harbour Master. This was carried, 21 to 9. The remaining sections of the bill then passed.

When the House resumed, Mr. Hannington moved his resolutions, which were read. Mr. H. then said, as it was late he moved the postponement of the consideration of the subject until Monday morning. To this Mr. Ritchie objected, as the order of the day stood for Monday to go into Committee on the State of the Province. He had postponed this matter from time to time to suit the convenience of others, and did not feel disposed to put it off any longer. Mr. Hannington in reply said, he thought the debate on his resolutions would be very brief. Mr. Gilbert moved as an amendment to Mr. Hannington's motion, that the House should at once go into Committee on his Bill to convert King's College into an agricultural training school and model farm. After some objections Mr. Hannington consented, when the Speaker—after a fruitless search—announced that some one had taken Mr. Gilbert's Bill off the table, and it could not be found.

Hon. Attorney General laid on the table certain amendments to Mr. Ritchie's Resolutions, which he intends to move when the House is in Committee on the State of the Province.—The House then adjourned.

The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, APRIL 15, 1851.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

The Royal Mail Steamer *Africa*, from Liverpool, with dates to the 29th of March, arrived at New York on Thursday morning at seven o'clock. She brought 197 passengers.

The Timber Market at Liverpool was improving, and the transactions during the month were very large. Spruce Deals were expected to advance. Sales of 19-inch Pine Timber at 18 1-4d.; 18-inch at 17 1-4d.; 12 1-8-inch at 13d. Deals, £7 to £7 15s., at auction, and £8 5s. to £9—to arrive.

Cotton had advanced 1-4d. per lb.—was very firm, and still tending upwards.—Flour and Corn had also advanced a little.

The news of Lord John Russell's Ministry having been reinstated, fell like a thunderbolt at Rome—the Pope and Cardinals considering this to be very bad news.

The protracted debate on the Papal Aggression Bill terminated in a division at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning—an overwhelming majority (150 to 99) sanctioning so far, the progress of the measure. Some three weeks hence it is to go into Committee; and, although alterations are threatened, the Bill will, no doubt, pass. Sir James Graham and Mr. Gladstone voted against the Bill. The debate was one of the longest we have had for years, and it is remarkable in having left off where it commenced—adding nothing to previous information. The more speeches were made, the less was the question understood; and no two lawyers in the House agreed as to the nature of its obligations.

Last night, Lord John Russell was to have mentioned the course he intends to adopt respecting public business in Parliament.—*Liverpool Journal*, 29th.

There is no other political or foreign news of importance.

Accounts from the Cape of Good Hope are to the 3d of February, one day later than previous accounts. The Kaffirs and Hottentots continued to commit the greatest ravages. The British authorities were collecting their forces to resist the savage hordes; although volunteers came in slowly. The plan of the natives appeared to be, that the Kaffirs were to engage the troops, while the Hottentots were to plunder the British inhabitants. The Fingoes remain true to the British cause; who, with the Cape Mounted Rifles, had already given the enemy a glorious defeat. Another detachment of 270 Fingoes and Rifles had successfully driven off a party of bullying Kaffirs.—Further accounts are anxiously looked for.

A terrific harricane raged at Lyons on the 22d March.

SECESSIONS TO ROME.—A correspondent says:—"During the past week, Dr. Posey, one of the patrons of Saint Saviour's Church, Leeds, has been on a visit to that town, with the object of elevating the secession of the clergy of St. Saviour's to Rome. In this, however, he has been unsuccessful, and some of the clergy, and at least twenty of the laymen of the church, are about immediately to go over to the Popish Church."—*Daily News.*

The Emperor of Austria left Vienna for Trieste on the 20th inst. He was accompanied by his brother, the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, who is about to embark at Trieste for America.

A Printing Machine, for composing and distributing, on an entirely new principle, is to be shown at the Exhibition.

Lord John Manners is about to marry Miss Marly, the beautiful and accomplished grand-daughter of the late Countess Dowager of Charleville.

The new process of M. Claussen, for the production of Flax Cotton, is now stated to have been commenced on an extensive scale at the Kilduinan Mills, near Cork, belonging to Mr. Dargan.

A romance, written by Bonaparte, when a young man, is now being published in the *Siecle*. It is authentic.

There are several very large spots just now on the sun's disc, one of them of unusual size. They may be seen with the naked eye, smoked glass being used to prevent injury to the sight. It is calculated that the largest of them measures, from margin to margin, 41,000 English miles.

ROME, March 17.—Out of a population of 170,000, Rome has 30 prelates, 1 210 clergymen, 1 839 regular ecclesiastics, 1 057 cloistered nuns, and 321 students for the priesthood.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, the Lecture Season of the St. John Mechanics' Institute was closed by an excellent *extemporaneous* Address delivered by George Burch, Esq., in which the Lecturer critically noticed the various Lectures which have been delivered during the Session; and congratulated the Members of the Institute on the increased patronage which the Institution has received, during the season now brought to a close; and expressed a confident hope that its beneficial influence in the community will continue to be increasingly experienced.

CARLETON LECTURES.—Doctor Paterson favoured a large and respectable audience with an admirable lecture on *Heat*, on Thursday evening last. A number of experiments were performed with very pleasing success. This lecture closes the Carleton season.

The Bill for the free transmission of Newspapers and Pamphlets through the Provincial Post Office, introduced into the House of Assembly by Mr. Barberie, and so successfully carried through that House, principally through his instrumentality, has since passed the Council, and will of course become the law of the land. The publishers and people of this Province must be thankful to Mr. Barberie and the Legislature generally for this boon. This tax being removed, many who now take no paper, will probably hereafter be disposed to "encourage the printer."

The Steamer *Canada* left Halifax for Liverpool at 12 o'clock on Thursday night, without the Mails from New Brunswick, which did not reach Halifax until after her departure, in consequence of the heavy travelling. This will be a serious disappointment to many of our Merchants and others. The matter should be inquired into, and, if possible, remedied on future similar occasions.—The Canada had 123 passengers from Boston and Halifax.

The Common Council have appointed Mr. James Stewart to be a City Gauger.

The Members' pay Bill of the House of Assembly having been for some time *suspended* in the Legislative Council, the former party have during the present week rejected the pay Bill of the Council. This seems to be somewhat warlike, but we suppose the whole affair will yet be adjusted without the loss of life or property.

There are upwards of forty Bills on file in the House of Assembly, which with the other business of the House, and a probable three day debate which will arise on Mr. Ritchie's resolutions on the state of the Province, will doubtless detain the Legislature to a late period.—*Fred. Reporter, Friday.*

The passengers for New York, who left here in the steamer *Admiral*, on Thursday last, at 9 o'clock, reached that city at 6 o'clock on Saturday morning, in the short space of forty-five hours! The Admiral also touched at Eastport and Portland on her passage to Boston. This is a degree of speed which we feel gratified in recording.—*N. Bruns.*

NOVA-SCOTIA.—The Legislature of Nova Scotia was prorogued on Monday the 7th inst., by His Excellency Sir John Harvey, in an appropriate Speech. He also gave his assent to a number of Bills passed during the Session.

A vote of credit of £500 was passed to make a survey for a Railroad to Annapolis.

DEATH OF LADY HARVEY.—It is with deep regret we announce the demise of Lady Harvey, consort of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, Sir John Harvey. Lady Harvey expired at Government House, on Thursday night last, at 11 o'clock, in the 70th year of her age, after a short illness. This amiable woman, who had been for about fifty years, we understand, the companion of a veteran and distinguished soldier, was extensively known in the Capitals of these Lower Colonies. The public will, we doubt not, sincerely sympathise with His Excellency in his affliction. Sir John's last appearance in public, on the occasion of proroguing the Assembly, gave token of care and trouble. We have since understood that His Excellency's unremitted personal attention to Lady Harvey during her last illness, has materially affected his own health.—*Halifax Recorder, Saturday.*

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Accounts by the R. M. Steamer Falcon, arrived on Tuesday, communicate the cheering intelligence that the Seal Fishery has been successful beyond precedent this season. The cargoes of 20 vessels that had returned from the expedition amounted to 100,000 seals.—*Ib.*

BEQUESTS.—Miss Sarah Waldo, of Boston, Mass., lately deceased, has left $51,000, to be divided between eight religious Societies—three of them $6000 each, four $5000 each, and one $3000.—also $15,000 to relatives.

The late James Ingersoll, of Boston, has bequeathed $20,000 to twelve of the most useful charitable Institutions of that city, in sums of $2000 and $1000 each.

RAILROADS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The aggregate extent of all the railroads in the United States, including those which will be completed during the present year, amounts in all to no less than ten thousand six hundred and eighteen miles.

CALIFORNIA PROFITS.—As a sample of the sort of profits made in too many instances by our shippers of lumber to California, the Bath (Me.) Tribune, publishes an account of cargo of lumber sold by Theodore Payns and Co., at auction, in San Francisco, shipped on board ship New York, by C. S. Lally and Co. consigned to "J. F. A." and abandoned by pay freight and charges; wherein the sales amounted to $3,596 15, and the freight and charges to the sum of $10,078,04, leaving a balance due from the shippers, for which bottomry security on the vessel is demanded of $6,581,89.

California Farming.—A correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* gives a glowing account of the profits of farming in California. Mr Homer, from New Jersey, raised 35,000 bushels of potatoes on 130 acres of land. The crop was worth about ten cents a pound, or $175,000.

The population of Montreal, as ascertained by the census of 1850, is 48,207, an increase of 3922 over that of 1844.

The suit brought by the proprietors of the N. Y. Express against the Telegraph Company, for not giving them an important despatch, resulted in favour of the plaintiffs. The jury gave $300 damages. The inferences from the principles settled in this case are, that telegraphs, like common carriers are bound to receive messages, on payment, and to deliver them in good faith, with as much rapidity as possible, and that telegraphs are responsible in damages, as common carriers.—*Boston Daily Adv.*

In 1798, the whole Northwestern Territory, comprising the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin Territory, contained but 5,000 white male inhabitants.

Upwards of sixty Hungarian and Polish refugees had sailed from Liverpool for N. Y. in the ship Chas. Crocker. Disease is said to have broken out among those remaining in Liverpool.

Ephraim Littlefield has retired from his post as Janitor at the Medical College, and gone to live on a farm in Vermont, which he purchased with his reward for discovering Dr. Parkman's remains.

The ingenuity of Americans can accomplish almost anything. An exchange informs us that, two weeks ago, Mr Lyman Kingsley, bridge builder, of Northampton, moved a two story house, 26 by 38 feet across the Connecticut river.

NEW BEDFORD OIL TRADE.—The whaleman's shipping list gives the total value of sperm oil entered in the New Bedford district, in the year 1850, at $1,885,143: of whale oil, $1,460,908; of bone $501,008. Total value of whale fishing $3,846,759.

SHIP FEVER.—There are three thousand patients at the Quarantine hospital, most of whom are afflicted with ship fever. Dr. Alden, one of the attendant physicians, died of the disease last week.—*N. Y. paper.*

UNITED STATES NAVY.—The Navy of the United States at present consists of 75 vessels, carrying two thousand and eleven guns. These comprise twelve ships of the line, fourteen frigates, twenty-one sloops of war, four brigs, five steam frigates, and ten steam-ships, of which three are first class.

LONDON, March 21.

The Crystal Palace.—The great topic of London talk is the approaching Industrial Exhibition. When one considers the immense size of this metropolis of the world, and the multiplicity of interests, plans, objects and pursuits that engaged its population, it seems hardly possible that any one subject can possess enough of importance to become a thing of real moment, at one and the same time, to its millions. But the great Industrial Exhibition does this, and that, too, to an extent that its most sanguine friends had not anticipated. All classes are interested in it—all are engaged about it—all hope to reap some advantage from it, either of profit, or pleasure, or use, and all alike unite in helping it and its accessories forward towards completion.

Crystal Palace is a wonderful thing—a masterpiece of English art—wonderful for the organization of labor under which the work has proceeded; still more wonderful for the end it is to attain here, in aristocratic England—the assertion of the dignity of human labor. It is not by general description that it can be understood, either by oral or written communication, and I therefore propose to jot down its details for you, from time to time, as they shall meet my attention, both now while the work is hastening to its conclusion, and bye and bye, when the products of the world's industry shall pile its counters and galleries, and tables, and standards.

That the Londoners mean to make money out of the influx of foreigners is very certain. As you pass along the streets you constantly observe these words in the windows—"*Ici on parle Francais! Aqui se habla español! Hier spricht man deutsch!* The prices of board and lodgings have doubled since last autumn. A friend of mine has to-day engaged a small parlor and an adjoining bedroom at a cost of five guineas per week, and it was the best he could do. Three months ago the same rooms were rented at £2 10 per week. The chop houses in the neighbourhood of Hyde Park have increased ten-fold, and their prices are most exorbitant. I doubt if the plainest lodgings and the most indifferent fare can be obtained here through the summer, at anything less than $20 per week.

The number of nations whose goods have already began to arrive within the Hall, is very large. Their alphabetical list runs as follows, viz:—Arabia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Buenos Ayres, Central America, Chili, China, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Mexico, Montevideo, Morocco, New Granada, Norway, Persia, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Tunnis, Turkey, United States, and Venezuela. Each of these have seperate divisions, where their goods are deposited as they arrive. They are all represented by commissioners or agents. France and Belgium will exceed all other foreign countries in the numbers of exhibitors. Indeed the former, ever desirous to outdo her old antagonist, and ever jealous of her success, means now to beat her upon her own ground. I suppose the richest fabrics ever manufact