Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, March 7.

Mr. Botsford then rose, and in a speech of some length called the attention of the House to the published despatches connected with the resignation of Mr. Justice Botsford. The hon. member traced the transactions connected with Mr. Justice Botsford's resignation from the time that Sir Archibald Campbell was Lieutenant Governor of the Province, down to the time when the resignation of Judge Botsford was accepted by Sir William Colebrooke, and his successor appointed, commenting in strong terms on the manner in which that transaction had been managed, and declaring emphatically that Mr. Justice Botsford had been sacrificed to a faction. The hon. member disclaimed any intention of founding a claim for a pension on the motion which he was about to submit, but merely wished to rescue the fame of his relative from the unjust statements which had been made respecting his services, and proved from the records of the Supreme Court that in 1844, the year before Mr. Justice Botsford's resignation had been accepted, that that Judge had done more duty on the Circuits than either Judge Parker or Judge Carter, who, in the despatch written by Sir William Colebrooke, got credit for doing such a large share of the duty devolving on the Judges of the Supreme Court, but exonerated these Judges from any knowledge of the injustice done to a brother Judge. The hon. member concluded by moving an address for a copy of the despatch from Sir William Colebrooke accompanying the resignation of Mr. Justice Botsford, with the answer of the Colonial Secretary thereto.

Mr. Ritchie followed, condemning in strong terms the course which had been pursued towards Judge Botsford, and complimenting that gentleman in the highest terms for his long and faithful services. The hon. member also vindicated the late Chief Justice from the implied censure which was contained in the despatch, attributing to Mr. Justice Carter, and Mr. Justice Parker the principal share in supporting the reputation of the Bench of this Province.

March 13.—This morning the Hon. Provincial Secretary brought down a message from the Lieutenant Governor, containing several public accounts.

Mr. Ritchie presented a petition signed by most of the Printers and Publishers in the city of St John, praying that the postage on newspapers may be abolished.

Mr. Street rose to answer a question put to him yesterday by the hon. member for Sunbury (Mr. Scoullar), respecting the filling up of the Executive Council. He begged to observe that he had been twice absent, once to regain his seat for Northumberland, and once to conduct trials in the County of Queen's. He had also been sick for some days. Under these circumstances he had but little time to spare to Government matters, and the excuse would excuse him that the vacancies had not yet been filled up. Public affairs, however, had not suffered, for there were seven Councillors, and five composed a quorum. Some members of the present Administration wished to retire, and the Government did not wish to make any announcement until the arrangements were all completed.

The House went into Committee and passed a Bill in reference to the praseology of Law Bills. This Bill is a copy of one introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Brougham, and now a law in England.

The House next went into Committee on the Bill introduced by the Hon. Attorney General to establish Municipal Corporations. The Bill was defended as it stands by the Attorney General (who professed himself ready to amend the details *if the House wished it.*) and Messrs. Taylor, Williston, Beardsley and English. It was opposed *in toto*, on principle, by the Hon. Speaker, and Messrs. Gilbert and Thomson; and it was opposed for its imperfections by Messrs. Needham, Johnson, and Hatheway. Messrs. Wilmot, Steves and Cutler were not opposed to the principles of the Bill, but would go for amendments in the details.—Progress reported.

A Bill was passed to-day to exempt the Carleton Tide Saw Mills from the operation of the Harbour Laws, so far as saw dust is concerned.

March 14.—The Bill authorizing the Magistrates of St. John to appoint Commissioners for the Alms House was committed to-day. Mr. Needham moved an amendment to the effect that the rate-payers of the County be empowered to elect them vote by ballot. This amendment was carried, 14 to 6. Yeas—Messrs. Needham, Tilley, Ritchie, Gray, Partelow, Scoullar, Hatheway, Stiles, English, Macpherson, McPhelim, Fitzgerald, Williston and Botsford—14. Nays—Honorable Messrs. Speaker, Rankin and Street, and Messrs. Barbarie, Taylor and Thomson—6. Progress was then reported in order to give time to prepare the necessary machinery for the Bill.

The Municipal Corporations Bill, introduced by the Attorney General, was afterwards taken up in Committee, when a lengthly discussion took place.

Mr. Ritchie exposed the deficiencies of the Bill, and urged the amendment of several sections. He was followed by Messrs. Hayward, Botsford, Williston, Gordon, Ryan and McLeod, who spoke in favour of the Bill; and Messrs. Gilbert, Thomson, Needham and Hatheway, in opposition to it. The Speaker, and Messrs. Ritchie, Gray, Tilley, English and Chapman advocated the principle of the Bill, but contended for the amendments. The House adjourned without a division, and progress was reported.

The Railway Facility Bill will be brought up next week.—*N.Br.*

March 15.—The Governor in form assented to several Bills.

The Attorney General again stated in reply to Mr. Scoullar that he would not bring on the Facility Bill until he was prepared, and he would not be bullied.

There was a long debate on the Municipal Corporation Bill.

The Attorney General spoke over two hours, charged Messrs Ritchie and Johnson with factious opposition, and said it was not manly.

He said the opposition of Messrs. Needham and Gilbert was manly, replied to several arguments, said the only object of the Opposition was to defeat the Bill by any means, that the Bill now before them was not inconsistent with former opinions expressed by him in the House and on the Hustings.

Mr. Ritchie replied that the Attorney General was equally opposed to the Government last Session, but that when a glittering office with a good salary was held before him, he had thrown himself into their arms. Mr. R. read a passage from a speech of the Attorney General's in the Head Quarters, to prove his inconsistency.

Mr. Needham defended his own opinion, said he was utterly opposed to the Government, and would oppose it until the rotten vessel sunk. He opposed the bill because it did not contain the Municipal principle

The Attorney General replied and again asserted his honesty. A constant cross fire was kept up during the debate. The gallery was crowded.

Only *four* voted for the postponement of the bill—viz: Messrs. Chapman, Crane, Earle, and Gilbert.

The first section was then taken up—not passed. Progress reported.—*Tel. to News Room.*

March 17.

The Executive Council was sitting to-day which took the Government members from the Assembly, and consequently the Municipal Corporations Bill was deferred.

Mr. Gray brought up the subject of the erection of a Wharf at Reed's Point, for steamers, &c., to lay at, and pointed out its importance to the travelling public and the people generally. After considerable discussion, the House voted in favour of placing £2000 on the Supply Book for this purpose.

The Fredericton Burnt District Debenture Bill was brought up, and caused a good deal of conversation, both for and against it. The Bill was finally committed, a large number appearing in favour of it, including the St. John Members, and progress was reported. A discussion afterwards took place on the report of the Select Committee on the dispute between Mr. Goodfellow, a Supervisor at Miramichi, and Mr. Heron, a Contractor. Warm language followed, and finally the matter was referred to the Committee of Supply.—*Tel. to New Bruns.*

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, FREDERICTON, Saturday, March 15th, 1851.

This morning the Road Committee (one member from each County) was sitting. In the meantime the House went into Committee and passed a bill to incorporate the Northumberland Straits Fishing Company; capital £20,000.

The House then resumed Committee on the Municipal Corporation Bill.

Mr. Chapman said there should be time given for consideration, he therefore moved the postponement of the bill until the next session of the Legislature.

After a few remarks from Messrs. Taylor and Johnson in opposition to postponement, Mr. Chapman said he would not press the motion if it did not meet with the wishes of the Committee.

Mr. Earle seconded the motion. He was opposed to Municipal Corporations, as it would lead to direct taxation.

Mr. Crane followed, and spoke of the people managing their own affairs in sarcastic terms.

The hon. Attorney General then spoke for two hours and a half, recapitulating, and replying to, the arguments adduced in opposition to the bill. He ridiculed the idea of making the bill coercive, stating his conviction that the Government and Legislature *could not force* municipal institutions upon the people. He also sneered at the idea of Government coming down to the House to ask for the power to initiate money votes; he said it would be seeking to deprive the House of one of its privileges.—He charged Mr. Ritchie with *unmanliness* in moving a vote of want of confidence when he (Mr. Street) was in the lobby with his hands tied and his tongue gagged, and for not having moved a vote of want of confidence last session.

Mr. Ritchie retorted, asking the Attorney General why *he* had not moved a vote of want of confidence last year, when he was in opposition. He also quoted from Mr. Street's address to his constituents last June, when he called the Government "politically dishonest," and attacked him for having joined that dishonest Government, instead of helping him (Mr. Ritchie) to turn them out, as the country expected him to do. As to his moving a vote of want of confidence in the Government, for their past acts, he asked what business was that of his (Mr. Street's) who was constantly exclaiming that he did not identify himself with those acts? Mr. Ritchie wound up by quoting from one of Mr. Street's speeches of last session, wherein he blamed the Government in good round terms for not coming down to the House and proposing that the Initiation of Money votes should be yielded up to them.

Mr. Street strove hard to explain away some of the inconsistencies with which he was charged, but with little effect.

Mr. Needham then commented upon Mr. Street's speech, and the bill, with much wit, and the House (and galleries) was frequently convulsed with laughter.

The question for postponing the Bill was then put, and negatived, the minority being Messrs. Chapman, Crane, Earle and Gilbert.

Mr. Ritchie then pointed out difficulties in the first section, to which the Attorney General replied. His Honor the Speaker and Mr. Johnson proposed amendments, but the Committee arose and reported progress without coming to any decision. The House then adjourned.—*Ib.*

THE REVENUE BILL.—The following is a copy of the Revenue Bill for the ensuing year, as it has been agreed upon by the Committee appointed for that purpose. It is probable that it will pass without material alteration. We think that as a whole, this Bill will give general satisfaction:—

The following are the articles on which specific duties are to be imposed.

Apples, per bushel,	£0	0	6
Axes, each,	0	1	6
Butter, per hundred weight,	0	9	4
Beans, and Peas, per bushel,	0	1	6
Barley, per bushel,	0	0	6
Barley Meal, per hundred weight,	0	2	0
Buckwheat, per bushel,	0	0	6
Buckwheat meal, per hundred weight,	0	2	6
Candles of all kinds, except Sperm and Wax, per pound,	0	0	1
Sperm and Wax, per pound,	0	0	4
Cattle of all kinds over one year old,	2	0	0
Cheese, per hundred weight,	0	11	0
Cider, per gallon,	0	0	3
Clocks or Clock Cases of all kinds, each,	0	15	0
Coffee, per pound,	0	0	1½
Coals, per ton,	0	1	0
Chairs, per doz, ad valorem in addition,	0	10	0
Corn Meal, per barrel,	0	1	0
Fruits, (dried) per hundred weight,	0	9	4
Horses, Mares, Geldings, each,	2	0	0
Lard, per pound,	0	0	1
Leather—Sole, Upper, Harness and Belt, per pound,	0	0	2½
Sheep skins, tan'd and dress'd per doz,	0	3	0
Calf skins, tanned, per dozen,	0	6	0
Malt Liquors of every description (not being aqua vitæ, otherwise charged with duty), whether in bottles or otherwise, per gallon,	0	0	6
Meats, fresh, per hundred weight,	0	9	4
Salted and cured, per hundred wt.,	0	9	4
or per barrel,	0	16	8
Molasses and Treacle, per gallon,	0	0	1
Oats, per bushel,	0	0	3
Oatmeal, per hundred weight,	0	2	4
Rye, per bushel,	0	0	2
Rye Flour, per barrel,	0	1	0
Soap, per pound,	0	0	0½
Spirits or Cordials, viz: Brandy, per gal.	0	3	4
Rum, Gin, and other Spirits and Cordials, per gallon,	0	1	6
For every gallon of such Rum or other Spirits or Cordials, of any strength under or not exceeding the strength of proof 26 by the bubble,	0	0	2
And for every bubble below 26 in number by the bubble, per gal., additional,	0	0	2
Lemon Syrup, per gallon,	0	1	6
Sugar, refined, in loaves, per pound,	0	0	1½
Refined, crushed and white bastard, per hundred weight,	0	9	4
Of all kinds, except refined, crushed and white bastard, per cwt	0	6	0
Tea, per pound,	0	0	2
Tobacco, manufactured, except Snuff and Cigars, per pound,	0	0	1½
Wines, per gallon,	0	2	6
and on every £100 of the true and real value thereof, 10 per cent.			
Wheat, per bushel,	0	0	2
Wheat Flour, per barrel,	0	3	0

AD VALOREM.

On the following articles, for every one hundred pounds of the true and real value thereof, viz.:—

Anchors; Ashes; Barilla; Burr Stones; Canvass; Cordage; (except Manilla Rope); Chain Cables and other Chains, for Ships use; Cotton Wool and Cotton Warp; Copper, in sheets; Bars and Bolts, for Ship building; Dye Wood; Felt; Hemp; Flax, and Tow; Hides, green and salted; Iron, in bolts, bars, plates, sheet and pig iron; Oakum; Oars of all kinds; Pitch; Sails and Rigging, for new Ships; Sheathing Paper; Silk Plush, for Hatters purposes; Tallow; Tar; Tobacco, unmanufactured; and Wool;—1 per cent.

On the following articles, for every one hundred pounds of the true and real value thereof, viz.:—

Bread and Biscuit, Bricks, Manilla Rope, and Ready-made Clothing.—10 per cent.

Iron Castings, viz.—Steam Engines and Boilers, and parts thereof, Mill Machinery, Ships' Castings, Composition Rudder Braces, and Machinery of every description, except Canada square Stoves,—7½ per cent.

On the following articles, for every one hundred pounds of the true and real value thereof, viz.:—

Boots, Shoes, and other manufactures; Carriages, Waggons, Sleighs, and other vehicles; Chairs, and prepared parts of do for Chairs; Clock Wheels; machinery and materials for Clocks; Household Furniture, (except baggage) Apparel, Working Tools and Implements, used and in use by persons of families arriving in this Province, if used abroad by them, and not intended for any other person or persons, or for sale; Looking Glasses; Oranges and Lemons; Whale Oil, (except the return cargoes of vessels fitted out for fishing voyages from ports in this Province,) Wood Wares of all kinds, Matches; Corn Brooms; Brushes; Hats and Hat Bodies; Pianofortes; Snuff and Cigars; Veneer, and other Mouldings for looking glasses; Picture and other frames made of wood,—20 per cent.

Iron Castings, viz.—Cooking, Close, Box, and Round Stoves, and parts thereof; apparatus for Cooking Stoves; Franklin Stoves; Register Grates; Fire Frames, and parts thereof; Kitchen Ranges; Boilers; Cast Iron Furnaces, and parts thereof; Iron Ploughs,—15 per cent.

And all other Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, not otherwise charged with duty, and not hereinafter declared to be free of duty, for every one hundred pounds of the real and true value thereof,—7½ per cent.

All articles, the component parts of which are subject to duty, to be liable to the highest rate of duty imposed by this act, or any component part thereof.

ARTICLES EXEMPTED FROM DUTY.

Baggage, Apparel, Household Effects, Working Tools and Implements, used and in use of persons of families arriving in this Province, if used abroad by them, and not intended for any other person or persons, or for sale; Books, printed; Carriages of travellers, not intended for sale; Coins and Bullion; Corn Broom Brush; Indian Corn; Rice, ground and unground; Eggs; Lines and Twines for the Fisheries; Manures of all kinds; Oil; Blubber; Fins and Skins, the produce of creatures living in the sea; the return of vessels fitted out in this Province for fishing voyages; Oil,—Seal, Cod, Hape, Porpoise, Palm, Plants, Shrubs, and Trees; Printing Paper, Types, Printing Presses, and Printers' Ink; Rock Salt; Sails and Rigging saved from vessels wrecked; Salt; Soap Grease; Wood and Lumber of all kinds, (except Cedar, Spruce, Pine, and Hemlock Shingles,) Block Tin, Zinc, Copper, Lead, Tin Plate, Bar and Sheet Steel.

The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, MARCH 18, 1851.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

The *Asia* arrived at New-York on Friday morning at 8 o'clock, with 90 passengers, and Liverpool dates to 1st inst.

Cotton at Liverpool had advanced ¼ to ⅜ of a penny, with sales of 40,000 bales.

Breadstuffs dull in Liverpool. Yellow Corn quoted at 30 to 31 shillings.

No Ministry had yet been formed. Lord Stanley had been unsuccessful in forming a Cabinet, and it was generally supposed Lord John Russell would still hold the reins of Government. There was some talk of placing the Duke of Wellington at the head of affairs.

The London *Standard* of Feb. 28th, says: Lord Stanley has failed in forming a Ministry, and has in consequence restored to her Majesty the commission with which she had entrusted him.

The ports of Glasgow and Greenock show an increase of Customs' revenue for the year 1850, of more than £10,600, and now present a total of more than £1,000,000 sterling per annum.

The returns of the Board of Trade, issued during the last few days, show that the exports from the country amounted in 1850 to more than £70,000,000; in 1849 to £63 000,000, and in 1848 to £58,000 000, a rate of increase without a parallel in the history of the country. In these returns Cotton goods stand foremost amongst the articles of export, the exported value amounted in 1849 to £26 775,000; in 1850 to £28,250,000. This increase is the more remarkable as the price of the fibre has increased during the last two years upwards of 75 per cent., and the contrast is the strongest if we go back to 1840, when the price of the raw material was low, and when the exported value was only £21 000 000

The Woollen, Linen and Silk trades all evince the same gratifying improvements.

The Crystal Palace already begins to receive the goods sent to it. A British lion in bronze from Bavaria, was one of the first objects received. A Venus, badly packed, came with the head broken off. Crowds throng daily to behold the building. The strength of the somewhat light looking galleries has been most satisfactorily tested.

The first cargo of the productions of French industry, for the Great Exhibition, left Paris on Tuesday for Dunkirk, where it will be shipped for London—it consists of 1,200 packages.

A police court will, it is said, be established in or very near the Crystal Palace, during the continuance of the exhibition.

The news from France is uninteresting. The Anniversary of the Revolution had passed off without any disturbance whatever.—Rumours are afloat that Austria contemplates the invasion of Switzerland.—The Piedmontese are arming to defend the Italian refugees in their States.

By advices from Vienna of the 22nd ult., rumours were still rife of an Austrian expedition against Switzerland.

Very little news from Rome. The Pope has granted an amnesty to several of the ex-Roman constituent assemblies, and others have obtained intermediate periods of provisional liberty.

The Turin papers give a rumour that the Northern powers have addressed a note to the Piedmontese Government, demanding the expulsion of the Italian immigrants, the suppression of the liberty of the press, and the immediate reconciliation with the Court of Rome.

It is stated that the greatest activity prevails in the Piedmontese War Office and that extensive preparations are making for the defence of the country.

The Turkish insurrection has been completely quelled.

It is shown in a return to Parliament, printed lately, that the estimated net revenue of India, for the year 1849-50, amount to £20,498,412, and, after paying all charges, the estimated surplus will be £77,662.

Great fears are entertained for the health of the great philosopher of France, Arago. His friends are in considerable anxiety, entertaining little hopes of his ultimate recovery.

The marrage of the Grand Duchess of Russir, Catherine Miknailowna, with Duke George of Mecklenbourg Schwerin, was celebrated at St. Petersburg on the 2d ult.

The *Architect* states that carving in ivory has been introduced into England, as a branch of elegant industry for females of respectability and taste.

At the last performance at the royal theatre at Madrid, where the Queen was present, a girl, who was one of the chorus singers, threw herself at her majesty's feet, as she was entering her private box, and implored her clemency for a carabineer, who had been condemned to death for breaches of discipline, and was to be put *en capilla* previous to execution the next day. The Queen granted the pardon required, and desired that orders should be sent forthwith to the Minister of War to stay the execution of the sentence.

The steamship Atlantic, which had been lying since her return at her moorings in the Sloyne, was on Wednesday towed into the Huskisson Lock, where she is expected to lie for about three months, by which time she will again be ready for sea. Her machinery will be repaired by the proprietors of the Soho works, near Birmingham, and her carpentry work by Mr. Wilson Greene of this town.—*Liverpool paper.*

The new Postal Bill has been passed by the House of Assembly of Nova-Scotia, of which the Halifax *Recorder* has given an extensive synopsis. Its provisions appear to be liberal and satisfactory. We subjoin a few of its items.

The 5th Section provides that letters shall be charged a uniform rate, not exceeding 3d the half ounce, for any distance within the Province; to be increased according to the British scale. No transit postage to be allowed on a letter passing through this Colony to another, unless posted here, and the sender chooses to pre-pay, nor on a letter from such Colony if pre-paid there. 2d sterling the half ounce to continue for letters by British Mails to other countries as at present, unless the British Government change it to 3d currency. The 6th leaves prepayment optional.

The 7th authorizes all postage received within the Province to be kept, and allows the same right to other Colonies.

The 11th provides for the transmission of Newspapers published here, addressed to persons here or in the United Kingdom, or other Provinces, free of charge.

The 12th enacts that Books and Pamphlets may be posted at 2d per ounce up to 6 ounces, and 3d for each additional ounce to 16 ounces; no heavier book to pass by Mail. The Governor and Council may reduce or alter these rates.

13th, Printed Parliamentary Papers shall be free of postage.

15th Printed Papers, Newspapers, Books, &c., to ensure for them the benefits of the Act, must be unsealed, or open at both ends. No words or writing shall be thereon, except the address of the sender, and the person to whom sent. No paper or thing to be enclosed.

21st Provides that such Newspapers and Printed Papers as are privileged under Sec. 18, may be re-directed if not opened, and pass free, in case the party to whom directed shall have removed to another place within the Province.

25th Provides that the Governor in Council may make Postal agreements with the other Colonies, or a Foreign Country, respecting the carriage of Newspapers through the Province.

29th Provides a penalty of £10 for the miseonduct of persons in the employ of the Department.

45 Gives the amount of Salaries. It is in these words—That after this Act shall go into operation, the annual salary of the Postmaster General for the Province of Nova Scotia shall be Six Hundred Pounds currency

The Salary of the First Clerk in the Post Office in Halifax,	£187	10	0
Of the Second Clerk,	125	0	0
Third Clerk,	125	0	0
Fourth Clerk,	125	0	0
Messenger at Halifax,	[illegible]		

46th Provides that the Act shall come into operation by Proclamation.

All the Members of the Legislative Council have been summoned to be in their places in the Council Chamber on Monday the 24th instant, the consideration of the Bill for establishing an Elective Legislative Council having been appointed for that day.

☞ A lengthy report of a debate on the Municipal Corporations Bill in the Assembly on Friday, was received last evening, but too late for us to make use of the week.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, G. R. Jarvis, Esq., delivered an interesting lecture on the "Falls of Niagara," to a large and attentive audience—being in continuation of a former lecture on the same subject, by Mr. Jarvis.

We are happy to see that a Bill has passed the Lower House to exempt the Carleton Tide Mills from the Sawdust Law, having been led to fear, if these Mills should be stopped, that Mr. Bond would be ruined, and the many poor and industrious people who derive their sole subsistence from the establishment, would have to share his misfortune. The House of Assembly has, however, done an act of justice in relieving Mr. Bond, and we sincerely hope the Bill will pass the other branches of the Legislature.

The Spanish steam ship *Caledonia*, (formerly of the Cunard line,) on her passage from Havana to Cadiz, recently put into Bermuda for a supply of coal, the captain fearing that on account of the strong head winds he might run short before completing the voyage to Spain. The Bermudian says:—"The Caledonia has about 50 passengers, among whom are many of the dark-eyed daughters of Havana, proceeding on a visit to 'Old Hispania.'"

The Sergeants of the several corps in Halifax, to the number of about one hundred and twenty—dined together at Masonic Hall on Thursday evening the 6th instant, and spent a very pleasant evening.

The Barque *Avon*, Captain Curry, arrived at St. Andrews on Tuesday last, with a Locomotive and Iron Rails for the St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad Company. The Avon's arrival was hailed with cheers, firing of cannon, and other demonstrations of rejoicing.

The number of foreign vessels which arrived at this port the past year was 55, and at the northern ports of this Province 28; making a total of 83 vessels, with a tonnage of 34,010.

The quantity of Timber exported from St. John and the out-bays last year, was 168 219 tons; and during the preceding year, 159,507 tons. The quantity of Deals and Lumber was 148 220 M. feet, and during the previous year 146,497 M. feet, showing an increase in all these articles of export during 1850.—*New Bruns.*

The Rev. Mr. Binney has been appointed Bishop of Nova Scotia.—*Halifax Recorder.*

MARINE ARCHITECTURE.—Four very beautiful models of ships, &c. may at present be seen at the store of Messrs. William Stairs & Co. They are the production of Capt. Joseph Lockhart, of Horton, and are intended for exhibition at the World's Fair in London. The specimens are gratifying proofs of the improvements going forward in Nova Scotia, with reference to that important branch of industry —Ship Building.—*Novascotian.*

ELECTION OF PARISH OFFICERS.—On Tuesday last the election for Parish Officers, under the new Act, took place, at the several places for which notifications had been previously given. Up to the time of our going to press all the information obtained on the subject, went to shew that the public were well pleased with their new privilege, and the franchise was exercised with becoming dignity, if we except the Parish of Portland, where owing to some informality in the proceedings, the election is likely to be set aside. We understand that a petition for that purpose to the Sessions is in course of signature.—[Chronicle.

A Massachusetts paper thus speaks of the Legislature of that State:—

The Legislature.—Having a regard for the credit of this body, we shall say as little about its doings as possible.

The father of President Fillmore, rather more than 80 years of age, was recently at Washington, on a visit to his son.

JAMAICA.—The Lord Bishop of Jamaica has been busy in England collecting money in behalf of the sufferers by Cholera in Jamaica. The London Times says "the contributions will be transmitted by the Bishop to the Governor and Board of Health of that Island, to be distributed without reference to sect or religious denomination. The Cholera has reappeared in various parts of that Island with great virulence.

The Jamaica markets are supplied beyond demand, especially in the article of flour.

Sugar making is all over, and the yield is 12,000 hhds, over last year. Two thirds of the crop goes to England and Antwerp, and the residue, say 20,000 hhds., to the United States.

A biscuit bakery has been established at Ponce, and a branch of the same at Kingston, Jamaica, where a description of that article is being manufactured with a celerity and degree of excellence (the operations being carried on by machinery) which it is probable will injure the markets for the imported article.

BARBADOES.—A despatch from the Secretary of State was read in the Barbadoes House of Assembly, 24th January, in which he suggests that inducements should be held out for the settlement in the West India Colonies of fugitive slaves from the United States. The Admiral has recommended that Mangrove Swamp, on the Banks of Constitution River, be constructed into a Harbour of refuge, a suggestion likely to be carried into effect. The Board of Council are considering the propriety of transferring the Custom House to the control of the Colony, or leaving it, as at present, managed at Home. A large meeting has been held at Bridgetown sympathising with their coloured brethren in the United States on the operation of the fugitive Slave Law. Subscriptions were on foot for the purpose of relieving the destitute at Jamaica, and the Bishop has directed the Clergy to bring the same to the notice of their respective congregations. A good deal of sickness prevails in the rural districts. There were brisk sales in the Dry Goods line, but the market was overstocked with provisions; sales slightly unproved, the supply of potatoes having been limited. St. Ann's Garrison was healthy; Captain Reid, 66th Regiment, is dead. Sugar was being made in large quantities.

The Suspension Bridge over the Niagara river, at Lewiston, was formally opened on Wednesday 5th inst. The chief engineer and lady, together with the wardens of the counties of Lincoln and Welland, were the first to cross the bridge from the Canada to the American side of the river.—There are now two elegant structures within five miles of each other, connecting us with wire cables to our Canadian neighbors.—[Boston Atlas.

INTERESTING FROM THE SELKIRK SETTLEMENT.—James McGuy and Adam Klyn, Red River half breeds, arrived at St. Paul on Wednesday last, with a dog train, bringing the mail from the Selkirk settlement, from which place they started on the 12th of January, making the trip, a distance of six hundred miles, in twenty-four days. Six days of that time they were unable to travel, in consequence of heavy snow storms. At one time they were overtaken on a prairie, about forty miles this side of Pembina, by a very severe snow storm, and for protection took shelter under a bank of snow, where they remained without food for thirty hours. They travelled the whole distance from Selkirk to Swan River, about a hundred miles north of this place, on snow shoes, the dog train carrying their provisions and the mail. They report the health of the Red River settlements as good. The crops of the last season were abundant, and the people are in a flourishing condition. They are turning their attention more than formerly to farming, and the comforts and conveniences of improved civilization. An extensive grist mill, driven by water, has lately been erected on Sturgeon Creek, near Fort Garry. A great many new farms in that vicinity have been lately opened. They raise extensively wheat, barley, oats, corn, potatoes, turnips, and all kinds of garden vegetables, sheep and hogs. They manufacture their wool, which is said to be of excellent quality, into blankets, cloths, stockings, &c. The inhabitants of that distant region are paying great attention to the cause of education. The Lord Bishop, from England, is devoting his time, talents and money, to the education of the people on the British side of the line. The trade of the Red River settlements is an object of great importance to this place, and with trifling aid from Government, may be easily secured. The first step will be to establish a monthly mail between Pembina and St. Paul. This ought to be secured at once. The mails now sent are private, and come but once or twice a year. The people of Red River have about them all the elements of improved civilization, and naturally seek this direction in their intercourse with the commercial world.—*St. Paul (Min.) Democrat, Feb 11.*

EUROPEAN ITEMS.

Emigration from the Clyde in 1850.—The extent of emigration from the Clyde, in 1850, has nearly equalled that of 1849, which far exceeded any previous year. The total numbers emigrating from the Clyde in 1850, were 14,206, their designations were—

To the United States,	11,230
To Canada,	2,388
To the Australian Colonies,	200
To Port Natal,	121
To other ports,	167
Total	14,206

The greater portion of the Scotch emigrants were small farmers and tradesmen, particularly working engineers, and generally speaking, they were able to secure a comfortable passage, and take some little means with them.—The emigrants for Australia, Canada, and the Cape, were of a vastly superior class to those going to the States. The amount of money taken to the States by those emigrants was nearly £40,000; to Canada about £10,000; and to Australia about £3000. The number of emigrants from the Clyde, in 1849, were as follows:—To the United States, 10,636; to Canada, 3,301; to Australia, 601; to the Cape of Good Hope, 121; to East and West Indies, 144—Total 14,805. The emigration from the Clyde during the last seven years has been as follows:—

1844,	5,568	1848,	10,035
1845,	3,145	1849,	14,986
1846,	2,020	1850,	14,203
1847,	7,728		

His Excellency the American Minister, and Mrs. Abbot Lawrence had a grand reception on Thursday night, at the American Legation in Piccadilly, London; and notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather, not less than 400 personages of rank graced the beautiful saloons of the legation by their presence. Nearly all the foreign ministers, several of the cabinet ministers, were present. The venerable Duke of Wellington arrived between eleven and twelve o'clock. At the banquet there were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London and Jamaica, with their families, the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Marquis of Breadalbane, Viscount and Viscountess Harding, Lord Marcus Hill, and other distinguished personages. At the assembly, besides the foreign ministers, the principal visiters were the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Clanricarde, Earl and Countess of Carlisle, Lord Campbell, the Hon. Fox Maule, Admiral Dundas, Sir George and Lady Grey, Sir Thomas Cochrane, Sir Charles Napier, Sir Edward Buxton, Lady Brougham, Lady Beaumont, Lady Shelley, Baron and Lady Parke, Sir Edwin Landseer, the Dean of St. Paul's and Miss Millman, Mr. and Mrs. Bates, &c. &c.

The authorities of Southampton have received official information that a number of exiles, detained in Turkey, would shortly arrive at that port.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY.—Died at Kenmare, at the residence of her son, Dr. M'Carthy, J. P., in the full enjoyment of her faculties, Helena, relict of Timothy M'Carthy, Kilfadamore, Esq. This respected lady was born in the year 1750, and had obtained the patriarchial age of 101 years, three days before her death. She was married in the year 1766, and gave birth to 18 children, 15 of whom reached mature years and married. She has left 122 grand-children, 144 great-grand children. Many members of the family are in every quarter of the world, and her two great-great-grand-children are at this moment emigrants to America. At the lady's death there were therefore 5 generations living. Her mother only died in 1827, at the age of 90 years, at which period there were also five generations living. It is not the least extraordinary fact connected with this lady's long life, that an insurance was effected on it in the year 1817. Her eldest child is now living, in her 82d year.—*Dublin Freeman.*

The following are the present ages of the different reigning monarchs:—Great Britain, Queen Victoria I., age 32 years; Austria, Emperor Francis I., 21; Russia, Emperor Nicholas I., 55; Spain, Queen Donna Maria Isabella II., 21; Portugal, Queen Donna Maria II., 32; Prussia, King Frederick Willian IV., 56; Holland, William II., 59; Belgium, Leopold I., 61; Denmark, Frederick VIII., 43; Sweden, Oscar, II., 52; Popedom of Rome, Pius IX., 56; Sardinia, King Victor Emanuel, 31; Turkey, the Grand Sultan, Abdul Menjid, 28; Hanover, King Ernest I., 80; Greece, King Otho I., 36; and France, Louis Napoleon, President, 43. It will thus be seen that there are three reigning Queens, England, Spain, and Portugal, and one President of France, The king of Hanover is the oldest monarch. Several minor States are not enumerated.

The *Scotsman* records the death of George Thomson, the venerable and accomplished correspondent of Burns, who expired at his residence in Leith Links, at the advanced age of 92. Mr. Thomson's early connection with the poet is universally known. His letters to the poet are incorporated with all the large editions of Burns.

On the first of March a public dinner was to be given to Mr. Macready, at the London Tavern, on his retirement from the English stage. Sir. E. Bulwer Lytton was to preside, and Charles Dickens, Esq., is named as chairman of the "Dinner Committee."

The hens of Egypt now lay eggs for the Londoners. Thirteen casks were lately landed at Southampton from Alexandria.

The Philharmonic Society, at Brussels, is about to construct a new building, to include a concert room, which, they say, will eclipse, in point of size and grandeur, anything of the kind in Belgium, and which is to be put at the disposal of foreign artistes.

A destructive fire that took place at Berlin totally consumed the beautiful establishment of Kioll, where all the grand balls, masked *fetes*, &c., are given. The panorama of the Mississippi, which was being exhibited there, was also destroyed. This picture was the property of Mr. Cassidy.

UNITED STATES.

CLIPPER SHIPS.—The fine American clipper ship Roman, at London, was chartered by the British Government to convey Troops from that port to Bombay; and we understand that orders were received here, by the steamer, from an English house, for the building of a clipper ship, of 1100 tons.—The above facts go to show the popularity of our clippers, and pay a very high compliment to our enterprising and justly celebrated ship builders, who have already built various steam ships for different nations.—[N. Y Shipping List.

Another present to Hon. Daniel Webster.—A spanking pair of grey horses arrived here this morning, on the way to Washington, as a present to Mr. Webster. They were really splendid animals, and with the stylish coach he has recently received, will make a beautiful turn out.—*Baltimore Patriot.*

The first rails on the Panama Railroad were laid on the 24th February. A locomotive and tender were landed on the 22nd.

OREGON.—Oregon papers to the 11th January have been received. The Spectator says:—

"The weather has not been at any time during the winter cold enough to make ice two inches thick, even in the most stagnant pools. The thermometer has sunken but once, since winter set in, as low as 17 or 15 degrees below the freezing point, and it stood at that but for a single day. The weather for the past week has been very showery, though the quantity of rain that fell has not been large. The thermometer ranged at about 40 degrees during the month of December."—*Boston Courier.*

THE SHORT ROUTE FROM CHINA.—Among the wonderful importations in the Empire City, arrived yesterday, is a small chest of tea, which has been sixty nine days only from Shanghai to New York. It was thirty-four days *en route* to San Francisco, and thirty-five to New York. It came by Gregory's express, and is intended for President Fillmore.—[N. Y. Herald.

Two young men from Albany came here a few days since with $15,000—intended for the down town merchants, but which was left, one night, with the up town gamblers.—*Boston Times.*

The first Catholic priest ordained in the United States was the Rev. Stephen Theodore Badin, who is at present residing in Cincinnati. The ceremony took place in Baltimore, on the 27th of May 1793.

CHURCHES IN PHILADELPHIA.—The census returns of the city and county of Philadelphia show the following number of churches:—Roman Catholic, 17; Presbyterian, 52; Episcopal, 41; Methodist, 58; Baptist, 32; Friends, 13; Lutheran; 10; Hebrew, 2; Covenanters, 2; German Reformed, 5; Universalists, 3; Moravian, 1; Unitarian, 1; United Brethren, 1; Independent, 1; Bible Christian, 1; Menonist, 1; Dunkers, 1; German Gospel, 1; New Jerusalem, 1; Swedenborgian, 1; Seamen's, 1; Union, 2; Christian, 1. Total 254. The whole amount of church property in the city is $1,860,950. The aggregate number of members to the whole is 185,589.

From the Alta California, Feb. 1.

STEAMERS IN CALIFORNIA.—The wonderful and almost magical growth of California is exhibited, as much as in any other manner, by the increase of the means of steam transportation upon our coast and rivers. Well do we recollect the time, scarcely two years since,