

COLONIAL.

New Brunswick.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.—Monday Evening, March 10th.—The House in Committee to-day, after a long discussion, passed a Bill to reduce the fees of Registrars of Deeds and Wills, and to exclude Lawyers from being Registrars.

The Trade Committee reported to-day.—Among other things, they refused to grant a sum for the wharf at Reed's Point. The Committee reported in favour of paying back the duty on goods destroyed at the Fredericton fire.

Mr. Gilbert moved that King's College be converted into an Agricultural School and Model Farm. Mr. Cutler moved an Address for minute returns from all Magistrates, to be laid before the House at the next Session. Carried.

Tuesday, March 11th.—To-day the Bill brought in by the Hon. Attorney General for the purpose of authorising the appointment of a commission to require and report on the practicability of reform in the practice of the law, came up for discussion, and a debate of more than ordinary interest ensued.

The Revenue Bill Committee have recommended a duty of 3s. per barrel on Flour; 18s. 8d. on Pork; 1s. 3d. per barrel on Rye Flour and Corn Meal; 1s. per gallon on Rum; and 3s. 4d. per gallon on Brandy.

The Light House Committee reported in favour of an appropriation of £500 for the erection of a Fog Bell Buoy off the Harbour of Saint John.

Wednesday, March 12th.—Not much of importance done to-day. All the day has been spent in discussing Mr. Steve's Bill to lower light dues on coasting vessels. The Speaker moved an amendment in addition, that five Commissioners be appointed and get five per cent. commission, the whole not to exceed £100.

Thursday, March 13th.—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 be abolished.

The House went into Committee and passed a Bill in reference to the phraseology 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.

FREDERICTON, 15th March—12 o'clock.—The European and North American Railway Charter was signed by the Governor yesterday, and received formal assent to-day.

The consideration of the Elective Legislative Council Bill has been fixed for the 24th instant, and every member has been summoned to attend on that day.

The Revenue Bill will create a warm discussion in the Assembly, if, as is likely, an attempt is made to increase the existing rate of Duties. It is not at all likely that the Legislative Sessions will close before the first of May, unless a great number of measures are abandoned altogether.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Robert Parker, Jun., Esq., made his debut last evening as a lecturer, at the Mechanics' Institute. His subject was the Fine Arts. He treated it with a special reference to the wants of this Province, and the City of St. John in particular.

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.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Mr. John Story, of Ward's Creek, Sussex Vale, was drowned on the 25th ult., while crossing the ice near Beattay's Ferry. He was 37 years of age, and has left a wife and five children.

BEND AND SHEDIAC RAILWAY.—Extract from a letter, dated Shediac, 7th instant:—Your fellow citizen, Mr. I. T. Cheetham, gave us a capital lecture here to-day on Steam power; in connexion with it, he dwelt on the importance of the Bend and Shediac line of Railway, and pointed

out in a very satisfactory manner the certainty of its being a very profitable undertaking. This lecture has been a good deal talked about, and has had a strong tendency to awaken a new and lively interest among our people, in connexion with this short line. If Canadian produce and manufactures are to be exempted from duty, only in the event of their coming direct from Canada, then hurra for the Bend and Shediac line.

MERCANTILE MARINE ACT.—The Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council of Trade have officially announced that they have dispensed with the observance of so much of the Merchant Seamen's Act as requires ships bound to any ports in Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, or Prince Edward Island, to be provided with lime or lemon juice, sugar, or vinegar.

LIGHT HOUSES.—We notice in the Halifax papers, an advertisement from the Commissioners of Light Houses, soliciting tenders for erecting Light Houses at Horton Bluff, Canso, and Port Medway, (Nova Scotia), all of which will be very useful, especially to the coasting trade.

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

Canada.

TRIAL FOR LIBEL.—The gentleman who rejoices in the witty cognomen—for brevity is the soul of wit—of Mr. Conrad Bartholomew Augustus Gagy, has obtained a verdict of £25 for libel against Mr. Ferres of the Montreal Gazette. We know not how many libel cases Mr. Gagy has had on hand the last three or four years; but certainly he has had more than all others put together in Canada, during the same period.

THE CIVIC DINNER.—On the 22nd ult., the Dinner given by His Worship the Mayor was, we are informed, well attended, and passed off with great eclat. Although honoured with an invitation, we were unable to be present.

TEMPERANCE.—There seems to be a general move in the different municipalities for the suppression of intemperance. We are not inactive here. We see also that the Municipal Council of the Township of Kingston have fixed the rate of licences on village inns at £3, on country inns at £4.—lb.

EXTRAORDINARY YIELD OF WHEAT.—Wm. Wallace, Esq., township of Cavan, has informed us, that he imported from Rochester, last year, 11 bushels and 40 lbs. of the South's wheat, which he sowed on 7 acres, and which yielded the large quantity of 327 bushels of superior wheat and averaging over 46 bushels and 42 lbs. to each acre.

Boston, March 11th.—Three labourers were killed at Chelsea this morning by a bank of earth caving in.

The agitation against Seigniorial tenure is vigorously carried on at present among the French Canadians.—Montreal Witness.

steam-navigation has commenced from Detroit to Silver Creek at the lower end of Lake Erie.—lb.

West Indies.

Quite a sensation was recently created in Jamaica in consequence of a Clerk in the Treasury charging the Receiver General with being a defaulter to the tune of £5,000. The same intimation was made to the Assembly, and the writer pointed out the manner in which he conceived the truth of his statement would be made apparent.

UNITED STATES.

FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE.—On Friday last a telegraphic despatch was received in this City by Joshua Dana, Esq., from Fredericton, N. B., giving notice that a young man by the name of George Harper had absconded from Fish River, Aroostook county, Me., with \$200 in Provincial bills, and that he had been traced to St. John, N. B., and had taken passage on board the steamer Admiral, bound for this port.

ARREST OF GAMBLERS.—The police court of Boston exhibited a novel sight last Monday morning, it appears that on Saturday night, the Police made a sweep of all the gambling dens in the city, arresting no less than 86 victims of mischance. They were kept locked up until Monday, when they were brought into court and fined \$4 each, with a portion of the costs, and then discharged.

NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.—In the United States Senate, on Saturday last, Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts, submitted the following resolution, which was considered and agreed on:—Resolved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to inform Congress at the earliest date, whether any arrangements are in progress, or likely to be made with Great Britain and the British Provinces of North America for securing to the citizens of the United States the free navigation of the St. Lawrence, St. John, and other large rivers, and the right to enjoy freely, in common with British subjects, the sea and coast fisheries of the British North American colonies.

HEAVY ROBBERY.—A few evenings ago, a person called at the house of Mr. F. Newbegin, in Saco, Maine, an extensive dry goods dealer, and informed Mrs. Newbegin that her husband had sent him for his valise, which he wanted at his store. Not suspecting any imposition, she gave it to him, and soon after discovered that it was not as the rogue had stated, who made off with the valise, containing between \$12,000 and \$14,000, which Mr. N. was to use next day in Boston.

A hurricane on the 19th ult., nearly destroyed the town of Shreveport, Louisiana. General Tom Thumb was convicted at Savannah, a few days since, and fined \$10, for violating a city ordinance in driving his horses and carriage on the side-walk.

NEW ORLEANS, March 3.—Steamboat Disaster.—The magnificent steamer Oregon, bound from Louisville to New Orleans, burst her boiler on Sunday near Vicksburg. The first clerk was killed, the captain severely hurt, and about 30 people are missing. The boat it is supposed will be a total loss.

Boston, March 11th.—Several large failures in the cotton trade have occurred in Charleston, one of which is to the extent of \$250,000.

A LETTER FROM KOSSUTH.—Kossuth has sent despatches to the U. S. government asking its interference with the Turkish government for his release, and expressing a desire to come to the United States.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DESTRUCTION OF SHIPS.—BY SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.—Capt. Bates, of ship Nonantum, from Baltimore to California, which was destroyed by fire from spontaneous combustion of her cargo of coal, took passage at Falkland Islands in the Scotch ship Hermagoon, Capt. McKenzie, for Valparaiso, with coal, but when 12 days out, west of Cape Horn, this ship also took fire from spontaneous combustion, and every exertion to smother it proved unavailing.

EGYPT.—It would appear by the news from Alexandria, that the Porte has required the Viceroy of Egypt to reduce his army to 20,000 men—place his fleet at the disposal of the Sultan, and comply with many minor arrangements of an equally unsatisfactory character.

BRITISH SHIP BURNT AT SEA.—On the 11th January, thirty-two persons, the crew of the ship Alfred, 1,073 tons, arrived at Talcahuano, in the ship's launch. The cargo of the Alfred was coal, which ignited, and, after burning three days, caused the entire destruction of the vessel.

The Rajah of Travancore (Madras presidency,) has sent a splendid present to her Majesty Queen Victoria. It is a throne, or chair of state, composed of polished ivory, and inlaid or set with abundance of precious stones.

ROYAL ARTILLERY.—Capt. Beresford's and Captain Crawford's companies, 10th battalion, are to relieve Capt. Dalton's company, 1st battalion, at New Brunswick, and Captain Dick's company, 1st battalion, at Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the spring.

EARTHQUAKE IN CARTHAGENA.—The city of Carthagen was visited by an earthquake, on the morning of the 7th of February, which lasted five seconds. Had it lasted two or three seconds longer the whole city would have been in ruins; as it was there was considerable damage done about the city. Two or three houses were shook down, and several lives lost.

The town of Peru, in Mexico, was recently captured by a horde of Indians, who committed the greatest atrocities. Several departments of Durang, Coahuila, and Chihuahua, have been overrun with Indians.

THE BRITISH TAKEN POSSESSION OF YUCATAN!—New Orleans, March 4th.—Private advices from Yucatan state that the British had taken possession of that country, the Spanish authorities having left the country in charge of the British Government.

VICTORY OF THE GUATEMALIANS!—Late advices from Central America report that a battle had been fought between the States of San Salvador and Guatemala, in which the latter were victorious.

PERU.—A letter dated Callao, Feb. 9, mentions a rising of slaves at Truxillo, who, being armed by the number of 500, took possession of the town. This grievance is that the law of 1824, giving freedom to the children of slaves born thereafter had not been complied with.

ABSTINENCE IN THE CHURCHES.—We observe, from the Banner of Ulster, that above 30 of the Irish Presbyterian ministers have resolved to form a Society on the same principles as that which was formed only eighteen months ago in the Free Church, and which has now seventy-eight ministers. Adherents are said to be rapidly coming in on both sides of the channel.

BREAKERS AHEAD FOR CALIFORNIA.—The Papal power has entered California. A bishop has been sent to El Dorado, who, in addition to his spiritual duties, is to examine and exhibit the titles of the old Jesuit property in California, and who will, it is thought, lay claim to 150,000,000 dollars worth of land, as the property of the early Jesuit missionaries in that country.

The Supreme Court of Massachusetts has decided that a railroad is not liable for a person, not a passenger, injured or killed, while carelessly on the track.

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